

Immediate International Steps Needed to Stop Atrocities in Libya

International Crisis Group 22 February 2011 With credible reports of concerted deadly attacks against civilians committed by Libyan security forces, including the use of military aircraft to indiscriminately attack demonstrators, the international community must respond immediately. (...) Crisis Group

recommends the following urgent steps:

- Imposing targeted sanctions against Muammar Qaddafi and family members as well as others involved in the repression, including an immediate assets freeze;
- Offering safe haven to Libyan aircraft pilots and other security personnel who refuse to carry out illegal regime orders to attack civilians;
- Cancelling all ongoing contracts and cooperation for the supply of military equipment and training to Libyan security forces;
- Imposing an international embargo to prevent the sale and delivery of any military equipment or support to Libyan security forces while refraining from any commercial sanctions that could harm civilians;

In light of the intensity of the violence and its likely regional effects, the United Nations Security Council should:

- strongly condemn Libya's resort to state violence against civilians and call on the Libyan government and security forces to immediately halt all such attacks and restore access for humanitarian flights to Libyan air space;
- call on member states to take the above-mentioned actions;
- establish an international commission of inquiry into alleged crimes against humanity in Libya since 1 February 2011, tasking it to
 - investigate the conduct of the Libyan government and all its varied security forces, as well as allegations concerning the involvement of foreign mercenaries. The body should provide recommendations on steps to be taken by national and international authorities to ensure accountability for any crime;
 - plan the establishment of a no-fly zone under Chapter VII if aircraft attacks against civilians continue. (...)

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