



Whispering Bell

Libya Daily Report



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KEY DEVELOPMENTS



10 April 2023

Tripoli

- [HNEC meets 6+6 HoR-HCS committee](#)
- [HNEC: Al-Ghiryani supporters reject Bathily/HoR-HCS initiatives](#)
- [Medsky Airways conducts Tripoli-Sabha flight](#)
- [Ghut Shaal: Road closure](#)

Nationwide / General

- [Sabha: Bathily praises efforts to secure south amid LNA desert patrols](#)
- [Dbeibah clarifies decision regarding housing loan cancellation](#)

Oil & Gas Update

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SUMMARY

Key Points

- UN proposes new initiative
- Political tensions to escalate
- HCS accepts HoR Constitutional Amendment

Political

The absence of a solution to the political deadlock and continuing legitimacy crisis over the GNU's mandate continue to define the context of heightened political uncertainty. In the current context, there are two political initiatives at odds with one another. The pro Al-Meshri bloc within the High Council of State (HCS) recently voted in favour of the House of Representatives' (HoR) 13TH constitutional amendment, while key international actors have announced support for the political initiative proposed by UN SRSG Abdoulaye Bathily.

Intense political manoeuvring will likely define the next few weeks against the backdrop of Bathily's proposed formation of a High-level Steering Panel for Libya. Key contentious issues such as the eligibility of dual nationals and military officials to run for president will continue to divide Libyan stakeholders and undermine progress towards a solution to the stalemate.

The UN SRSG's proposal is already facing resistance from key domestic actors such as the HoR. Consequently, Whispering Bell assesses actors opposed to the UN-led initiative will double down on their campaigns to form a new unified government as a hedge against the UN push to establish a new dialogue forum. In turn, renewed efforts to form a new government will mount the pressure on the GNU and PM Abdul Hamid Dbeibah. Amid US pressure to hold elections, Dbeibah may be compelled to reshuffle his cabinet and/or organise limited legislative elections. Of note, Dbeibah announced the formation of a government committee to implement and coordinate elections on 09 March, while Bathily provided further details on his proposal to form a High-Level Steering Panel for Libya in a press briefing on 11 March.

Security

Tripoli is operational and continues to present a relatively permissive operational environment. Sporadic incidents will continue to define security atmospherics in the western region. From a security standpoint, the status quo and stable atmospherics are set to remain as is in Tripoli. Low-impact and localised flashpoints outside government offices are possible but are unlikely to escalate or impact business operations. Targeted attacks against HoR MPs, HCS members, and other political figures are likely as political tensions peak over the next few weeks.

Oil & Gas

Disruptions to production are likely despite evidence the LNA is yet to support a coordinated oil blockade. In his latest visit to Libya, US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Burns allegedly reiterated to Haftar the importance of safeguarding oil and gas facilities and production.

TRIPOLI

- **Report n°6231:** HNEC meets 6+6 HoR-HCS committee

High National Election Commission (HNEC) Head Emad Al-Sayeh met with members of the 6+6 committee between the House of Representatives (HoR) and the High Council of State (HCS) concerned with drafting electoral laws on 09 April. The meeting discussed technical issues related to drafting electoral laws based on international standards and on constitutional provisions in the 13th constitutional amendment, as well as dividing districts and distributing seats in the senate and parliament. The attendees also discussed the issue of electoral appeals and disputes.

Of note, the 6+6 joint committee is scheduled to convene in Tripoli this week according to committee member Miloud Al-Aswad. Al-Aswad stated that the committee is determined to complete the electoral laws before mid-June.

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: HNEC 's HQ
Incident Date: 09 April
Timestamp: Unknown
Source: HNEC
Veracity: A
Actors: HNEC
Impact: Low

Recommendations:
 Continue to monitor the HNEC meetings regarding the electoral process.

- **Report n°6232:** HNEC: Al-Ghiryani supporters reject Bathily/HoR-HCS initiatives

Several supporters of radical pro-Libyan Islamic Fighting Group (LIFG) cleric Sadiq Al-Ghiryani rejected external interference in domestic affairs, particularly with regards to the constitution and elections including the UN SRSG's latest political initiative in a protest held outside the High National Elections Commission HQ in the evening on 08 April. The protesters also rejected the 13th constitutional amendment adopted by the House of Representatives (HoR) and approved by the High Council of State (HCS).

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: HNEC 's HQ
Incident Date: 08 April
Timestamp: Evening
Source: Social Media
Veracity: B
Actors: LIFG
Impact: Low

Recommendations:
 Continue to monitor the motives behind protests held across the capital.

- **Report n°6233:** Medsky Airways conducts Tripoli-Sabha flight

Malta-based Libyan national carrier, Medsky Airways, conducted its first flight from Tripoli's Mitiga International Airport (MJI) to Sabha International Airport (SEB) on 09 April.

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: MJI; SEB
Incident Date: 09 April
Timestamp: Unknown
Source: Social Media
Veracity: B
Actors: Medsky Airways
Impact: Low

Recommendations:
Continue to monitor the return of airlines to work again.

- **Report n°6234:** Ghut Shaal: Road closure

The Tripoli Security Directorate reported that Tripoli's Ghut Shaal Road will be closed from Al-Mahalat Traffic Lights to the Souk Al-Qabbab Intersection for the remainder of Ramadan from sunset prayer until 0300hrs on 09 April. The Directorate instructed motorists to not leave their vehicles in the area during the aforementioned period.

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: Ghut Shaal
Incident Date: 09 April
Timestamp: sunset prayer until 0300hrs
Source: Social Media
Veracity: B
Actors: Tripoli Security Directorate
Impact: Low

Recommendations:
Continue to monitor the road closures across the capital.

NATIONWIDE / GENERAL

- **Sabha: Bathily praises efforts to secure south amid LNA desert patrols**

UN SRSG Abdoualye Bathily conducted a visit to Sabha and met with notables, civil society, youth and women, as well as military and security leaders from the south as part of consultations with Libyan stakeholders in support of elections on 09 April. Bathily reiterated his appeal to political leaders to fulfill their commitment towards a constitutional and legal basis for elections in 2023. In his meeting with military and security leaders, Bathily praised their efforts to secure the south and Libya's territorial integrity, including the protection of natural resources.

In a separate development, LNA units including the 73rd Infantry Brigade, 128 Brigade, and the Waw and Wig Companies conducted desert patrols extending to the El Salvador Pass between Libya, Niger, and Chad and back to the Gharnidiga region and Wig Military Airbase under the supervision of Southern Operations Room commander Mabrouk Sabhan and Murzuq Military Region commander on 09 April. The LNA is engaging in power protection given the timing of the patrols in conjunction with Bathily's visit.

- **Dbeibah clarifies decision regarding housing loan cancellation**

GNU Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah stated that the first phase of the initiative to grant loans for youth and needy families was completed with a total of 25k loans handed out, while noting that a decision has been issued to cancel the unannounced second phase of the initiative regarding housing grants on 09 April. Dbeibah's remarks came in response to the circulation of a decision issued by him to cancel a decision (2022) to allocate funds to support housing loans, though Dbeibah stated that the aforementioned decision is unrelated to the initiative's first stage. It will be recalled that Dabbah launched an initiative to distribute 100k apartment units to youth, grant loans, and distribute plots of lands across Libya on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of the February 17 Revolution.

OIL & GAS UPDATE

Terminal Status

| | |
|-----------|-------------|
| Es-Sider | Operational |
| Ras Lanuf | Operational |
| Mellitah | Operational |
| Zawiya | Operational |
| Zueitina | Operational |
| Marsa | Operational |
| Brega | |
| Marsa | Operational |
| Hariga | |
| Bouri | Operational |
| Jurf | Operational |

Es-Sider: Stable terminal operations and security atmospherics reported as of 1700hrs LT.

- **Report n°6235:** Mellitah reactivates gas well in Mediterranean

The National Oil Corporation (NOC) announced the reopening of a gas well operated by Mellitah Oil and Gas on its Sabratah Platform in the Mediterranean Sea with a total production capacity of 37 million cubic feet of gas per day and 1k barrels of natural-condensate gas per day, on 08 Apr. Of note, production at the well has been halted since Jan 2021 due to technical issues.

Analysis/Comment: N/A.

Location: Sabratah Platform
Incident Date: 08 Apr
Timestamp: N/A
Source: NOC
Veracity: A
Actors: NOC

Impact: Low

Recommendations:
 Continue to monitor nationwide O&G-related developments.

VERACITY SCALE

A – Reliable:

This information is almost certainly true. A is Reliable, "No doubt of authenticity, trustworthiness, or competency; has a history of complete reliability". It is reported by one or more credible publications, and if an author is listed we have no reason to suspect them to be biased. The reporting is sourced based on widely available or verifiable information. The information is consistent with everything our team knows about this subject.

B – Fairly Reliable:

This information is probably true. This information is possibly true. B is "Fairly Reliable" for "minor doubt". It is reported one or more mostly credible publications, and if an author is listed we have no reason to suspect them to be biased on this subject. The reporting is primarily based on verifiable information. The information is mostly consistent with everything our team knows about this subject, but may contain new or surprising information given credibility on the strength of the publication or author.

C – Unreliable:

This information is probably false. This information is almost certainly false. "not usually reliable" for "significant doubt," and "unreliable" for "Lacking in authenticity, trustworthiness, and competency; history of invalid information". It appears in social media or an unreliable publication, and may be written by an author that is not known to us or is known to be less reliable. The reporting is thin, largely dependent on anonymous sources or unverifiable accounts from social media or limited access areas. The information is consistent enough with our knowledge of the subject to be possible, but contains sufficient discrepancies to make it seem unlikely. The information is mostly or entirely inconsistent with our knowledge of the subject.

ACRONYM LIST

| | |
|--------|--|
| AQ | Al-Qaeda |
| BAM | Al-Bunyan Al-Marsous |
| BCP | Border Crossing Point |
| BEN | Benghazi International Airport |
| BDB | Benghazi Defence Brigade |
| BPMC | Brega Petroleum Marketing Company |
| BRSC | Benghazi Revolutionary Shura Council |
| CBL | Central Bank of Libya |
| CESF | Constitution and Elections Support Force |
| CNI | Critical National Infrastructure |
| CDA | Constitutional Drafting Assembly |
| DACOCT | Deterrence Apparatus for Combating Organized Crime and Terrorism |
| DDR | Disarmament, demobilising and reintegration |
| DF | Direct Fire |
| DMSC | Derna Mujahideen Shura Security Council |
| GACS | General Administration of Central Support |
| GASO | General Administration of Security Operations |
| GECOL | General Electricity Company of Libya |
| GMMR | Great Man-Made River |
| GNA | Government of National Accord |
| GNC | General National Congress |
| GNS | Government of National Stability |
| GNU | Government of National Unity |
| GTUC | Greater Trpoli Union Council |
| HCS | High Council of State |
| HNEC | High National Election Commission (HNEC) |
| HoR | House of Representatives |
| IDF | Indirect Fire |
| IED | Improvised Explosive Device |
| IDP | Internally Displaced Persons |
| IOC | International Oil Company |
| IS | Islamic State |
| JMC | Joint Military Commission |
| LAB | Libyan Audit Bureau |
| LIFG | Libyan Islamic Fighting Group |
| LNA | Libyan National Army |
| LPA | Libyan Political Agreement |
| LPDF | Libyan Political Dialogue Forum |
| LROR | Libyan Revolutionary Operations Room |
| MJI | Mitiga International Airport |
| MoD | Ministry of Defence |
| MoF | Ministry of Finance |
| MoFA | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| MOGC | Mellitah Oil and Gas Complex |
| MoI | Ministry of Interior |
| MoJ | Ministry of Justice |
| MoO | Ministry of Oil |

| | |
|--------|--|
| MoT | Ministry of Transportation |
| MRA | Misrata International Airport |
| NEE | No Expected Exposure |
| NIEE | No Immediate Expected Exposure |
| NFDK | No Further Details Known |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organisation |
| NOC | National Oil Company |
| NSTR | Nothing Significant To Report |
| P3+2 | France, Germany, Italy, UK, US |
| PC | Presidential Council |
| PFG | Petroleum Facilities Guard |
| RASCO | Ras Lanuf Oil and Gas Processing Company |
| RPG | Rocket-Propelled Grenade |
| RTA | Road Traffic Accident |
| SAF | Small Arms Fire |
| SSA | Stabilisation Support Agency |
| SDF | Special Deterrence Force |
| TPF | Tripoli Protection Force |
| UNSRSG | United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary General |
| UNSMIL | United Nations Support Mission in Libya |
| UXO | Unexploded Ordnance |
| WOC | Waha Oil Company |