

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Embassy of Algeria in the Republic of Namibia



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Algerian Embassy in Windhoek

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DOMESTIC NEWS

Beldjoud reiterates Government's support to National Police

ALGIERS - Minister of Interior, Local Authorities and National Planning Kamel Beldjoud on Wednesday reiterated Government's support to the institution of National Police so that it easily fulfills its missions under the laws of the Republic.

Speaking on the occasion of the 58th anniversary of the establishment of the Algerian Police, the minister highlighted the interest attached by the Government to security in its action plan, drawn from the program of the President of the Republic.

Beldjoud stressed the importance of the security component and its positive repercussions in terms of bringing together a business climate conducive to the revival of the various vital sectors, guaranteeing both stability and social development and consolidating cohesion among individuals.

"Based on its institutional position, the National Police, in collaboration with its partners, carries out missions for the protection of individuals and property, and has proven its presence and effectiveness in the fight against all forms of crime," stated Beldjoud.

Stressing the competency and professionalism of the units of National Police, the minister recalled the interest shown by brotherly and friendly countries in the experience of the Algerian Police.

He also recalled the effective role of this police institution in supervising all the important events that the country has experienced, noting the professional treatment by the National Police of the crowds while enduring difficult weather conditions and provocative behavior from certain parties.

"Police units are also facing the repercussions of this global health crisis that has impacted the entire world due to the spread of Covid-19. Indeed, they have shown a sense of responsibility and dedication, being aware of the need to preserve public safety. They are also mobilized alongside healthcare staff and various players to ensure that preventive measures are applied and to stem the spread of this lethal virus," assured Beldjoud.

Fight against terrorism: Seven homemade bombs destroyed in Ain Defla, Chlef

ALGIERS - Seven homemade bombs were destroyed Tuesday by detachments of the People's National Army (ANP) following distinct search and combing operations conducted in Ain Defla and Chlef, said the National Defence Ministry in a communiqué.

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"As part of the fight against terrorism, Army detachments destroyed, on 22 July 2020, seven home-made bombs during separate search and combing operations conducted in Ain Defla and Chlef (1st military region)," the same source said.

As part of the fight against smuggling and organized crime and "in the dynamics of sustained efforts to stem the spread of the scourge of drug trafficking in our country," Border Guards seized, near the borders in Djeniène Bourezg, province of Nâama (2nd military region), "a large quantity of cannabis resin amounting to 3 quintals and 97 kilograms," while units of the National Gendarmerie and Border Guard arrested, in Tlemcen, "two drug traffickers and seized 30.4 kilograms of cannabis resin and 400 psychotropic tablets."

Similarly, an Army detachment arrested, in El-Oued (4th military region), "two drug traffickers in their possession 4451 psychotropic tablets," according to the same source.

In addition, another Army detachment intercepted, in Bordj Badji Mokhtar (6th military region), "ten individuals and seized two off-road vehicles, eight metal detectors, a power generator and a jackhammer used in illegal gold mining," while Coast Guards thwarted, in Annaba (5th military region), an attempt to illegally emigrate "ten people aboard a home-made boat," concluded the source.

Late Lamine Bechichi had qualities, virtues of mujahedeen, men of letter

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune sent a condolence message to the family of mujahed Lamine Bechichi, who died Thursday at the age of 93, affirming that the deceased inspired respect and gratitude for "the qualities and virtues of mujahedeen and men of letter he had."

"With the death of Lamine Bechichi, so bitter and painful, we have lost one of the greatest thinkers and men of culture in our country. Mujahed, journalist, intellectual and committed artist, late Lamine Bechichi was known during the Revolution for his writings and style, first of all in the newspaper "La résistance Algérienne," then "El Moudjahid" as well as the National Radio," said President Tebboune in his message.

"The deceased inspired respect and gratitude for the qualities and virtues of mujahedeen and men of letter that he had. He was honored wherever he went and in all the cultural and artistic festivities that he attended both in Algeria and abroad, he carried with pride and with an authentic intellectual spirit and creative artist what our country possesses like depth, diversity and cultural richness," he added.

"In these painful circumstances, I extend to the family of the deceased as well as the cultural and artistic family my heartfelt condolences and feelings of compassion. May Allah have mercy on him and grant him paradise," concluded the source.

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ECONOMIC NEWS

Abundant supply of seasonal agricultural products

ALGIERS - The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development reassured Thursday about the availability of agricultural products on the market especially during Eid-ul-Adha and throughout the year, referring to an abundant supply of seasonal fruits and vegetables, despite the Covid-19 pandemic.

There is an abundance of seasonal fruits and vegetables which allows us to ensure the market supply all along the year, and avoid shortages during Eid-ul-Adha ,” said Director of the Regulation and Development of the Agricultural Production (DRDPA), Messaoud Bendridi.

In this regard and in a statement to APS, Bendridi shed light on the work of farmers who took on the challenge and continued working at the level of their farms despite the current health crisis. The pace of production has not been unrestrained throughout this period of health crisis, Bendridi.

"The cumulative quantities to date are close to 15 million quintals," he said, adding that the harvest will continue until next November. This will make it possible to build up stocks for the lean season.

Energy: Sector’s roadmap under development for economic revival

ALGIERS - A roadmap of the energy sector is under development as part of the economic revival of the country whose one of its priorities will be the speeding up of the implementation of the texts of application of the law on hydrocarbons, said Thursday, in Algiers, Minister of Energy Abdelmadjid Attar.

In a meeting chaired by minister of Energy with the sector’s top officials, in the presence of Minister of Energy Transition and Renewable Energies Chems Eddine Chitour, Attar said that as part of the country’s economic revival, a roadmap is under development under the supervision of a working group managed by the Ministry of Energy and comprising a representative from each body and company of the sector.

This roadmap that will be submitted to the government will consist of actions with specific deadlines, including a monthly implementation report will also be given to the government, he said. This roadmap will comprise the finalization of the texts of application of the law on hydrocarbons, added the Minister.

“Sonatrach can no more bear alone the weight of development. It needs partners. The law of 2019 should be implemented as soon as possible,” said Attar.

The roadmap also includes the revival of the exploration works, development of discovered deposits, development of resources in terms of recovery rate and recent ring of activities of Sonatrach on its core activities, according to the Minister. Sonelgaz also has to outsource several of its activities, he added.

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FOREIGN POLICY NEWS

Situation in Libya: National Defense Ministry denies “spurious allegations” ascribed to Lieutenant General

ALGIERS - The National Defense Ministry on Thursday “formally” has denied “false and baseless allegations” relayed through social networks ascribed to Lieutenant General Said Chanegriha, Chief of Staff of the People's National Army (ANP), about recent developments in the situation in Libya.

"Some accounts and pages have relayed, via social networks, false and unfounded allegations, which they ascribe to Lieutenant General, Chief of Staff of the Army, about recent developments in the situation in Libya," said the Ministry.

"The National Defence Ministry formally denies these rumours and affirms that these false statements, which aim at sowing disorder and discord and directing public opinion towards an alignment with dubious agendas, do not serve the laudable goal and the immutable position that Algeria has always sought to fulfill towards the brotherly Libyan state. A position that has been underlined, on many occasions, by President of the Republic, who affirmed that Algeria has always been equidistant from the Libyan parties in conflict, and favours a constructive inter-Libyan dialogue that will lead to a lasting political solution, capable of guaranteeing stability and prosperity to the brotherly Libyan people", said the same source.

The ministry stressed that "the President of the Republic, Supreme Chief of the Armed Forces, Minister of National Defence is the only authority constitutionally empowered to officially rule on the positions of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria on sensitive international and regional issues," concluded the ministry's communiqué.

Boukadoum: No alternative to the peace agreement in Mali

MOSCOW - Foreign Minister Sabri Boukadoum expressed the wish that the situation prevailing in Mali would be "cyclical," saying there was no alternative to the peace and reconciliation agreement resulting from the Algiers process to establish security and socio-economic development in the country.

"There is no alternative to the peace and reconciliation agreement in Mali," said Boukadoum in an interview with Russia Today (RT), hoping that all its clauses would be implemented by all parties. Algeria, which is "in permanent contact with all the parties concerned," insists on the implementation of this agreement, he said.

Despite all the current difficulties "we are determined to continue this action," he added in response to a question on the issue of the Arab League reform, the head of Algerian diplomacy reiterated Algeria's supportive position.

The reform of the Arab League "is an old issue that has been discussed for a very long time, the last one dates back to 2005 at the Algiers summit, but unfortunately there was no consensus on this issue," he recalled.

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In this regard, Boukadoum expressed "the great disparity between members of the Arab League on the Libyan file among others."

"In the absence of consensus, the Arab League remains with its arms folded and will not be able to perform the role expected," he added.

As for the Arab summit to be held in Algeria, postponed because of the Covid-19 pandemic, Boukadoum said that "we are still prepared to organize the Arab summit and we will study the possibility of holding it according to the evolution of the epidemiological situation."

Syria's place is within the Arab family and Algeria's position on this matter is clear," he said regarding Syria's return to the Arab League.

"We are keen on the return of all Arab countries, knowing that Algeria's policy recognizes States," and Governments are subject to the will of the peoples who elect them, said Boukadoum.

On the subject of Algerian-Russian cooperation, Boukadoum stressed "the need to strengthen it in all areas and with all partners," arguing that Algeria is open to all those who would like to establish a respectful partnership and a fruitful bilateral exchange, as reflected, for example, in our relations with Russia and China. This roadmap will take into consideration the national integration policies and digitization.

Humanitarian aid to Sahrawi people: Misuse allegations are “unfounded”

BRUSSELS - The allegations of misusing the humanitarian aid of the European Union (EU) to the Sahrawi refugees are “unfounded,” and they only divert the international opinion from the issue of the occupation of Western Sahara and the right of the Sahrawi people to self-determination, said Algeria’s ambassador to Brussels Amar Belani.

In a clarification to The Brussels Times newspaper about the allegations circulated by the nationalist Euro-deputy Dominique Bilde, on the misuse of the humanitarian aid, Belani noted that these accusations “only divert the attention from the illegal occupation of Western Sahara and the Sahrawi people’s legitimate right to self-determination.”

While referring to the responses given by the most senior officials of EU, the ambassador pointed out the statement of the current European Commissioner for Crisis Management Januz Lenarcic who confirmed in early July the rigorous control of the aid in the Sahrawi refugee camps.

“EU implemented very strong follow-up and control measures to the extent that some of its partners reproached it for making the work difficult with its services,” said Lenarcic before the EU Development Commission.

Contrary to what has been said by the deputy Bilde on the “overestimated” number of refugees, the ambassador said that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) published, in March 2018, a report in which the population of the camps of the Sahrawi refugees of Tindouf was estimated at 173,600, i.e. an increase of about 40% compared to the estimates of 2007.

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On 31 December 2017, “these figures are even higher than those on which UNHCR, EU and the World Food Programme (WFP) planned their humanitarian aid operations,” he said.

UNHCR underlined then the importance of its report as it represented the “most comprehensive analysis that has never been carried out since 2007 on the issue,” especially as its conclusions are the outcome of a multi-sectoral expert mission comprising UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP and several NGOs. As indicated clearly by the report in question, the mission’s team had full access to the sites and demanded information that it listed independently.

In this regard, WFP adopted the new estimate of the number of the Sahrawi refugees in its report of August 2018 on “the assessment of the Sahrawi refugees’ food safety.”

Boukadoum warns against “behaviors” that might divide Libya

MOSCOW - Minister of Foreign Affairs Sabri Boukadoum warned against behaviours that might divide Libya, calling all the parties to preserve this country’s unity and sovereignty.

In an interview to “RT Arabic” channel, on the occasion of his working visit to Moscow, Sabri Boukadoum said “we are determined to convince all the parties about the importance of preserving Libya’s territorial integrity and Libyans’ full sovereignty, urging them to show vigilance towards some behaviour that might lead, deliberately or not, to the division of Libya.”

During this interview presented under the title “Algeria...diplomatic procession for the settlement of the crisis in Libya,” Boukadoum affirmed that Algeria works through its diplomacy to convince all the parties in Libya about the importance of preserving the country’s unity and sovereignty.

He broached the Algerian approach for the settlement of the crisis in Libya and the threats to the direct neighboring countries (Algeria, Egypt and Tunisia) or to the wider neighborhood, namely Chad, Niger, Sudan and even Mali, strongly affected by the situation in Libya.

In his reply to a question on the intense diplomatic activities led by Algeria, its approach for the settlement of the crisis in Libya and the concordance with the Russian vision, Boukadoum underlined that “the Algerian approach for the settlement of the crisis in Libya is known and based on the political solution ...We insist every time on this approach with all the partners around the world, and until now no one has opposed it.”

“We are committed to convincing all the partners, all the belligerents and all the parties concerned by the Libyan issue about the need for a political solution in Libya,” he pointed out, affirming that the Algerian approach isn’t “competing with the other initiatives as long as they aren’t in contradiction with the principles of the Conference of Berlin, to which Algeria and all the Libyan parties took part.”

Algeria’s approach is based on three principles, namely “the peaceful solution by rejecting the military solution, the ceasefire and the launch of negotiations with the refusal of any foreign interference, stopping the flow of weapons as well as the respect of the embargo on the arms in Libya.”

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In this respect, he broached “the common rapprochement of views between Algeria and Tunisia and relatively Egypt concerning the solution in Libya,” emphasizing the challenges and threats, induced by the situation in this country, on the national security of all the neighboring countries,” including Algeria.

Reaffirming Algeria’s willingness to host negotiations between the Libyan parties, Boukadoum said that it is in continued contact with all the concerned Libyan parties, including those which are not visible, referring to the Libyan tribes, underlining that the Libyan issue is limited for some countries to Benghazi and Tripoli, Libya is much larger.”

“The will to bring viewpoints closer and to reject the artillery language in Libya exists among all the parties to the conflict but it hasn’t yet come to fruition,” he said.

MISCELLANEOUS

CULTURE

ARAV "severely" condemns programs spreading ignorance, mystification

ALGIERS - The Broadcasting Regulatory Authority (ARAV) on Wednesday condemned "severely" the TV shows spreading ignorance and mystification, following the broadcast by Echourouk TV of a program in which it had invited a woman claiming to treat and screen for corona virus "without any regard for common sense."

"The ARAV, which severely condemns this type of program full of ignorance and mystification, calls for the promotion and moralization of the act of media information that encourages the development of the spirit and knowledge and the popularization of common sense in society within the framework of public service," said the source.

"At a time when scientists and researchers around the world are engaged in a real race to find a vaccine against covid-19 and the major powers are mobilizing billions of dollars for this purpose, Echourouk TV channel has not found better, through its morning show +Sabah Echourouk+, than to present a woman boasting about offering a drug and even a means of screening, without any regard for common sense and in defiance of science and public opinion," ARAV deplores.

"This channel and others had already distinguished themselves by popularizing this kind of charlatanism and giving a voice to individuals who, under the guise of alternative medicine, abuse the credulity of citizens," ARAV recalled.

"This is an attack on the image of the media, in particular and of the country in general, and an enshrinement of obscurantism within society," said ARAV.