

Press Release

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Council of Europe Secretary General Terry Davis on the deaths of migrants off Libyan coast

Strasbourg, 31.03.2009 - "The death toll of despair is mounting. Some two hundred, perhaps more, people reported missing after boats carrying migrants capsized in the Mediterranean sea will be added to the list of thousands of anonymous victims who perish every year trying to enter Europe. I am deeply distressed about this death trap at the borders of Europe. That is why I encourage governments, in spite of the current economic crisis, to continue to create economic opportunities in the countries of origin of these migrants and thus allow people to provide for their families without risking their lives on a perilous journey to Europe.

Le Secrétaire Général du Conseil de l'Europe, Terry Davis, réagit aux décès de migrants survenus au large des côtes libyennes

Strasbourg, 31.03.2009 - "Le bilan meurtrier du désespoir s'alourdit. Les quelque deux cents personnes – peut-être davantage - portées disparues après le naufrage en Méditerranée d'embarcations transportant des migrants vont venir s'ajouter à la liste des milliers de victimes anonymes qui périssent chaque année en tentant de pénétrer sur le territoire européen. Je suis profondément bouleversé par ce piège mortel tendu aux frontières de l'Europe. J'encourage donc les gouvernements à continuer, en dépit de la crise économique que nous traversons, d'ouvrir des perspectives économiques dans les pays d'origine de ces migrants et à permettre ainsi à ces derniers de subvenir aux besoins de leur famille sans risquer leur vie au terme d'un voyage périlleux vers l'Europe.

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