

Libya daily security analysis report

February 25, 2023

Prepared by:
Risk Analysis Team, Libya

Table of Contents

Latest Developments	3
Political Developments	3
Security Developments	3
Environmental Developments	3
Assessment	3
Political Developments	3
Significant Incidents	5
Tripolitania Region	5
Cyrenaica Region	5
Fezzan Region	6
Offshore	6
Outlook	6
Short Term Outlook	6
Medium to Long Term Outlook	7
Key Dates	7
Acronym List	8

Latest Developments

Political Developments

- On February 24, Egypt's Foreign Ministry released a statement welcoming the approval of the HoR's 13 Amendment constitutional declaration. The ministry stated this step was "an important step in terms of fulfilling the necessary frameworks for holding the Libyan presidential and parliamentary elections at the earliest time/"
- Speaker of the HoR, Aquila Saleh, traveled to Baghdad on February 24 to participate in the 34th Arab Parliament meeting which was scheduled for February 25. Saleh and his delegation were greeted upon his arrival in Iraq by the President of the Iraqi Parliament, Mohamed al-Halbousi.
- The GNS has allegedly been given 6 billion LYD from eastern banks after an agreement was reached on December 27. This was said to be made up of 3 billion from the Trade and Development Bank and another 3 billion from the Unity and Republic banks as well as some others. The money was approved by the HoR as a loan and will be repaid in a similar manner to the GNS's predecessor, the Thinni Government.
- The Ministry of Sports (GNS) issued a decision to establish a new sports club in the Abu Surra region of Zawiyah. The club will be called the Peace Sports Club and is aimed at providing young people with alternatives to armed groups.
- Prime Minister (GNU) Abdulhamid Dbeibah met with Major General Salem Juha in their home city of Misrata. The prime minister visited Juha's home to offer his condolences on the death of his mother. Juha, a once prominent military officer in the city has lost a certain amount of influence over the years after establishing ties with the LNA and the east. He was once touted as a possible chief of staff of a united military and had some support from the UAE.

Security Developments

- The Internal Security Agency, on the orders of Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar (LNA), has announced the end of the amnesty for civilians to hand over their unlicensed weapons in the east of Libya. The security operation will now move into a new phase which will see security forces searching for weapons "inside residential streets."

Environmental Developments

- The sea offshore Tripoli has maintained a much lower level than normal after receding a few days ago. The apparent phenomenon, which has been seen across Libya and the wider Mediterranean following earthquake activity around Turkey and Syria, continues to draw attention from citizens and more recently politicians after Prime Minister (GNU) Dbeibah met with the Scientific Committee of the Centre for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences on February 23.
- Another earthquake, measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale hit Turkey on February 25. There were no immediate reports of any significant damage or casualties. Aftershocks are expected. This comes after two quakes in recent days were felt in Cairo, Egypt.

Assessment

Political Developments

HoR: Egypt supports 13 amendment

On February 24, Egypt's Foreign Ministry released a statement welcoming the approval of the HoR's 13 Amendment constitutional declaration. The ministry stated this step was "an important step in terms of

fulfilling the necessary frameworks for holding the Libyan presidential and parliamentary elections at the earliest time, under the supervision of a neutral executive authority that promotes the higher interests for our sisterly state of Libya.”

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry renewed its rejection of any external dictates to the Libyans or bypassing of the role of Libyan institutions in accordance with the reference of the Skhirat Agreement. The statement renewed the full support from Cairo for the “Libyan-Libyan solution,” praising the efforts of the HoR and the HCS. Egypt also stressed the need to stop external interventions in Libya, the exit of all foreign forces, foreign fighters and mercenaries from it, and its support for the task of the 5+5 Joint Military Committee.

COMMENT: ‘The statement of support from Cairo comes after the HoR published the 13 Amendment of the constitutional declaration on February 23, the same day a notable meeting of key foreign stakeholders took place in New York. The amendment, which the HoR had passed on February 07, now sits with the HCS whose recent attempts to vote on it have, at least in part, been disrupted by Dar al-Iftar protestors.

The statement from Cairo is a clear statement of support for Speaker Saleh and suggests they also support his recent proposal to establish a new unified executive via a new committee in a similar process to the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (LPDF) in 2020. If this path gains traction, it’s difficult to see how Libya could establish not just a new unified executive via a Libyan-Libyan process, but also hold elections in the same year.’ **COMMENT ENDS.**

HoR: Saleh double downs on creation of new unified executive

Speaker of the HoR, Aquila Saleh, traveled to Baghdad on February 24 to participate in the 34th Arab Parliament meeting which was scheduled for February 25. Saleh and his delegation were greeted upon his arrival in Iraq by the President of the Iraqi Parliament, Mohamed al-Halbousi. In a statement following the event, Saleh said: “The HoR issued the laws necessary to hold elections and the law of the referendum on the constitution, and the constitutional amendment required to launch towards the presidential and parliamentary elections was conducted at the earliest time.”

He continued: “The interest of the Libyans for us is above all considerations, as we are working to form a unified executive authority to support the Electoral Commission and achieve national reconciliation, and we are currently seeking to formulate consensual laws between the parties that receive the acceptance of everyone.”

COMMENT: ‘In conjunction with the Egyptian message of support above, Saleh appears to remain focused at present on the creation of a new unified executive authority while continuing to appear to make progress on key issues like the constitution. This comes as the HoR and HCS face the possible threat of marginalisation by UNSMIL over a lack of progress towards elections. It’s possible that talk of a new unified executive could be used by Saleh to create some leverage in what are complicated negotiations domestically and internationally. However, there have been several indications that talks over possible positions in a new executive have been ongoing.’ **COMMENT ENDS.**

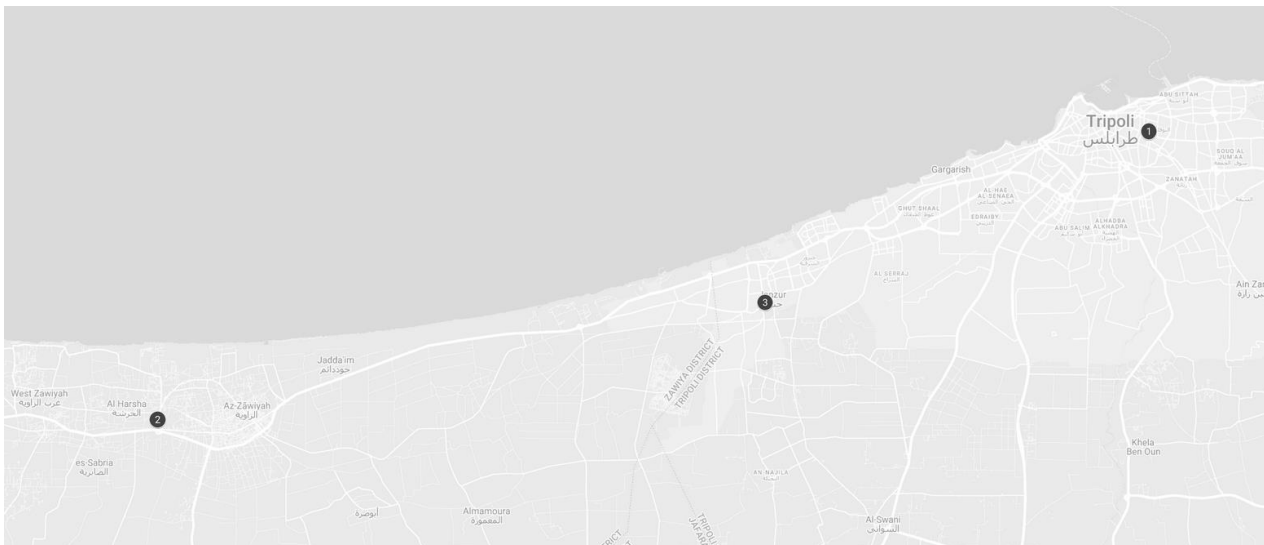
GNS: Sports club to be built in Zawiyah

The Ministry of Sports (GNS) issued a decision to establish a new sports club in the Abu Surra region of Zawiyah. The club will be called the Peace Sports Club and is aimed at providing young people with alternatives to armed groups.

COMMENT: ‘The decision comes after unconfirmed reports that the GNS has been given 6 billion LYD from eastern banks. Zawiyah sits within the GNUs sphere of influence not the GNS’s, however, the Minister of Interior for the GNS, Major General Essam Buzriba is from Zawiyah and has significant influence in southeast Zawiyah. This comes after the town of Marj in the east began to establish political links with the Tripoli-based GNU.’ **COMMENT ENDS.**

Significant Incidents

Tripolitania Region



1 Armed Attack - Feb 24 20:00, Tripoli Province, Libya Africa Investment Portfolio Building: Armed actors in masks attacked the Libya Africa Investment Portfolio Building. Local reports claim this was triggered by tensions over control of the entity's assets.

2 CP/ Roadblock - Feb 25 15:00, Az Zawiyah Province, Refinery Bridge: The family of Miloud Al-Mukhtar has closed refinery road with dirt berms. Mukhtar, who is associated with the Kaboot Militia, was kidnapped on February 19, allegedly by members of the Al-Qasab militia. Al-Qasab (Abu Hmeria) control the refinery and the area around it. The move will result in tensions and could escalate. The Kaboot militia have already carried out a tit-for-tat kidnapping on February 19 with an armed attack between them erupting on February 21. Troop mobilisations also occurred on February 19 and 20.

3 SAF - Feb 25 15:30, Tripoli Province, Janzour: Small arms fire was heard in the area.

Cyrenaica Region



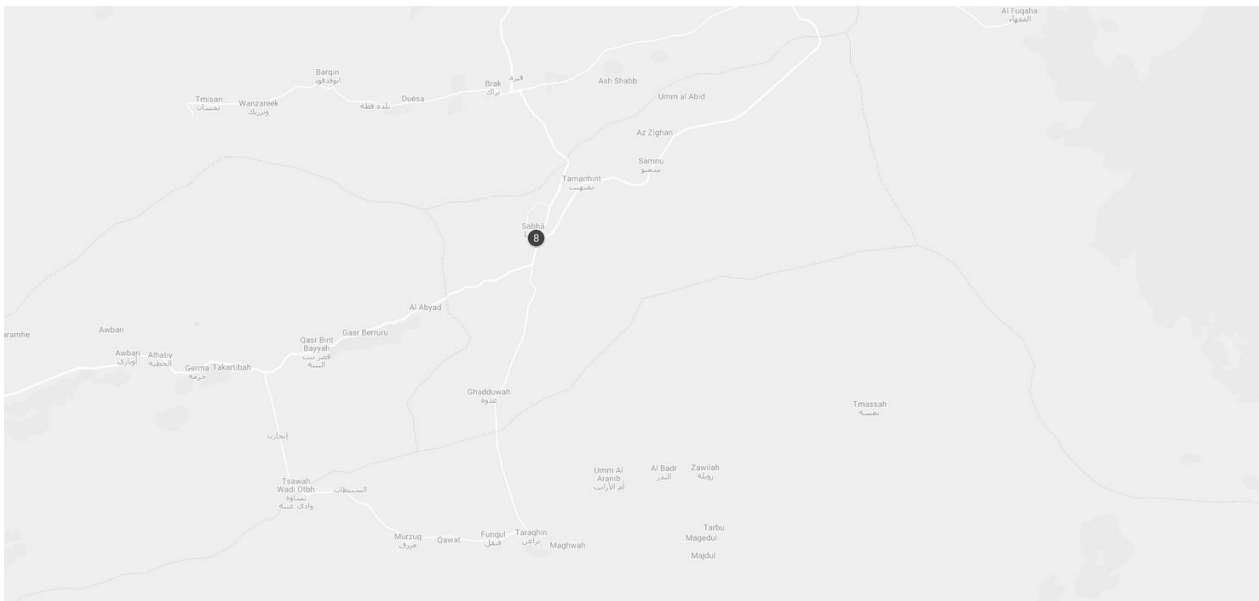
4 Security Announcement - Feb 24, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: Commander of 166 Battalion (LNA), Nagi Al-Jazawi, stated he and his battalion stood ready to begin demolishing homes on the orders of Saddam Haftar and Ayoub al-Furjani.

5 Arrest - Feb 24, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: Police officers from the Joint Security Chamber carried out inspections of a number of shops and found narcotics. 13 people were arrested and handed over to the public prosecutor.

6 Other - Feb 24, Al-Butnan Province, Emsaed Gateway: The Anti-Illegal Immigration Agency deported 16 Egyptians who had entered Libya without documentation. The Egyptian nationals were deported through Emsaed Checkpoint with the agency stating it was within its mission to "maintain health and national security in the country."

7 Security Announcement - Feb 25 00:34, Benghazi Province, Benghazi: The Internal Security Agency announced the end of the weapons amnesty which has been enforced across the east over the last week. The announcement came following the instructions of Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar. The security forces are now to start the process of searching for weapons "in residential streets" with a suggestion those found in possession of weapons will now be prosecuted.

Fezzan Region



8 Murder/ Execution - Feb 24, Sabha Province, Sabha: Captain Mohamed Badr al-Werfali (LNA), was subjected to a failed assassination attempt after a drive-by shooting.

Offshore

NSTR

Outlook

Short Term Outlook

- Libyan remains locked in a political impasse with two governments, both of which are slowly weakening. The House of Representatives (HoR) and the High Council of State (HCS) continue to dominate the current political scene, with their efforts to resolve key issues like the constitution taking centre stage. After years of backtracking however, SRSG Bathily has made clear that without real progress, the two risk entities risk being sidelined. Various factions are beginning to position themselves for expected change in 2023 as the UN continues to push towards elections, while regional and global issues, not least the Ukraine offensive, continue to shape the international communities' agendas in Libya.

- Although more settled at present, the security situation in and around Tripoli remains fundamentally unstable. After significant changes to the capital's security makeup in August and September 2022, new faultlines are emerging as militia commanders continue to consolidate their positions. This includes expanding their influence through ministries and other state apparatus. In addition, plans to reconstruct Tripoli International Airport threaten to destabilise the delicate balance of power in the city with Misratan entities looking to claim significant influence over the location. The resurgence of Jihadist Salafism in Tripolitania is also a potential source of destabilisation, one which is currently being felt in Tajura and along the north-west coastline. Armed groups in Tripoli continue to be empowered via financial, military, and political means, ensuring they will continue to exert significant influence over the political situation.

Medium to Long Term Outlook

- The solution to Libya's political impasse remains elections for many stakeholders with UNSMIL attempting to develop a new pathway. Realistically, elections are unlikely to occur in 2023 however, there is a real chance that much-needed groundwork could be achieved. While UNSMIL heads efforts towards elections, other international stakeholders are prioritising more short-term objectives as they look to shape not just Libya, but regional and global issues.
- Terrorist groups remain active but contained in Libya. Islamic State (IS) will continue to present a threat to security forces, primarily in the south, and may re-establish the capability to mount sporadic attacks along the coastline in the future. The group continues to suffer from years of attrition and is more likely focused on providing support for more active IS theatres in sub-Saharan Africa. Al-Qaeda-aligned groups remain active in the country with their integration into societies in the south and some armed groups in the Tripoli area potentially posing a longer-term issue for Libya.

Key Dates

Date	Occasion	Comment
April 22 - 24, 2023	Eid Al-Fitr (+/-)	Public Holiday
May 01, 2023	May Day	Public Holiday
June 27, 2023	Arafat Day	
June 28 – 30, 2023	Eid Al-Adha	Public Holiday
July 19, 2023	Islamic New Year	Public Holiday
September 16, 2023	Martyrs' Day	

Acronym List

AQ - Al-Qaeda
BDB – Benghazi Defense Brigade (Al Qaeda-aligned – AAS and RSCB associated/umbrella group)
CBL – Central Bank of Libya
CESF - Constitution and Election Support Force
CNI – Critical National Infrastructure
DACOCT - Deterrence Apparatus for Combating Organized Crime and Terrorism (SDF)
DDR - Disarmament, demobilising and reintegration
GASO – General Administration of Security Operations
GACS – General Administration of Central Support
GECOL – General Electricity Company of Libya
GMMR – Great Man-made River
GNA – Government of National Accord (2016)
GNC – General National Congress (2012)
GNS – Government of National Stability (2021)
GNU – Government of National Unity (2021)
GTUC - Greater Tripoli Union Council (Tripoli militias and others, established in June 2020)
HCS – High Council of State (Tripoli-based)
HNEC – High National Elections Commission
HoR – House of Representatives (Tobruk-based)
IDF – Indirect Fire (mortars/rockets)
IDP - Internally Displaced Persons
IED - Improvised Explosive Device
IOC - International Oil Company
IS - Islamic State
JMC – Joint Military Commission
LIFG – Libyan Islamic Fighting Group
LNA – Libyan National Army
LPA – Libyan Political Agreement (2015)
LPDF - Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (2020)
LROR - Libyan Revolutionary Operations Room
MoD - Ministry of Defense
MoF - Ministry of Finance
MoFA - Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MoI - Ministry of Interior
MoJ - Ministry of Justice
MoO - Ministry of Oil
MoT - Ministry of Transportation
NFDK - No Further Details Known
NGO - Non-Governmental Organisation (aid/charity)
NOC – National Oil Company
NSG – National Salvation Government (GNC)
NSTR - Nothing Significant To Report
P3+2 – France, Germany, Italy – UK, US
PC – Presidency Council
PG – Presidential Guard
PFG - Petroleum Facilities Guard
RPG - Rocket Propelled Grenade
RTA - Road Traffic Accident
TIP – Tripoli International Airport
SSA – Stability Support Authority
SAF - Small Arms Fire
SDF – Rada Deterrence Force/ Special Deterrence Force/ Rada
UXO - Unexploded Ordnance

The GardaWorld Difference



122,000+

employees

45

countries with
operations &
infrastructure

\$3B+

in revenues

22,000+

clients

About GardaWorld

At GardaWorld, we're security people. Which makes us peace-of-mind people.

We're the trusted partners you count on, when it really counts. We're the guards, patrollers, support staff and consultants who uphold the highest standards to protect what matters to you. Getting it right the first time, every time. Providing high-quality service on a global scale, with local insights — so we know what to anticipate and how to respond, at any level of risk. We're the eyes and ears and minds who are ready to act smart and act fast, with the vast experience and extensive training to plan and prepare, to monitor and manage, on your terms, on your turf, to your satisfaction, earning our reputation by earning your trust. Bringing reliability, consistency and transparency to your security operations. We're the experts who attend to the smallest details, so you can focus on the bigger picture. The security people who work hard so you can rest easy — and confidently look forward to every day.

SECURE EVERY DAY

Country address:

RMT House, Turkish School Road
Sarraj
Tripoli
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

GARDAWORLD

garda.com