

## **MEDIA STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN LIBYA**

The Government of South Africa notes with grave concern the reports of numerous civilian deaths following anti-government protests in Libya.

The Government of South Africa continues to monitor the situation with interest and calls on all parties involved to exercise restraint in order to prevent further loss of life.

The Government of South Africa calls on the Government and people of Libya to seek a speedy and peaceful resolution to the current crisis in accordance with the will of the people.

Government calls on all South Africans who are currently in Libya to maintain contact with our Embassy in Tripoli. Ambassador M Dangor is coordinating consular assistance to our people in Libya.

Family members in South Africa may contact the Department's Consular Section on (012) 351 1000 for any assistance that they may require.

For further information please contact Mr Clayson Monyela, spokesperson for DIRCO, on 082 884 5974.

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND COOPERATION

OR Tambo Building

Private bag X152

Pretoria

21 February 2011