

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2011 11:18 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: African Union demands immediate halt to Libya attacks (U)

From: OpsAlert@state.gov <OpsAlert@state.gov>
Sent: Sat Mar 19 23:14:31 2011
Subject: African Union demands immediate halt to Libya attacks (U)

(U) After a March 20 meeting in Nouakchott, the AU panel on Libya called for an "immediate stop" to all attacks after the United States, the UK, and France launched military action against Qadhafi, media report. The body asked Libyan authorities to ensure "humanitarian aid to those in need," as well as the "protection of foreigners, including African expatriates living in Libya." It underscored the need for "necessary political reforms to eliminate the causes of the present crisis" but at the same time called for "restraint" from the international community to avoid "serious humanitarian consequences." The panel also announced a meeting in Addis Ababa on March 25, along with representatives from the Arab League, the Organisation of Islamic Conference, the European Union, and the United Nations to "put in place a mechanism for consultation and concerted action" to resolve the Libyan crisis.

Automatic electronic distribution to: S, D(S), D(N), P, E, C, M, DG, T, R, PA, G, AF, EAP, EUR, NEA, SCA, WHA, IO, S/CRS, S/CT, S/HSC, H, DS, CA, PMAT, INR, AVC, IIP, ISN, CMS, S/ES, S/ES-O, NSOC, and WHSR.