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Libyan HoR Speaker meets with Erdogan in Ankara

The Speaker of the House of Representatives (HoR), Aqila Saleh, met Wednesday in Ankara with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, in the presence of Turkish Parliament Speaker, to discuss a number of political files and ways to strengthen bilateral relations.

Libyan HoR Speaker confirmed the HoR's position regarding the formation of a new government whose mission is to supervise the upcoming parliamentary and presidential elections, according to a statement issued by Saleh's media office.

Saleh hailed Türkiye's support for Libya following the disaster of floods ensuing from Storm Daniel last September, as well as its position in support of the Palestinian Cause. Meanwhile, the media office's statement referred to Erdogan's call to speed up finding a consensual solution to the Libyan crisis.

Saleh arrived in Ankara earlier on Wednesday at the head of a parliamentary delegation, and they were received by the Libyan ambassador to Türkiye, Mustafa Al-Glaib, and a number of Turkish officials.



Libya, Tunisia resolve border outstanding issues

Libya and Tunisia have reached comprehensive and permanent solutions on the issues plaguing the joint border crossings, Libya's Acting Minister of Interior, Imad Trabels, said on Tuesday, affirming that the Ras Ajdir point is now fully under the state's control. In a press conference with his Tunisian counterpart Kamal Al-Feki at the crossing, Trabelsi underlined the continuous efforts to equip the port with necessary operational and technical resources.

He reflected on the successful management at the ports of Misrata, Tripoli, and Mitiga Airport, noting similar success at the Ras Ajdir crossing, as he emphasized the ministry's commitment to professionalism and distancing from tribal influences in its decisions. Libya's minister also addressed the extensive smuggling activities occurring through the Libya-Tunisia border, including the trafficking of people, fuel, money, and drugs, noting that many of these smuggling networks have been dismantled in collaboration with the Tunisian authorities.

Further, Trabelsi stressed the full cooperation of the Tunisian gendarmerie forces with Libyan security authorities in the efforts to install watchtowers along the border.

"The number of suspects listed at the Ras Ijdir crossing has been reduced from 2,000 to 350," Trabelsi noted, emphasizing efforts to further decrease this number, excluding those proven to be involved in criminal activities.

Additionally, he informed that the opening of the Al-Dabdab border crossing with Algeria, initially scheduled for Tuesday, has been postponed following an agreement with the Algerian side, with plans to open it as soon as possible.



Politics

The Libyan Mufti, Sheikh Al-Sadiq Al-Gharyani, said he found it strange that the National Oil Corporation (NOC) had deposited \$10 million in the bank account of the "Mediterranean Company", which is headquartered in Dubai.

The Mufti said on Tanasuh TV channel that he had met with the Chairman of the NOC, Farhat Bengdara, after he assumed his duties, and he reminded him of the position of the UAE: which the Mufti described as "the hostile state that killed our children and bombed them in the military college and other places."

"I told Bengdara that there is news that you will deposit money in the UAE. He denied that and said this did not happen and would not happen, but unfortunately it has happened now. We have a letter that Bengdara sent to the Sirte Oil and Gas Production Company, in which he says that the company must deposit \$10 million in an account for the "Mediterranean Company" under the pretext of using the amount to obtain spare parts in the future." Al-Gharyani explained.

The Mufti wondered if Bengdara was doing this wisely or caring for his country, adding that it would have been better for companies to search for spare parts whenever they needed them by searching for the best commodity and the best price, and to transfer money to them for the purchase, rather than to transfer the money in advance as the NOC did.

The Libyan Mufti considered that such behavior wasted the country and Libyans' money, and he called on the National Oil Corporation "to stop such actions and take responsibility."





Politics

Menfi, EU ambassadors discuss UN envoy's initiative

The Head of the Presidential Council, Mohammed Menfi, discussed with the European Union ambassadors to Libya the initiative of the UN envoy Abdoulaye Bathily regarding the political process and electoral laws.

This came during a meeting at the Council's headquarters on Sunday, when they discussed developments in the political situation taking place in Libya, and the initiative presented by the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, which comes within international efforts to hold parliamentary and presidential elections simultaneously as soon as possible to end all transitional stages and achieve stability

across the country.

Menfi said the Presidential Council is ready to play a consensual role to achieve progress in the political process and sponsor any efforts of the UN mission that gain consensus and lead to elections.

He spoke about the support of the European ambassadors and their countries for the Presidential Council and its national steps to achieve peace and stability across Libya.

In a press briefing on Sunday evening, the spokeswoman for the Presidential Council, Najwa Wahiba, said that the meeting of Menfi with the European Union ambassadors accredited to Libya was called for by the Spanish Embassy.

She explained that the meeting also touched on the migration file, and Menfi stressed the need for an equal European-African partnership, through real cooperation, burden-sharing, and support for Libya in managing the migration file, to stop the tragedies to which migrants are exposed in their search for better ways of life.

Earlier on Sunday, Dbeibah met with European Union ambassadors to Libya to discuss Bathily's initiative to reach the elections, expressing his welcome of the invitation extended to him to participate in the meeting.



Politics

Dbeibah renews to EU ambassadors his welcome to Bathily's initiative for Libya elections

Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah renewed Sunday his welcome to the initiative presented by the UN envoy to Libya Abdoulaye Bathily, saying it comes within international efforts to hold elections in accordance with fair and impartial laws.

Dbeibah confirmed during a meeting with the ambassadors of European Union (EU) countries to Libya that Libyans reject the transitional stages and want stability through holding elections, saying that the people have the final say in all results and that their participation has become an urgent necessity.

The meeting attendees discussed a number of political issues, including coopera-

tion between Libya and EU countries, as Dbeibah welcomed the return of EU embassies to work from Libya: from Tripoli and Benghazi.

He touched on the crimes against the Palestinian people and his support for international efforts for a ceasefire and stopping the aggression, stressing the need to unify the efforts of the EU to stop the Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip.

The leader of EU ambassadors, the Spanish ambassador to Libya, indicated that he was grateful for the positive conditions that Libya was experiencing compared to previous years, adding that his country's embassy is now working from

Tripoli and providing its services to the Libyan people after a 10-year hiatus.

The EU ambassador to Libya, Nicola Orlando, also reaffirmed the EU's support for the efforts of the UN envoy through the upcoming dialogue and hailed the cooperation efforts between Libya and the EU countries, especially in the file of illegal immigration and economic cooperation in all its fields.

The meeting was attended by the ambassadors of Spain, Italy, Germany, France, Belgium, Greece, Malta, Finland, Romania, Austria, the Netherlands, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Bulgaria, in addition to the EU ambassador to Libya.



The 12th Arab Energy Conference kicked off on Monday in Doha, Qatar, with the participation of Libya's Minister of Oil and Gas, Mohamed Aoun.

The two-day conference will debate various issues pertinent to energy markets and their impact on the Arab energy sector, as well as challenges related to energy security, environment, and sustainable development.

Organized by the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), the conference features the participation of numerous Arab ministers and officials along with specialists in the energy field.

On the sideline of the first session, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani met several energy ministers from the participating Arab countries to discuss energy markets and their development.



The National Oil Corporation (NOC) and the Algerian Sonatrach company held a meeting on Monday at the NOC HQ in the capital, Tripoli.

The meeting discussed Sonatrach's completed projects in Libya during the year 2023, and the proposed programs and budget for 2024, including seismic survey programs, exploratory drilling, and geological and geophysical studies.

On November 7, Sonatrach announced lifting the state of force majeure on the plots granted to it in Libya, saying that it had made four gas discoveries in the contractual area 96/95 in the Ghadames Basin.

Economy



Libya's Oil Minister urges Algerian firms to resume exploration activities

The Libyan Minister of Oil and Gas Mohammed Oun has urged Algeria to return its oil companies to work in Libya and complete oil exploration. This came in a meeting with the Algerian Minister of Energy and Mines, Mohamed Arkab, and the heads of the Algerian companies Sonatrach and Sonelgaz, on the sidelines of the 12th Arab Energy Conference, organized by the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) in Qatar.

The two sides also discussed aspects of joint cooperation and exchange of expertise as well as technical experiences in the fields of exploration, production, manufacturing, maintenance, training and manpower, according to a statement issued by the Libyan Ministry of Oil.

Oun called on the Algerian side to speed up the return of oil companies to work from Libya to complete exploration operations and begin developing oil discoveries that were delayed due to force majeure, while the Algerian side confirmed the start of actual steps for companies to return to work in Libya. The meeting ended with an agreement between the two sides to coordinate efforts to put these intentions into practice.

Last Monday, the Exploration Department of the National Oil Corporation (NOC) discussed with the Algerian company Sonatrach the developments of exploration programs for the remainder of 2023.

On November 07, the Algerian company announced the lifting of force majeure on the fields granted to it in Libya, and it made four gas discoveries in contractual area 96/95 in the Ghadames Basin.



The Libya Clean Exhibition for Environment and Cleaning Services kicked off on Monday at the Tripoli International Fair, with the participation of many institutions and companies specialized in the environment and cleaning services.

The exhibition, which continues over four days, is the first of its kind to be organized in this field, whether at the level of the relevant companies or the information provided in it by an elite group of specialists. The exhibition is organized to showcase environmental solutions and advanced technologies, for creating investment opportunities for manufacturers and suppliers, and promoting the use of smart cleaning systems.



Ministry of Industry participates in Arab summit for entrepreneurship

The Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources participated in the Arab Summit for Entrepreneurship and Small and Medium Enterprises, which kicked off in the Moroccan city of Marrakech on Tuesday. Wajdi Al-Saadaoui, the Director of the Licensing Office at the ministry, represented Libya in the three-day summit, which was organized by the Arab Organization for Industrial Development and Mining, in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

In a statement, the Ministry emphasized that their involvement in the summit comes in line with their dedication to fostering entrepreneurship and strengthening regional collaboration in this sector.

The gathering highlighted the pivotal role of entrepreneurship in driving economic and social growth through the creation of job opportunities, enhancing productivity, and fostering innovation.

The agenda of the summit encompassed various sessions and workshops that focused on addressing the challenges faced by entrepreneurship in the Arab world, exploring successful experiences in the field, and discussing strategies to support this sector.

Economy



The former Undersecretary of the Ministry of Oil and Gas and Chairman of the Technical Committee for Discovered and Undeveloped Fields, Refat Al-Abbar, commented on news circulating within the oil sector regarding the National Oil Corporation's (NOC) seeking to sign an agreement with a foreign consortium to develop Al-Hamada gas field (NC7) in exchange for a 40% share for those companies.

Al-Abbar confirmed on Facebook that the information and studies conducted by international experts known for their competence and ability (American, French, and others) have proven that the amount of gas expected to be produced from this field will be very large with high economic benefits.

"If there is a Libyan financial possibility to invest in developing the field and benefiting from the entire production, then why does the NOC have to strike a partnership with foreign companies? Even if this partnership is necessary, what is the logical justification for giving a large and unprecedented share: 40% for foreign partners, especially since the development of this field will be in onshore areas of a suitable nature, and there are also fields adjacent to it shared with the NOC with percentages not exceeding 13%." Al-Abbar added.

He said that by a simple comparison, the contractual area (D), which has a large portion in submerged areas, and a complex offshore production platform with a water depth of about 200 metres, the percentage was 40% and would drop to 30% after ten years. "So how can this field be granted when it is in onshore areas?" He remarked.

He said there's a possibility of developing the (NC7) field with Libyan funds so that the Libyan state can benefit from the entire production and revenue of the field without wasting any percentage and without wasting the state's wealth, especially since this field is among the privileges of the Arabian Gulf Company, which is full of technical competencies and has qualified personnel that have the full ability to implement such projects using the latest technologies, but all it needs is to be given the required budgets.



Thinking that the U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken fears Israel and its extension, the Jewish lobby, as an individual, does not lead us to erroneous conclusions. However, when it comes to U.S. foreign policy, we must acknowledge that it will not succumb to the wishes of the Jewish lobby but rather adhere to the power centers of the U.S. deep state. This is, in fact, the requirement of being a state. It is certainly a great mistake to underestimate power centers and lobbies. However, being a "state" does not mean surrendering to them indefinitely. This situation is also valid for the United Kingdom. Moreover, in the UK, there is a broad consensus that traditional power centers, rather than power centers, are influential. We can discuss the contradiction between Jewish capital and state intelligence in the context of the policies of the United States and the United Kingdom towards the Islamic geography in the last thirty years.

Thinking that these two countries are dependent on Jewish capital and Israel would lead us to error. Neither the UK nor the US has surrendered to a situation of dependency that would jeopardize their deep relations by supporting Zionist colonialism. We should view the Gaza genocide as an extension of the policies of the United States and the United Kingdom in the last thirty years. This situation indicates that the United States and the United Kingdom are primarily responsible for Israel's boundless genocide. While we can think that the general relationship of these two countries with Jewish capital generally determines their view of Jews, we cannot place Israel's current settler expansion within the same framework.

When Israel commits an unbelievable atrocity, and the United States and the United Kingdom do not feel the need to rescue the image of humanity in the eyes of the entire world and especially the Islamic nations, known patterns are surpassed. When they started the Ukraine War, they threw the legacy of the great artists of Tsarist Russia outside the borders of Europe.

At that time, the United States and the United Kingdom, together with continental Europe, had abandoned the concern of saving the image. Anglo-Saxons showed that they wanted to reshape the whole world by establishing a balance of horror. The German and Latin world were mostly willing to follow them. All the states and nations we listed seemed determined to expel the Palestinians, even from the last piece of land they lived on. They want to completely colonize the last pieces of land under occupation. Turn-

ing eyes repeatedly to the regional policies of the United States and the United Kingdom is crucial to understanding the genocidal brutality against the Palestinians. Palestinians have been struggling not only against Israel but also primarily against the new imperialism of the United States and the United Kingdom.

Unfortunately, as a result of the dominance of Eurocentric perspectives on the whole world, concepts shaped within "local histories" such as modernization were seen as "global designs." This led to the emergence of understanding disconnected from reality. In fact, this showed that nineteenth-century romanticism continued on different planes. For this reason, it was not possible to see areas where colonialist expansion of power penetrated in the Western world. Orientalism criticism allowed us to see the areas of influence of colonialist ideologies. Jürgen Habermas's support for Israel should not be trivialized. Ideological tools such as Israel's right to defend itself and the protection of Jewish life indicate the need to focus on the foundations of modernity rather than its limits.

When President Erdoğan called to avoid the discourse of religious war against the West, those who stood against him were warned that they would have to do the same. Subsequent developments, especially the words spoken by political party representatives benefiting from the situation, showed that this warning hit its target. Although those inside blamed President Erdoğan for clinging to the discourse of religious war, there is no doubt that the real recipients received the message. Despite bringing together all the seven realms against a small Gaza, they deployed all their tools since they could not establish a new empire of fear. That they focus so much on Judaism or bring up a new clash of the Cross and Crescent is directly related to the loss of credibility. As Palestinians reveal Israel's settler colonial expansion to the world, criticisms of the new imperialism of the West are voiced more loudly. This also shows that a critical attitude is budding even in the West. Those inside are in an ingenious manipulation effort with accusations against President Erdoğan. Unfortunately, as long as Palestine resists, significant intellectual changes will take place.

Credit: This opinion was first published by Yeni Safak daily newspaper Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Libya Observer



Health

American medical team concludes its visit to Libya after performing 35 operations

An American medical team has ended its visit to Libya after performing 35 open-heart surgeries on children, within the plan to localize treatment at home, which is supervised by the Treatment Services Support and Development Agency, according to a statement by the agency.

These operations were performed over the past 20 days, at Misrata Medical Center, by the team specialized in heart defects in children and newborns.



Haalt

Egyptian medical team performs surgeries for congenital heart defects in children

A visiting Egyptian medical team has performed surgeries at Zliten Medical Center for congenital heart defects on 10 children from various cities in Libya.

The operations included an operation performed for the first time in Libya, which is expanding the aortic valve for a 10-yearold girl who suffers from severe congenital stenosis of the aortic valve and a weak heart muscle.

The team also performed an operation, the first in the Maghreb countries, to implant a stent to save a 36-hour-old girl suffering from the absence of a pulmonary valve. She is now in good health and receiving the rest of the treatment in the center's pediatric care, and a third operation during which the aorta was widened via a catheter for a sic-month-old girl, according to media office of the Zliten Medical Center.



Health

Minister of Health reviews Bahrain's experience in establishing medical insurance project

The Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Health, Ramadan Abu Jannah, met on Friday with the Minister of Health of the State of Bahrain, Jalila bint Al-Sayyid Jawad Hassan, on the sidelines of the Manama International Health Conference and Exhibition. During the meeting, the Bahraini Minister of Health stressed the depth of the established historical relations and the close fraternal ties that bring together Bahrain and Libya.

The meeting reviewed the experience of the State of Bahrain in establishing the medical insurance project, in order to provide integrated, sustainable, and high-quality health services, according to a statement by the Libyan Ministry of Health on its Facebook account.





Sport

Al-Hilal gets its first win at CAF Confederation Cup

Al-Hilal got its first win in the group stage of the CAF Confederation Cup after defeating Super Sport United of South Africa 2-1 in the match that was held on Sunday evening at the Benina Martyrs Stadium in Benghazi at the third round of the first group.

Al Hilal's Moatasem Al Taeb scored first in the 17th minute and added a second goal in the 60th minute, while Gambani Lungu scored a goal for Super Sport in the 58th minute.

With this result, Al-Hilal won its first three points in the first group of the CAF Confederation Cup, but it remained behind the Algerian club USM Alger and the Egyptian club Modern Future, which each have six points and occupy first and second places in the group standings.

Meanwhile, Abu Salim won 1-0 against Guinea's CO Coyah in the match that was held at 19 May 1956 Stadium in Algeria in the third round of the second group of the CAF Confederation Cup.

The first half of the match ended goalless, but Abu Salim managed the winner in the 61st minute by Mohammed Al-Kadi. Abu Salim now stands in second place with six point in the standings of the second group teams: behind the Egyptian team, Zamalek, which is the leader with nine points.



Sport

Misrata hosts African Junior Volleyball Championship

The city of Misrata is preparing to host the first African Volleyball U-17 Championship, from 10 to 20 December 2023.

According to the Libyan Volleyball Federation, the committees in charge of organizing the tournament have been putting the final touches on the African event, amid follow-up from the Federation and the Ministry of Sports of the Government of National Unity, where technical committees have been formed to make the tournament a success.

The tournament will be held at the Misrata International Sports Hall, with the participation of eight teams from across the African continent.

The Libyan national junior team is preparing for the tournament at an external preparatory camp in Tunisia, during which it played a friendly match with its Tunisian counterpart, which ended with the latter winning in three clean games.



Education

Minister of Education forms committee to assess educational institution damaged by weather fluctuations

The Minister of Education in the Government of National Unity (GNU), Mussa Al-Magaryif, has decided to form a committee to assess and inventory the educational institutions damaged due to weather fluctuations that affected a number of cities and regions of the country.

The committee is formed under the chairmanship of the Undersecretary for Monitoring Affairs, and the membership of the Director of Project Management at the Educational Facilities Authority and the Director of the Follow-up Office at the Ministry of Education, according to a brief statement issued by the Ministry.

The GNU had decided Sunday an official holiday in public institutions and facilities, to preserve the safety of citizens due to weather fluctuations.





Contact Information