



EUROPEAN UNION

Delegation of the European Union to
the Republic of Lebanon

Beirut, 23 March 2012

Local EU statement on the situation of migrant workers in Lebanon

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

"The EU Delegation deeply regrets the tragic death of Ms Alem Dechassa, a domestic worker of Ethiopian origin, and extends its condolences to the relatives of the deceased. We call on the Lebanese authorities to fully investigate the circumstances of the violence and rights violations perpetrated against Ms. Dechassa and to bring those responsible to justice.

Her death highlights once again the urgent need to improve the protection mechanisms and legal framework governing the rights of migrant workers in Lebanon.

The EU Delegation urges the Lebanese authorities to ensure adequate legal protection for all migrant workers and to develop and enforce effective policies that ensure the rights of migrant workers at all times. Persistent discriminatory practices need to be tackled.

The EU Delegation and EU Member States provide substantial support to help improve the situation of migrant workers in Lebanon, at policy level and through support to civil society organisations involved in promoting and protecting the rights of migrant workers".