FarawaySyria: an exhibition portraying the Syrian displacement crisis

On 2 November, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Libya has inaugurated a photo and multimedia exhibition aimed at raising awareness about the plight of persons from Syria while they flee their country and reach Libya.

Organized by UNHCR Libya in cooperation with the Italian Embassy, the Italian Institute of Culture and the Canadian Embassy, the FarawaySyria exhibition takes place at the House of Culture (former British Consulate in the old city) in Tripoli, between 3-16 November 2013. The exhibition is curated by the journalist Nancy Porsia.

Syria is far, more than 4,500 km away from Libya. Yet it is so close. It travels with its culture, its history and its people. FarawaySyria intends to take a closer look at the Syrian displacement crisis and to identify points of convergence between Libya and Syria.

Two calls for photos were launched: one for photos shot in Syria, Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Egypt as well as Italy; and a second one for photos on the Libyan and Syrian perceptions of displacement in Libya.

The exhibition is divided in two parts. One section traces the Syrian refugees’ journey fleeing Syria to neighbouring countries. The second part focuses on the situation of refugees in post-revolution Libya, a country struggling to recover and that has its own share of displacement.

The Syrian civil war has created the world’s largest refugee crisis of the last 20 years. Over 2 million Syrian refugees have fled since the beginning of the war and over 4 million persons are internally displaced. According to non-official estimates, more than 110,000 Syrian refugees have sought refuge in Libya. Over 14,000 of them are registered with UNHCR in Libya.

For more information, please visit the website http://farawaysyria.org/ or contact Ms. Emanuela Paoletti paoletti@unhcr.org.