

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Embassy of Algeria in the Republic of Namibia



Press Review

25th September 2020

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DOMESTIC NEWS

Debate on Constitution shows people's awareness

ALGIERS - The minister of Communication and spokesman of the Government, Ammar Belhimer, said the debate on the constitutional amendment, to be submitted to a referendum on November 1st, shows the awareness of the people who closely follow the issues relating to the Constitution.

In an interview with "Almayadeen.net," Belhimer said the country's Constitution has been the subject of "deep debate, showing the awareness of (Algerian) people, who closely follow the various issues relating to the Constitution."

"Debate on democratic ideas is in itself a positive development," the minister said, adding that the people is "sovereign" and "will have the last word."

The minister, in reply to a question on "the possible failure of the popular referendum on the constitutional amendment," said the new Algeria "will only listen to the voice of the people, and the authorities are at the service of the people."

He added that it is "still premature" to tackle the success or the failure of the referendum.

Algerian army involvement in peacekeeping efforts, to be in tune with geopolitical realities

ALGIERS - The new Constitution, initiated by President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune, provides for authorizing the Algerian Army to contribute to peacekeeping efforts abroad, to adapt to the geopolitical realities.

Article 91 of the constitutional amendment, to be submitted to referendum on November 1st, establishes the president de la Republic as "the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of the Republic" and "responsible for national defence," pointing out that he has the prerogative to "decide the dispatch of units of the People's National Army abroad."

The constitutional amendment, however, sets conditions and the framework for the participation of the Algerian military forces outside the borders.

Although Article 91 expressly confers on the head of State the power to send military units abroad, it makes the decision subject to "approval by a two-thirds majority of the parliament".

The decision to engage army units in operations outside the country must be based, according to the draft amendment to the Constitution, on the popular will, embodied by Parliament.

According to the new Constitution, "Algeria may, within the framework of the United Nations, the African Union and the Arab League, and in accordance with their principles and objectives, participate in peacekeeping missions."

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The People's National Army has not participated in any foreign conflict since the Arab-Israeli wars of 1967 and 1973.

The possible deployment of Algerian Army troops outside national borders "does not call into question" Algeria's doctrine of non-interference in the internal affairs of States, according to Ahmed Laraba, the chairman of the Committee of Experts on the Constitutional Amendment.

"Peacekeeping operations must be distinguished from so-called military interventions," he said, adding that peacekeeping missions are "strictly defensive".

Law on abduction to be enacted soon

ORAN (Algeria) - The Justice department is working on a new law against kidnapping, to be promulgated shortly, Minister of Justice Belkacem Zeghmami said Thursday.

During a working and inspection visit to Oran (432-km west of Algiers), the minister said many new laws are being discussed in the justice department, and mainly the one criminalizing kidnapping under the instruction of President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune.

The president of the Republic instructed the minister of Justice to proceed to the preparation of a law against kidnapping in order to guarantee the security of citizens and fight against this crime.

The proposed punishment for abduction would five years in jail to life imprisonment in case of murder, in addition to a fine that may reach two million dinars.

Zeghmami said that many other laws are currently under consideration, including Law 01-06 on the fight against corruption.

The Minister added that a law on criminal procedure is being prepared. The relevant draft bill will be submitted to the magistrates to enrich it with proposals.

"This law is important and its enrichment must be made by constructive proposals from the magistrates.

ENVIRONMENT

Marine pollution: Benharrats sounds alarm

TIPASA (Algeria) - Minister of Environment Nassira Benharrats, launching Thursday a pilot project for sorting marine litter in the harbour of Cherchell, Tipaza (70-km west of Algiers), said the "marine environmental situation requires to raise the alarm."

The minister, chairing in Tipaza the celebration of the World Sea Day and the Mediterranean Coast Day (respectively on 24 and 25 September), said her department is carrying out, in collaboration with other concerned sectors, actions, including raising awareness, through the involvement of fishing professionals and the Port Management Company.

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She also stressed the need for the international community to be involved in the fight against pollution of seas and oceans, "which is reaching alarming levels, especially in the Mediterranean".

"Algeria, which has ratified many international conventions, including the Barcelona Convention on Biodiversity and Climate Change, is fulfilling its commitments."

"As a pilot country in the southern Mediterranean, Algeria has developed strategies and action plans for the protection of ecosystems," the minister said, citing, among others, the national strategy for the integrated coastal zone management.

The strategy is a "planning tool for sustainable development in coastal areas and a framework for consultation and coordination among the various economic and social partners."

ECONOMIC NEWS

First World Conference Huawei Connect in Algeria

ALGIERS - Telecommunications and Connected Devices Group Huawei announced in a statement, Thursday, the launch, in Algeria and North Africa, of the first local and regional edition of the World Conference Huawei Connect (HC) 2020, due to tackle various high-profile technological issues.

Live-streamed online, the event (September 28-29) will feature Huawei leading officials and senior executives, including the chairman of Huawei, Joe Ping, the member of the board of directors and president of Huawei Enterprise Group, Peng Chung Yang, the executive director and head of the board of directors of Huawei Investment Review, David Wang, and the president of AI and Cloud Services Group, Hu Jinlong, according to the statement.

"Huawei firmly believes in the importance of the Algerian and North African markets in the field of communications and information technology," the group said in the statement.

"Technology has become the main development goal of all vital sectors of economy, especially in light of the digital transformation."

Under the slogan "Together to Create New Technological Value," the HC 2020 conference will address many topics related to technological change during its two-day sessions.

Increase in energy production, a strategic orientation for the sector

ANNABA - Energy Minister Abdelmadjid Attar said on Friday in Annaba that the increase in energy production and its mobilization in the service of investments and economic recovery constitute "an urgent and strategic orientation for the Energy Ministry."

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"The currently produced energy, consisting in electricity, natural gas and other energy materials is exploited in the domestic field, which uses about 70% of the total produced energy," said the minister, on a working and inspection visit to Annaba.

Attar stressed the need to expand the use of energy in wealth generating sectors.

In addition to "the need to supply all households, especially in remote areas with energy, we need to work to provide this same energy, in quantity and quality, to support economic productive investments, industry and agriculture in particular, and those of production activities, services and small and medium-sized enterprises," he said.

For Attar, "energy is the main engine of development." Development requires to "providing energy to the citizen, to the investor, to the farmer and to the owners of productive activities".