

Politics

High Council of State rejects resettling illegal immigrants in Libya

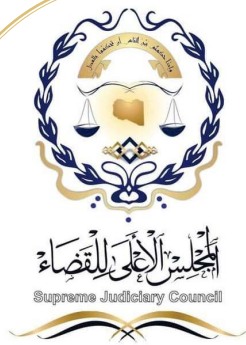


A statement issued by the media office of Mohammed Takala, the contender for the presidency of the High Council of State, strongly rejected any attempts or proposals aimed at resettling illegal immigrants within Libyan territory. The statement emphasized that Libya's security and demographic composition are national constants that cannot be compromised. The statement stressed that the issue of illegal immigration is a shared responsibility among nations and should be addressed within the framework of international legal standards, reaffirming that Libya will not bear this burden alone. It also warned that any attempts to impose a new demographic reality in the country would constitute a serious violation of Libya's sovereignty and the rights of its people. The High Council of State called for legal measures to regulate the entry and residence of foreign workers, firmly rejecting any attempts to resettle illegal immigrants. Earlier, the other contender for the presidency of the council, Khalid Al-Mishri, also expressed

strong opposition to what he described as attempts to accelerate the resettlement of immigrants in Libya. These claims have been circulating in news agencies and social media regarding the actions of some international organizations related to a so-called integration program. In his statement, Al-Mishri described any attempts to resettle immigrants in Libya under any pretext as a violation of national sovereignty and a demographic threat to the present and future of the country's national security. The statement reaffirmed Libya's commitment to the agreement signed with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in 2005 until it is reviewed. It also rejected the outcomes of any meetings with international organizations at this stage, referring to the meeting between the Minister of Local Governance in the Government of National Unity and the Head of the IOM office in Libya.

Politics

Supreme Judicial Council issues pardon for certain crime categories across Libya



The Supreme Judicial Council has issued a decision to pardon individuals convicted in certain crimes, provided that the convict has served at least half of the sentence and that the crimes do not involve terrorism, murder, drug offenses, or armed robbery. The decision also requires that the convict must have served at least half of the sentence by March 31 of this year. For those sentenced to life imprisonment, they must have served no less than 15 calendar years in prison. The decision excludes those convicted of terrorism-related crimes, crimes affecting state security, retribution and (Islamic penal) offenses, in addition to drug-related crimes where the sentence exceeds 10 years. The decision also does not apply to those convicted of premeditated murder, attempted murder, assault leading to death, kidnapping, assault, and armed robbery — unless reconciliation has been reached with the victim or the victim's family.

Politics



Al-Koni reviews with Iraqi chargé d'affaires developments in Libya

The Deputy Head of Presidential Council Mossa Al-Koni discussed the latest developments in Libya with Iraq's Chargé d'Affaires in Libya, Ahmed Al-Sahaf. They also reviewed the efforts of the Presidential Council to achieve stability in the country. According to a statement from the Presidential Council, Al-Sahaf reviewed during the meeting on Monday, Iraq's experience and the efforts made by successive governments to achieve stability, praising Al-Koni's vision regarding the return to a system of three regions, as a means to ensure stability across all areas of Libya and preserve the country's unity. Meanwhile, Al-Koni commended the recent state of stability in Iraq and its return to playing a pivotal role at both the regional and international levels.

Politics

Sudanese embassy calls on its nationals in Libya to respect the laws

The Sudanese embassy in Libya has called on the heads of Sudanese communities in various Libyan municipalities to raise awareness among their members about the importance of respecting the laws of the host country, its customs, and traditions. It also urged them to avoid gathering and assembling outside their homes, limit movement and travel unless absolutely necessary, and respect the rights of neighbors without causing harm or inconvenience to them.

The embassy said on Facebook on Thursday that Libya's official government policies toward Sudanese nationals include providing them with facilities and assistance, considering them as "honored guests" rather than treating them like

other illegal immigrants from different nationalities, in light of Sudan's current circumstances.

The embassy confirmed its ongoing communication with Libyan authorities and international and national humanitarian organizations to regularize the status of Sudanese nationals in Libya and provide them with all necessary facilities and services during the difficult circumstances facing Sudan.

It also noted that the measures taken by Libyan authorities regarding illegal immigrants are legitimate and part of their core responsibilities, stressing that Sudanese nationals are not exclusively targeted by these measures, as claimed by some social media pages.



Politics

Dbeibeh issues regulations to organize spending on official events



The Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity, Abdul Hamid Dbeibeh, has issued a set of regulations and measures aimed at rationalizing public spending on official events.

The directive, issued by the Prime Minister on Sunday, calls for obtaining prior approval from the Government Communication Center before making any arrangements to organize official events. This includes submitting technical and financial proposals for review to ensure they comply with state financial policies and control public expenditures.

The directive also stresses the need to control expenses related to conferences, celebrations, and workshops, requiring clear justifications for organizing such events. It mandates the use of government facilities for hosting events, except in cases where special venues are necessary, which would require prior approval from the Government Communication Center.

The instructions oblige government entities to reduce protocol-related costs and limit spending on hospitality, gifts, and printed materials, encouraging greater reliance on digital methods.

Regarding television broadcasting, the directive says that broadcasting signals should be provided free of charge to all channels wishing to air official events, to avoid imposing additional costs on the organizing bodies. It also specifies that live broadcasts of events attended by Dbeibeh should be exclusively shown on the state's official channels to ensure consistency in official media coverage.

It further emphasizes the importance of respecting intellectual property rights in all materials. It requires organizing entities to prepare a detailed report after each event, including an accurate assessment of the achieved benefits relative to the costs, to ensure maximum benefit from available resources.

Politics

GNU denies reports on migrant resettlement



The Government of National Unity (GNU) has denied claims that it plans to resettle irregular migrants in the country, dismissing reports attributed to Local Governance Minister Badr Al-Din Al-Toumi as "misleading and baseless."

In a statement on Sunday, the government's Tebyan platform reaffirmed Libya's long-standing position on migration. Officials emphasized that during the Mediterranean Migration Forum in Tripoli in July 2024, Libya firmly rejected any proposals for migrant resettlement. Instead, it remains committed to working with the European Union and international partners to manage migration in line with national sovereignty and human rights.

The government also stressed the need for a broader strategy, arguing that addressing migration requires economic investment in countries facing severe social and financial hardships.

Officials warned that relying solely on security measures is inadequate and could pose significant risks, calling instead for a comprehensive approach based on sustainable development and international cooperation.

Libyan authorities urged media outlets and the public to verify information from official sources, warning against the spread of misinformation on sensitive national issues.

Economy

Dbeibah questions Central Bank's revenue and expenditure report



The Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, addressed a letter to the Governor of the Central Bank of Libya, Naji Issa, expressing his observations regarding the data contained in the bank's report on revenues and expenditures for January and February 2025.

Dbeibah pointed to the bank's data, which showed a general budget surplus for the two months of 9.6 billion Libyan dinars. However, the Central Bank's report did not include data related to revenues from the 4.4 billion dinar fee imposed on the sale of foreign currency, which constitutes part of the state's general revenue. Accordingly, the budget surplus for that period reached 14 billion dinars, according to a post on the government media center's Facebook page.

Regarding foreign currency revenues, total revenues during that period amounted to \$3.6 billion, while total uses and outstanding obligations in foreign currency amounted to \$6.1 billion, distributed between uses amounting to \$581.6 million through

the Central Bank of Libya and \$5.537 billion through commercial banks. Dbeibah said that the link between the increase in demand for foreign currency and public spending is part of the truth, but not the whole truth. He demonstrated this by stating that the report indicated that foreign currency revenues amounted to \$3.6 billion, while public spending did not exceed \$1.5 billion, representing a surplus of \$2.1 billion.

He also pointed to the continued emergence of a transitional trade deficit in the state's trade balance, estimated at approximately \$2.5 billion over the two months, which is directly linked to money creation in the economy.

Dbeibah indicated that the marked increase in demand for foreign currency during the last quarter of 2024 and the months of January and February (2025) at unprecedented rates raises questions that require further disclosure of the sources of funds associated with the demand for foreign currency, in accordance with the requirements of Law No. (2) of 2005 on Combating

Money Laundering and its Executive Regulations.

He explained that focusing on public spending to control demand for foreign currency has not and will not lead to any solutions to stabilize the trade balance. He considered this to represent a small part of the problem, not the main one, which lies within the banking system, especially with the continued rise in commercial banks' deposit liabilities that are directly linked to money creation.

Dbeibah concluded his letter to the Central Bank Governor by saying that the country is going through a critical phase that requires a serious stance to address these issues. He called for the necessary measures to address these issues, ensuring full transparency in financial data related to foreign currency, and submitting a regular and periodic statement of the assets and liabilities of the Central Bank of Libya, at the end of the last day of each month, directly to the Cabinet Council, in implementation of the provisions of the Banking Law.

Economy



Mabrouk oil field resumes production after a decade

The Mabrouk oil field has resumed production after a ten-year shutdown.

Mabrouk Oil Operations Company confirmed that production restarted on 9 March, with an initial output of 5,000 barrels per day.

The company plans to increase this to 7,000 barrels per day by the end of the month, with a long-term target of 25,000 barrels per day by July 2025.

Crude exports to the Al-Bahi field began on Tuesday, as Libya works to restore its oil industry following years of disruption.

Economy



Akakus Oil drills new well in Sharara field

Akakus Oil Company has announced the completion of drilling the new well "B-52H" in the Sharara field, with a daily production capacity of up to 1,750 barrels of per day.

The company stated that the well drilling is part of its development plan for the field, according to a statement on its Facebook page on Monday.

The latest statistics issued by the National Oil Corporation showed that Libya's oil production has reached 1,383,000 barrels per day.

Economy

CBL warns against fraudulent website claiming to offer credit card verification services

The Central Bank of Libya (CBL) stated that it has no connection to the website "cbl.cards", which falsely claims to provide credit card verification services.

The CBL emphasized that its only official website is "cbl.gov.ly", warning citizens against using unauthorized websites that could put their personal and financial data at risk.

In a statement published on its official page on Thursday, the CBL urged citizens to verify the authenticity of web links and rely solely on the bank's official sources for inquiries or to confirm any information.



Economy

UN Envoy praises CBL for unified budget law, urges political neutrality

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), Hanna Tetteh, has praised the role of the Central Bank of Libya (CBL) in issuing the unified budget law, emphasizing the need to keep this institution away from political disputes.

On Monday, the CBL Governor, Nagi Issa, received Tetteh at his office in the CBL headquarters in Tripoli, according to a statement on the CBL Facebook page.

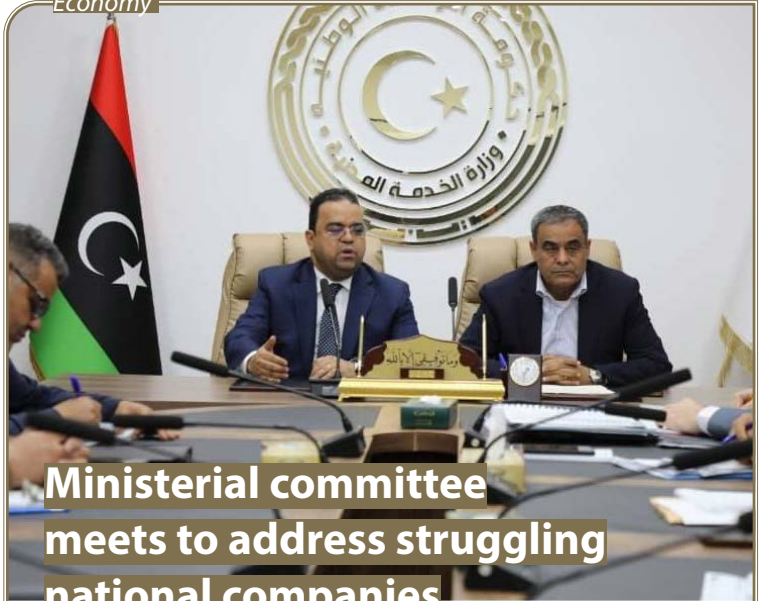
The two sides discussed several topics, most notably the bank's efforts to maintain financial and economic stability in the country despite various risks and challenges.

The statement added that at the end of the meeting, Tetteh commended the CBL pivotal role in facilitating the issuance of the unified budget law, highlighting its critical importance for the country's stability and future.

Tetteh also praised the achievements of the CBL new administration, particularly in resolving the cash liquidity crisis, advancing electronic payment systems, and alleviating hardships for citizens.

She reaffirmed the importance of keeping this key sovereign institution independent from political conflicts and supporting its path toward genuine economic reform.

Economy



Ministerial committee meets to address struggling national companies

A joint ministerial committee, led by Transport Minister Mohamed Al-Shahoubi, convened on Monday to explore urgent solutions for financially troubled national companies and to ensure the protection of workers' rights.

During the meeting, officials discussed several proposals, including transferring some employees to the Social Security Fund to secure their financial entitlements and reallocating others to government sectors capable of absorbing them.

Minister Al-Shahoubi stressed that the discussions aim to provide a fair resolution while ensuring the swift implementation of agreed measures. He confirmed that consultations with relevant authorities will continue to avoid delays.

A final mechanism is expected to be determined next week, adhering to legal frameworks and professional standards.

The meeting was attended by Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation Ali Al-Abed, committee members, senior officials from the Ministries of Labour and Civil Service, and representatives from the Libyan Workers' Union.

Health

Libya and Iraq discuss strengthening healthcare cooperation

Deputy Prime Minister/ Minister of Health, Ramadan Abu Janah, has held talks with Iraq's Chargé d'Affaires Ahmed Al-Sahhaf to explore ways of enhancing bilateral cooperation in the healthcare sector.

Discussions focused on medical expertise exchange, training programs, and the deployment of Iraqi healthcare professionals to support Lib-

yan medical institutions. Both sides also considered the possibility of signing agreements aimed at improving healthcare services in Libya.

Minister Abu Janah reaffirmed Libya's commitment to fostering international partnerships to enhance healthcare efficiency and service quality for its citizens.



Health

Medical facility shut down over illegal waste disposal

The authorities have ordered the closure of a medical facility in Tarhuna after it was found to be illegally disposing of hazardous medical waste, violating environmental and health regulations.

The Public Prosecutor's Office said an investigation by the Al-Khums Court of Appeals uncovered evidence that the facility (M.A.) had

improperly handled infectious and hazardous waste. Officials also found that staff at the facility operated without a proper license, unlawfully profiting from healthcare services in the city.

Authorities have vowed to take further action against violations in the healthcare sector.



Education

Dbeibah declares school holiday until end of Eid break

Prime Minister, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, has ordered an extended school holiday starting Sunday, March 16, until the end of the Eid al-Fitr celebrations.

A statement from his office confirmed that the Ministry of Education has been directed to adjust the academic calendar accordingly.

Dbeibah praised the dedication of students, teachers, and parents in maintaining the study schedule throughout Ramadan, culminating in the completion of midterm exams.

He extended his best wishes for students' continued success.

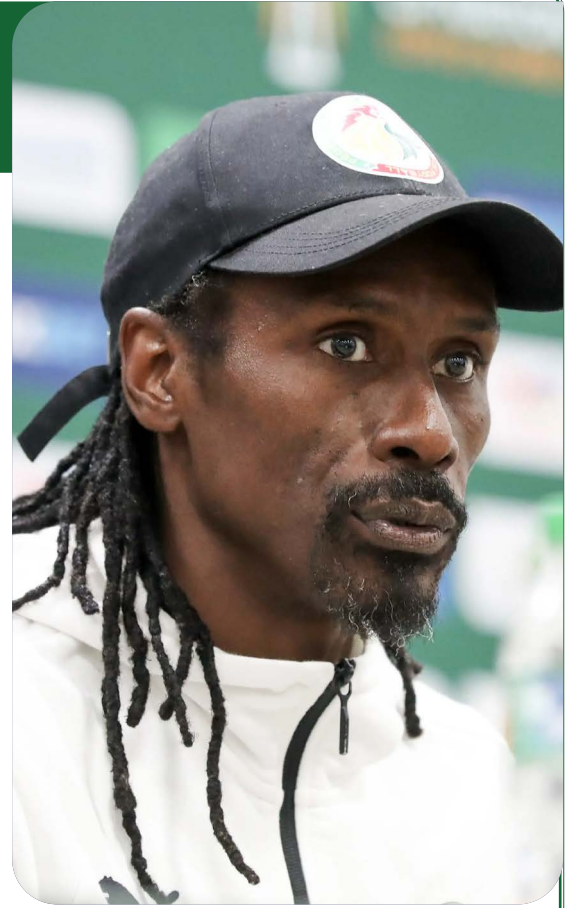


Sports

Aliou Cissé's assistants, Libya squad for Angola and Cameroon's matches announced

Thirty-one players have been selected for the Libyan national football team's squad in preparation for the upcoming 2026 World Cup qualifiers against Angola and Cameroon. This comes after the Libyan Football Federation appointed Senegalese coach Aliou Cissé to lead the team until 2027, replacing Libyan coach Nasser Al-Hadeeri, who had taken over after the departure of Serbian coach Micho. Libyan national team is set to begin a training camp in Benghazi on March 15, with player selection for the Angola and Cameroon matches handled by former assistant coaches Abubakr Al-Hark and Musbah Shangab. Libya's match against Angola is

scheduled for Thursday, March 20, at the Martyrs of Benina Stadium, with spectators allowed to attend. The visiting Angolan team is expected to arrive on March 19. Libyan Football Federation confirmed that the match against Cameroon will take place on March 25. The national team will depart for Cameroon on a chartered flight on March 23, with Cissé taking full charge of the team in both matches. The Federation also announced that a representative, along with a team from a specialized company organizing the training camp, will oversee the team's accommodations and logistics in Cameroon to ensure a professional setup for the Libyan squad.



Sports

Libyan Football Federation: Hopes pinned on Angola match and fans' support

The head of the national teams committee at the Libyan Football Federation, Tarek Al-Tayeb, confirmed that the new Senegalese coach of the national team, Aliou Cissé, held his first training session in preparation for the match against Angola in the African qualifiers for the 2026 World Cup. Al-Tayeb stressed that most players joined the training camp immediately after participating in Libyan Premier League matches. He explained that the team is working on determining the best tactical approach to face the Angolan national team. He acknowledged the challenging task ahead for the Senegalese coach, highlighting the need for significant effort to prepare the team properly. "We have high hopes for a positive result, especially since the match

will be held at home. We need a high level of focus from the players, particularly in both the defensive and attacking lines. Nothing is impossible despite the difficulty of the task," Al-Tayeb explained. He called on Libyan fans to attend the match at the Martyrs of Benina Stadium in Benghazi on March 20, to support the national team and boost their motivation to secure victory in this crucial encounter. It is worth noting that Libya is currently in second place in Group D with seven points, one point behind leaders Cameroon. Cape Verde is in third place with the same number of points but behind on goal difference. Angola is fourth with six points, followed by Mauritius in fifth place with four points, while Eswatini sits at the bottom with zero points.



Opinions

Two initiatives worthy of attention

By Abdullah Alkibir, a Libyan political writer and commentator



In a remarkable development, Fawzi al-Nuwairi, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, has called, in a statement he signed, for urgent parliamentary elections to restore legitimacy and national unity, citing municipal elections as confirming the desire of Libyans to choose their representatives, and the ability of the national institutions to implement them.

Al-Nuwairi had not previously deviated from the will of the group controlling decisions in the House of Representatives headed by Aguila Saleh, which is a will in its final outcome to implement decisions of the Haftar family that holds power in the east of the country through security and military apparatuses, prisons and repression, save in this statement, which came under a prominent title; "A call to save the homeland," a title that carries a connotation that is not hidden from its writer's awareness of the dangerous collapse into which the homeland is sliding. Defending his call for urgent parliamentary elections, Al-Nuwairi went on to say; those elections "the only solution to restore legitimacy and end the division away from the legitimacy of the de facto situation that is imposed at the expense of the homeland and the citizen."

The statement was withdrawn from the House of Representatives platforms shortly after it was published, which some observers interpreted as a lack of consensus on it within the House of Representatives, or perhaps one of Haftar's sons intervened and ordered its withdrawal, because everyone knows that holding parliamentary elections is possible even in the prevailing conditions of division, and its success is high-

ly guaranteed, and therefore it is a real threat to the de facto authorities, and a sound entry point for change according to what is available at the present time, and the insistence on linking it to the presidential elections is only for the purpose of thwarting it, and even the draft laws of the Bouznika Committee included an article that cancels the elections entirely if presidential elections fail.

The only argument of those opposing the parliamentary elections is that these elections failed to lead the country twice; the first time with the General National Congress and the second time with the current House of Representatives. This argument is absolutely invalid because both bodies were not elected as a parliament with full powers in a stable state with its institutions, but rather they are closer to the Constituent Assembly entrusted with issuing a permanent constitution, and enacting laws in case of necessity and in a way that leads to accelerating the end of the transitional phase. Both failed to complete the constitutional process, and the National Congress is credited with supervising the elections of the constitutional body and not interfering in its work, while the Speaker of the House of Representatives refused to hold the referendum, although the constitutional declaration obliges him to do so.

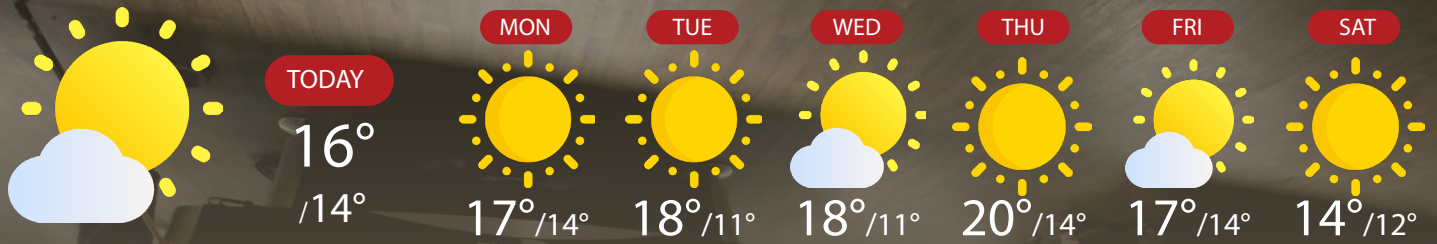
In a parallel proposal, Musa Al-Koni, Vice President of the Presidential Council for the South, called for the return of the system of regions and governorates, and the restoration of the administrative system of the country before September coup. The call was met with mixed reactions between acceptance, rejection, reservations, and acceptance

with conditions, but the important thing is that the two initiatives stirred the stagnant waters for a while. With all due respect to what Al-Koni has put forward, and the validity of the arguments he is putting forward, which are ensuring the distribution of powers between the regions, as well as ensuring justice in public services between the governorates, and thus reducing the pressure on the capital, as well as thwarting any calls for competition or control over it, this is of course agreed upon, as the geographical necessity and the weakness of transportation necessitate the adoption of a decentralized administrative system, because the central system is polarizing by nature, which has led to the population concentration inside and around the capital, while the population density in the outskirts and interiors decreases, to the point of threatening a slow and dangerous demographic change that threatens the unity of the population and puts pressure on the country's limited resources and water scarcity, but before reaching the stage of discussions about the most appropriate administrative system, we must first think about the possible way to get rid of the de facto authorities, and how to eliminate family rule in the east of the country, and after that the way will be open for the people to choose their appropriate path that is acceptable to all components, and perhaps the shortest and available path is continuous popular pressure to return to the constitutional path, as the draft constitution has been ready for years, and the committee that drafted it was elected, we just need to get it back out of the drawers of the House of Representatives, dust it off, and put it to a referendum.

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