

Politics



Libyan PM urges Haftar's forces to hand over maps for mines planted in south Tripoli

The Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah called on Khalifa Haftar's forces, which attacked the capital, Tripoli, in 2019, and their allies, to hand over maps of the mines that were planted south of Tripoli.

During a visit made by Dbeibah, accompanied by state officials, to check on the condition of citizen Ibrahim Al-Habbashi, who was injured as a result of a mine explosion in Ain Zara area, he said that "the dirty war that was launched recently is still impacting the people."

Dbeibah pointed out that those who planted mines in people's homes and on the roads are still "playing with the lives of civilians and children unless they provide mines' maps. Dbeibah also issued direct instructions to transfer the citizen Ibrahim Al-Habbashi to Tunisia to complete his treatment and implant artificial limbs for him.

Al-Habbashi suffered many injuries and lost limbs after he suffered a landmine explosion in the Ain Zara area while he was working to dig a water well in one of the houses in the area. The mines are remnants of Khalifa Haftar's aggression against Tripoli.

Politics



Libya Joins Arab Anti-Corruption Network

Libya's Administrative Control Authority declared its new membership in the Arab Network for the Promotion of Integrity and the Fight Against Corruption. The Authority revealed this development during a meeting between the Authority's head, Abdullah Qaderbouh, and the Network's president, Haider Hanoun from Iraq, at the UN Convention against Corruption conference held in Atlanta, United States.

The Arab Network for the Promotion of Integrity and the Fight Against Corruption comprises 49 members from ministries and specialized authorities across 18 Arab countries.

The Network represents the first Arab regional mechanism that facilitates regular and systematic engagement between governmental and non-governmental entities for consultation and cooperation in enhancing integrity and combating corruption.



Politics

Libya joins legal procedures against Israeli occupation at the ICJ

The Libyan embassy in the Netherlands reported that Libya has joined the legal proceedings that will take place before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) next February, under the supervision of Palestine, adding that the sessions will be held at the request of the United Nations General Assembly, which asked to be provided with the legal opinion of the ICJ regarding the practices of the Israeli occupation in Palestine.

"According to the progress of the lawsuit and to prevent disruption, it was agreed to intensify statements of political support from countries to ensure that a ruling is issued in the urgent aspect to stop the genocide and the dangers of mass displacement as well as settlement to which the Palestinian people are exposed." The embassy said.

The embassy confirmed that countries wishing to join the lawsuit can join at a later stage, and indicated the continuation of consultations with South Africa to support it regarding the case it had filed against the Israeli occupation as it will be heard this week at the ICJ.

A statement by 75 members of the High Council of State (HCS) called Monday on the presidency of their council to address the Presidential Council and the Government of National Unity, for the need to provide the necessary legal support for the lawsuit filed by South Africa against the "occupying entity" (Israel) at the International Court of Justice for the crimes it has been committing against Palestinians. In their letter, the members called on the HCS presidency to extend an invitation to the Arab countries that signed the agreement to support this lawsuit, which South Africa had filed against Israel for committing genocide against the Palestinian people, including horrific crimes and the use of all internationally prohibited weapons such as phosphorus bombs. Libya has previously signed and ratified the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide in December 1948.



Politics

Libyan Deterrence Apparatus arrests ISIS member in Libya

The Libyan Deterrence Apparatus has announced the arrest of an ISIS official and the eradication of all leaders of terrorist organizations in the country.

The Apparatus said in a statement on its Facebook page that the ISIS Wali (Governor) in Libya, Hashim Abu Sidra, was arrested earlier, and then the announcement of the date of his arrest was postponed, to facilitate the identification of all elements of the organization and combating its sources in Libya, amid complex circumstances.

The statement explained that the person known as "Khubayb" was appointed as an official in the organization, and he was directly responsible for facilitating the entry of terrorists into Libya and their movement between cities, before he was appointed Emir of the organization in what is known as the "Libya Province."

"The Apparatus discovered Abu Sidra's intention to head from the south towards the capital, Tripoli, where his exact location was determined and he was arrested in a precise operation and without any losses", the statement reads.

"All ISIS leaders in Libya were killed and imprisoned for the judiciary to pronounce its ruling," the Apparatus added, noting that it would publish the defendant's confessions in the near future.

On Wednesday, the Public Prosecutor Al-Siddiq Al-Sour announced that the Deterrence Apparatus referred 1,231 cases during the year 2023, and referred 38 cases belonging to banned organizations to the judiciary.

Politics

PM Dbeibah urges for increasing fuel quantities to southern region

The Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah called on the Brega Oil Marketing Company to increase the quantities from the Sabha depot, and to establish a distribution mechanism that ensures their arrival to all municipalities, until this issue is radically addressed, according to the government's media platform Hakomitna.

Dbeibah met in the capital, Tripoli, the mayors of 19 municipalities in the southern region, in the presence of the ministers of local government, labor and finance, and a number of deputy ministers and officials of companies related to the fuel crisis in the southern region. The platform added that the Minister of Local Government, Badr Al-Deen Al-Toumi, stressed at the beginning of the meeting the efforts of his government in supporting local administration and transferring competencies, praising Dbeibah's periodic follow-up of municipalities' conditions and identifying their problems through his meetings with them.

The Mayor of Sebha presented the most important problems and difficulties facing the municipalities of the south, especially the lack of fuel, the lack of an effective mech-

anism to guarantee its distribution from the Sabha depot, the delay in implementing a number of road projects approved in the development plan, financial releases for a number of sectors, and the lack of attention and follow-up to a number of development projects in various sectors.

He called for finishing the file of financial releases for a number of sectors in the Municipality of the South, and the necessity of collecting them from sustainable development programs of the National Oil Corporation, and the need to pay attention to implementing the Sabha sewage plant given its bad condition.

The media platform said that Dbeibah had stressed the necessity of developing radical solutions to the fuel issue, guaranteeing the rights of citizens, especially in the southern regions, and creating alternatives in the support file for citizens to benefit from. It added that Dbeibah had assigned the Minister of Local Government to hold technical meetings for municipalities and executive agencies to follow up on the progress of work of ongoing projects and targeted projects in 2024.

Politics

More than 100 tons of explosives distributed in areas of southern Tripoli

Director of the Department of Explosives at the National Safety Authority, Ali Al-Qadi, has stated that more than 100 tons of war remnants are distributed across most of the areas south of Tripoli and the areas of the Western Mountain, Tarhuna, and Bani Walid.

"A number of areas in southern Tripoli have become prohibited to citizens due to mines that are difficult to detect," Al-Qadi added, noting that explosives teams are facing difficulty in dealing with these mines due to the lack of capabilities.

He called on all citizens to be careful, not to deal with any type of bombs, and to report them to the competent authorities immediately to avoid any injuries.





Economy

Oil Minister, APPO's SG review establishing gas pipeline from Nigeria to Europe via Libya

The Minister of Oil and Gas, Mohammed Oun, discussed with the Secretary-General of the African Petroleum Producers' Organization (APPO), Omar Al-Farouk, doing an economic study for the establishing of a gas pipeline from Nigeria to Europe passing through Niger and Libya. This discussion came during Oun's meeting

in Tripoli with Al-Farouk on the sidelines of his participation in the 2024 Energy and Economy Summit, which Libya will host on January 13 and 14.

The meeting reviewed ways to establish the African Energy Bank to support oil industry projects in Africa, and to benefit from them in the production of renewable

energies as well as the development of African member countries.

The two sides touched upon the importance of joint cooperation among member states to benefit from the expertise, technology, lessons and experience gained in the oil and gas industry and the field of signing contracts.



Economy

CBL announces unification of a number of its departments in Benghazi and Tripoli

The Central Bank of Libya (CBL) has announced the unification of the Research and Statistics Departments and the Financial Information Unit, after completing the process of unifying the Banking and Monetary Control Departments.

This came during the 3rd meeting of the committee formed to complete the procedures for unifying the bank, headed by the Governor of the Bank, Al-Siddiq Al-Kabir.

The meeting, which was held at the CBL headquarters in Tripoli,

in the presence of the directors of the relevant departments from Tripoli and Benghazi, approved the committee's work roadmap for the year 2024.

In August 2023, the CBL Governor, Al-Siddiq Al-Kabir, and his deputy, Marai Al-Barassi, announced the return of the bank to a unified sovereign institution, supporting the efforts to address the effects of the division in the bank.

Economy

Libyan PM says decision to remove fuel subsidies is irrevocable



The Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah said that his government had taken a decision to remove fuel subsidies and is continuing to implement it, adding that it is irreversible.

Dbeibah added during the Hydrocarbons Committee meeting on Tuesday that international institutions, the Central Bank of Libya, and regulatory bodies warned against continuing with the current situation of fuel subsidies, saying that they had indicated that the value of the subsidies reached 50% of the country's income.

The Libyan PM called earlier on the Fuel Alternatives Study Committee to provide replacements to subsidies for citizens, stressing that any delay in addressing this file is unacceptable. He also stressed the necessity of providing subsidies' alternatives to citizens, presenting community ideas, so that their role is important in decision-making, working to clarify the project to the people in terms of its positives and negatives, and the obstacles that stand in the way of its implementation, in addition to studying the direct and indirect impact of this file.

In its annual report for 2022, the Audit Bureau presented its vision regarding addressing the problem of fuel subsidies, saying that a sustainable solution depends on two options, either replacing cash subsidies with in-kind support or organizing fuel distribution operations.



Economy

Elkaber reviews electronic payments and Fintech Lab project with bank officials

The Governor of the Central Bank of Libya (CBL), Saddek Elkaber, met with the bank's project managers to review the work progress. Elkaber was briefed on the completion rates of ongoing projects and followed up on their progress.

Furthermore, he announced the launch of a series of new projects for the year 2024, which includes the development of electronic payment methods and instant interbank payments, as well as the completion of the Financial Technology (Fintech) Lab.



Economy

Ministry of Labour identifies over 45,000 cases of job duplication in 2023

Ministry of Labour and Rehabilitation announced on Monday the detection of 45,124 cases of job duplication across the country in 2023.

The Ministry shared the results of the job duplication matching and inspection campaigns for 2023 on its Facebook page.

The inspection campaigns verified 338,962 files, covering 206 offices in the

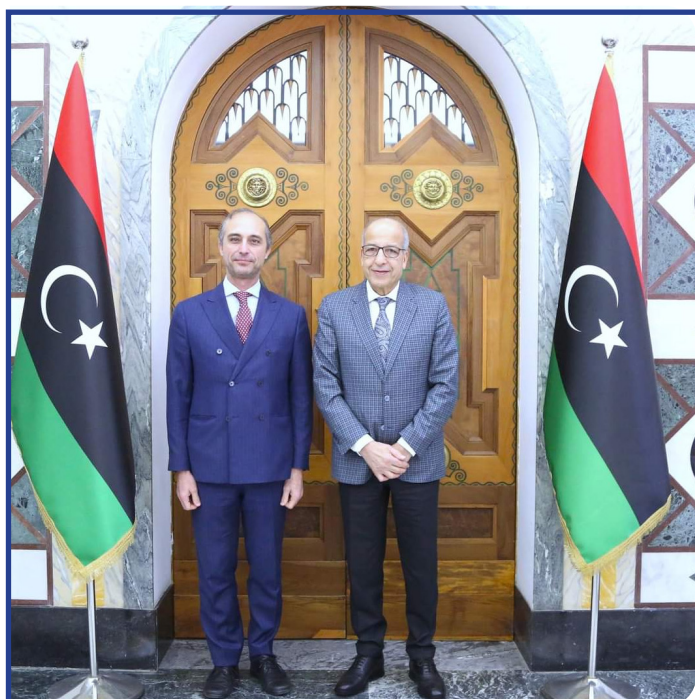
administrative apparatus, companies, and the private sector.

Regarding the Job Duplication Settlement Committee outcomes, the Ministry noted that 22,675 employees applied for settlement, while 19,124 employees were suspended. All resignations were referred to the Ministry of Finance.

The Ministry also clarified that a total

of 1,902 work sites across various municipalities were visited during these inspections.

In June, Minister of Labour Ali Al-Abed announced the launch of a comprehensive inspection campaign to control job duplication between the public and private sectors under the slogan "Enforcing the Law and Reviving the Labour Market."



Economy

Libya, Italy boost joint efforts against money laundering, terror financing

Governor of the Central Bank of Libya (CBL), Sedek Elkaber, discussed cooperation with Italian Ambassador Gianluca Alberini in combating money laundering, terrorism financing, and related risks.

Elkaber welcomed the Italian Ambassador on Sunday at his office, along with the economic advisor of the embassy and a representative of the Italian Financial Police.

The meeting, attended by CBL directors of the Libyan financial information and compliance units, discussed leveraging Italian expertise to support the bank's capacities in cooperation with the Italian Financial Police Academy.



Health

Libyan PM urges for handling file of tumors patients professionally and seriously

The Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah stressed the need to address the issue of oncology patients in a professional and serious manner, not through temporary treatments, urging for starting with early diagnosis and awareness, to registering all patients through a comprehensive system for all data and diagnosing cases in terms of treatment inside or outside of Libya. He also urged for continuing to provide health services through local specialized centers.

Dbeibah's remarks came during his meeting on Wednesday with the Head of the National Cancer Control Authority and the directors of centers specialized in the field of oncology, departments and offices of the Authority, in the presence of the Head of the Treatment Services Support

and Development Agency, to follow up on the plan of the National Cancer Control Authority for 2024.

The Director of the National Cancer Control Authority, Haider Al-Sayeh presented a briefing on the steps completed by the Authority and the detailed plan for the current year, which focused on the registration system, completing the registration of medical cases, the mechanism for supplying medicines, the radiotherapy and chemotherapy service, and the awareness and early diagnosis plan.

Al-Sayeh explained that the patient registration system received all cases, as 22,059 ones were registered, saying that work is still continuing, and stressing the necessity of registering all cases by contacting

one of the centers so that the authority can deal with them in terms of providing the type of medicine or treatment, whether radiation or chemotherapy.

Meanwhile, Dbeibah hailed the efforts exerted by all parties to start radiotherapy locally through the recent opening of the Tripoli Radiotherapy Center, which will begin receiving cases on January 20 at a rate of 180 cases per day, in addition to other specialized centers locally, stressing the need to continue working in the same way and pace of organization on administrative, technical and medical aspects, and ensuring that the medicines are available and are brought from specialized international companies according to the condition of each patient.



Health

GNU launches National Comprehensive Healthcare Program and health number system

The National Center for Health System Development of the Ministry of Health of the Government of National Unity organized the ceremony for announcing the National Comprehensive Healthcare Program and launching the health number system, in the presence of a number of officials. The Director General of the National Center for Health System Development gave a presentation on the comprehensive healthcare project that began with the first applied model of digital transformation within the municipality of Abu Salim, explaining the work of the health number system that provides a compre-

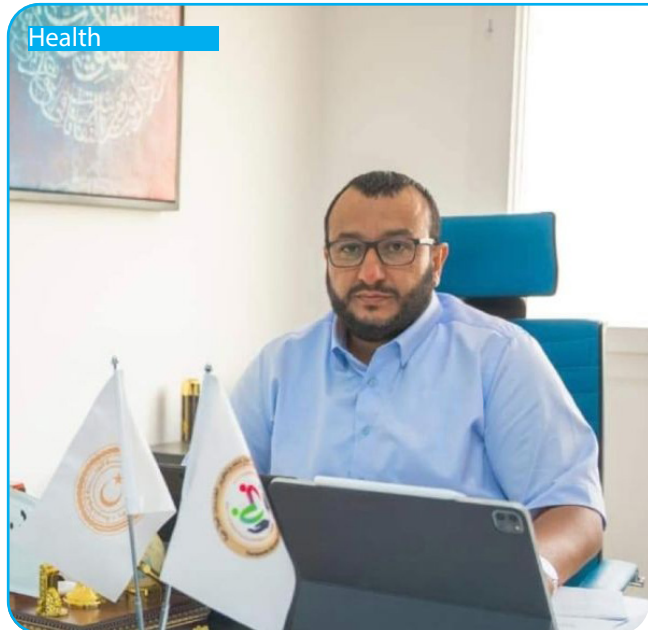
hensive approach to healthcare by providing all means of comfort to the patients while giving the finest services.

The Ministry of Health said that the comprehensive healthcare project in health centers focuses on diagnosing the condition and providing treatment through a specialized family doctor, following up on cases of chronic, psychological and other diseases, referring cases that need therapeutic medical service that is not available at the service center, and communicating and following up on the case with the referred party.

The Ministry explained that the com-

prehensive healthcare project is a strategic option for the Ministry of Health to achieve digital transformation in the field of healthcare, implement the electronic health system and family health, activate the referral system from primary healthcare centers to hospitals, and focus more on supporting programs of primary healthcare, which provides vaccination and reproductive health services, medicines for chronic diseases, community health awareness, school health, and mental health, in order to achieve the goals of sustainable development.

Health



Official confirms availability of cancer medications starting April

Cancer treatment medications will be available in Libya starting in April, says the head of the Support and Development Agency for Therapeutic Services in Libya, Ahmed Melitan.

The Government of National Unity's public tender to various pharmaceutical companies will facilitate the provision of these treatments, which have been in short supply within the country, the agency stated, citing its head.

Melitan highlighted the pressing need of cancer patients for such

medications, noting the exorbitant prices in the local market compared to the average citizen's income.

He emphasized efforts to localize radiation therapy by opening a specialized centre at the Tripoli Central Hospital, which was inaugurated last December.

The Centre, under the supervision of the National Authority for Cancer Control and in collaboration with the Support and Development Agency for Therapeutic Services, conducts 120 radiation therapy sessions per day.

Sports



Dbeibah declares readiness to host African sports events

Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah confirmed Libya's readiness to organize any African sports event, promising necessary support to the Ministry of Sports and the Libyan Olympic Committee.

The PM made his remarks during the reception of heads of the National Olympic Committees of Africa's Zone I in Tripoli on Sunday, attended by Depu-

ty Minister of Sports Jamal Abunuwara and President of the Libyan Olympic Committee Jamal al-Zaruq.

Dbeibah emphasized his support for cooperation among Arab Olympic Committees and the importance of regular meetings to unify efforts. He also praised the Libyan Olympic Committee for hosting the first meeting for Zone I in Tripoli.

PM Dbeibah receives national basketball team in appreciation of their distinguished efforts



The Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, accompanied by the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Sports, Jamal Abu Nawara, received the national basketball team and the Libyan Football Federation, after obtaining second place in the Arab championship, presenting gifts to all participating athletes in appreciation of their distinguished efforts in the Arab Championship. PM Dbeibah affirmed his sup-

port for all national teams and directed the Ministry of Sports to pay attention to infrastructure in sports.

The Prime Minister also praised the efforts of the Ministry of Sports and its support for sports federations and national teams during their various participations, and the implementation of a number of sports projects that contribute to raising the efficiency of the sector.

Sports



Tripoli hosts inaugural 2024 ANOCA Zone I meeting

Libya's capital, Tripoli, played host this Saturday to the inaugural 2024 meeting of Zone I of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA). According to the "Hakomitna" platform, the meeting saw the participation of the Deputy Minister of Sports, Jamal Abunuwara, the President of the Olympic Committee, Jamal al-Zaruq, and representatives from North African countries including Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania.

The two-day meeting is poised to be a fertile ground for strategic coordination among these North African countries. The delegates will chart the sports events and calendar of activities for 2024.



Opinions

**Dr. Mohamed
Omar Elmeshai:
Person of the
Year 2023**

*By Mohamed Abaid, Independent
Libyan Analyst*

Introduction

In a resounding victory, Dr. Mohamed Omar Elmeshai has been voted Person of the Year 2023, capturing a commanding 70.5% of the total votes in a poll among 2100 participants. This accolade underscores the significant impact of his leadership as the Manager of the General Electricity Company in Libya.

The Poll's Context

The poll for Person of the Year in Libya drew attention from across the nation, with prominent figures from various sectors contending for the title. The participants included Hatem Aribi, Farhat Bin Qadara, and Mohamed Ismail, all of whom are respected for their contributions in their respective fields.

Dr. Elmeshai's Pivotal Role

Dr. Elmeshai's landslide victory is a testament to his pivotal role in not only reforming Libya's electricity sector but also in fostering national progress. Under his direction, the General Electricity Company has seen unprecedented advancements, marking the end of the persistent power outages that once plagued the nation.

Comparing the Contenders

The substantial margin of votes received by Dr. Elmeshai, compared to 204 for Hatem Aribi, 84 for Farhat Bin Qadara, and 331 for Mohamed Ismail, reflects the public's overwhelming support for his transformative initiatives in the electricity sector

Dr. Elmeshai's Forward-Looking Vision

With an eye to the future, Dr. Elmeshai is not resting on his laurels. His vision encompasses a comprehensive plan to further enhance the efficiency and sustainability of Libya's power grid, ensuring that the energy needs of the nation are met with reliability and foresight.

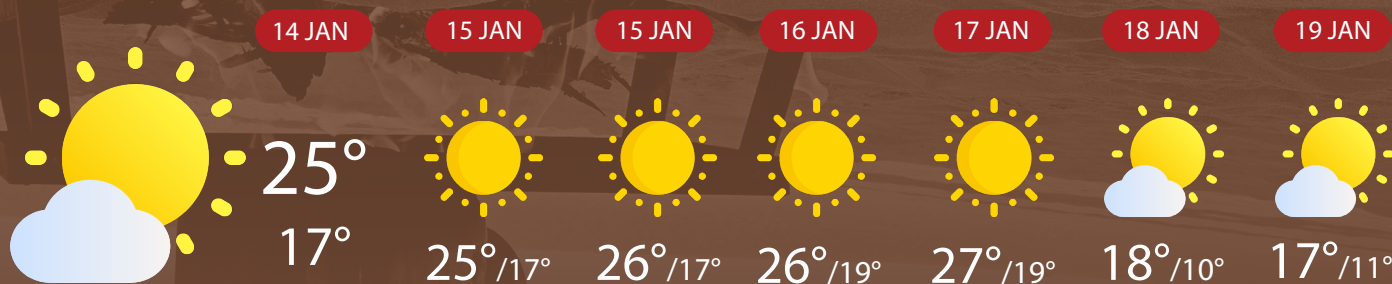
Conclusion

The election of Dr. Mohamed Omar Elmeshai as Person of the Year 2023 is a recognition well-earned. It celebrates a leader who has not only excelled in his domain but has also illuminated the path to a brighter future for Libya. His landslide victory in the poll is a clear indication of the confidence and trust the Libyan people have in his ability to propel the country towards energy independence and stability.

Photo of the Week



Tripoli Weather Forecast



+218 94 424 69 28 libyaobserver.ly lyobserver

info@libyaobserver.ly lyobserver

ar.libyaobserver.ly lyobserver.ar lyobserver.arabic

libyaobserver thelibyaobserver

Contact
Information