

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Embassy of Algeria in the Republic of Namibia



Press Review

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DOMESTIC NEWS

CNDH calls for greater involvement in humanitarian action

ALGIERS - The National Council for Human Rights (CNDH) called on Tuesday on the various associations, youth and student organizations to "more participation in humanitarian action through assistance, support and relief for vulnerable categories."

In a statement issued on the eve of World Humanitarian Day, celebrated on 19 August each year, the CNDH advocated commitment to humanitarian values and principles "with respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as a solid foundation."

The CNDH took this opportunity to highlight the efforts made by doctors, nurses and health sector personnel, as well as elements of the civil defence, police and national gendarmerie, in addition to associations, organizations and young people working tirelessly in difficult conditions to serve and care for others in the fight against covid-19.

The celebration of this day is an opportunity to remember the sacrifices "of all humanitarian workers around the world who have sacrificed their lives in order to serve vulnerable groups, particularly in conflict and war zones," according to the National Council for Human Rights (CNDH).

Fight against terrorism, crime: Several operations with qualitative results conducted by National Army in one week

ALGIERS - Units and detachments of the People's National Army conducted, from 12 to 18 August, several operations with qualitative results reflecting the "high professionalism, vigilance and permanent readiness" of the Armed Forces throughout the different military Regions of the country, said Wednesday a communiqué of the National Defense Ministry.

"As part of the ongoing efforts for the fight against terrorism and all forms of organized crime, units and detachments of the People's National Army conducted, from 12 to 18 August 2020, several operations with qualitative results which reflect the high professionalism, vigilance and permanent readiness of our Armed Forces throughout the different Military Regions," said the source.

As part of the fight against terrorism "detachments of the People's National Army arrested two (02) terrorist supporters in Oran and Bordj Badjid Mokhtar, while other detachments discovered and destroyed three (03) bunkers for terrorists and seven homemade bombs in a search and combing operation conducted in Texenna, province of Jijel, as well as two (02) other bombs in Medea and Chlef," said the source.

Concerning the fight against smuggling and organized crime "combined detachments of the People's National Army intercepted, in coordination with the services of the National Police, four (04) drug traffickers and a big quantity of cannabis resin amounting to 11 quintals and 24.5kg

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indifferent operations in Bechar,” added the source, while another detachment of the National Army arrested “two (02) drug traffickers who were in a truck loaded with 5 quintals and 8 kg of cannabis resin in Ghardaia.”

in this wake, “detachments of the People’s National Army, services of the National Gendarmerie and Coast Guards, in coordination with the National Police arrested, in various operations conducted in Tlemcen, Naama, Relizane and Blida, 22 drug traffickers and seized huge quantities of cannabis resin amounting to 3 quintals and 14kg, while six individuals were arrested and 10,617 psychotropic tablets were seized in El Oued, Setif, Souk Ahras and Oran.”

The Ministry’s communiqué underlined that in Tamanrasset, In Guezzam, Bordj Badjid Mokhtar and Tindouf “combined detachments of the People’s National Army arrested 120 individuals and seized 7 trucks, 12 all-terrain vehicles, 6 motorbikes, 90 generating sets, 55 pneumatic drills, one metal detector, 30 pieces of dynamite, 184 bags of stones and crude gold and equipment used in illicit gold panning operations, in addition to 56.5 tons of foodstuffs for smuggling,” adding that “two individuals were arrested, in Bordj Bou Arreridj, in a truck loaded with 9,896 pyrotechnical articles.”

“70,664 liters of fuel for smuggling were seized in Tebessa, Souk Ahras, El Tarf, Tindouf and Bordj Badji Mokhtar,” added the source.

Coast guards and units of the National Gendarmerie “foiled attempts of illegal migration and rescued 379 individuals aboard a makeshift boat in Oran, Tlemcen, Chlef, Skikda, Annaba and El Tarf, while 62 illegal immigrants of different nationalities were arrested in Tlemcen, In Amenas and In Salah.”

COVID-19 NEWS

Fight against corona virus: Solidarity caravan for over 4,000 unprivileged families

ALGIERS- A solidarity caravan was sent Wednesday, from Algiers, by the Algerian Red Crescent (CRA) to more than 4,000 unprivileged families in the 15 provinces, notably the South and High Plateaus.

Coming within the framework of the “CRA’s contribution to support vulnerable families to face the current health crisis” this aid is made up of about a hundred tons of foodstuffs and hygiene products, CRA’s head Saida Benhabyles told the press, shortly before the caravan set off.

She pointed out that this caravan is also part of “CRA’s support to the efforts of the State for the protection of the citizens’ lives and health and is destined to families living in grey areas that need, in this pandemic context, to make them immune.

She said that the families benefiting from this aid are domiciled in provinces like Tamanrasset, Adrar, Khenchela and others.

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Since January 2020, over 260,000 families received similar aid from CRA which also assisted the Sahrawi populations in the refugee camps, Mali and in Niger, said Benhabiles, while insisting on the fact that the Crescent's donations "come from benefactors and not the Public Treasury."

ECONOMIC NEWS

Economic Recovery Plan will help end deadlock

ALGIERS - Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad said Wednesday the new Economic Recovery Plan will help put an end to the current deadlock, stressing that the plan is likely to preserve the social character of the State.

In a statement released at the end of the National Conference on the Economic Recovery Plan, Djerad assured that the deadlines for the implementation of the new Plan will be set according to priorities, the necessary costs, the impacts, the achievements, the risks and difficulties relating to its implementation, by "taking urgent measures with immediate effects."

"These decisions will be implemented urgently and without further delay before the end of the current year," he said, adding that "these decisions are expected to end the stalemate that persists."

According to the prime minister, the Recovery Plan will have to be implemented according to a timetable set by the president of the Republic. It covers the very short term (ending 2020), the short term (ending 2021) and the medium term (ending 2024), he said.

The short-term measures (before the end of 2021), he said, are aimed at preparing for the structural change of the socio-economic environment to ensure efficiency and socio-economic expertise. These reforms must include effective anticipatory mechanisms to address the potential side effects of these measures, especially the purchasing power of citizens, he noted.

Medium-term development reforms and strategies (before the end of 2024) focus on the implementation and completion of the necessary transition operations, the minister said. Djerad said the plan will preserve "the social character of the state and the purchasing power of citizens, especially the most vulnerable groups."

Recalling that President Tebboune had drawn the outline of the Economic Recovery Plan and defined its framework based on "equal opportunities for all," the prime minister stressed that the plan is focused on "strengthening the rule of law, equal opportunities, participation in policy-making, achieving financial sustainability, strengthening business and raising the level of education."

The new Plan focuses on strengthening the role of the private sector and civil society, to contribute to the development process based on commitment to the values of work and dedication.

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The plan is also based on the substitution of products from industrialized countries with those produced locally, to put an end to the depletion of foreign exchange reserves and the development of national companies, by giving a special interest to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The step includes micro-enterprises and start-ups, with the enhancement of creative and innovative human capacities, including those residing abroad.

Djerad reiterates government's support to economic operators

ALGIERS - Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad reiterated Wednesday, in Algiers, the government's support to the national economic operators, while insisting on the importance of reciprocal trust to succeed the economic revival.

"We have now our points of reference, we have our resources and skills and we especially have the reciprocal trust, and that is how we will progress and put the country on the track so that it gets going again," said Djerad in front of representatives of employers' organizations and economic operators, including CEO of Cevital group Issad Rebrab.

Prime minister spoke on the sidelines of a family photo taken at the end of the national Conference on revival plan for new economy. This two-day conference saw the participation of the government with socio-economic partners in order to establish the foundations for a new model of development based on the diversification and sustainable development.

Oil market is rebalancing but worries persist, says Attar

ALGIERS- The oil market is rebalancing but the risks of a possible fall of prices are not totally ruled out because of the lingering fear of a second global wave of corona virus pandemic, said Wednesday Minister of Energy, OPEC's chairman Abdelmadjid Attar.

"During the second half of the year, the oil market began to rebalance (...) the prices increased and we observe the beginning of a steady decline in the huge stocks recorded in the first half," he said. The minister's statement was made at the opening of the 21st meeting of the Joint Ministerial Monitoring Committee (JMMC), held by videoconference, under the presidency of Saudi Arabia and Russia.

Since the last meeting of the committee, on July 15th, "we continue to see encouraging signs of the global economy," he said, welcoming the positive impact of the lockdown lifting measures and of the increased mobility of governments and central banks, contributing to a "firm recovery of the oil sector."

The production adjustments applied by the countries participating in the Declaration of Cooperation helped reassure the markets, he underlined.

Noting that the overall compliance rate to the historic agreement of OPEC and its allies was "satisfactory," he pointed out that this rate could have been even higher if all the countries had fully made the agreed production reductions.

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However, the producers “have many reasons to have a cautious optimism,” said Attar, underscoring that the tensions on prices persist because a second wave of the pandemic is not totally excluded.

Attar seized the opportunity to welcome the efforts made by JMMC and the discussions it engaged on the secondary sources, pointing out that the independence of its sources is the cornerstone of the monitoring mechanism.

FOREIGN POLICY NEWS

China-Algeria relations: Brighter future in post-Covid era

ALGIERS - Relations between Algeria and China will have a "brighter future" during the post-Covid period, Chinese Ambassador to Algiers, LI Lianhe, said Wednesday in an interview with APS.

Lianhe, who discusses the history of Algerian-Chinese relations, dating back more than half a century, pointed out that the pandemic of the new corona virus (Covid-19) marked a new chapter in the cooperation between Algiers and Beijing.

He stressed that both countries have a similar position regarding the Libyan crisis and defend the same principles as to the usefulness of solidarity with Africa.

The Chinese diplomat stressed that the two countries are bound by a "very deep traditional" friendship, recalling the "huge" support provided to the Algerian Revolution by China, which is the very first non-Arab country to have recognized the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic. He emphasized the "crucial role" played by Algeria in the recovery of China's legal seat at the United Nations.

Regarding the post-epidemic period, the ambassador believes that Algeria and China have several "assets" enabling them to strengthen their bilateral relations, and which are "a solid political base, a deep friendship between the two peoples, a shared determination of the leaders of our two countries and a great economic complementarity."

"I am convinced that with our combined efforts, Chinese-Algerian relations will have a brighter future." The Chinese official said that "pragmatic" cooperation between the two countries has produced "remarkable" results.

At present, he argues, "Chinese companies are actively responding to the Algerian Government's call for the resumption of work and production, in order to actively promote the carrying out of various projects and continue to contribute to the economic and social development of Algeria."

The Ambassador mentioned the Central Port, a "very important" cooperation project.

"The Chinese side attaches great importance to this project, and sincerely hopes that it will benefit Algeria's economic and social development as quickly as possible."

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In 2018, he added, Algeria and China signed a cooperation agreement on a joint construction of the "Belt and Road initiative," marking a new stage of cooperation between the two countries.

Mali: Algeria firmly rejects any unconstitutional Government change

ALGIERS - Algeria on Wednesday has reiterated its "firm rejection" of any unconstitutional Government change in Mali, especially since the doctrine of the African Union (AU) in terms of respect for the constitutional order "cannot be violated."

"Algeria reiterates its rejection of any unconstitutional Government change in accordance with the relevant mechanisms of the African Union, particularly the 1999 Algiers Declaration and the 2007 African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance," said the Foreign Affairs Ministry in a communiqué.

"The AU doctrine in terms of respect for the constitutional order cannot be violated," affirmed the source. Algeria, which follows "with great concern" the situation in the sister and neighbour country Mali, urges "all parties to respect the constitutional order and to come to their senses to resolve the crisis rapidly." Moreover, Algeria recalls that "ballot boxes are the only path to legitimacy."

MISCELLANEOUS

CULTURE

Storyteller Seddik Mahi partakes in virtual edition of "Morocco of Tales" International Festival

ALGIERS - Algerian novelist and storyteller Seddik Mahi will participate in the 17th edition of the "Morocco of Tales" International Festival organized by the Moroccan Association for Education and Culture "Conte'Act".

Themed "The word of the world goes beyond Covid-19", the event, scheduled on 7-31 August, brings together artists from various countries, who will present works that reflect the cultural and civilizational depth of their regions. The 2020 edition focuses on fighting disasters and the role of storytelling in the education of youth.

Mahi, who had already participated in this festival and other international cultural events, has published a new collected entitled "Moula Moula and other tales."

In addition to theatre experience, the artist had hosted training workshops in Algeria and abroad.