

Rasmussen: NATO Ready To Build Libyan Proxy Armed Forces

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NATO stands ready to help Libya on security reform: Rasmussen

Baku: NATO stands ready to help the Libyan authorities to carry out reforms on defense and security if requested, the military alliance's chief said on Wednesday, APA reports quoting Xinhua.

"We agreed that NATO should be ready to assist the new Libyan authorities with defense and security sector reforms...", Anders Fogh Rasmussen said after the first session of defense ministers' meeting.

"NATO has long experience of supporting the move from dictatorship to democracy. And if asked, we would be happy to share that experience," he told reporters.

Rasmussen said although defense ministers hailed the Libya mission operation as "a great success," they discussed lessons that the alliance should draw from it.

"The operation also showed we lack certain critical capabilities, especially in Europe," he stressed.

European allies and Canada took the lead in the mission. They provided most of the assets. But they had to rely on the United States to deploy critical enablers to get the job done. "I'm talking about intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance and air-to-air refuelling," he said.

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