



Enhancing Migration and Border Management Capacity in Sudan

IOM organizes capacity building initiatives for officials from the Immigration Service of the Sudanese General Directorate of Passport and Immigration.

30 April 2014- IOM concluded a series of Immigration and Border Management (IBM) capacity building activities for Sudanese officials. The capacity building programme comprised training for junior officers on passport examination procedures and a study visit to Italy for senior officers from the Immigration Service of the Sudanese General Directorate of Passport and Immigration.

The training for junior officers on passport examination procedures included a detailed presentation of the security paper used for travel documents. Information on recommended and mandatory security features, based on the standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), was disseminated to the participants. The training also highlighted the most common security features utilized to protect travel documents, in particular the watermark and intaglio which are easy to identify and at the same time very difficult for forgers to imitate.

Exercises conducted during this session allowed trainees to examine and familiarize themselves with the unique characteristics of genuine travel documents and also with most common techniques used by the forgers, in order to better identify all possible cases of passport imitations and alterations.

The training sessions, delivered by Donato Colucci, IOM's Senior Immigration and Border Management Specialist for the Middle East and North Africa, followed IOM's consolidated capacity building approach, which consists of a highly interactive structure which includes breakout sessions, short plenary presentations, simulation activities, trainee presentations, and self-evaluation.

The study visit to Italy, organized by IOM Khartoum with the support of IOM Rome, allowed senior officers from the Immigration Service of the Sudanese General Directorate of Passport and Immigration to review best practice on immigration and border management. It aimed to strengthen the capacities of the Government of Sudan in the domain of immigration and border management by learning and discussing the border control model and procedures put in place by the Italian Police.



The Director of the Italian Immigration and Border Police welcomed the Sudanese delegation at the Ministry of Interior with a thorough introduction to the mandate of the Directorate and an overview of the organizational structure at the central and the border levels.

The Heads of Border Police Service and Immigration Service in Italy provided details on border control operations and on the integrated response performed in coordination with the Italian Navy, Carabinieri, Guardia di Finanza, and Coast Guards to meet the challenges posed by irregular migration flows arriving on the Italian coasts.

The study tour also included a visit to the Forensic Police Service at the Ministry of Interior which focused on the latest technological trends and measures to expose forged and altered travel documents used for irregular migration. The delegation from Sudan was given an overview of cutting-edge technology used to support passport examination procedures and investigations at

the first, second and third levels of passport control. A need for specialised training programmes for passport controllers was also emphasized.

The delegates also visited Rome's international airport, "Leonardo da Vinci", and were shown a broad range of initiatives and countermeasures to curb transnational crimes, in particular usage of forged and altered passports.

The study visit concluded with a visit to the temporary retention centre in Rome where the delegates learned international best practice and procedures for the identification and repatriation of irregular migrants, which are applied by the Italian border police in line with international standards and in a manner which respects the rights of migrants.

The Government of Germany funded this border management project in Sudan.

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