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## The sale of African migrants in Libya as slaves and into slavery: Call for Action

The African Regional Organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa) expresses its alarm over the recent revelations of the heinous trade in slavery of African migrants in open markets in Libya reminiscent of the trade in human cargo across the Sahara and the Atlantic Ocean centuries ago. The recent doings follow in the wake of the inhuman treatment that many migrants have received in the past in Libya and other places.

ITUC-Africa joins in the condemnation of this modern slavery in the strongest terms. We join the African Union (AU) in calling on the Libyan government to ensure that this reported development is thoroughly investigated, the perpetrators effectively prosecuted and sanctioned.

We demand respect for the rights of migrants and their security and request that the victims of this human indignity be effectively assisted with rehabilitation. Importantly, we ask that the international community commit more genuinely to an effective and inclusive process that will engender political stability and security in Libya and elsewhere threatened by destabilization and lawlessness that provide room for heinous acts such as these.

We also call on the international community to use the opportunity of the on-going United Nations' Global Compact on Migration (GCM) process to ensure that acts such as these are effectively reined in and that the human rights of migrants and refugees are guaranteed and secured at all times and in all places.



**Kwasi Adu-Amankwah, General Secretary, ITUC-Africa.**

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