



PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION (PGA)

PGA Statement on the Situation in Libya

New York/The Hague, February 22, 2011: Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) calls upon the Government of Libya to immediately cease any attack directed against the civilian population, including unarmed protesters, and recalls that a widespread or systematic attack against any civilian population through extermination, murder, torture, arbitrary imprisonment and other inhumane acts is a crime against humanity under customary international law.

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) reminds that under international humanitarian law and international criminal law, as reaffirmed by the Geneva Conventions (1948, 1977) and the Rome Statute of the ICC (1998), military subordinates have an obligation to disobey any manifestly unlawful order, which include any order relating to the wilful bombing or targeting of civilians.

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) calls for the urgent intervention all universal and regional organizations that have a mandate to restore and maintain international peace and security, including the Peace and Security of the African Union and the United Nations Security Council, which has included a urgent meeting on the situation in Libya at 9 AM on Tuesday 22 February 2011.

If the UN Millennium Summit of 2005 unanimously accepted that there is a “responsibility to protect” the undefended civilian population in cases of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and other gross violations of human rights, the Libyan situation represents squarely the scenario that this doctrine of international intervention is deemed to prevent or address.

According the public information sources available to Parliamentarians for Global Action, the Libyan situation encompasses an uncontrolled bloodshed that poses an immediate threat to international peace and security under article 39, Chapter VII, of the UN Charter.

Therefore, Parliamentarians for Global Action calls on the UN Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council to undertake all necessary actions to protect the Libyan civilian population including, but not limited to, the imposition of an arms-embargo, individual-sanctions against the personalities exercising effective control over the campaign of systematic violence (e.g. freezing of assets) and effective measures aimed at blocking the influx of mercenaries from third countries.

Other more intrusive measures provided for by Chapter VII of the UN Charter shall be actively considered by the Members of the UN Security Council due to the legal and moral obligation to halt the massacres and other serious violations of international humanitarian law.

International Law and Human Rights Programme / PGA ICC Campaign

Dr. David Donat-Cattin (Italy), Director (The Hague) - donat@pgaction.org

Mr. Peter Barcroft (Ireland), Senior Programme Officer (New York) - peter.barcroft@pgaction.org

Ms. Deborah Ruiz Verduzco (Mexico), Senior Programme Officer (The Hague) - deborah.ruiz@pgaction.org

Ms. Stefanie Kueng (Switzerland), Programme Associate (New York) – Stefanie@pgaction.org

Mr. Eloi Urwodhi Wabiyik (DR Congo), Consultant (Kinshasa) – eloipga@gmail.com

PGA, New York

211 E 43rd St. Suite 1604 - New York, NY 10017, USA Tel. +1.212.687.8855 Fax: +1.212.687.8409

PGA, The Hague

Laan van Meerdervoort 70 - 2517 AN, The Hague, Netherlands - Tel. +31.70.360.44.33 / Mob. +31.62.331.8581

Website: www.pgaction.org