



Whispering Bell

Libya Daily Report



Strictly Confidential & Exclusive for ConocoPhillips Libya

KEY DEVELOPMENTS



09 June 2023

Tripoli

- French Envoy discusses election efforts
- Tripolitanian Commission rejects 6+6 outcomes

Nationwide / General

- Joint international statement on 6+6 efforts
- 6+6 members demand implementation of electoral laws
- Western region: Reconnaissance missions
- Fezzan: Joint LNA desert patrols
- Zuwara: Ghneiwa receives honorary award
- Al-Zawiya: GNU UAV strikes resume

Oil & Gas Update

- Rome: GNU-Eni sign decarbonisation MoU

CONTENTS

SUMMARY 2

TRIPOLI 3

NATIONWIDE / GENERAL 4

OIL & GAS UPDATE 6

VERACITY SCALE 7

SUMMARY

Key Points

- 6+6 Committee delay electoral laws announcement
- GNU commence 2nd phase of west security ops.
- Political tensions continue to escalate

Political

Whispering Bell continues to assess presidential elections are unlikely in 2023, despite momentum towards the polls. In the current context, Libya stands at the political crossroads of new government announcements.

Political divisions over the way forward in Libya remain centred around the need to form a new government, and whether this must be a brand new executive to supervise the elections, or a government formed via a Government of National Unity (GNU) cabinet reshuffle and/or merger with the parallel Government of National Stability (GNS).

The 6+6 committee tasked with formulating electoral laws concluded meetings in Bouznika, Morocco, and a final agreement on the electoral laws is expected to be announced on 06 June in a signing ceremony attended by the heads of Libya's two chambers.

Regardless of the potential consensus reached during the inter-parliamentary discussions, it is assessed the electoral laws will require the final approval of the eastern-based parliament, which will likely delay the path towards elections in favour of a new government.

Meanwhile, it is anticipated all stakeholders will continue to pay lip-service to elections whilst pursuing specific political agendas and securing their interests. A key escalation trigger in the next few weeks will be the 6+6 committee's potential publication of electoral laws that compel presidential candidates to resign from their positions and/or exclude specific candidates.

Security

Stable atmospherics prevail across the country. Political tensions are expected to increase the frequency of sporadic low-impact security incidents across the western region, though the overall operating environment will remain permissive for foreign businesses.

There is mounting evidence to indicate the wave of security incidents in Al-Zawiya is part of a sophisticated anti-GNU campaign to weaken Dbeibah's foothold in the city, expel pro-GNU forces, and make the case for a new interim government. The political nature of the demands by the local protesters lend credence to this assessment. This week the GNU announced the commencement of the second phase of its security operations in the west coast region, which will include a crackdown on wanted suspects. Beyond Al-Zawiya, locals could resort to various forms of civil disobedience in protest of the GNU's operations in their respective areas, including targeting critical infrastructure and disrupting vital operations.

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°6424:** French Envoy discusses elections

Presidential Council (PC) Head Mohamed Menfi received French Envoy to Libya Paul Soler and French Ambassador to Libya Mustafa Maharaj at the PC Office on 08 June. The meeting discussed the migration crisis, border security, the 6+6 Joint Committee's work, as well as military cooperation and the economic track according to the PC.

Separately, Soler and Maharaj met with UN SRSG Abdoulaye Bathily at the UNSMIL HQ on 08 June. The attendees agreed to continue to coordinate efforts with all Libyan stakeholders to enable the electoral process.

Further, Soler, Maharaj, and the Political Adviser at the French Embassy were received by High National Election Commission (HNEC) Chairman Emad Al-Sayeh at the HNEC HQ on 08 June. The meeting discussed the latest developments regarding the electoral process and the type of support and expertise that can be provided in this regard.

Analysis/Comment: No further information.

Location: Tripoli
Incident Date: 08 June
Timestamp: Unknown
Source: Local Media
Veracity: B
Actors: PC; UN SRSG; HNEC; French Envoy & Ambassador
Impact: Low

Recommendations:
 Continue to monitor relations between western authorities & foreign states concerned with the Libyan file.

- **Report n°6425:** Tripolitanian Commission rejects 6+6 outcomes

The "Tripolitan Commission" rejected the outcomes of the 6+6 Joint Commission's Bounzika-hosted meetings and their failure to implement the "basic" task of assigning a constitutional rule, instead preparing a mini-constitution that seeks to ensure the survival of the "expired" bodies they represent in a statement issued on 08 June. The statement also accused the Committee of seeking to appoint a "new military dictator" of another nationality, in a clear reference to LNA commander Khalifa Haftar. The statement argued that allowing dual nationals and military personnel to run in elections stands as a violation of domestic laws, which remain in force. The Commission called for civil disobedience to be announced from public squares in demand of the dissolution of the House of Representatives (HoR) and the High Council of State (HCS).

Analysis/Comment: Since the 6+6 Joint Committee announced that it had reached a final agreement on electoral laws, there have been a number of statements from local actors rejecting the laws.

Location: Tripoli
Incident Date: 08 June
Timestamp: Unknown
Source: Local Media
Veracity: B
Actors: Tripolitanian Commission
Impact: Low

Recommendations:
 Monitor local responses to the 6+6 Joint Committee's agreement on electoral laws.

NATIONWIDE / GENERAL

- **Joint international statement on 6+6 efforts**

The Embassies of US, France, Germany, Italy, and the UK issued a joint statement on 08 June welcoming the UN Support Mission in Libya's (UNSMIL) 07 June statement and similarly acknowledged the efforts of the 6+6 Joint Committee in reaching an agreement on the electoral laws. The statement welcomed the Mission's commitment to work further with all relevant actors and institutions to address the contested elements of the electoral framework, secure political agreements to pave the way for elections, and allow all candidates to participate in the process. The statement called on all actors to engage constructively with UN SRSG Abdoulaye Bathily towards securing the necessary political, security, and legal environment for elections.

Comment: The statement was perceived as failing to clearly identify the factors and players that obstructed an announcement on the final electoral laws from Bouznika as scheduled. Instead, the aforementioned embassies echoed the text of the 07 June UNSMIL statement on the matter.

- **6+6 demand implementation of electoral laws**

A number of 6+6 Joint Committee members demanded the implementation of the electoral laws agreed upon in the Bouznika-hosted meetings in a statement issued on 08 June. The members reaffirmed that the laws were passed by a unanimous vote and were made in the presence of a UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) representative and in consultation with the High National Election Commission (HNEC). The members stated that they will send two bills to the House of Representatives (HoR) to officially issue the laws and for them to be referred to HNEC in order to commence the electoral process.

- **Western region: Reconnaissance missions**

Reports indicate GNU unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) conducted reconnaissance missions over the coast of Tripoli, Al-Zawiya, and Al-Khoms on 08 June.

- **Fezzan: Joint LNA desert patrols**

The LNA's 128th Brigade and the Tariq Ibn Ziyad Brigade conducted joint large-scale desert patrols across the southern region on 08 June. The patrols were conducted from Al-Jufra towards Al-Soud mountains, passing through Gate 400 in Al-Fuqaha. The patrols reached vital areas including oil installations and the border strip reaching the Libyan-Algerian Essen crossing. The Brigades stated that the patrols aim to thwart smuggling operations and combat crime at the orders of LNA commander Khalifa Haftar.

- **Zuwara: Ghneiwa receives honorary award**

Zuwara's Municipal Council granted an honorary award to Stabilisation Support Agency (SSA) Head Abdulghani Al-Kikli "Ghneiwa" for what they described as his efforts to combat crime in their city on 08 June.

- **Al-Zawiya: GNU UAV strikes resume**

Local reports indicate GNU unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) strikes targeted Al-Zawiya's Beir Moammar area in the afternoon on 09 June. Of note, the incident follows at least a week of no airstrikes conducted in the city.

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 atmospheric reported as of 1700hrs LT.

▪ **Report n°6426:** Rome: GNU-Eni sign decarbonisation MoU

Italy's Eni signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the GNU to collaborate on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promote sustainable energy initiatives in Libya on 08 June. According to the terms of the agreement, Eni's activities will include efforts to reduce routine gas flaring, fugitive emissions, and venting. In addition, Eni will look into developing renewable energy solutions and increasing electricity efficiency in Libya. The agreement also seeks collaboration on the identification and utilisation of additional gas resources from existing fields, which Eni seeks to integrate into a joint project that serves the domestic market and potentially supports gas exports.

Analysis/Comment: No further information

Location: Rome
Incident Date: 09 June
Timestamp: Unknown
Source: Local Media
Veracity: B
Actors: GNU; Eni

Impact: Low

Recommendations:
 Continue to monitor the nature of MoUs signed between the GNU and IOCs.

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