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## STATEMENT

### EU hosts meeting of Libyan businessmen from all across the country

Today 9 March, the European Union hosted in Brussels a meeting of Libyan businessmen from all across the country. This event was a Libyan initiative supported also by the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) and the World Bank.

High Representative/Vice President Federica Mogherini stated 'It is a source of satisfaction for the EU to have taken this initiative and for this meeting to have taken place in Brussels today. Moreover, I would like to congratulate the large number of business people who were present for showing their commitment to dialogue. By underlining the urgency of a peaceful resolution to the current conflict, they are stressing the importance of the need for the country to move forward. They recognise that without a secure and stable environment, there can be no sustainable economic development in Libya. The EU stands ready to support other initiatives that can accompany the political dialogue with the involvement of Libyan civil society.'

Participants discussed a variety of issues of relevance for the economic recovery and development of Libya and shared their concerns over the grave fiscal, budgetary and economic situation in Libya. At the end of the meeting, the participants adopted a statement in which, inter alia, they decided to establish 'The Libyan Union for Libyan Businessmen' (ARAL).

<https://www.facebook.com/EUinLibya/posts/803833119699402>

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#### FOR FURTHER DETAILS:

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