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Morocco: "Ship to abortion," the government is offended



Thursday, October 4, 2012 at 10:09

Keywords:

Source: AFP

The Moroccan Ministry of Health on Wednesday asked the "authorities" to intervene to prevent "abortion ship" a Dutch NGO to provide this medical procedure illegal in the kingdom, where the ship will dock says Thursday during the day.

Movement for collective freedoms (Mali), a Moroccan association behind the initiative, said the ship had come "to port Smir Thursday, October 4th at 1:00 p.m." (1300 GMT). This city is located on the northern coast of Morocco, in the Mediterranean.

In the first official reaction, the Ministry of Health, is called "primary responsibility for the health of citizens and the health care system," said he had "never been informed of this event," and he had "no authorized party physician or non-resident in Morocco to perform "such an intervention.

"The ministry called on the authorities concerned to take steps to ensure the application of the law," he said in a statement published by the Moroccan news agency MAP.

The Dutch NGO "Women on Waves" wants to offer abortions for a week aboard his boat off the coast of Morocco, a medical procedure illegal but widespread in the kingdom.

This is the first time that the NGO intends to take such action in a Muslim country, which is governed by a more-dominated government Islamist.

She has already taken similar actions off Ireland, Poland, Portugal and Spain, causing protests whenever groups opposed to abortion.

In a statement released Monday, the NGO had assured to be able to provide women with legal medical abortions up to 6.5 weeks of pregnancy, under Dutch law, sailing in international waters. It is medical abortions without operation.

Morocco, abortion is illegal but it is practiced secretly by 600 to 800 women per day, according to estimates.

According to Rebecca Gomperts, founder of "Women on Waves", 78 women die every year in the kingdom of suites an illegal abortion. "Only women who have the means to benefit from the quality of care required," she said.

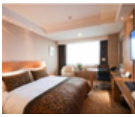
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