## Local EU Statement on Religious Freedom and Fundamental Rights

The European Union Delegation issues the following statement in agreement with the EU Heads of Mission in Libya

The EU Delegation expresses its deep concerns about the continued detention and the treatment of persons held on alleged charges of proselytism in Libya. Furthermore, the European Union requests the Libyan authorities to ensure adequate conditions and treatment of all detainees in accordance with international standards and Libya's international obligations.

The EU Delegation is encouraged by the Libyan government's efforts to commit to further reform efforts on the wider human rights agenda towards an all inclusive tolerant Libya. It welcomes the commitment of the government to fully respect all human rights, the creation of the Human Rights Commission and the repeal of laws of the previous regime that restrict the enjoyment of human rights.

The EU Delegation underlines that freedom of religion or belief is a universal human right which needs to be protected everywhere and for everyone. The European Union urges all Libyan communities to make every effort in a spirit of tolerance and respect.

In Tripoli on 13 March 2013