



Security Council

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Resolution 1902 (2015): The Question of the Mediterranean Refugee Crisis

Proposed for consideration of the Security Council at its 2259th meeting on Sunday, 31 May 2015.

The Security Council,

Recalling the 1951 Refugee Convention, and *further recalling* Resolutions 52/103 and 52/132 of the General Assembly regarding, respectively, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and human rights and mass exoduses,

Deploring the more than 1,750 migrants who have perished so far in 2015,

Noting with concern the increasing numbers of migrants crossing the Mediterranean,

Noting the diverse causes of insecurity of refugee camps and settlements in Africa, including the presence of armed or military elements and other persons who do not qualify for international protection afforded to refugees and do not require international protection,

Acknowledging the differences within the refugee population, conflicts between refugees and the local population, the prevalence common crime and the illegal trading of arms,

Recognizing the need to take steps to assist to improve the security of refugees and to maintain the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements in accordance with international refugee, human rights and humanitarian law,

Stressing the particular security needs of women, children and the elderly, who are the most vulnerable groups in refugee camps and on boats,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. **Reaffirms** the importance of the principles relating to refugees and the common standards for their treatment contained in the United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees of 28 July 1951, as modified by the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees of 31 January 1967;
2. **Strongly condemns** the actions of people smugglers in the Mediterranean resulting in the deaths of refugees at sea;



3. Decides that existing refugees waiting for processing shall be taken in by Italy;
 4. Creates the United Nations Mediterranean Organisation for Refugee Trafficking (UNMORT);
 5. Decides that UNMORT shall be staffed by the navies of the European Union member states, and commanded by the Italian navy;
 6. Resolves that European Union states shall contribute 10% of their military budgets to UNMORT;
 7. Declares that the mandate for UNMORT shall be:
 - a. To seek out and destroy boats to be used for human trafficking;
 - b. To patrol the Mediterranean for refugee boats and escort them back to their port of origin;
 - c. To rescue refugees from unsafe, unseaworthy and sinking boats and transport refugees to their intended destination;
 8. Resolves that all states shall increase their refugee intake by 50%;
 9. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.
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