

Informing Europe of U.S. Sanctions and Urging Additional European Action

--The United States strongly condemns the ongoing violence and human rights violations committed by the government of Libya against its own people. These actions violate international norms and every standard of common decency. They must stop.

--In coordination with our international partners, we have moved quickly, both unilaterally and multilaterally, on a series of steps to preserve Libyan assets for the benefit of the Libyan people; to hold the Libyan government accountable for its violations of human rights; and to mobilize a strong response from the international community, while ensuring that these measures have as little negative impact on the people of Libya as possible.

-- On February 25, the United States imposed financial sanctions on the Government of Libya, its agencies, instrumentalities and controlled entities, and the Central Bank of Libya; on Colonel Qadhafi and several members of his immediate family; and on persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, inter alia, to be responsible for or complicit in human rights abuses related to political repression, to be a senior official of the Government of Libya, or to be a spouse or dependent child of any blocked person. In addition, travel bans have been imposed on persons responsible for or complicit in human rights abuses related to political repression, as well as members of their families. The United States has frozen nearly \$32 billion in assets under U.S. jurisdiction as of March 4.

--In addition, U.S. persons, wherever located, are prohibited from engaging in commercial or financial transactions with the Government of Libya or with designated individuals, unless authorized to do so by the U.S. Treasury Department.

--The Executive Order is broad in scope and flexible. It blocks all property and interests in property of the Government of Libya -- including any agencies, instrumentalities and controlled entities, and the Central Bank of Libya. It also

blocks the assets of Colonel Qadhafi and several of his family members, and its prohibitions may be applied to further individuals and entities as we gather more information on Libyan official involved in human rights abuses.

--As we work together to hold the Libyan government accountable for its action, we would request any information your government can share about the nature and amount of assets frozen under host government jurisdiction, in particular whether Government of Libya assets have been frozen (e.g. assets belonging to the Central Bank of Libya or the Libyan Investment Authority).

-- We ask that your governments share any information you may have on the names designated for asset freeze or travel ban sanctions by the UN, the EU, the US or your own government, including information supporting the basis for listing and in particular bio-identifiers.

--We welcome your coordination on the sanctions the international community has adopted against Libya, including the sanctions your country has adopted in response to the appalling violence against the Libyan people. Moving quickly on these sanctions has sent a strong signal of Europe's opposition to the behavior of the Libyan regime and its unacceptable actions against its own people.

--We understand the EU is now considering additional measures ahead of the March 10 extraordinary Foreign Affairs Council and March 11 extraordinary European Council meetings. We urge the EU to mirror the steps taken by the United States and Canada and add broad and flexible sanctions on Libyan entities, that would cover not just specific individuals but also include the freezing of assets and blocking of all property and interests in property of the Government of Libya, including any agencies, instrumentalities and controlled entities -- including the Libyan Investment Authority -- and the Central Bank of Libya. The Qadhafi regime has significant control of these entities, and it is important to deny it the ability to exploit resources that rightly belong to the Libyan people.

--President Obama has issued an Executive Order which specifically targets the Government of Libya and those in power, while making every effort to avoid causing harm to the people of Libya.

--Along these lines, we encourage the EU to adopt measures prohibiting individuals or companies domiciled or registered in EU member states from engaging in any transactions with the Government of Libya, the individuals set forth in the EU Decision (as it may be amended), or the Central Bank of Libya.