Tragedy at sea in Lampedusa, dozens of children involved.

Terre des Hommes: “Enough with the Emergency Response Policy”. There is the need of a permanent answer involving all the humanitarian organizations present on the island.

Terre des Hommes expresses deep concern about the deaths at sea of the migrants headed to our shores. There is an ongoing state of emergency in the Rescue Center of Lampedusa.

“It is fundamental to reinforce the reception procedures and allow the humanitarian organizations to get in touch, as soon as possible, with the new refugees, especially with children”- states Raffaele K. Salinari, President of Terre des Hommes.

“These disembarkation show that there is a constant emergency to which Italy must give a permanent answer based on the key words of reception, attention, security and full involvement of the civil society. The humanitarian law requires us to ensure migrants a prompt psychological assistance, as well as health care. In this way we can help them to heal the very deep wounds of this trauma”.

Terre des Hommes works in Lampedusa since the 13th of June, 2013 with the project Faro III funded by the Prosolidar Foundation. The project is dedicated to the psychological and psychosocial assistance in favor of unaccompanied minors and families with children. This intervention marks the third phase of the Faro project that has started two years ago during the North Africa Emergency. The project is part of the “Destination Unknown” Campaign of Terre des Hommes International Federation for the protection of migrant children, nearly 21 million in the world, (children on the move) fleeing war, poverty and violence(source: UNHCR).

In 2011, Terre des Hommes started a project on legal assistance to migrant children in Lampedusa (Faro I). In 2012, the project continued in seven Italian cities with several workshops on legal and social education for the community workers (Faro II). Faro III is privately financed by the Prosolidar Foundation (http://www.prosolidar.eu/) that has been following and supporting the work of Terre des Hommes. The project is authorized by the Ministry of the Interior and will last until December 2013.

From 50 years, Terre des Hommes has been working frontline to protect children worldwide from violence, abuse and exploitation and to provide to every child education, health and food.

Terre des Hommes operates in 72 countries with more than 1.200 projects in favor of children. Terre des Hommes Italia Foundation is part of the Terre des Hommes International Federation, working in partnership with ECHO. It is accredited by the European Union, ONU, USAID and recognized the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs.
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