

**Question for oral answer O-000077/2012
to the Council**

Rule 115

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on behalf of the S&D Group

Subject: Follow-up to the LIBE delegation visit to Sicily and Lampedusa

A delegation of the European Parliament's LIBE Committee visited Sicily from 24 to 26 November 2011 to monitor centres for migrants. Following the visit, further information was requested from the Italian authorities, which have failed to provide it up to now. In the meantime, five people have been found dead in boats carrying hundreds of people that have arrived in Lampedusa since 17 March 2012. Seventy-four Somali migrants were kept in a Tunisian fishing boat south of Lampedusa for three days, before being sent back to Tunisia. Can the Council provide, inter alia via a request to the Italian authorities, detailed information relating in particular to the following?

- The recent arrivals and the way the emergency has been handled. With regard to Lampedusa, could the Council give dates and numbers relating to migrants arriving, people hosted in each centre, and transfers from Lampedusa to other centres on the mainland? The legal framework and the reasons for declaring the port of Lampedusa an 'unsafe harbour' for migrants and whether the decision is expected to be reviewed and when. The timeframe for the rebuilding of the Lampedusa centre and the legal framework and reasons for closing it to the media and to the Council of Europe delegation, and whether this decision will be reviewed and when.
- The legal framework for CIEs (detention centres) and CARAs (reception centres) and why asylum seekers in CIEs are not transferred to CARAs once they request asylum. Detailed data related to the processing of asylum requests and their outcome.
- The texts of the current and previous agreements between Italy and Tunisia and Libya respectively, and detailed information on their practical implementation, particularly after the visit of the Italian Prime Minister to Libya in January 2012.
- Information on the management of the CIEs and CARAs in Sicily, both in terms of the location of the structures and the contracting agencies. Whether reception conditions (necessary renovation work in the CARA of Salina Grande, assistance and the provision of appropriate clothing in the CARA of Mineo) have improved. Assurances on the continuation of the Presidium project in the next few years.
- EU funds received and how they have been used in relation to migration management in 2011 and 2012. Detailed information on Frontex activities in Sicily. The action that the EU and Italy intend to take to implement the ECHR judgment of the Grand Chamber in the case of Hirsi Jamaa and Others v. Italy, condemning the decision of the Italian authorities for their decision to return migrants to Libya without examining their cases, for exposing them to the risk of ill-treatment, which amounted to a collective expulsion.

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Forwarded: 27.3.2012

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