

Oslo, 14/06/2016 160614\_07\_en

## STATEMENT

## Statement by the HR/VP Federica Mogherini on the adoption of Resolution 2292 by the UN Security Council

The EU's Operation Sophia, launched one year ago to fight traffickers and smugglers' networks, has been at the forefront of Europe's response to the refugee and migrant crisis in the Mediterranean.

Today's unanimous adoption by the UN Security Council of Resolution 2292 will now enable Operation Sophia also to play an important role in implementing the UN arms embargo on Libya.

Since the beginning of its mandate one year ago, Operation Sophia has helped save more than 15,000 lives, apprehend 71 suspected smugglers and disable 139 smuggling boats on the high seas. EU Ministers recently agreed to extend its mandate to training of Libya's Coast Guard and the implementation of the UN arms embargo, pending a UNSC Resolution on the latter.

This Resolution reflects the international community's unanimous support to EU work to make the Mediterranean a safer place for everyone, principally for Libyans.

The EU remains determined to support the efforts of the Libyan Presidency Council to restore security and prosperity to the Libyan people and looks forward to partnering with the Government of National Accord in this aim.

Catherine Ray +32 (0)498 96 99 21 - +32 (0)2 296 99 21 - <u>Catherine.Ray@ec.europa.eu</u> - <u>@CatherineEUspox</u>

Maja Kocijancic +32 (0)498 984 425 - +32 (0)2 298 65 70 - <u>Maja.Kocijancic@ec.europa.eu</u> - <u>@MajaEUspox</u>

Nabila Massrali +32 (0)460 75 41 75 - +32 (0)2 29 69218 - Nabila.Massrali@ec.europa.eu