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Libyan PM visits France, meets Le Drian to discuss Berlin II Conference

Libya's Prime Minister, Abdul-Hamid Dbeibah, arrived in France - coming from Italy - Tuesday and met with the French Foreign Minister, Jean-Yves Le Drian, and discussed joint coordination on Berlin II Conference and the upcoming France-chaired Security Council meetings.

Dbeibah reiterated to Le Drian, in the presence of Foreign Minister, Najla Al-Mangoush, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs, Adel Jumua, the importance of France's role in rallying international efforts to support political legitimacy and sovereignty as well as end foreign forces' presence in Libya.



Al-Nuwairi, Kubis discuss Libyan developments

The First Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives (HoR), Fawzi Al-Nuwairi, has discussed with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), Jan Kubis, the outcomes of the Libyan political dialogue.

The two sides discussed during their meeting on Monday at the HoR Tripoli branch, the role of the UNSMIL to activate all tracks in parallel and make progress in them, in order to ensure the success of the national entitlement, presidential and parliamentary elections at the end of the year.

They also discussed the draft budget presented to the HoR by the National Unity Government and the need to implement it according to the requirements of the stage and the law.

Al-Nuwairi affirmed that the HoR is ready and welcoming to deal positively with all national obligations whenever conditions become available.



The Libyan Prime Minister Abdul-Hamid Dbeibah said he had agreed with the Italian government officials to resume work in joint commit-

committees to follow up on the 2008 agreement between Libya and Italy as it has a crucial role in achieving Mediterranean development and stability.

Dbeibah said in a joint press conference with Italian Prime Minister, Mario Draghi, in Rome that his government was working on ending transitional phase and lead Libya to free and transparent elections, adding that they had agree to sign an agreement to exchange convicted prisoners.

He also referred to appointing the Libyan Justice Minister Halima Ibrahim to go over the details of the cases of the Libyan prisoners when she visits Italy next week, hailing the revival of investment coperation and trade exchange in renewable energy and reconstruction among other fields, especially with the expertise of Italian firms that are going to work in Libya.

Meanwhile, Draghi reiterated support for the Libyan Government of National Unity to reach stability and democracy, saying cooperation between the two countries is more viable than ever, discussing as well the issue of illegal immigration, human trafficking, smuggling, organized crime and Libyan borders' security, especially in the south.



The foundation gathering of the Libyan national reconciliation commission started Monday in Tripoli with the "legal track" in the presence of Presidential Council deputies Abdullah Al-Lafi and Mossa Al-Koni as well as the representative of the UNDP and



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UNSMIL humanitarian coordinator, in addition to African Union ambassador in Libya via Zoom, and several Libyan ministers.

Al-Lafi reiterated at the gathering the importance of national reconciliation to take Libya on the road to elections, applauding the legal experts participating at the two-day gathering to lay the foundation for the commission so it can work under the auspices of the Presidential Council

Meanwhile, the state minister for immigration and displacement affairs Ahmed Abu Khazam said the government supports national reconciliation that would allow displaced people inside and outside Libya to return home.

The UNSMIL humanitarian coordinator said they support the comprehensive national reconciliation track of the Government of National Unity that would lead Libya to stability and pave the way for holding elections in December.

The representative of the UNDP, in the meantime, hailed the Presidential Council's step toward reconciliation and expressed the UNDP support for the Government of National Unity to achieve its goals.

While the African Union ambassador to Libya said via Zoom that they support national reconciliation in Libya and are ready to provide their expertise and consultations to Libyan legal experts to help achieve the Libyan true reconciliation goal that leads for lasting peace.



HNEC disperses electoral materials to Benghazi and Sabha

The High National Elections Commission (HNEC) has sent a convoy of official electoral equipment to the offices of the Electoral Administration in the cities of Benghazi and Sabha.

The convoy was sent by the Logistical Support Department, in cooperation with the Libyan Postal Company and included a shipment of specialized electoral materials, which includes ballot boxes, numbers for polling stations, and office equipment.

The HNEC stated that this convoy comes as part of the preplanned preparations for the upcoming elections due to take place in December and is part of the provision of a strategic supply of materials necessary for the electoral administration offices in order to ensure readiness when election time comes.



HCS: Haftar's parade in Benghazi is a threat of force

The High Council of State (HCS) has denounced the military parade in Benghazi Saturday, saying it was organized by "irregular and illegal forces led by war criminal Khalifa Haftar."

In a statement on Saturday, the Council considered the step a "serious breach and aggressive behavior," calling on the Presidential

Council, in its capacity as the supreme commander of the Libyan army, to put an end to such violations and work to consolidate the ceasefire and unify the military institution.

The international community should refrain from supporting Haftar and work only with legitimate bodies and official authorities, the statement read.

However, it did affirm its support to any attempts to establish peace and advance the political process through dialogue, but underlined that this "does not mean neglecting the gains of the February 17th Revolution, the most important of which is the rule of law, the constitution, and the peaceful transfer of power."

The statement considered the military parade to be a further escalation and a threat of force coinciding with the Libyans' approach to a comprehensive political settlement. "This reflects a thirst to seize power by force, even at an ultimate price," the statement added.

It is noteworthy that Haftar's militias organized a military parade on Saturday to mark the seventh anniversary of the so-called Dignity Operation launched under the pretext of fighting terrorism.

Haftar gave a speech on this occasion and asserted that the war on Tripoli was right and that they are ready to return to war if what he called "the militias did not adhere to the political settlement."



Libya and Algeria sign economic cooperation agreement

The President of Libya's General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture (GLUCC), Mohamed Al-Raeed, signed an eco-



economic cooperation agreement with the Director of the Algerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Wahiba Bahloul.

The agreement, which was signed on the sidelines of the Algerian-Libyan Economic Forum, included activating trade exchange between both countries' Chambers of Commerce in order to encourage the sponsorship of trade and industrial forums and conferences.

In addition, discussions covered the possibility of the establishment of economic development projects in Libya in cooperation with Algeria in various fields, including the field of renewable energy and security.

Also covered was the possibility of reopening Debdab border crossing between Libya and Algeria, in order to ease the commercial movement between the two countries, along with the resumption of air and sea movement, which is hoped to contribute to reviving the economy of both countries.



Brega Company dispatches second fuel convoy to Sabha

The Brega Oil Marketing Company sent on Monday the second fuel convoy to Sabha oil depot, which is loaded with 1,221,000 liters of gasoline fuel, 314.00liters of diesel fuel, and 110 tons of liquid gas.

The company stated that the process of directing fuel shipments from Misrata oil depot will continue as long as conditions are suitable. It said that work is underway in coordination with the National Oil Corporation (NOC) and the security authorities to cover the basic needs of the entire south of the country.

Tunisia Central Bank confirms resumption of bank credits between Libya and Tunisia



The Governor of the Central Bank of Tunisia (CBT), Marwan Al-Abbasi, confirmed that an agreement has been reached with the Governor of the Central Bank of Libya Saddiq Al-Kabeer, to resume bank credits within the coming period, in order to open up opportunities for small and medium Tunisian enterprises to expand.

Al-Abbasi added in statements to the Tunisian Mosaique Radio that there are funds which Libya has demanded to be frozen since 2011, in addition to funds reserved for Libyan citizens due to their lack of knowledge of customs laws and exchange arrangements in Tunisia.

He explained that a committee has been formed which includes parties from the Tunisian and Libyan customs and the two Central Banks of both countries, in order to resolve this problem.

Dbeibah, Di Maio open Libyan Italian forumin Rome



Rome hosted Monday the Libyan-Italian forum in the presence of the Libyan Prime Minister Abdul-Hamid Dbeibah and the Italian Foreign Minister Luigi di Maio as well as other officials.

According to AKI news agency, di Maio said Italy can today count on a new and united Libya, thanks to the great efforts of the Government of National Unity (GNU), represented by Prime Minister Dbeibah.

Di Maio said at the Libyan-Italian business forum that Italian companies can look to Libya with renewed confidence now, adding that Dbeibah's presence in Rome "confers very high value on this meeting, which constitutes another part of the path for a relaunch of the partnership that Italy and Libya have undertaken in the days after the formation of the unified transitional authority".

He explained that Italy had never abandoned Libya and the embassy always continued to operate, even in the most difficult moments, saying they are now involved in further strengthening the Italian institutional presence in Libya through the imminent reactivation of the consulate in Benghazi and the opening of an honorary consulate in Sebha – south Libva.

"Over the coming months, we will also strengthen our presence in Tripoli with a promotional desk for Italian companies and a cultural attaché at our embassy". Di Maio further explained.

Dbeibah arrived in Rome Monday after visiting Algeria on Saturday and carrying bilateral relations' discussions with the Algerian President, Abdelmaiid Tebboune.

He said Italy and Libya "have always worked together" and "ENI is one of Libya's biggest partners for oil", adding that relations with Italy in the construction field are also "very strong and we are sorry that the level of trade has dropped.

"We are aiming to raise it. We must rebuild schools, hospitals, infrastructures. We want to return to producing 3-4 million barrels of oil per day and relaunch sectors of the economy. And you (Italy) are the best partner." Dheibah added.



The CEO of Sonatrach Oil Group, Toufik Hakkar, confirmed Sonatrach's readiness to develop eminent relations with its Libyan partner, in order to lay the foundations for a mutually successful economic partnership and to develop the petroleum and gas industry in both countries.

Hakkar said, during his participation in the Algerian-Libyan Economic Forum, Sonatrach Oil Group has vast experience in various hydrocarbon activities, which can be used in Libya.

It is worth noting that the Algerian-Libyan Economic Forum aims to improve economic and trade cooperation between both countries and to discover opportunities for bilateral partnerships which may arise between the various economic sectors in the two countries.



It's easy to flatter people's emotions, to talk about a salary increase, decrease the dollar exchange rate, and open the tap of employment.

But can you gain people's approval in streets without losing your conscience?

A salary increase must be absorbed by an increase in prices. According to this fact, the salary increase will be resorted to every time, in an attempt to absorb the high prices.

And in this way we will continue to run rings around "Increase salary, increase price of flour" until we find neither water nor flour.

A salary that exceeds 20.000 dinars, and another below 500 dinars, this is injustice in a country that depends on oil, the gift of geology.

The salary of a driver in one of the regulatory agencies is equal to more than three times a driver in education, also prejudice and injustice.

The presence of more than 1.750.000 employees, in a country with a population of less than 8 million, is a threat to national security. Increasing salaries and increasing employment in the government is not the best solution, but it is the easiest.

However, that is just as if someone could not pay the hotel bill, and resorted to extending the stay.

Poor salaries does not mean only a poor, complaining, and frustrated employee, but rather an employee who is able to be corrupt, lazy, and even a thief, for additional income that secures him a desired or even acceptable standard of living. Increasing salaries means increasing the demand for foreign exchange. It means raising the consumer appetite in a country that depends on the foreign market for everything from the pin to the Airbus.

And the final conclusion, we will find ourselves, between just three options, or necessities.

The first option is to place restrictions on foreign exchange sales. We have tried the dollar price gap between the Musher open street market and the Central Bank, in addition to the corruption of funds, a severe liquidity crisis, the rest of the distortions, and the tragedy preparations.

The second option (the best of the worst) is to adjust the exchange rate every time, painful devaluations of the Libyan dinar, search for a safety net that is often miserable, and a flabby economy.

And the third worst option is to lift restrictions, raise wages, and take the fastest highway to the station of bankruptcy. The government's mission should be to improve the labou market, not to be the Labour market.

The government's mission is to improve the quality of life, by raising real income, not raising salaries.

The government's mission is to transform the mental image of people, from a culture of safe pay, to a safe economy, and from pay for a job, to pay for work.

The salaries way is a red line that will take us to the most dangerous situation.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Libya Observer

Dbeibah orders urgent provision of oncology drugs



Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah has ordered the Health Ministry to prioritize cancer patients and directed the ministry to provide the missing cancer drugs as soon as possible.

During his visit to the Tripoli University Hospital, Dbeibah stressed the need to send complex cases and critical medical conditions abroad for treatment.

The Prime Minister visited the hospital departments in the presence of Minister of Health Ali Al-Zanati and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Adel Jumaa.

Patients at the hospital had the opportunity to communicate their complaint concerns to the Prime Minister, in particular, the shortage of oncology drugs.

He also met with several staff members of the hospital who confirmed a shortage of assistive medical personnel, which affects the quality of the services provided to the citizens, according to the PM media office.

Health

Libyan Health Ministry, US firms explore cooperation



The Libyan Health Minister, Ali Al-Zanati, has went over cooperation opportunities with US companies to develop the Libyan healthcare sector. The meeting was also attended by the US ambassador, Richard Norland.

The Libyan Health Ministry reiterated readiness to cooperate with US firms in providing medicine, medical equipment, and cutting-edge medical systems.

The US firms proposed building hospitals, managing them and training Libyan medical staff, in addition to assisting Libyans in

combating Coronavirus and providing vaccines, as well as using US expertise in the health sector, which will reflect positively on the country's healthcare services, which the Minister said was not good enough.

"My visits to healthcare facilities are me see the real problems of the health sector in Libva." He added.



Health Minister vows support for salary increase of health workers

The Minister of Health in the National Unity Government, Ali Al-Zanati, held discussions on Wednesday, with the head of the Doctors Syndicate, Muhammad Al-Ghouj, to discuss the mechanism of implementing decision No. 885 regarding the increase in the salaries of medical personnel.

During the meeting, they agreed to discuss the provision of the necessary financial allocations to activate this decision with the the Presidential Council and the concerned authorities.

For his part, Al-Zanati reaffirmed his support for all the medical and paramedical personnel working in the health sector. Libya surpasses 1-million mark for administrating Covid-19 tests

Migration

UNICEF expresses grief over drowning of migrant children off Zuwara shores



UNICEF has expressed its deep sadness over the drowning of three children between the ages of six months and three years off the coast of Zuwara, west of the capital Tripoli.

"It is simply horrific that more than 632 people, including children, have died attempting to cross the sea," UNICEF tweeted.

The organization called for immediate action at all levels to protect the safety of children and provide safer alternatives.

It indicated that since the start of the year, more than 9,659 migrants and refugees, 483 of whom are children, intercepted and returned to Libya. An increase of 91 percent among children when compared to the same period in 2020.

Al-Nasser wins Libyan Super Cup after beating



Al-Nasser football club won the Libyan Super Cup for the first time in its history after beating Al-Ettihad 1-0 on Monday at Benina Martyrs Stadium in Benghazi.

Mohannad Buajila scored the winning goal for Al-Nasser at the sixth minute of the match, which saw many chances for Al-Ettihad but to no avail.

The match, in its first and second halves, was delayed due to the entry of Al-Nasser fans into the pitch.

Al-Nasser won the Libyan League in 2017-2018 season for the second time in its history, while Al-Ettihad won Libya Cup after beating Al-Hilal 2-0.

Al-Ettihad football club won the Libyan Super Cup ten times since it first started in 1997.



Spaniard Clemente returns as coach of Libya's national football team

Sources close to the Libyan Football Federation said the latter is closing on a deal with the Spanish coach, Javier Clemente in place of the sacked Montenegrin manager Zoran Filipović, who failed to qualify the Mediterranean knights to 2022 AFCOC in Cameroon

The sources say 71-year-old Clemente will appear as head coach of the team with a completely foreign coaching team in Libya's overseas training camp ahead of an Arab Cup qualifier against Sudan on June 19 - the tournament that will be hosted by Qatar on December 1-18.

Clemente, who was a Spanish national team coach before, told reporters he would visit Libya soon to watch games of Libyan League teams and prepare his list of players for his first Libya team game against Sudan next June, while the sources reiterated that the Libyan Football Federation conditioned the signing to Clemente's willingness to work from inside Libya, and the latter agreed.

Clemente coached the Libyan national football team in 2013 and led the Mediterranean knights to CAF's CHAN title in 2014 in South Africa.



Police seize truck smuggling two quintals of cannabis into Ajdabia

Security services have seized a large quantity of cannabis heading to Ajdabia city east of Libya, the Interior Ministry confirmed on Monday.

About two quintals of cannabis were discovered in a truck traveling on the coastal road from Brega to Ajdabia.

The security services took action after receiving information about a drug cartel smuggling narcotics into the eastern region.

"A special team had been working to gather information and follow up on the case," a statement by the Interior Ministry explained. The ministry did not identify the apprehended traffickers but confirmed it took legal measures against them and referred them to the Public Prosecutor Office.



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weather

Tripoli Weather Forecast



Fri 04	30° /20°	Mostly Sunny	√ 7%	⇌ E 31 km/h
Sat 05	31° /21°	Partly Cloudy	1 1%	⊰ E 29 km/h
Sun 06	33° /23°	Mostly Sunny	/ 1%	⊰ E 24 km/h
Mon 07	30° /21°	Mostly Sunny	√ 1%	⊰ NE 19 km/h
Tue 08	28° /21°	Mostly Sunny	/ 8%	⇒ N 19 km/h
Wed 09	28° /21°	Partly Cloudy	1 7%	⊰ NNE 18 km/h
Thu 10	29 °/22°	Mostly Sunny	/ 3%	⊰ NE 20 km/h
Fri 11	29° /22°	Partly Cloudy	/ 3%	♣ ENE 24 km/h

Cartoon

The Palestinian resistance



Photo of the Week





It is a town in central Nugat Al-Khams District of western Libya. It is located about 10 kilometres southwest of the port of Zuwara. As of 2010, it had an estimated population of 102,000.

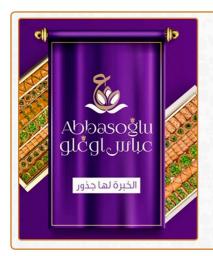
The inhabitants of the town are a mixture of tribes, the most prominent of which are the Nawail tribes, as well as the tribes of Al-Sa`fat, Al-Hamidat, Awlad Al-Shin, Al-Sayaan, Al-Rabee`, and Al-Jalidat.

Its famous for agriculture in the first place, and its most famous crops are grapes, figs, almonds and palms. It has a number of factories and small industrial companies.

In February 2020, the city held the Olive Festival for its first time, where most of the farmers of Al-Jamil city have participated. Various types of olive oil were displayed in the festival, and the participants was not only from the city, but also many farmers from other cities have participated, including (Zuwara, Msallata, Riqdalin, Gharyan and Zelten). It is considered the first session of the Olive Festival in the cities of western Libya. The Export Development Center of the Ministry of Economy in the Government of National Accord and the Ministry of Agriculture participated in the festival under the supervision of the Agriculture and Livestock Sector of the Municipal Council of the city of Al-Jmail.

Origin of the Name

It came from the word 'camel'.



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