

Politics



Libyan PM calls for spending managing immigration flows' funds on projects in source countries

The Trans-Mediterranean Migration Forum (TMMF), organized by the Government of National Unity, was launched Wednesday in the capital, Tripoli and a number of heads of governments, ministers and officials from African and European countries, in addition to the League of Arab States, participated in the forum.

Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah called for directing the funds spent to manage illegal immigration flows to finance development projects in the source countries, saying that the problem of immigration was troubling many countries and all African states wanted to communicate with the North, while many of them were going through "crises of need and famine, and Africa was suffering from colonialism, exploitation, and the plundering of its wealth over the past fifty years, which drove the African citizens to search for a living on a difficult, bumpy and dangerous road, sometimes ending in death, in the hope of reaching Europe."

The Libyan PM added that immigrants "first cross the desert from African countries, and many Africans die of thirst and hunger in this barren desert, and when they arrive in Libya they think about how to cross the Mediterranean, as many of them die in the sea, while few find themselves in a camp in one of the European countries".

"Europe uses many methods to prevent these people, and Africa pushes them in search of a good living, and we found ourselves amid pressure from the north and the south. The north spends, and we spend a lot of money, and Africans die either in the desert or the sea." Dbeibah said.

He added that "the money spent during the last 50 years did not solve this problem. The idea is simple: this money should go to the countries of origin for the immigrants, so that we can implement real projects that lead to the stability of the people of these countries in their region. This project is simple and we hope to establish an actual effort to solve this problem."

Politics



Interior Minister calls for serious international support to confront illegal immigration

The Minister of Interior of the Government of National Unity, Emad Al-Trabelsi, called for serious international support to combat illegal immigration, warning of the cessation of cooperation with non-governmental organizations if countries do not deal seriously with the immigration issue.

During the Trans-Mediterranean Migration Forum in Tripoli, Al-Trabelsi confirmed that cooperation with the Maltese Interior Minister contributed to reducing the flow of migrants to Malta, noting that closing the border with Tunisia also contributed to reducing the number of migrants from Tunisia to Italy.

He considered the accumulation of migrants who were returned from the sea to Libya as resettlement, and revealed that approximately 2.5 million migrants had entered Libya, with the number expected to rise to 3 million in official statistics.

Al-Trabelsi called for supporting the anti-immigration agency and the border guards to carry out their tasks, noting that

Libya spent \$330 million on combating migration last year, while it received only 30 million euros in international support.

He confirmed that he had not received any official or unofficial request from European countries to settle migrants inside Libya, noting the rejection of this matter by civil society organizations. He also expressed Libya's readiness to continue the voluntary return program for migrants in cooperation with Italy and Malta, revealing the voluntary return of 6,000 migrants during 2024 so far.

Al-Trabelsi stressed the importance of providing logistical support to facilitate the return of migrants, calling for providing aircraft and their subsistence expenses instead of paying money.

The Minister of State for Communication and Political Affairs in the Government of National Unity, Walid Al-Lafi, had indicated that "the numbers estimate migrants departing from Libya exceed 40% of the total migration on average."

Politics



Dbeibah receives Maltese Prime Minister in Tripoli

The Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, received the Prime Minister of Malta, Robert Abela, in Tripoli as the latter came to participate in the Trans-Mediterranean Migration Forum (TMMF) that will kick off on Wednesday.

Dbeibah said in a joint press conference with the Maltese Prime Minister that he would sign an extension of the memorandum of understanding to combat illegal immigration with Malta after adding some provisions to it.

"Immigration is a historical problem and it requires different approaches and solutions. We do not chase these migrants in the desert and sea, nor settle them in transit countries. We want to think in a different way. We want to address the problem radically in African and the Sahel countries. They face a moral and ethical responsibility to develop solutions and provide a decent life for migrants. Those who want to send migrants on boats are deliberately killing them," Dbeibah said.

He added that Malta is a strategic partner of Libya in various aspects, and Tuesday's meeting aims to strengthen relations, activate memoranda of understanding and cooperation between the two countries, as well as agree on a legal framework for them.

Dbeibah also stressed Libya's commitment to strengthening cooperation in the field of combating transnational organized crime, praising the electrical connection agreement signed between the two countries in June 2023. He pointed to the signing of another memorandum of understanding in the field of exchange and extradition of wanted convicts.

Abela said that Libya was a victim of the migration phenomenon, given the large numbers of migrants arriving from many countries. He added that unless they stand with Libya on this issue with concrete measures and full support, the problem will end on the shores of the European Union.

"This is a message that I presented to the European Union and conveyed from it to you," he said, stressing that his country will be a "voice on behalf" of Libya during discussions in the European Union.

"Tomorrow, we will discuss how to manage migrant flows," Abela said, referring to the activities of the migration TMMF scheduled to be held tomorrow in Tripoli.

"My idea is how to invest in those countries that are the source of immigration, and I believe that this is the best way and we must provide opportunities and invest in their countries so that they do not have to immigrate to other countries," Abela added.

Politics



Several HoR and HCS members agree in Cairo to form new Libyan government

Members of the House of Representatives (HoR) and the High Council of State (HCS), met Thursday in Cairo and agreed to form a new unified government and to call on the House of Representatives to announce the opening of nominations to begin receiving recommendations and studying the files of candidates to head a "competent government" with national leadership.

In their final statement, the attendees called for the necessity of holding presidential and legislative elections in accordance with the agreed-upon laws issued by the House of Representatives, while expanding the circle of consensus, and submitting a roadmap proposal by members of both HoR and HCS as the basic path to completing the remaining entitlements necessary to reach elections.

They stressed the need to intensify and unify efforts to end the state of political and institutional division that increases the spread of corruption, high prices, and the unprecedented deterioration of citizens' living conditions. They called on the international community to support national consensus and respect the will and sovereignty of the national decision-making process and the unity and integrity of the Libyan territory.

The attendees also indicated in their statement their agreement to present the roadmap proposal by members of both chambers as the basic path to completing the remaining requirements necessary to reach the elections.

The statement concluded by emphasizing the importance of continuing the direct Libyan national dialogue and rejecting the principle of seizing power for the purpose of a fait accompli, calling on all national forces, political parties and the Libyan people to support the efforts of the two councils to restore the security, unity and stability of the country.

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Aqila Saleh, the Head of the High Council of State, Mohammed Takala, and the Head of the Presidential Council, Mohammed Menfi, were scheduled to meet in Cairo in mid-July to resume their meetings that began in Cairo last March under the auspices of the Arab League, but Takala informed the Arab League of suspending his communication with the House of Representatives due to the latter's approval of the state budget, last week, unilaterally without involving the HCS.

Economy

Libyan-Korean economic forum to be held in November



The Minister of Economy and Trade in the Government of National Unity, Mohammed Al-Huweij, discussed on Wednesday with the South Korean Ambassador to Libya the development of a mechanism to organize a Libyan-Korean economic forum in the capital, Tripoli, next November. Major Korean companies, investors, and business owners in both countries are scheduled to participate under the supervision of the Ministry of Economy and Trade, according to a statement from the ministry.

Al-Huweij discussed with the South Korean Ambassador at the ministry's headquarters ways to enhance cooperation, raise the level of trade and investment exchange between the two countries, and open horizons for developing bilateral relations in all fields. The Minister stressed the importance of activating the agreements and memoranda of understanding concluded between the two countries, enhancing the role of the private sector, facilitating the movement of business owners between the two

sides, revitalizing the investment partnership and working to resolve the obstacles. The meeting reviewed the possibility of cooperation in the field of training to develop the performance of economic institutions in the State of Libya, especially corporate governance, e-commerce, and the management of economic zones and free zones, while the Korean ambassador reaffirmed his country's desire to cooperate with Libya, and to provide technical and advisory support in the fields of economy, trade, investment and development.



Economy

Italy tops list of Libya's trading partner

Italy topped the list of Libya's trade partners for the current year 2024, with a volume of trade exchanges estimated at \$13 billion. According to the United Nations ESCO website, the strong trade relations between the two countries include a group of diverse vital fields such as oil and gas, construction, and manufacturing industries. The President of the Italian Chamber of Commerce had pointed out, during the activities of the Trans-Mediterranean Migration Forum, the importance of intensive cooperation between Libyan and Italian economic institutions to confront the challenges faced by the Libyan banking system, including difficulties in transferring funds, to enhance Libyan economic stability in the coming years.



Economy

NOC and AGOCO review studies in the Ghadames basin and Cyrenaica flat

The Exploration Department of the National Oil Corporation organized a workshop with the Arabian Gulf Oil Company (AGOCO) to discuss regional studies of the Ghadames Basin and Cyrenaica flat. The workshop was held on Tuesday at the NOC headquarters in Tripoli, and also dealt with the seismic survey for the concession contract (56). AGOCO officials also presented a proposal for a work program for regional studies, which included technical discussions for the participants, according to the NOC's statement on its Facebook page. The workshop was attended by the Director of the Exploration Department and a number of observers and management specialists on behalf of the Corporation, and on behalf of AGOCO, a member of the Management Committee for Exploration, Production and Information, and a number of managers and specialists of the relevant departments.



Economy

Libya is now producing 1.25 million bpd of oil

The National Oil Corporation (NOC) announced Saturday that crude oil production in Libya had reached 1,257,729 barrels per day (bpd). The production of condensates reached 49,890 bpd, and natural gas reached 220,620 barrels' equivalent per day, according to a statement issued by the NOC.

Last week, NOC announced the resumption of operations at the new pipeline from the North Hamada oil field of the Nafusa Oil Operations Company, with a distance of 250 km, bringing production to 8000 bpd before 13 July. The NOC said that the targets of the first phase of the field development program, amounting to 10.000 bpd, were scheduled to be achieved next August.



Economy

Libyan-Turkish forum to be hosted next September in Tripoli

The Ministry of Economy and Trade of the Government of National Unity announced on Monday, the holding of a Libyan-Turkish forum next September in the city of Tripoli, with the participation of the private sectors in both countries.

This came during the reception of the Minister of Economy and Trade, Mohammed Al-Hawij, with the new Turkish ambassador to Libya, Gokin Begec, according to the ministry Facebook page.

Both sides discussed bilateral relations and the importance of completing what was agreed upon during the Prime Minister's visit to Turkey last March.

Al-Hawij praised the committee in charge of differential trade between the two countries, which holds its meetings via Zoom.

For his part, the Turkish ambassador expressed that his country is ready to overcome all obstacles and difficulties, and provide all facilities to Libyan companies wishing to enter the Turkish market.



Economy

Minister of Economy follows up on final preparations for largest ceramics factory in North Africa

The Minister of Economy and Trade, Mohammed Al-Hawij, accompanied by the Chairman of the Management Committee of the General Authority for Investment Promotion and Privatization Affairs, has visited the ceramic factory in the industrial zone in the city of Misrata to inspect the factory's final preparations and ensure its compliance with the legal conditions and procedures.

Al-Hawij was briefed on the stages of final preparations prior to the opening of the factory, the largest in the ceramic and porcelain industry in North Africa, in which the completion rate reached 98%.

The Minister praised the efforts made and the modern techniques used in the ceramic industry along with the speed of completion, stressing the Ministry's support for the private sector and investors in such projects, which contributes significantly to meeting the needs of the local market and reducing dependence on imports.



Health

Dbeibah directs establishment of specialized diabetes authority in Libya

The Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, has issued instructions to the Ministry of Health to work on establishing a specialized diabetes authority in Libya.

According to the government media office, the new authority is responsible for supervising diabetes centers throughout the country, and providing medicines in coordination with the medical supply system.

This came during Dbeibah's meeting with members of the National Diabetes Program, the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Health for Hospital Affairs, Saad Abdel-Wakeel, and the heads of the Public Giving Committee and the Medical Supply Committee.

Dbeibah stressed the need to launch a unified system for diabetes patients, which records patients' data, and the types of their medications.



Health

Parallel government seeks help of international companies to localize treatment at home

The parallel government has discussed with Alpha Medical Company the file of localizing treatment at home.

This came in a meeting held by the Director General of the Medical Supply Authority, Hatem Al-Araibi, with the management of Alpha Medical Company, the agent for several companies from the United States of America and European countries.

The meeting reviewed medical services, whether in orthopedic or heart surgery, cochlear implants, eyes, scoliosis, and other delicate specialties.



Health

Ministry of Health to tap into Turkish experience to develop health sector

Minister of Health of the Government of National Unity, Ramadan Abu Jannah, has discussed with the Turkish Ambassador to Libya, Guven Begec, tapping into Turkish experience in developing the Libyan health sector.

Abu Jannah said on his Facebook account that the meeting came with the aim of "strengthening bilateral relations between Turkey and Libya," and that it focused on the vital role that Turkey plays in enhancing security and supporting elections in Libya.

The meeting touched on "the political and economic conditions that Libya in general and the south in particular are going through."

Abu Jannah stressed "the need to strengthen cooperation between the two countries to achieve a better and prosperous future."



Education

GNU announces academic calendar for 2024-2025

The Ministry of Education in the Government of National Unity has announced (GNU) the start of the new academic year 2024-2025 for primary and secondary education on September 1.

The announcement follows Minister of Education Musa Al-Maqrif's Decision No. (984) for 2024, published by the ministry on its official Facebook page.

The ministry also released a letter from the Director General of the Educational Curriculum and Research Center, which includes detailed schedules for study and exams for all educational levels (primary and secondary) for the upcoming academic year.

In a notable change, the mid-year break will span five days from January 5 to 9, 2025. Classes will resume for the second semester on January 12 but will later be suspended for ten days during the last week of Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr, from March 23 to April 3, 2025.

Final exams for the first term of the 2024-2025 academic year are scheduled to take place from May 11 to July 10.

The second term exams will be held from June 15 to August 28, encompassing all educational levels. The next academic year will commence on September 7, 2025.

Meanwhile, the final exams for the first term of the 2023-2024 secondary school completion certificate concluded on Thursday afternoon, having started on June 23.

Education

Officials in Ministry of Education imprisoned due to their involvement in exam cheating



The Public Prosecutor's Office has announced the imprisonment of 9 observers for education affairs in municipalities, and 4 observers for preparatory certificate exams, due to their contribution to cheating cases.

The Public Prosecutor's Office explained that the defendants neglected their official duties when carrying out evaluation and measurement operations, which led to inaccurate examination results.

Investigations revealed the involvement of 4 observers in cases of cheating committed by students in the Ain Zara and Hay Al-Andalus education monitoring offices.

The Public Prosecutor also decided to imprison education monitors in nine municipalities, along with the defendants who contributed to leaking papers exam.

Education

University of Benghazi signs cooperation agreement with Bulgarian universities



The University of Benghazi has signed a joint cooperation agreement with Bulgarian universities, which is the first agreement signed between a Libyan university and universities in Bulgaria, according to the university's Research and Consulting Center.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the University of Benghazi by the university's president, Izz al-Din al-Darsi, and on the

Bulgarian side, Anastas Terzobaliev, one of the most prominent experts in the Middle East and Arab countries and the ambassador of peace for Sofia University.

The event included the signing of a side agreement between the Research and Consulting Center at the University of Benghazi and officials at the University of Sofia, to offer the Master of Business Administration program.

Sports

Egyptian businessmen review participation in reconstruction operations in Libya



The Arab Cooperation Committee of the Federation of Egyptian Industries is preparing to launch a delegation of investors, industrialists, and real estate developers to Libya, to visit Benghazi and Tripoli to discuss trade and investment cooperation, and opportunities for Egyptian companies to participate in reconstruction operations.

According to the Egyptian Al-Ahram newspaper, the head of the committee, Mohammed Al-Bahi, explained that the visit aims to

discover export opportunities to the Libyan market, which has strong growth opportunities and contributes to enhancing foreign exports, not only to the Libyan market, but also to neighboring countries.

Al-Bahi added that about 54 businessmen and investors will be participated, as the delegation will be consisted of workers in the sectors of information technology, building materials, foodstuffs, chemicals, castings, agricultural crops, and real estate developers.

Opinions

A budget to consolidate the division

By *Abdullah Alkabir*,
a Libyan political writer and commentator



In a recurring pattern, the House of Representatives has once again bypassed both the Constitutional Declaration and the Political Accord, issuing the budget law for 2024. This time, they added approximately 89 billion dinars to the previously decided amount, resulting in a total figure of about 188 billion dinars—the largest budget allocation in the country's history.

However, the Constitutional Declaration stipulates that the budget law must be approved by 120 representatives. Surprisingly, during the voting session, the number of attendees fell short of fifty. The representatives present evaded answering questions posed by the media, about the number of representatives attending the session.

As usual, the High Council of State, which is based on the Political Accord is the partner of the House of Representatives on budget matters, election laws, sovereign positions, selection of the head of government, and withdrawing the vote of confidence from the government was sidelined once again.

Therefore, it is only natural that the Head of the High Council of State rejects the law and suspends participation in a meeting convened by the Arab League Presidency with the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Head of the Presidential Council.

Before the House of Representatives session and budget approval, a significant meeting took place in Cairo. Speaker Agila Saleh met with Al-Siddiq Al-Kabir, the Governor of the Central Bank of Libya. Some House members revealed that the governor confirmed the bank's ability to cover a budget estimated

at around 170 billion dinars. This official announcement this week underscores the issue's prior arrangement over the past two months.

Economists have raised concerns about the budget's impact on the national economy. With oil revenues as the sole income source and the Libyan dinar's value relative to a basket of foreign currencies, implementing the budget law with such a substantial amount could lead to inflation, deficits, and a decline in the dinar's value—especially if global oil prices fall.

Politically, the repercussions are even more severe. The budget will be divided between the two governments. The Tripoli government will handle disbursing salaries and support items due to their data and assets being located in Tripoli's ministries. Other budget items will be allocated between the two governments, each spending its share in its respective areas of influence.

In such a way, the division has been legitimized with international blessing, because the crisis-involved parties have remained silent with no comment on such developments, despite its escalation of the crisis, and disrupting a political dialogue mediated by the Arab League last March.

As there are no positive signs of elections getting any closer in the foreseeable future, the de facto authorities seem to continue. By easing the intensity of conflict through the sharing of revenues, and satisfaction of each party with their respective gains from the spoils, the divisions could be consolidated leading to complete divisions.

Cartoon

Ballot boxes in Libya



Tripoli Weather Forecast



TODAY

35°
/25°

22 JUL



30° /24°

23 JUL



30° /24°

24 JUL



31° /23°

25 JUL



33° /24°

26 JUL



34° /23°

27 JUL



33° /22°

Photo of the Week

