

Politics

Turkey's Defense Minister reiterates to Al-Mishri Ankara's support for GNA



The Turkish Defense Minister Hulusi Akar held a meeting with Libya's Head of High Council of State Khalid Al-Mishri, saying Turkey will continue to stand by the Government of National Accord.

A statement by the defense ministry said Tuesday that Akar and Al-Mashri had exchanged views regarding the latest developments in Libya as Akar underlined in the meeting the brotherly ties between the two countries that span 500 years.

"Turkey will continue to provide education and counseling to its Libyan brothers in the fields of military and security," the statement added.

Akar also told Al-Mishri that Turkey stands beside the legitimate Libyan government, which is recognized as such by the United Nations, saying Turkey will continue to make efforts for stability in the region.

Akar added that Turkey acts according to the principle of "Libya belongs to Libyans," adding that Ankara will continue its efforts for a stable, independent and sovereign Libya.

Politics

EU lifts sanctions on Abu-Sahmain and Aqila Saleh



The European Union has lifted sanctions against the former General National Congress (GNC) President, Nuri Abu-Sahmain, currently heading the "Ya Bilady" party and head of the Tobruk-based House of Representatives (HoR), Aqila Saleh.

This came at a press conference, by the EU foreign policy chief, Josep Borrell, on Monday, following the meeting of the EU foreign ministers, in which they imposed new sanctions on two Libya nationals and 3 companies.

"The foreign ministers have agreed to lift the sanctions on both Aqila Saleh and Nuri Abu-Sahmain, and to impose sanctions on two persons of Libyan nationality, namely, Mahmoud Al-Warfali and Musa Diab, for committing human rights violations in Libya," Borrell said.

The EU also imposed sanctions on three companies, including the Kazakhstani Sigma Airlines, Jordanian Med Wave Shipping, and Turkish Avrasya Shipping, under the pretext of violating the arms embargo imposed on Libya.

In 2016, the European Union imposed sanctions on Nuri Abu Sahmain, Aqila Saleh, and the head of the National Salvation Government, Khalifa Al-Ghuwail, on charges of obstructing the work of the UN-backed Government of National Accord (GNA).

The GNA came to power through the Skhirat Agreement signed in December 2015 in Morocco, under the supervision of the United Nations, which was deemed illegal by the above-mentioned persons, saying power should be sought through democratic elections.

Politics

Libya elected as Vice President of General Conference of Interna- tional Atomic Energy Agency



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the election of Libya as the Vice President of General Conference of International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the African continent.

The Ministry said in a statement that the election came during the morning session of the 64th session of the conference held in Vienna, adding that the session witnessed the election of Morocco as the President of the General Conference.

The Ministry indicated in its statement that the IAEA is organizing, in conjunction with the General Conference, a scientific event on several topics related to nuclear technology and science.

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Politics

The Philippines wants to use expertise of Libya's war on ISIS in Sirte



The Charge d'Affairs of the Philippine embassy in Libya has expressed his country's desire to use the expertise of Libya in fighting terrorist groups that include war on ISIS in Sirte so the armed forces of the Philippines can build up their capabilities in combating terrorism.

The remarks came Monday in a meeting for the Charge d'Affairs with the Libyan Defense Minister of the Government of National Accord Salah Al-Namroush in Tripoli as the former reiterated his country's keenness to have more cooperation with Libya in navy forces' training, exchange of intelligence and cyber defense.

Al-Namroush hailed the role of the Philippine embassy in Tripoli during the aggression on the capital and praised the staff for not leaving the country at that time, saying they would carry out more cooperation between the two countries.

Politics

Tripoli-based HoR rejects Haftar-Maiteeq agreement



The Tripoli-based House of Representatives (HoR) has reiterated its rejection of attempts by some individuals and groups to take the Libyan file out of the United Nations hands, stressing that any move in this regard should involve all Libyan parties, as stipulated in the constitutional declaration and the political agreement.

This came in a statement issued by the HoR on Sunday, which addressed the political developments, the opening of oil installations, and "attempts to politicize the people's sustenance and the country's capabilities", according to the statement.

The Council reaffirmed they will not support any unilateral agreement outside the legitimacy, or any outcomes that might return Haftar to the political scene.

It also held the Presidential Council and its members responsible for taking such step without resorting to the HoR, in reference to the announced agreement between PC member, Ahmed Maiteeq and Haftar.

"Decisions concerning the Libyan wealth must be in the hands of the legitimate authorities and not others," the HoR stated, insisting that any agreement must be in the framework of political consensus and coordination with the HoR.

"Any solution to the Libyan crisis should be objective and fair and away from bargaining and auctions, the statement read, emphasizing it should be guided by the will of the Libyan people, the constitutional framework, and legitimate authorities.

It further noted that the deal must include a comprehensive and lasting solution that takes into account the stability of the country and the rights of future generations.

In closing, the statement called upon all political, military, and social forces to rally around an inclusive national project, in coordination with the United Nations mission that leads to presidential and parliamentary elections as soon as possible, and at a specific date per the country's permanent constitution.

Economy

UNSMIL discusses economic track with Libyan experts



The UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) has discussed with a group of Libyan economic experts along with representatives from the UNDP and the World Bank the progress made in the economic track, as part of the third meeting of the Libyan Economic Dialogue.

In a statement on its website, the UNSMIL explained that the meeting which was convened virtually dealt with the policy road map developed as part of the Berlin process, as well as the on-going economic reform efforts and the "deepening" banking crisis.

Participants also exchanged on efforts to address vital services, decentralization, and needs arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.

The UN mission said that the meeting represents the third track of the Libyan-Libyan dialogue, which includes Libyan economic experts from various political spectrums, working to reach a consensus.

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Economy

Turkey-Libya Business Council: Turkish exports to Libya could reach \$10 billion a year

The Turkey-Libya Business Council Chairman, Murtaza Karanfil, said that his country's exports to Libya could be increased from 1 billion dollars to 10, telling Anadolu Agency that Libya is now preparing for investments in aviation, infrastructure and other service sectors' projects.

Karanfil said that Libyan authorities have invited Turkish gas and oil companies to Libya, "stressing that Turkish energy companies have not been able to get the necessary share of oil and gas reserves in the country and should receive a higher share."

He said Turkey's business relations with the Libya are not limited to the construction sector, though it has had a large share of the pie.

"The cooperation on the oil and gas sector has also gained momentum especially after the two countries in late 2019 signed a pact on maritime borders in the Eastern Mediterranean. The cost of gas production in Libya is cheaper than other countries in the region," Karanfil added.

He also indicated the total value of the projects completed abroad by the Turkish construction sector is \$428 billion (TL 1 trillion), and Libya has a \$29 billion share in this, despite the incomplete projects over security reasons, which are now projected to continue.

Turkey's exports to Libya are also not at the desired level. The foreign sales to the country stood at \$2 billion (\$11.89 billion) in 2019 with a 29% increase compared with the previous year but were still less than the 2013 figure of \$2.7 billion before civil war broke out in the country.

During the meeting in which the MoU was signed, Libya's Planning Minister al-Hadi al-Taher al-Juhaimi said the country plans to kick off 184 new projects, prioritizing infrastructure, health and education and has allocated a \$16 billion budget for this.

With strong ties dating back to the Ottoman era, Turkey and Libya last November signed an agreement on maritime boundaries, along with a separate agreement on security and military cooperation.

Turkish Industry and Technology Minister Mustafa Varank and Libyan Central Bank Gov. Saddek Omar el-Kaber and the Libyan Investment Authority (LIA) Chairman Dr. Ali Mahmoud also signed an economy, technology cooperation protocol earlier this month.

Economy

CBL denies connection with agreements regarding distribution of oil revenues



The Central Bank of Libya (CBL) has denied its connection with any agreements or understandings related to the distribution of oil revenues following Khalifa Haftar's announcement of the resumption of oil production and export.

The CBL said in a statement that it 'followed up' statements during the past hours, which were bandied about in the name of the bank and its governor, regarding alleged understandings related to the distribution of oil revenues.

It rejected attempts to involve the bank and its governor in these agreements, stressing that the CBL is a professional organization, which remains neutral.

It concluded that it is a sovereign institution which works within the realms of legality and controls, distancing itself from all and any political disputes.

Economy

Future Entrepreneurs camp kicks off in Zawiya



The Future Entrepreneurs camp has kicked off in the city of Zawiya, west of Tripoli, with the participation of 15 young men and women from Zawiya, Tripoli, Sabratha, and Zuwara.

The event which was hosted by the Professional Development Center of the Ministry of Labour is sponsored by the "Masarat" Organization for Peace and Development, within the (EU4PSL); an EU-funded program for supporting the private sector in Libya.

The program aims to help the youth and women to create their own jobs and translate their ideas into reality, according to the organizers.

The current camp targets university students in the framework of the EU-funded 6 x6 program for empowering women and youth.

Those taking part will receive support and guidance on how to make good choices and decisions and what opportunities are available under the current circumstances, in addition to developing their talents and skills which will help them turn their dreams into businesses.

The participants will have the opportunity to present their future projects in which the best idea will receive support and funding from the EU4PSL.

It is noteworthy that the program includes three aspects, including supporting women entrepreneurs and spreading the idea of entrepreneurship, in addition to a one-week camping activity, with the participation of more than 12 trainees.

Opinions

It's time of impishness, extortion and Baiyou

By **Hamad Farhat**, a Libyan writer

Credit: This article was first published by Ein Libya on September 11, 2020



Behind the conflict between armed militias of all sides in Libya over the spoils of the war, soft parasitic militias have grown up, moving from one place to another, whose sole aim is spilling the largest amount of blood and obtaining as much money as they can.

This case is represented by the so-called "Muhammad Omar Baiyou" with his articles and interviews, and through his public appearances on many occasions, his attitudes and aspirations, jumping from one place to another, occupying his revolutionary balance and words in the era of Gaddafi to practice demonization and extortion during the February era, employing his talents to criticize those who don't pay and applaud those who pay.

Through a quick survey of Baiyou, who pretends to be a patriotic intellectual of a unique type, and through a survey of all his writings and interviews on news sites and social media pages, we will find a case of demonization and blackmail discourse.

During the lean past years, he has appeared as an opponent to Sarraj, then an opponent to Al-Kabir and last but not least as an opponent to Haftar, and then he turned to a drummer and a cannon ferociously.

Mohammad Baiyou, born in Ajdabiya and a graduate of Qaryounis University, Department of Media, was a member of the Gaddafi's Revolutionary Committees Movement since he was a student.

After his graduation, he was assigned with numerous revolutionary tasks in and outside Misrata, the most recent of which was the director general of the Gaddafi press foundation. He was arrested and interrogated for financial corruption, until he finally won the post of media spokesman for the Governor of the Central Bank.

Baiyou has once installed himself as a spokesperson for the people to criticize Sarraj during his first days in power. Then he changed the course and started applauding Sarraj as a good person for power, what has happened?

He also used his pen against "Ali Mahmoud", the chairman of the Board of Directors of the Libyan Investment Authority. He wrote on his Facebook page: "Keeping Ali Mahmoud at the head of the Libyan Investment Authority is a major crime for which the perpetrator Sarraj will be held accountable. You lost the sale Sarraj", but the post was later deleted, in what appeared to be an agreement, causing him to delete what he had said.

Baiyou was also known in the Libyan circles for his infinite contradiction, and his actions have been compared to those who like to be with the strongest in jumping from one boat to another. During the days of the former regime, he worked as a spokesman for the Revolutionary Committees and a spokesman for the General People's Secretariat.

After February revolution, he published statements by Al-Kabir and the Central Bank, while at the same time denying that he was the official spokesperson for the bank, and this statement is contrary to the truth.

Another contradiction was revealed by "Dr. Mostafa Zaidi", who said: "Brother Mohammed Baiyou has written a strange post on his Facebook page warning of an imminent alliance between the followers of September and the Muslim Brotherhood in the upcoming elections, and because Mr. Baiyou means what he wrote, I must answer: if what it published was part of a plan to smear the national powers by falsely and arbitrarily associating them with terrorist groups, in the context of an election campaign, this is something that needs to be prepared to deal with and confront, even if it is about muddled information, it requires an effort to explain it!"

On the other hand, Libya Channel broadcaster "Ahmed Al-Senussi publicly exposed the practices of Baiyou in a recorded video, asking him to reveal the source of his large sums of money after he denied working as a spokesman for the Central Bank.

Al-Senussi accused Baiyou of blackmailing the Chairman of the Presidential Council, Fayez Al-Sarraj, and the Head of the Audit Bureau, Khaled Shakshak, in addition to accusing him of blackmailing the former general manager of the Libyan Foreign Bank, "Muhammad bin Yusuf" to sign a contract with him, and when Bin Yusef refused, he used his media influence in order to defame Bin Yusef.

In a statement, Bin Yusef hinted at the blackmail of Baiyou, saying: "He used to praise us in letters which has been documented, and when we have rejected his requests, we became corrupt in his point of view", adding that "Baiyou's history is full of flattery, corruption and hypocrisy."

Now, and after he flirted with the "Field Marshal" and his whims, he turned away from him, and has succeeded in persuading Al-Sarraj's advisors to issue a decision to appoint him as the head of the Media Institution. How does that happen? It's time of impishness, extortion and Baiyou.

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

Health authorities in Central Tripoli sets up health points for detecting Covid-19

The health support group for combating the Coronavirus in the Municipality of Central Tripoli has begun to set up posts at the entrance of health facilities to conduct initial examinations for detecting the Covid-19.

Those who have symptoms that could indicate the novel coronavirus such as fever or shortness of breath are usually banned from entering health centers unless they undergo a PCR testing to prove they are free from Covid-19.

The municipality said on Facebook that this step will enable people to attend public hospitals and health centers within the central Tripoli area and other municipalities without having to obtain the testing referred to.

"The medical teams at the health points will not use the nasal swap technique but will conduct initial checkups to direct people if they need to get a Covid-19 test, the municipality explains, noting that the program is part of the municipality's efforts to combat and limit the spread of the pandemic.



Health

Tripoli University Hospital conducts 200 open-heart surgeries since last year



The Tripoli University Hospital has conducted around 200 open-heart surgeries since it resumed cardiac operations last year. The head of the cardiac surgery department at the hospital, Dr. Khaled Al-Talib emphasized they would continue to perform open-heart operations at the same pace.

He confirmed that the hospital had received supports from the health Ministry concerning implementing a program for internalizing treatment inside the country and restoring confidence in the Libyan doctor.

"The operations performed in the cardiac surgery department are considered one of the major and delicate operations in the realm of advanced surgery," Dr. Talib explains.

He indicated that the operations included "CABG" arterial and valve transplantation, of all kinds, and some patients were on dialysis (CKD), noting that the patients came from all over Libya including the eastern and southern regions.

Health

Libyan healthcare professionals participate in the UN series meetings on combating Covid-19

A group of Libyan healthcare professionals has participated in the UN-supported meeting on technical exchanges to combat COVID-19.

A statement by the UNSMIL said the meeting's goal is to strengthen the response to COVID-19 and discuss, at the technical-level, ways to address gaps in service delivery.

It expressed hope that these discussions will help increase awareness around needs and response planning on COVID-19 issues seeking to build longer-term mechanisms for public health cooperation across the country.

The first session kicked off on 12 September and was dedicated to identifying needs as well as discussing joint initiatives to enhance prevention, detection, and management response.

The participants expressed commitment to cooperate across the country and with international parties to combat the threat of COVID-19, calling on Libyans to respect and protect healthcare workers in light of the prevalent security risks.

The meeting, which was held via video teleconference, was attended by health professionals from Tripoli, Sabha, and Benghazi, and was supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO).

Health

New batch of medical supplies arrives at Mitiga Airport



Two aircrafts landed at Matiga International Airport in Tripoli, carrying a cargo of medical supplies in the framework of the country's COVID-19 preparedness and response plans.

The Ministry of Health clarified on Facebook that the shipment arrived from Turkey on board two aircraft, one belonging to the Flying Ambulance Service, and the other by the Libyan Airlines.

The supplies include DNA testing strips and other tools for taking nasal swab samples, according to the Health Ministry.



Education

Education Ministry reviews conducting GCSE exams at Tripoli University

The Ministry of Education is reviewing the possibility of conducting the secondary certificate exams within the colleges of the University of Tripoli, as in the previous year.

This came during a meeting between Minister of Education, Mohamed Ammari Zayed, and President of Tripoli University along with other relevant officials.

Other issues were raised during the meeting, including the financial bottlenecks facing the university, as well as the understandings reached with the Minister of Finance in this regard, a statement by the University of Tripoli clarified on Facebook.

Last year, over 52606 thousand students sat for their GCSE exams in Tripoli's University's halls, while studies at the university were suspended during the period of the exams, and an official leave was granted to all staff, except for those assigned to follow-up the



Culture

Libyans celebrate National Day for Tabu Culture

The Tabu Studies Centre in Tripoli has celebrated the Tabu Culture Day which falls on September 15, in the presence of the Minister of State for the Displaced Persons, Youssef Halalah, the Director of the Tabu Studies Center, Abdullah Malki, and the head of the General Authority for Culture, Hassan Onis.

The three-day event, which was held at the "Khuld Palace" in Tripoli, featured various cultural and artistic events, with the participation of artists, intellectuals, and literary figures.

The festival presented the culture, customs, and traditions of the Tabu tribes, including folklor music and dancing, and the Tabu wedding, showcased by a group of children, in addition to an art exhibition and other cultural and heritage activities.



Crimes

Libyan Embassy in Rome discusses preparations for starting school year

The Libyan Ambassador to Italy, Omar Al-Tarhouni has held a meeting at the embassy's HQ in Rome, to discuss the preparations for the start of the 2020-2021 academic year, in accordance with the health regulations related to the Coronavirus pandemic.

The meeting was attended by the academic attaché "Muhammad bin Ghalboun and the head of the Libyan School in Rome, according to a statement by the Libyan embassy in Rome.

The embassy explained on Facebook that the meeting, touched upon the school plan, settling the teachers' salaries, and the measures put in place to protect the health and safety of students and teachers.

The Libyan Embassy in Rome announced that the Libyan school in Rome will start classes on the first of October next.



Science

Bani Walid hosts scientific conference on Libya's "Brain Drain"

Attracted by higher pay and better opportunities many talent Libyans leave to wealthier parts of the world for education and work experience, but some return, some do not.

The "Al-Mutaka" Centre for Strategic and Future Studies in Bani Walid held on Saturday a scientific conference to discuss this phenomenon "The immigration of Libyan educated abroad".

Academics from various Libyan universities, researchers, and other stakeholders came together in this conference to try to better understand this pool of talent residing abroad.

The conference shed light on the challenges facing this class in their homeland and the factors behind their departures, including the government's role in recognizing and containing this segment.

They advocated for developing strategies that focus on investing in people, including implementing programs that contribute to creating better opportunities and by offering competitive salaries.

The conference hosted by the Electronic Technology College of Bani Walid is the first of its kind in Libya to discuss this issue, presenting around 20 research papers, lectures, and proposals concerning this topic.

weather



Tripoli Weather Forecast

Fri 25	39°/25°	 Mostly Sunny	 0%	 WSW 22 km/h
Sat 26	28°/22°	 Partly Cloudy	 0%	 N 25 km/h
Sun 27	29°/22°	 Partly Cloudy	 0%	 ENE 23 km/h
Mon 28	28°/21°	 Mostly Sunny	 20%	 NE 22 km/h
Tue 29	29°/21°	 Sunny	 10%	 ENE 20 km/h
Wed 30	30°/22°	 Sunny	 0%	 E 16 km/h
Thu 01	31°/23°	 Sunny	 0%	 ENE 15 km/h

Photo of the Week: Alhamada Alhamra





Features

To Change Mindset toward Handling Waste Things; Empowering Communities *Written by Moehammad Amar Ma'ruf, Charge d'Affaires a.i of the Indonesian Embassy in Tripoli*

It is a kind of gift for community to have a talent and creative person that can make our life more promising. Today where the population growth is quite faster than the existing resources, the peoples should create more opportunities than just wait and see.

Indonesia as one of the most populated countries (no.4 after China, India and the USA) is believed to find many challenges in giving services of their peoples. And it is sure if there is no commitment also from their peoples to work hand in hand to anticipate this issue, it will be more difficult to be achieved.

One big issue that the government of Indonesia has to deal is how to handle Domestic Waste. According to the Ministry of Environment report every day waste production around 7600 tonnage in the capital and 60 % from that number come from domestic waste. In the national level waste production around 67.8 million tonnage per year. We could not imagine if the mindset of the peoples still be backward looking toward their culture to produce waste.

To anticipate worse situation in the future, since decades Indonesia Government together with local organization and individuals make awareness program and empowering program. These programs intend to help peoples change their mindset toward handling waste. It is logic if now among communities appears some prominent association or organizations or even individual who are classified as inspirators or motivators that support empowering program in the community.

Some of them show their passion and care to educate peoples with their sincere to help themselves to avoid the threat that created by themselves due to their ignorance to their environment. They must realize that their ignorance toward the environment will degrade not only their own quality of life but also the quality of the next generation and other living creature.

It is quite interesting to observe local communities in Indonesia with their uniqueness begin to manage their own domestic waste. This development deserves to be studied and to be exchanged with other capabilities of another community in other countries. This interaction will help to flourish best practices exchanges among world communities to support their own national development agenda.

In principle, our world communities have the same threat as the diversifications of derivate products are coming from the conventional energy, namely plastic. This material is difficult to be destroyed by microba in land. The unbalance management and policy to use this material will make surface of earth will be accumulated by plastic and will make the world struggle in World War III to fight against waste and pollution. This term is well known since the threat of plastic waste has stricken the water/sea which harms and even kills the creature living at and on seas.

There is no choice that we have to fight the above description of war from waste threat with our ideas and behaviours. In other ways, we give appreciation for them who work for creating good quality of environment and give sanction and punishment to them who destruct environment.

In that regard, all component of society must be encouraged to empower themselves, their families, communities and their nation. In the same time, we have to remind to each others to be active part in doing this.

It is a good news for those who have dedicated to curb this issue. Now they are not alone. They are being dependent partner of other organizations to achieve noble objective in order to be a winner in the ongoing world war III (war against Waste threat).

The empowering program of the communities is becoming one of the keys to change the mindset to protect the environment as consequences of their own pattern of life. This program needs support and must be done by using bottom up and inclusive approaches. One of popular movement is establishment of Waste Banks with the 3R approaches (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycling) toward waste. In the individual level, member of communities is expected to be creative in order to more participative.

This situation will give significant contribution to the social and economic benefits. As being described that with this approach, it will make individual in the family will active and more discipline in selecting waste. Each kind of waste has an economic value and it will give more value added if that individual has a talent to reuse and recycle it.

Beside the establishment of Waste Bank, the format of individual participation may be in the format of creating recycling products from plastic or paper waste become economic and interesting handicraft.

In that regards, the Indonesian best practices can also be found. For examples, the recycling products that being made among of them are by the Bob Lampion, Rynde Craft, Pulo Kambing Waste Bank, Tri Lestari Waste Bank etc. Those activists are being facilitated by the Jakarta Special Provincial Government. Those individuals/organizations are quite sustainable in educating and empowering local society in certain region in Indonesia.

To make this awareness becoming global, it is good and recommended to open communication between the same stakeholders. The Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Tripoli is happy to bridge and facilitate in distributing these best practices for our communities. Let us hand in hand to be a winner in the World War III (war against Polluting Waste).