



IOM organizes a study visit to Rome for a high level delegation from the Egyptian Ministry of Justice

14- 17-April 2014- IOM hosted a study visit to Rome for six high level representatives from the Egyptian Ministry of Justice. The visit aimed to facilitate the exchange of best practice between the Egyptian and Italian authorities on various aspects of migration governance, particularly aspects concerning migrant protection. The delegation visited various Italian ministries responsible for specific aspects of migration governance, including the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Health, and Ministry of Justice.

The delegation received a comprehensive overview of the Italian legal framework in line with the “Unified Text containing the Measures governing Immigration and the Legislation on the Status of Foreigners”. IOM Italy also engaged with the representatives from Egypt through an exchange of dialogue, experiences and peer tutoring. The enhanced knowledge and expertise acquired by the Egyptian officials during the visit will help pave the way to a more structured legal framework on migration management in Egypt.

Italy’s geographical proximity to the coast of Africa makes it an important country of destination for irregular migrants who cross the Mediterranean Sea from the African continent. The Government of Italy has extensive experience in search and rescue operations and is committed to protecting and assisting migrants in distress. Thus, Italy represents an ideal partner for Egypt to share



expertise and lessons learnt with.

The daily challenges Italy and Egypt face to effectively manage migration and protect those on the move are very similar. These challenges include: (i) the presence of transiting migrants on their territories; (ii) the need for search and rescue activities to identify, protect and assist stranded migrants in border areas on land and sea (iii) complex migratory flows composed of asylum seekers, economic migrants and refugees; and (iv) the need for continued efforts in the fight against the trafficking of human beings.

The study visit was conducted within the framework of

the EU funded project, ‘Protection: Supporting Government and Non-Government Partners to Protect Migrants’ Human Rights Along the East African Route’. The Protection project is implemented by IOM Egypt in partnership with UNHCR. The project is co-funded by the Netherlands, Norway and Switzerland.



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For more information please contact Michele Bombassei at mbombassei@iom.int

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Tel: +20 2 273 651 40/1 • Fax: +20 2 273 651 39 • rocairo@iom.int • <http://www.iom.int>

