

## **Table of Contents**

Latest Developments	3
Political Developments	3
Security 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	6
Key Dates	7
Acronym List	8

# **Latest Developments**

### **Political Developments**

- The 6+6 Committee issued a statement claiming that it considered its draft laws as final and binding. Jalal al-Shuwaidi, a member of the HoR side of the committee, has refuted this and stated he did not support the statement.
- The National Security Adviser, Ibrahim Bushnaf, has submitted a proposal to solve the constitutional crisis and presented it to the SRSG. The proposal suggests that a working group is formed from the National Security Council, the Constitution Assembly, and UNSMIL experts, to draft a constitution.
- A joint statement was issued from the Embassies of France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States welcoming UNSMIL's June 07 statement and "similarly acknowledging the efforts of the 6+6 in reaching an agreement on the draft electoral laws."
- The Chairman of the HCS, Khaled Al-Mishri, met on June 09 with the Turkish Foreign Minister, Hakan Fidan, in Ankara to discuss the outcomes of the 6+6 Committee.

#### **Security Developments**

Further reporting has claimed that prior to the recent destabilization along the Egyptian border area, Saddam Haftar had informed smugglers from the Qatan and Haboun Tribes that they would need to move their operations to Benghazi if they were going to continue work. This preceded a tightening of security in the border area which led to the clash which in turn triggered the security operation.

## **Assessment**

## **Political Developments**

#### 6+6 Committee claims draft laws are final and binding

The 6+6 Committee issued a statement claiming that it considered its draft laws as final and binding. The statement claims it was "final and binding for the HoR as it was agreed upon and should pass without modification." The committee stated it was working to send the two draft election laws to the HoR so they can formally issue them and refer them to the HNEC for implementation. The committee stressed that it "would not heed the frustrated voices that seek to undermine the implementation of the laws and seek to stop the course of elections and renew legitimacy."

Jalal al-Shuwaidi, a member of the HoR side of the committee, has reportedly refuted this and stated he did not support the statement. Shuwaidi stated that the committee had not resolved all points of contention, despite the "great progress we have made with the proposals for elections."

He further stated: "I have no problem with the idea of re-voting the committee on draft laws within Libya. I suggest that this be done in the presence of the Presidency of the House of Representatives and the state, after completing some technical amendments. These matters make the laws more applicable and not subject to appeal and give the Commission the possibility of translating them into reality. We have to strive for broad acceptance of these laws without exclusion so that we can reach the greatest consensus for elections on time and accept their results."

<u>COMMENT</u>: 'Confusion regarding the state of the 6+6 Committee findings and next steps abound in a pattern seen repeatedly in Libya. This allows room to manoeuvre for all parties as negotiations and jockeying continue behind the scenes.' <u>COMMENT ENDS</u>.

#### NSA: Bushnaf submits proposal to the SRSG

The National Security Adviser, Ibrahim Bushnaf, has submitted a proposal to solve the constitutional crisis and presented it to the SRSG. The proposal suggests that a working group is formed from the National Security Council, the Constitution Assembly, and UNSMIL experts, to draft a constitution. The proposal then calls for a public referendum on the draft constitution after obtaining permission from the HoR and HCS.

Bushnaf indicated that the National Security Council has assigned a working group to study the draft issued by the elected constituent body charged with drawing up a permanent constitution for the country, studying concerns and objections from some components of society, and identifying articles that could be amended. Bushnaf expressed his confidence that "the Constitutional Commission will respond to the demands to amend some articles based on the national orientations of its members, and their keenness to hold a referendum on the constitution as soon as possible."

**COMMENT**: 'Bushnaf's proposal highlights the lack of pathway/ next steps following the conclusion of the 6+6 Committee whose outcomes have been undermined before they were even released and which continue to attract further pushback. Other actors, seeking to shape the political process are also likely to submit their own proposals or otherwise seek to project influence into the situation.' **COMMENT ENDS**.

#### Joint statement from western embassies

A joint statement was issued from the Embassies of France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and the United States welcoming UNSMIL's June 07 statement and "similarly acknowledging the efforts of the 6+6 in reaching an agreement on the draft electoral laws."

"The Embassies of France, Germany, Italy, United Kingdom and United States welcome UNSMIL's statement of 7 June, and similarly acknowledge the efforts of the 6+6 in reaching agreement on the draft electoral laws. We welcome UNSMIL's commitment to take forward further work with all relevant Libyan institutions and actors, to facilitate a process to address all contested elements of the electoral framework, secure the necessary political agreement on the path to elections, and enable a level playing field for all candidates. We urge all players to engage constructively with SRSG Bathily towards securing the necessary political, security and legal environment for elections."

**COMMENT**: 'UNSMIL has so far taken a cautious approach to the outcomes, giving itself room to manoeuvre as it seeks to direct the developing situation.' **COMMENT ENDS.** 

# **Significant Incidents**

## **Tripolitania Region**



- **1. Arrest Jun 08, Tripoli Province, Hadba al-Mashro:** Investigators at the Criminal Investigation Bureau arrested a foreigner working as a cleaner for stealing 5,000 LYD from the family employing her.
- **2. Troop Movements Jun 08 23:15, Az Zawiyah Province, Zawiyah:** 103 Battalion, under the command of Othman Lahab, deployed south of Zawiyah. Lahab has been appointed as the Deputy of Prime Minister (GNU) Dbeibah's new armed force:
- **3. Arrest Jun 09, Tripoli Province, Janzour:** Two young women were arrested by the Janzour Knights after being pulled over. They were found to be in possession of a bottle of alcohol, cocaine and four types of hallucinogenic pills.
- **4. Arrest Jun 10 00:30, Sirte Province, 700 District:** A man was taken from his home by masked men belonging to the "support forces."

## **Cyrenaica Region**



**5.** RTA - Jun 09, Al-Wahat Province, Tripoli Street/ Istanbul Street Junction: A Sonta car overturned at the junction of Tripoli Street and Istanbul Street. There were no injuries.

**6. Arrest - Jun 09, Benghazi Province, Hadaiq:** The Benghazi Security Directorate caught two people stealing metal from road infrastructure.

### **Fezzan Region**

**NSTR** 

#### **Offshore**

**NSTR** 

## Outlook

#### **Short Term Outlook**

- There is an increasing likelihood of forthcoming political change in Libya. The HoR and HCS track has made progress with regard to the constitutional basis for elections, however, this process is only likely to continue smoothly should they secure support for the next phase of their strategy which is the creation of a new unified government. This step is mainly to ensure their continued relevance and primacy over the political process as well as an opportunity to remove certain personalities, like Prime Minister (GNU) Abdulhamid Dbeibah.
- Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar has once again positioned himself well with influence over both the HoR/HCS track and the competing power-sharing talks between his family and the Dbeibah clan. With progress appearing possible on the HoR/HCS track, pressure is now growing on the power-sharing talks to come to an agreement, an agreement which could yet cause a significant rupture in the political landscape in the short term.
- Prime Minister (GNU) Dbeibah is under threat from the HoR/HCS track and is looking to secure a powersharing deal with Haftar in order to help maintain his position however, he has benefited recently from the re-election of Turkish President Erdogan, the fall of rival Misratan prime minister Fathi Bashagha, had is currently building political capital as a result of his security operation along the northwest coastline. He now needs to spend that political currency effectively in talks with Haftar as well as repairing the fractures in his support base. He also needs to manage the security campaign effectively to ensure he can contain his enemies while not pushing too hard and risking a wider destabilisation in the region.
- The security situation in Tripolitania is becoming increasingly unstable. As political divisions deepen, tensions amongst armed groups are growing with increasing competition over territorial control. This is particularly evident around Zawiyah and the northwest coastline as well as Tripoli International Airport. This trend is likely to continue to escalate with factions solidifying and looking for an advantage over opponents.
- The outbreak of violence in Sudan has the potential to cause conflagration across the region and destabilise the southern border areas with Libya. Speculation continues to suggest that the Libyan National Army (LNA) is providing material support to the Rapid Support Force (RSF), one of the belligerents of the Sudanese conflict. Convoys heading south from Libya have been targeted by the Sudanese Armed Forces, activity which may well have encroached on Libyan territory. While the border has allegedly been closed on both sides, local reports suggest traffic is moving normally at this time.

### **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, the path to elections in 2023 will be fraught with difficulties however, there is a real chance that much-needed groundwork could be achieved whether elections are held or not. 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.
- The resurgence of Jihadist Salafism in Tripolitania remains a potential source of destabilisation with indications of renewed tensions between adherents and those of Madkhali Salafism. This competition between the opposing ideologies seeps into the political as well as the military spaces and is expected to slowly intensify as the Jihadist Salafi adherents gain strength in the region. This could increasingly become a defining factor for various groups involved in the political and military spaces.
- While the political process continues to falter, armed groups are exploiting the situation to increase their strength, influence and power across Libya which will likely have a longer-term negative impact on the political situation.
- 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
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	Public Holiday
September 27, 2023	The Prophet's Birthday	Public Holiday
October 23, 2023	Liberation Day	Public Holiday
December 24, 2023	Independence Day	Public Holiday

# **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

ISA - Internal Security Agency

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

Mol - 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

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** 

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