



Press Release

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MEP Wim van de CAMP, Member of the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs visits EASO

On 16 November Mr Wim van de CAMP, Member of the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) visited the head office of the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) in Malta, and held a meeting with Dr Robert K. Visser, EASO Executive Director to discuss EASO's role vis-à-vis the development of the Common European Asylum System. Other topics such as EASO support to Greece, and the Early warning and Preparedness system (currently being developed by EASO) were also discussed during the meeting. The visit followed Dr Visser's presentation, of the 2011 EASO Annual Report on the situation of asylum in the EU and the activities of EASO and the 2013 EASO work programme, at the LIBE committee on 6 November 2012.

During the meeting Dr Visser thanked MEP van de Camp for his interest in EASO's work and explained EASO's role and functions. He commented that 'EASO was an instrument of solidarity. Its mandate can be summarised in two words namely 'support' and 'expertise'. Dr Visser added that, at this crucial juncture, the European Parliament, in particular the LIBE committee, has an important role to play in the development of a Common European Asylum System, and he hoped that the asylum package will be agreed upon soon

MEP Wim van de Camp held that 'Common external border control and a common asylum policy are core competences of the EU. To establish these policies the work of EASO is of great importance. That's the main reason of my visit.'

Any further information may be obtained from the European Asylum Support Office by contacting Mr Jean-Pierre Schembri on the following e-mail address: jean-pierre.schembri@easo.europa.eu