

**People's Democratic Republic of Algeria**

**Embassy of Algeria in the Republic of Namibia**



# Press Review

**23<sup>rd</sup> June 2020**

[www.embassyofalgeria-namibia.org](http://www.embassyofalgeria-namibia.org)

## Algerian Embassy in Windhoek

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2020

### DOMESTIC NEWS

#### President Tebboune conducts cabinet reshuffle

*ALGIERS* - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune on Tuesday conducted a cabinet reshuffle.

Here are the members of the new government led by Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad, namely:

- Sabri Boukadoum: Foreign Minister;
- Kamel Beldjoud: Minister of the Interior, Local Authorities and National Planning;
- Belkacem Zeghmati: Minister of Justice;
- Aymen Benabderahmane: Minister of Finance;
- **Abdelmadjid Attar\***: Minister of Energy;
- **Chems-Eddine Chitour\***: Minister for Energy Transition and Renewable Energy;
- Tayeb Zitouni: Minister of Mujahideen and Right-Holders;
- Youcef Belmehdi: Minister of Religious Affairs and Awqaf;
- Mohamed Ouadjaout: Minister of National Education;
- **Abdelbaqi Benziane\***: Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research;
- Hoyam Benfriha: Minister of Vocational Training and Education;
- Malika Bendouda: Minister of Culture and Arts;
- Sid Ali Khaldi: Minister of Youth and Sports;
- **Mounir Khaled Berrah\***: Minister for Digitization and Statistics;
- Brahim Boumzar: Minister of Post and Telecommunications;
- Kaoutar Krikou: Minister of National Solidarity, Family and Women's Issues;
- Ferhat Aït Ali Braham: Minister of Industry and Mining;
- **Mohamed Arkab\***: Minister for Mining sector;
- **Abdelhamid Hamdane\***: Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development;
- Kamel Nasri: Minister of Housing, Urban Planning and the City;
- Kamel Rezig Minister of Commerce;
- Ammar Belhimer: Minister of Communication, Spokesman of the Government;
- Farouk Chiali: Minister of Public Works;
- **Lazhar Hani\***: Minister of Transport;
- Arezki Berraki: Minister of Water Resources;
- **Mohamed Hamidou\***: Minister of Tourism, Craft Industry and Family Work;
- Abderrahmane Benbouzid: Minister of Health, Population and Hospital Reform;
- Ahmed Chawki Fouad Acheuk Youcef: Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Security;
- Bessma Azouar: Minister of Relations with Parliament;
- Nassira Benharrats: Minister of Environment;
- Sid Ahmed Ferroukhi: Minister of Fisheries and Fish Production;
- Abderrahmane Lotfi Djamel Benbahmad: Deputy Minister for Pharmaceutical Industry;
- **Mohamed Cherif Belmihoub\***: Deputy Minister of for Statistics and Forward Planning;

## Algerian Embassy in Windhoek

- **Nassim Diafat\***: Deputy Minister for Micro-companies;
- Yacine Oualid: Deputy Minister for Knowledge Economy and Startups;
- **Samir Chaabana\***: Deputy Minister to the Office of the Prime Minister, in charge of National Community and Experts Abroad;
- Aïssa Bekkai: Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade;
- Hamza Al Sid Cheikh: Deputy Minister for Sahara Environment;
- **Salima Souakri\***: Secretary of State for Elite Sport;
- Bachir Youcef Sehairi: Secretary of State for Film Industry.

*\* Newly appointed Ministers*

### Lower House: Bill instituting 8 May 1945 National Day of Memory adopted

*ALGIERS* - Members of the People's National Assembly (Parliament's Lower House) adopted Tuesday the bill instituting the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 1945 a National Day of Memory.

The adoption took place in a plenary session chaired by Slimane Chenine, speaker of the Lower House, in the presence of Minister of Relations with the Parliament Basma Azouar and Minister of Mujahedeen (War Veterans) Tayeb Zitouni.

The supplementary report, developed by the Committee on legal and administrative affairs and on freedoms, comprises 8 amendments to the articles of the bill, including six articles which were adopted, while two proposals were included in the recommendations that will be submitted to the concerned sides (Ministry of Mujahedeen).

It is a new article which states that "the victims of the massacres perpetrated by the French colonialism on 8 May 1945 are called martyrs. The other article provides for "the criminalization of acts committed by the iniquitous French colonialism on 8 May 1945 against the Algerian people."

The members of the People's National Assembly welcomed Sunday the bill instituting the 8<sup>th</sup> of May 1945 a National Day of Memory, dubbing "courageous and historic" this decision.

### ECONOMIC NEWS

#### Tipaza: El-Hamdania Centre Port project submitted to Government for examination

*TIPAZA* - The project of El-Hamdania Centre Port of Cherchell (Tipaza) will be submitted to the Government for re-examination, said Tuesday, in Tipaza, Minister of Public Works and Transport Farouk Chiali.

The minister said the Centre Port project, that will be established in the in the region of El Hamdania (east of Cherchell), "will be submitted later to the Government for examination with a view to taking a decision on it," he said.

## **Algerian Embassy in Windhoek**

“The project will be re-examined in all its socio-economic and strategic aspects in addition to its impact at the agricultural level,” added the minister, who was accompanied by the governor Hadj Omar Moussa.

He stressed the “infrastructure needs required by this mega-project, including a railway line and a motorway.”

Concerning the alternative route project of Chershell city, a more than 18km expressway, Chiali emphasized the need of a daily follow-up, whose execution is lagging behind.

### **Covid-19: GECF, OPEC examine impact on oil, gas markets**

*ALGIERS* - The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF) examined in their first technical meeting the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the global economy as well as on oil and gas markets, said OPEC on its website.

OPEC Secretary General Mohamed Sanusi Barkindo met with GECF Secretary General Yury Sentyurin as part of the inaugural technical meeting of the OPEC-GECF energy dialogue, held Monday by video conference.

“During this meeting which focused on the bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed last year between the two organizations, the two sides examined the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the global economy as well as on oil and gas markets,” said the source.

They also had exchanges on “the energy market assumptions and prospects in the medium and long terms and on the technical collaboration on data and statistics,” according to the joint communiqué of OPEC and GECF.

This meeting was an opportunity for Barkindo to inform GECF Secretary General about the recent decisions taken by the countries signatory to the Declaration of Cooperation during the ministerial meetings of OPEC and non-OPEC held in April and early June.

These meetings decided to adjust the global oil production to 9.7 Mb per day for May and June 2020, with a new extension until late July, agreed upon during the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of OPEC.

### **FOREIGN POLICY NEWS**

#### **Libya crisis settlement: Algerian dialogue-based approach has all elements of success**

*ALGIERS* - African Union (AU) Commissioner for Peace and Security Smail Chergui on Tuesday said Algeria's approach based on dialogue for the settlement of the conflict in Libya "has all the elements of success," noting that the AU supports and encourages any initiative founded on dialogue and national reconciliation, for a definitive solution to the crisis.

## **Algerian Embassy in Windhoek**

"In line with AU's approach to the management of mediations, based on the principle of subsidiarity, which consists in supporting neighbouring countries through mediation, with regard to geographical proximity and knowledge of local actors, the African Union encourages and supports any settlement initiative likely to achieve a rapid and definitive solution to the crisis in Libya, an initiative based on dialogue and national reconciliation," Chergui told APS.

Considering Algeria's membership in the High Level Committee and in the AU Contact Group on Libya, the AU Commissioner for Peace and Security said, the Algerian Initiative for the settlement of the Libyan conflict "has all the assets of success."

The success of the Algerian approach, according to Chergui, is due to "Algeria's advocacy of a political solution to the Libyan crisis, a solution respecting the will of the Libyan people, their unity and territorial sovereignty." Such a solution, he added, is only possible through "an inter-Libyan dialogue led by the Libyans themselves."

For Chergui, Algeria's balanced position towards all the Libyan parties since the outset of the crisis has earned it "the trust of everyone."

The AU top official cited the visit to Algeria, in the recent days, by the speaker of the Libyan Parliament, Aguila Salah, followed by the visit of the head of Libya's internationally recognized Government of National Accord (GNA), Fayezi Al-Sarraj.

He also mentioned the confidence placed in Algeria by Libyan dignitaries and tribal leaders.

### **Major General Chanegriha on official visit to Russia from Tuesday**

*ALGIERS* - Major General Saïd Chanegriha, the acting chief of staff of the People's National Army, is making a three-day official visit to Russia from Tuesday (June 23-25), where he will take part in festivities celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Victory in the WWII (1941-1945), the ministry of National Defence said in a statement.

"At the invitation of the minister of Defence of the Russian Federation, Army General Choïgu Sergei Koujouguevich, the acting chief of staff of the People's National Army, Major General Chanegriha Saïd, began on 23 June 2020, an official visit to Moscow to attend the official activities celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Victory at the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945," the statement said.

The visit, part of the bilateral steps to strengthen the friendship and cooperation relations between the People's National Army and the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, will be an opportunity for the two parties to discuss issues of common interest, the statement concluded.

## **Algerian Embassy in Windhoek**

### **European Union-Morocco fisheries agreement: EU does not work for peace, stability in Western Sahara**

*GENEVA* - The European Union is not working for peace and security in Western Sahara, the deputy representative of the Polisario Front to Switzerland and the United Nations said Monday, explaining that in its illegal fisheries agreement with Morocco, the European Union "goes beyond" the military agreement between the Polisario Front and Morocco under the auspices of the United Nations.

"Ignoring what is established in the UN-sponsored military agreements, the EU illegally includes the entire Lagouira Peninsula (Cabo Blanco) in the fishing agreement with Morocco," Haddamin Moulud Said, the deputy representative of the Polisario Front to Switzerland and the UN (Geneva), said in an article published in several media.

"The European Union is far from working for peace and security, it rather encourages war," he said. "EU's thinly veiled bias towards Moroccan claims" in the conflict in Western Sahara, has led to "imprecision" in an aspect that is "so essential" in any agreement, namely, the geographical boundaries of the area that is the subject of the agreement.

In all the pre-2018 fisheries agreements between the EU and Morocco, the southern boundary of the fishing area "had never been set," he said, noting that it was always divided into two: "northern and southern."

Dividing the area into two is the common feature of all fishing agreements between Spain and Morocco, he added.

### **Attack on Saudi Arabia: Algeria expresses indignation, calls for dialogue**

*ALGIERS* - Algeria expressed strong indignation following the attack which targeted the capital of the brotherly kingdom of Saudi Arabia Riyadh, calling for restraint and dialogue to overcome all conflicts, whatever their nature, said on Tuesday a press release from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"Algeria expresses its strong indignation following the attack which targeted the capital of the brotherly kingdom of Saudi Arabia Riyadh, reiterating its total rejection of any aggression against any Arab country," said the press release.

"Algeria renews its full solidarity with the brotherly kingdom of Saudi Arabia, calling for restraint and wisdom and to prevail dialogue as the only way to overcome conflicts, whatever their nature," concluded the press release.

### **Youth, Sports: Algerian, Tunisian Ministers agreed on significant bilateral actions**

*ALGIERS* - Minister of Youth and Sports Sid Ali Khaldi held Monday a meeting with his Tunisian counterpart, Ahmed Gaaloul, in which they expressed "convergence of views" and

## **Algerian Embassy in Windhoek**

agreed on "important" decisions relating to sports and youth issues of common interest, the ministry said in a statement.

During the talks, aimed at boosting bilateral relations in sports and youth issues, the two ministers agreed to "coordinate the positions of the two countries at international, African, Arab and Maghreb meetings and events."

They also agreed on "mutual support for Algerian and Tunisian candidates at the level of such bodies" and for "the candidacy, of either of our two countries, to host sports and youth events," the statement said.

In this regard, the Tunisian side reiterated its support, with all available means, for the success of the 19<sup>th</sup> Mediterranean Games to be held in Oran (432-km west of Algiers) in 2022, according to the statement.

### **COVID-19 LATEST NEWS**

#### **Fight against Covid-19: 180,000 boxes of hydroxy-chloroquine available soon**

*BOUIRA* - At least 180,000 boxes of hydroxy-chloroquine drugs will be "soon" provided to the central hospital pharmacy (PCH) in order to strengthen the fight against the new Coronavirus pandemic, Deputy Minister for Pharmaceutical Industry, Abderrahmane Lotfi Djamel Benbahmad announced Tuesday in Bouira.

Visiting the "CPCM Pharma" factory in Lakhdaria (Bouira), Benbahmad explained that this Algerian plant significantly contributed to the fight against Covid-19, through the treatment protocol approved by the Scientific Committee for monitoring the pandemic in Algeria.

"The CPCM Pharma factory has already produced and delivered 130,000 boxes of this medicine to the Central Pharmacy of hospitals. Currently, it is producing another quantity of 180,000 which will be available soon," Benbahmed told a press briefing.

According to the details provided by the Director General of the factory, Abdelhakim Bouzid, the 180,000 boxes will be ready and sent to the PCH within 15 days.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **CULTURE**

#### **Digital Portal Short Film Festival: Participation of 33 films in June**

*ANNABA* - No less than 33 films from eight countries will participate in June's edition of the Digital Portal Short Film Festival, said Tuesday the festival's director Dalil Belkhouidir.

## **Algerian Embassy in Windhoek**

Launched for the first time in April in Annaba as an innovative cultural initiative adapted in the health lockdown imposed by the fight against the corona virus pandemic, the festival saw in its previous edition the participation of 16 short films from six Arab and European countries, he said.

The monthly event initiated by the local directorate of culture with the participation of the arts center Mohamed Boudiaf and several artistic associations, the festival is an opportunity for young amateur filmmakers to exhibit their works and talents, added the source.

The young filmmakers participating in June's edition represented Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Mauritania and Congo.

### **SPORT**

#### **No champion in case League 1 season stops definitively, says Zetchi**

*ALGIERS* - Chairman of the Algerian Football Federation (FAF) Kheireddine Zetchi ruled out the idea of appointing the champion of the League 1, in the case the competition, suspended since mid-March because of the Covid-19 pandemic, would be stopped on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day.

“If the option to stop the championship on the last day will be taken, I do not consider that we must declare a champion because the championship hasn't ended. A champion is the one that finishes the competition, i.e. until the 30<sup>th</sup> day. However, we will have to appoint representatives for the African competitions, and it is at that moment that one should take account of ranking before the stopping of the competition,” he told the National Radio.

Before the suspension of the Championship (22<sup>nd</sup> day), CR Belouizdad ranked first with 40 points with a rescheduled match, before ES Setif and MC Alger, with 37 points each.