

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Embassy of Algeria in the Republic of Namibia



Press Review

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DOMESTIC NEWS

Constitution amendment: associations are allowed to hold meetings

MEDEA – Associations are "authorized to organize meetings," in preparation of the referendum on the draft amendment of the Constitution, announced on Saturday in Medea, President of the National Independent Authority for Elections (ANIE), Mohamed Chorfi.

"Associative will be authorized, for the first time, to organize popular meetings, in a view to raise citizens' awareness about the importance of broad participation in the referendum on the amended Constitution, to organize and supervise all the activities relating to the campaign for the November 1 referendum," Chorfi said.

He was speaking on the sidelines of a meeting on "the democratic conscience and the development of society ", organized by the National Observatory for the Development of Electoral Processes and the Strengthening of democracy in Medea (200 km west of Algiers).

The campaign for November 1st referendum is intended to be an opportunity for associations to "contribute to the success of this event," said Chorfi, calling for the "respect of ethical and moral rules" during the campaign.

"I issue a solemn appeal to all the players and leaders in associations to avoid, as much as possible, the old practices and to prevent doing the mistakes of the past," Chorfi told the ANIE communal delegates from Medea, warning against "possible abuses that would compromise the campaign."

ECONOMIC NEWS

President Tebboune announces launch of Startup Investment Fund

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune announced Saturday, in Algiers, the official launch of the National Startup Investment Fund, whose operating mode will be distinguished by a "flexibility" and "risk tolerance."

Speaking at the opening of the National Conference of Startups, "Algeria Disrupt 2020," President Tebboune said the new funding mechanism will allow young project leaders to "avoid banks and the subsequent bureaucratic slowness, through this tool that will be distinguished by the flexibility startups need."

The Fund, to be certainly financed by the State, will remain "open to the private sector and foreign companies wishing to contribute financially," he stressed.

Organized by the deputy ministry for Knowledge Economy and Startups, the conference is attended by nearly 1000 participants, including startups, incubators, representatives of

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government and financial institutions, economic operators, experts, associations, universities and research centers. The conference's agenda includes three panels dealing with topics related to the legal framework, venture capital and incubators/accelerators.

On the sidelines of the event, an Algerian startup show bringing together some 40 startups was held to highlight the creativity of young Algerian project leaders.

National startup conference opens under chairmanship of president Tebboune

ALGIERS - The national startup conference, "Algeria Disrupt 2020," opened Saturday in Algiers under the chairmanship of President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune, in the presence of Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad and members of the government.

Organized by the deputy ministry for Knowledge Economy and Startups, the conference is being held at the International Conference Centre (ICC) with the aim of creating a space for exchange and discussion on issues relating to startups and the ways to develop them in Algeria.

The event will also be an opportunity to announce the measures taken by the government to support the start-up ecosystem, including the launch of the Startup Investment Fund, as well as the new regulatory framework dedicated to these companies.

Approximately 1000 participants take part in this event, including startups, incubators, representatives of government and financial institutions, economic operators, experts, associations, universities and research centers.

Three panels will be organized as part of this conference, on topics related to the legal framework, venture capital and incubators/accelerators.

Shortly before the opening of the event, President Abdelmadjid Tebboune paid a visit to an Algerian startup show, held on the sidelines the national startup conference, bringing together some 40 startups, aimed at shedding light on the creativity of young Algerian project leaders, who continue to display their potentials, especially during this pandemic.

President Tebboune talked to exhibitors who gave a short overview of their innovative projects.

President Tebboune invites national community abroad to invest in Algeria

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune invited Saturday, in Algiers, the young Algerian experts living abroad to invest in Algeria, mainly in startups.

President Tebboune, accompanied by Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerrad and the deputy minister to prime minister for Knowledge Economy and Startups, Yacine Oualid, made the statement as he visited an exhibition of Algerian startups held on the sidelines of the national startup conference, "Algeria Disrupt 2020," at the International Conference Centre (ICC).

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Tebboune visited the exhibition of some 40 startups, aimed at highlighting the creativity of young Algerian project leaders who show their potential, especially during this period of pandemic. The president of the Republic spoke with the exhibitors who presented their innovative projects as well as their various concerns. Tebboune reassured them of the State's commitment to remove the bureaucratic barriers that hinder their investments.

Approximately 1000 participants take part in this event, including startups, incubators, representatives of government and financial institutions, economic operators, experts, associations, universities and research centers.

President Tebboune visits startup show in Algiers

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune on Saturday paid a visit to an Algerian startup expo, in Algiers, held on the sidelines of the national startup conference, "Algeria Disrupt 2020," at the Conference Centre (ICC).

Tebboune visited the show, bringing together some 40 startups, and which is aimed at shedding light on the creativity of young Algerian project leaders, who continue to display their potentials, especially during this pandemic. President Tebboune met with exhibitors who gave a short overview on their innovative projects.

Nearly 1,000 participants take part in this event, including startups, incubators, representatives of government and financial institutions, economic operators, experts, associations, universities and research centers.

Car manufacturing: Over 100 operators have lodged applications

ALGIERS - Minister of Industry Ferhat ait Ali Braham said Saturday in Algiers that more than 100 national operators have lodged applications to obtain authorizations to launch car dealing activities or car manufacturing projects in Algeria.

"More than 80% of the applicants are Algerian operators registered at the ministry's digital platform for the shortlisting of the car dealers that will be authorized to import new cars, in line with the new set of specifications," Ait Ali added on the sidelines on the National Startups Conference, organized at the International Centre of Conferences (CIC) in Algiers.

Besides, 20% of the registered are composed of national and foreign operators applying for authorizations on car manufacturing projects. Five companies among them are willing to specialize in tourist vehicle manufacturing, said the minister.

Insisting on the government's objective to encourage integrated car manufacturing projects, the Minister of Industry stressed that the import activity will be regulated so as to supply the national market and avoid possible malfunctions, in particular the loss of funds.

Concerning the imports, the minister did not rule out "setting quotas for certain vehicle models whose cost is excessive".

New declaration system for innovative project creators

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune announced on Saturday that a new declaration system would be created for innovative project leaders, enabling them to launch their activities before obtaining the trade register.

In an address at the 1st National Startup Conference, President Tebboune affirmed that "the era of administrative and bureaucratic obstacles has come to an end," voicing his "commitment to permanently eradicate these practices which have deprived the best of our children from achieving their projects and thus pushed many to leave the country."

In this regard, a "new declaration system will be used for innovative project leaders, allowing them to materialize their ideas far from any obstacle," he affirmed

"A simple declaration is enough for anyone wishing to create a start-up. Once the production is started, they will have to obtain the commerce register," he explained.

The Head of the State recalled the tax incentives introduced in the Complementary Finance Law for startup creators and the multiple facilitations relating to access to land bases intended to the creation of incubators and accelerators.

President Tebboune expressed the wish to see the projects submitted to the Start-up Financing Fund (whose official launch was announced during the Conference) materialize in "the shortest possible time," adding that "all the issues raised must be resolved within two-month period."

He commended the level of the young leaders of innovative projects as he visited an exhibition which brought together nearly 40 startups.

"It is a great pleasure to see a generation with a different way of seeing things a generation which has embarked on a real economic battle," added the President.

Import of cars under three years old is "blocked"

ALGIERS - The import of cars under three years old, introduced by the 2020 finance law, has been "blocked," Industry Minister Ferhat Aït Ali announced in Algiers on Saturday.

"We don't want to import bad quality cars and we don't want to encourage the informal currency market," he told reporters on the sidelines of the National Startup Conference, which opened Saturday in Algiers. A car under three years old bought from Europe "has run 20,000 km at most" which makes such vehicles excessively expensive for the Algerian middle-income consumer.

"When this measure was introduced in the 2020 finance law, there was no possibility of importing new vehicles," he commented.

Finally, the other reason that has prompted the government to abandon the import of used vehicles is the risk of encouraging the recourse to the informal currency market.

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"To buy used cars, people will go to the informal market, while the state can in no way encourage this market," he argued again.