

# **People's Democratic Republic of Algeria**

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



## **Press Review**

**7<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

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### **DOMESTIC NEWS**

#### **Earthquake in Mila: President Tebboune gives instructions to assist victims**

*ALGIERS* - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune on Friday gave instructions to ensure all means of assistance to the victims following the two earth tremors that shook the province of Mila on Friday morning, said Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad.

In a statement to the public TV channel, Djerad said that “the president of the Republic instructed his services to coordinate with the Ministry of Interior in order to assist the victims of tremors.”

“The State will spare no effort to provide citizens with the necessary means. We are following the situation and the impact of the tremors minute by minute,” he continued.

“The president of the Republic also ordered the Minister of Interior, Local Authorities and National Planning Kamel Beldjoud, and Minister of National Solidarity and Women’s Affairs Kaoutar Krikou to visit the scene and monitor the situation closely,” said Djerad.

“We must speed up the program to rehabilitate damaged houses and compensate their owners. The Beni Haroun dam has not been affected by the tremors and no technical malfunction has been recorded,” stressed the PM.

#### **Tremors in Mila: “State will not abandon citizens,” assures Beldjoud**

*MILA* - Minister of Interior, Local Authorities and National Planning Kamel Beldjoud assured Friday in Mila that “State will not abandon its citizens.”

"My presence today in the province, in the company of the Minister of National Solidarity, Family and Women’s Affairs Kaoutar Krikou, on the orders of President Abdelmadjid Tebboune, concerned about the health and safety of citizens, aims to assess the damage and take appropriate measures," said Beldjoud during his visit to El Kherba, one of the largest districts of the city and the one most affected by the two earth tremors recorded in the morning in Mila.

Expressing his relief that no human loss has been reported, Beldjoud assured that "all the houses damaged by the tremors will be gradually dealt with."

The minister also urged the occupants of the buildings affected by the tremors to "give the necessary time to the authorities in charge of building control so that they investigate and determine the extent of the damage and priorities."

Beldjoud also urged districts’ committees to cooperate with local authorities to address the needs of people whose homes have been affected.

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Minister of National Solidarity, the Family and Women's Affairs assured that her "ministerial department is working to provide the necessary support to families affected by the earthquakes in addition to psychological and social support in consultation with the local authorities."

Before inspecting the Beni Haroun dam, the ministerial delegation visited the old town of Mila to see the damage caused by the two tremors.

### **President Tebboune conducts broad reshuffle amid presidents, prosecutors general at courts of justice**

*ALGIERS* - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune on Thursday conducted broad reshuffle amid the presidents and attorneys general at the courts of justice including appointments, magistrates called to hold other positions and terminations of office, announced the Presidency of the Republic in a communiqué.

As regards the presidents of courts of justice, 17 presidents have been appointed and 18 others have been transferred. The president also decided to terminate the functions of 17 presidents of courts of justice.

Regarding the Prosecutors General, the communiqué reported the appointment of 18 Prosecutors General, the transfer of 17 others, and the termination of the functions of 19 others.

Taleb Mohamed was also dismissed from his position as Commissioner of State at Ghardaia's Administrative Court, and was called to another post.

"Several standards have been taken into account in this reshuffle with a view to giving a new impetus to judicial action, improving the public service of Justice, and reconsidering qualitative functions in the body of justice," the statement said.

### **COVID-19 NEWS**

#### **Covid-19: 621 Algerians repatriated from Paris in 48 hours**

*ALGIERS* - Six hundred twenty-one Algerian nationals arrived at Algiers Houari Boumediene International Airport on 4-5 August aboard two aircrafts from Paris under the third stage of the repatriation operation of the Algerians stranded abroad due to the Covid-19 pandemic, announced Thursday Spokesperson of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Abdelaziz Benali Cherif.

"Following my statements on 29 July 2020 regarding the program of the third stage of the repatriation operation of Algerian nationals stranded abroad, which began on 4 August 2020, a total of 621 nationals arrived at Algiers Houari Boumediene International Airport on 4 and 5 August on board two planes from Paris," the same official said.

The updated program of the remaining flights under repatriation operations up to 16 August in progress includes:

- One flight from Washington on 6 August for the repatriation of nationals stranded in the United States to Algiers airport.

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- One flight from Johannesburg (South Africa) via Luanda (Angola), Libreville (Gabon) and Abidjan (Ivory Coast) to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from Dubai (United Arab Emirates) on 7 August to Oran airport.
  - One flight from Istanbul (Turkey) on 7 August to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from Doha (Qatar) on 8 August to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from Kuwait on 8 August to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from Paris (France) on 8 August to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from Khartoum (Sudan) on 8 August to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from Istanbul (Turkey) on 8 August to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from Jeddah (Saudi Arabia) on 9 August to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from Paris (France) on 9 August to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from London (United Kingdom) on 9 August to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from Istanbul (Turkey) on 9 August to Constantine airport for the repatriation of nationals stranded in Turkey and other countries, in addition to nationals stranded in Syria and Lebanon who have been regrouped at Beirut International Airport for repatriation.
  - One flight from Montreal (Canada) on 10 August to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from Dubai (United Arab Emirates) on 10 August to Algiers airport.
  - One flight from Nouakchott (Mauritania) via Dakar (Senegal) on 10 August to El Oued airport.
  - One flight from Doha (Qatar) on 11 August to Annaba airport for the repatriation of Algerian nationals stranded in Iraq (84 nationals), in addition to nationals stranded in other countries.
  - One flight from Istanbul (Turkey) on 13 August to Oran airport.
  - One flight from Washington (USA) on 13 August to Oran airport.
  - One flight from Dubai (United Arab Emirates) on 16 August to Constantine airport.
- According to the same source, "this program could be changed because of administrative and health declarations, authorizations from the aviation administrations and the procedures for opening and closing airspace" due the spread of the covid-19 pandemic, which have been taken by certain countries from which Algerian nationals will be repatriated."

## FOREIGN POLICY NEWS

### *SOLIDARITY*

#### **Beirut blast: Four aid planes leave Algiers**

*BLIDA* - Four (4) Algerian aircrafts loaded with food products and medical equipment took off Thursday from the military airport of Boufarik (province of Blida).

Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad, who kicked off this solidarity operation, reiterated Algeria's solidarity with brotherly Lebanon during this difficult ordeal, affirming the solidarity of the Algerians, Government and people, with the Lebanese people in the best and most difficult moments.

"Since we learned this terrible news, the President of the Republic has decided, in coordination with his colleague, President Michel Aoun, an immediate aid to the brotherly Lebanese people to alleviate their pain," said Djerad.

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The Algerian state's initiative with the participation of the Algerian Red Crescent (CRA) "reflects once again the solidarity of Algeria with all its Arab and Muslim brothers during difficult moments."

The Premier, who was accompanied by CRA President Saida Benhabiles, recalled the depth of the historical and fraternal relations between Algeria and Lebanon.

He instructed the Algerian rescue teams to spare no effort to assist their stricken brothers in Beirut.

The Algerian delegation is composed of a team of firemen, 20 doctors and nurses specialized in disaster medicine and 15 technicians specialized in management and logistics.

It also includes a team of 12 doctors specialized in surgery and intensive care and a team of 5 first-aid workers reporting to the CRA.

The aid sent to Beirut consists of food, medical products, medical and pharmaceutical equipment, beds, blankets and tents.

In addition to these 4 planes, an Algerian ship loaded with building materials to help rebuild what was destroyed by the explosion will also cast off towards that country.

A violent explosion occurred Wednesday in the port of Beirut, killing at least 137 people and injuring 5,000.

The Lebanese capital Beirut was declared "disaster city" by the Lebanese Higher Defense Council, which recommended declaring a "state of emergency" for two renewable weeks.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **4.9- magnitude earth tremor jolts Mila**

*ALGIERS* - A 4.9- magnitude earth tremor on the Richter scale was recorded Friday at 07.15 a.m. (local time) in the province of Mila, announced the Research Centre in Astronomy, Astrophysics and Geophysics (CRAAG) in a communiqué.

The epicenter of the tremor was located 2 km south-east of Hammala in the same province, said the source.