

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Embassy of Algeria in the Republic of Namibia



Press Review

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DOMESTIC NEWS

National Youth Plan to promote principle of equality of opportunity

GHARDAIA – Minister of Youth and Sports Sid-Ali Khaldi on Sunday in Ghardaïa, said that the National Youth Plan is part of an approach aiming at promoting the “principle of the equality of chances” for all youth in all the regions of the country.

Chairing a meeting with delegates of youth associations in Ghardaia, Khaldi encouraged the members of these associations to enrich the plan in a view to enable this category to express their capacities through competence.

“The President of the Republic pays particular attention to young people, who constitute " the living force of the nation," and strives to promote this category in order to build the new republic based on equality between young people, Khaldi said.

Algeria can only be built with its youth, he stressed, adding that the objective is to create an environment conducive to the development of this youth and to establish a social contract based on confidence.

Voters’ list revision conducted under proper conditions

ALGIERS – The exceptional revision of the electoral lists, which ended Sunday took place under "proper conditions," said Ali Draa, Communication officer at the National Independent Authority for Elections (ANIE).

"The exceptional revision of the voters’ lists, which began on September 20, took place under good organizational conditions," Draa told APS The Authority appointed delegates at the 1541 municipalities of the country and all consulates abroad, he added.

Regarding registration on the electoral rolls via the digital platform, Draa said that this procedure was initiated for the first time in the country, in parallel with the traditional registration method in order to avoid any possible mistakes.

Regarding the campaign for the referendum, which is scheduled to kick off on October 8, he highlighted the role of civil society and political parties in raising awareness and explaining the content of the draft amended Constitution.

During this campaign, the ANIE role will focus on raising citizens’ awareness about this political milestone and the need to perform their duty "in complete freedom". Chairman of the National Independent Authority for Election (ANIE), Mohamed Charfi had indicated that the electorate currently counts 24,111,081 voters.

President of Republic chairs working session on sports sector

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune on Monday chaired a working session attended by Prime Minister, Minister of Youth and Sports, Secretary of State to the Minister of Youth and Sports, in charge of elite sports and President of the Algerian Olympic Committee (COA), the Presidency of the Republic said in a communiqué.

"The President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune today chaired a working session attended by the Prime Minister, the Minister of Youth and Sports, the Secretary of State to the Minister of Youth and Sports, in charge of elite sport and the President of the Algerian Olympic Committee (COA)," said the source.

The working session focused on "the preparations for the participation of Algeria in the Olympic Games (OG) scheduled for July 2021 in Japan, the ongoing preparations for the organization of the Mediterranean Games of 2022 (MG) in Oran and other issues related to the sport in general and elite and Olympic sports in particular."

President Tebboune gave "precise guidelines for good material and human preparation for these international competitions and the promotion of sport, even at school."

The Head of State stressed the need to train them by the best Algerian and international coaches and trainers so that they reach the level of international elite athletes and raise the national emblem, like their predecessors of the older generation, while singing the national anthem in all regional and international elite sport forums."

President Tebboune emphasized the need to improve "the mechanisms of discovery and selection of young sports talents in all provinces of the country."

The Head of State tasked the participants with "conveying his greetings to all athletes, women and men, who have hoisted high the emblem of their country and dedicated their medals to the Algerian people, especially in the difficult times they went through."

At the end of the meeting, the President of the Republic ordered "the immediate launch of the organization of school and university sports, including competitions, at all levels."

Higher education: Benziane kicks off "Algerian researcher platform"

ALGIERS - Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research Abdelbaki Benziane gave Sunday, in Algiers, the kick off of "the Algerian researcher platform" which will allow making an inventory of all the information relating to the scientific research.

In his speech in the kick-off ceremony of the digital platform of the Algerian researcher (research.dz), the minister pointed out that this platform is meant to be a "IT structure aimed at centralizing and making an inventory of the information related to researchers and scientific research in Algeria."

Algerian Embassy in Windhoek

“The gathering of information and data to enrich this platform could only be conducted through the conjunction of efforts and the collaboration between the concerned bodies in the sector,” he underlined.

The minister also said that “the building of a new Algeria requires from the sector of higher education and scientific research to accompany the aspiration of the society in general and the university system in particular, while taking into consideration the necessity for quality.”

Stressing the importance of this digital platform, Benziane added that it “constitutes an additional milestone for the strengthening of the governance of scientific research management through the presentation of a standardized tool to supply researchers and managers with research and observation tools that enable them to rationally use the scientific means and equipment available at the national level.”

ECONOMIC NEWS

Marketing of super leaded petrol to stop as of 2021

ALGIERS - The Ministry of Energy on Monday announced that it would stop as of 2021 the marketing of the super leaded petrol at the gas stations, adding that this fuel is "harmful for the environment."

The super leaded petrol which octane rating is 92, produced by the Algerian refineries "is no longer produced or used by most countries," said the source. This kind of fuel will be reprocessed by withdrawing the lead and transformed into unleaded fuel with an octane rating higher to 92. This move would lead to the stoppage of the import of unleaded fuel, added the communiqué.

As of 2021, two types of petrol, namely regular petrol and super unleaded petrol will be marketed. "The regular petrol which octane rating ranges between 86 and 89 is consumed by vehicles not requiring a fuel with higher octane rating. The national market can be fully supplied by our refineries," he said.

With regard to the super unleaded petrol with octane rating 95, the ministry said that "we do not produce enough quantity of this fuel" but Algeria "now needs to import volumes of compensation".

In 2019, fuel consumption in Algeria reached a quantity of 15 million tonnes, including 10.4 million tonnes (69%) of gasoline, 3.9 million tonnes (26%) of regular and super petrol and 750,000 tonnes (5%) of LPGc.

These consumed volumes are composed of imports that reached 578,000 tonne of super unleaded petrol and 913,000 tonne of gasoline.

Public industrial sector: production down 14.1% in Q2 of 2020

ALGIERS - The industrial production in the public sector plummeted 14.1% during the 2nd quarter of 2020, compared to the same period of 2019, the National Statistics Office (ONS) told APS on Monday.

During the first half of 2020 and compared to the same period of 2019, the average variation in the public industrial production stood at -10.4%, added the same source.

The public industrial production declined in all activities. Significant drops were recorded for some during the period April-June 2020, marked by the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The energy sector posted a 6.8% decrease in the 2nd quarter of 2020, compared to the same period last year, added the ONS. The sector of hydrocarbons fell 8.5%. This decline is mainly explained by a 10% drop in the production of "crude oil and natural gas" and a 6.4% drop in the production of "liquefaction of natural gas" and 4.3% in "petroleum refining".

Mines and quarries posted a 3.6% drop in production. The decreases observed in the extraction of stone, clay and sand and that of iron ore, largely influenced the overall trend. On the other hand, the extraction of ore and mineral materials recorded an appreciable increase +10.2%.

The iron and steel, metal, mechanical, electrical and electronic industries (ISMME) fell 54.9%. Output of several activities fell, in particular the manufacture of intermediate metal, mechanical and electrical goods and that of mechanical equipment as well as the iron and steel industry and processing of cast iron and steel.

The construction materials recorded a variation of -24.7%. All activities in this sector have recorded declines, particularly in hydraulic binders and the manufacturing of building materials.

The chemical industries also declined 14.3%, confirming their downward trend observed since the 3rd quarter of 2019, according to the ONS. In 2019, the public industrial production increased 2.7%.

Benbahmed inaugurates first domestic biosimilars manufacturing unit

ALGIERS - Minister of Pharmaceutical Industry Lotfi Benbahmed on Monday inaugurated the first domestic biosimilars manufacturing unit in Algeria within the pharmaceutical production complex of Frater Razes-Algérie laboratory.

During a press briefing held on the sidelines of the inauguration visit of the production unit, Benbahmed said that "this first experience of its kind in our country is part of the work plan of the sector under the directives of the President of the Republic. It seeks to boost national production based on innovative products with high added value while focusing on export." Biosimilars are drugs produced from living cells.

Algerian Embassy in Windhoek

The Algerian laboratory Frater-Razes has thus started the production of the first biosimilars manufactured in Algeria, Varenox, an anticoagulant preventing the formation or extension of clots in blood vessels.

It is also used at low doses in the preventive treatment of thromboembolic events and at high doses in the treatment of venous thrombosis and, in combination with acetyl salicylic acid, in the initial treatment of acute coronary syndrome and myocardial infarction.

"This product was previously 100% imported and cost the Treasury nearly €60 million annually. It is also used in the treatment of patients with the Covid-19 virus. Moreover, this drug allows us to ensure our health sovereignty because all countries had to rely on themselves during this pandemic," said Benbahmed.

Present at the ceremony, the CEO of the Frater Razes-Algeria laboratory Abdelhamid Cherfaoui said that the production capacity of this new unit could reach 15 to 18 million syringes per year.

"We seek to export to Arab countries, to Africa and why not to Europe. This is possible because our production process meets international standards," he assured. The workforce involved in this new unit is "100% national, graduated from Algerian universities."

The Secretary General of the laboratory Abderrahmane Boudiba said that "Algeria is entering a new era in pharmaceutical manufacturing, moving from chemical drugs to drugs derived from living cells." "Therefore, we can manufacture drugs locally without raw materials since they are derived from cell culture," he continued.

"Thanks to these drugs, we will be autonomous and sovereign, especially since the borders were closed in India and China during this covid-19 pandemic, two countries exporting raw materials for the pharmaceutical industry," he said.

Maritime freight transport to France, Spain to resume in near future

ALGIERS - The National Company of Maritime Transport of Passengers (ENMTV) will soon resume the maritime transport of rolling freight (trailers and vehicles), the company announced in a communiqué.

The freight transport will resume on two shipping lines, namely Algeria-France-Algeria and Algeria-Spain-Algeria, said the source.

FOREIGN POLICY NEWS

Foreign Minister Boukadoum arrives in Tunis for working visit

ALGIERS – Foreign Minister Sabri Boukadoum arrived Monday in the Tunisian capital, Tunis, for a one-day working visit, the Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

Algerian Embassy in Windhoek

"During this visit, part of the excellent bilateral relations which bind the two countries and the two brotherly peoples, the minister will have meeting with Tunisian President Kais Saïd, as well as by the Head of Government, Hichem El Mechichi," the statement said.

"The Minister will also have bilateral talks with his Tunisian counterpart, Othman Jerandi," concluded the same source.

Boukadoum meets with President Kais Saïed in Tunis

ALGIERS - Minister of Foreign Affairs Sabri Boukadoum was received Monday in Tunis by Tunisia's President Kais Saïed to whom he conveyed "the greetings of the President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune" and stressed "Algeria's firm determination to work towards the consolidation of bilateral relations uniting the two countries and brotherly peoples," said the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a statement.

On this occasion, the Tunisian President expressed his "satisfaction with the level of bilateral relations and the important dynamic that characterizes them", stressing his country's willingness to "promote Algerian-Tunisian cooperation at the highest levels, in the best interests of both countries and in line with the aspirations of the two brotherly peoples."

President Abdelmadjid Tebboune's planned visit to Tunisia "will be an important step in the process of strengthening bilateral relations, in addition to the bilateral events that are expected to take place in the coming months," said the Tunisian President.

Both sides seized this opportunity to review "regional and international issues of common interest, particularly in the Sahel region and the situation in Libya, where there was a convergence of views on the role of the two countries in bridging the views of the Libyan parties and the importance of moving towards a political solution that preserves the unity of Libya, its security and stability, far from any foreign interference, through an inclusive, constructive and real dialogue between the children of the same country."

At the end of the meeting, the Tunisian President instructed the Minister of Foreign Affairs to convey "a fraternal message to his brother, the President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune" expressing his wish to meet him during his next visit to Tunisia so as to "continue the process of bilateral action in the face of common challenges, with a view to achieving the aspirations of the peoples of the Arab Maghreb region for more progress and integration."

Sahrawi Government condemns "false Allegations" by Moroccan PM

BIR LEHLOU - The Saharawi government condemned in a press release issued Today, the Moroccan Prime Minister's "falsehoods and fabrications" before the 75th UN General Assembly, calling on the UN Security Council to assume its responsibilities in the decolonization of Western Sahara.

"The Government of the Sahrawi Republic (SADR) has taken note of the pre-recorded statement made yesterday by the head of government of the Moroccan occupying state during the General Debate of the UN General Assembly. The statement added nothing new in terms of both form

Algerian Embassy in Windhoek

and content, and it simply echoed the same worn-out discourse with a strong tone of intransigence and defiance of international legality and the resolutions of the United Nations (UN) and the African Union (AU) coupled with the continued espousal of the policy of occupation and expansionism,” said the source.

The Government of the Sahrawi Republic (SADR) condemns “in the strongest terms the falsehoods and fabrications contained in the statement of the head of government of the Moroccan occupying state whose main objective is to mislead the international community about the legal nature of the Western Sahara question through a selective and reductive reading of Security Council resolutions, and to delude public opinion with some perceptions and illusions that exist only in the imagination of the Moroccan expansionist regime.”

The Government of the Sahrawi Republic (SADR) also “strongly condemns the misrepresentations contained in the Moroccan statement regarding the Saharawi-Moroccan conflict, which represent another example of the ploy of blaming others to which the Moroccan regime always resorts in order to hide its failures and its inherent inferiority complex and to continue diverting the attention of its public opinion from the regime’s deep-rooted structural crisis.”

The international community bears witness to the many obstacles put by the Moroccan occupying regime in the way of the implementation of the UN-OAU Settlement Plan since the beginning and then its rejection of the self-determination referendum and its subsequent desperate attempts to propose some stillborn solutions.

The Government of the Sahrawi Republic (SADR) recalls that the Moroccan occupying state would not have dared to persist in its intransigence and defiance of international legality without the explicit support it receives from some international parties, notably France, which also bear responsibility for the consequences of the reckless actions of the Moroccan regime that could increase tension and instability in the whole region.”

Army sends humanitarian aids to Niger following recent floods

ALGIERS - The High Command of the People’s National Army (ANP) on Monday sent two military aircrafts loaded with humanitarian aids to the people of Niger following the recent floods that affected several regions of the country, the National Defence Ministry announced in a communiqué.

“As part of the consolidation of humanitarian ties and solidarity between Algeria and Niger and following the recent floods that affected several regions of Niger, causing human and material losses, the High Command of the People's National Army on Monday has mobilized two military cargo planes to deliver humanitarian aid to the people of Niger from the Air Base of Boufarik (1st Military Region). This operation will be followed by a second shipment on Tuesday 29 September,” said the source.

"It should be pointed out that this aid, composed of 500 tents, is part of the strengthening of ties of fraternity and friendship with neighboring countries and confirms once again the commitment

Algerian Embassy in Windhoek

of the People's National Army to spare no effort to participate in this kind of humanitarian actions by mobilizing all the adequate human and material resources," said the source.

MISCELLANEOUS

CULTURE

Rafik Zaidi's exhibition on Sahrawi women opens

ALGIERS - An exhibition of photos and video portraits devoted to the Sahrawi women and their aspirations for freedom and independence as well as to their vision for the future, was inaugurated Sunday, in Algiers, by photographer Rafik Zaidi.

Organized at villa Dar Abdelatif as part of the event "the new culture season," held in Algiers and in all the cities of the country since Saturday, this exhibition was put together during the photographer's stay in Tifariti in the liberated Sahrawi territories.

Rafik Zaidi made portraits of dozens of women, of all ages, asking them about their aspirations and vision for the future.

Tourba Bibou Kzili "hopes to return to her free and independent country" while Ghelana Ment Aba Ould Hcene wants "to travel alone and to see her country's flag flies."

Several young women photographed by Rafik Zaidi hope also to "do studies and be able to exercise several jobs and ensure their future."

In addition to the exhibition of portraits, Rafik Zaidi also continuously broadcasts a video of his interviews with these women.

Villa Dar Abdelatif also hosts an exhibition by visual artist Mohamed Mebarki, entitled "divine love," technically based on collage.

The two exhibitions are open until 7 October.