

EuropeAid

## The European Commission helps Libya in the management of migration flows

The European Commission decided today to provide 10 million EUR to support Libya in managing its borders and migration flows. The action will increase the effectiveness of Libyan authorities while raising the standards of treatment of migrants and ensuring the protection of their fundamental rights. The decision follows the call of the European Heads of State to strengthen the cooperation on migration with third countries, including Libya.

Given its geographical position at the crossroads of Africa and Europe and the vast extension and complexity of its borders, Libya is both a country of destination for migrants and a potential transit point for migration to Europe. On 4 October 2010, the Commission co-signed with the Libyan authorities a "Joint Communiqué on Cooperation on borders, mobility, migration and asylum", marking an important milestone in the collaboration between the EU and Libya in the field of migration.

Following the present decision, EU funds will be used to reinforce the strategic approach and capacity of Libyan authorities to effectively manage borders and migration flows. Some of the main activities will include: enhancing the information system on migration; supporting the definition of a strategy for intercepting and disrupting irregular migration attempts; strengthening the capacities for screening, identification and registration of mixed flows of migrants; ensuring the assistance of migrants in need of international protection or belonging to vulnerable categories; improving the conditions of reception and custody of migrants; supporting the voluntary return and reintegration of migrants in their countries of origin; promoting more coordination in the field of migration among Libyan authorities and with countries of origin; supporting a more efficient system to manage labour migration.

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