

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

Air Algérie: Two flights to Moscow, Amman for Algerian and foreign residents stranded in Algeria

ALGIERS - Two flights from Algiers to Moscow (Russia) and Amman (Jordan) are scheduled on July 27 by the national airline company Air Algérie for the benefit of Algerian and foreign residents stranded in Algeria, Spokesman of the national airline, Amine Andaloussi, told APS on Saturday.

These two planned flights to the Russian and Jordanian capitals, to transport Algerian residents and foreigners stranded in Algeria following the containment procedures related to the Covid-19 pandemic, come after the first six scheduled destinations to transport Algerian residents and foreigners who have remained stranded in Algeria.

These six international destinations were thus served from Algiers according to a programme spread out between 23 and 26 July for the benefit of nationals, residents and holders of type D visas for the Schengen area who remained blocked in Algeria because of this pandemic.

These destinations are as follows: Algiers-Rome on 23 July, Algiers-Brussels on 24 July, Algiers-Frankfurt on 24 July, Algiers-Muscat (Oman) on 25 July, Algiers-Doha (Qatar) on 25 July and Algiers-Cairo on 26 July.

According to Air Algérie, all nationals taking these flights from Algiers must meet the entry requirements for the countries of destination by consulting the government websites of these same countries.

These operations, which are part of the repatriation flights operated by Air Algérie, will repatriate upon arrival in these cities (Rome, Brussels, Frankfurt, Muscat, Doha and Cairo) a number of Algerian nationals who have remained stranded in these countries because of Covid-19.

Mahmoud Guemama's death: Algeria loses a patriot, committed militant, says President Tebboune

ALGIERS - President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, sent a message of condolences to members of the People's National Assembly (APN), Mujahed Mahmoud Guemama, who died Friday, in which he said that Algeria "has lost a patriot and a militant committed to the causes of his people and his nation."

Algeria loses today, by the death of Mujahed Mahmoud Guemama, a patriot and a militant committed to the causes of his people and his nation, a man who has never wavered and whose determination remained intact from the moment he took up arms, alongside his valiant Mujahedeen brothers, until his last breath on this sad day when we can only resign ourselves to God's will," President Tebboune wrote in his message of condolence.

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"The late Mahmoud Guemama, peace be upon him, belonged to a unique generation of faithful patriotic militants who sacrificed themselves for their homeland," added President of the Republic.

"The deceased devoted his life to the liberation of Algeria from the torments of abject colonialism, by joining the ranks of the Revolution in the prime of life in 1960 in the Tahart training camp of the historic wilaya VI."

"The late President is known to all for his proven militancy and his commitment to anchoring the image of a prosperous and united Algeria," said President Tebboune.

"In the far south, the late Mahmoud Guemama enjoys great renown as a mediator, intervening to reconcile brothers in the same country whenever the fire of discord is kindled," added the President in his message.

"All these qualities and values earned the late Mahmoud Guemama the respect and trust of the people of Tamanrasset who chose him to represent them in the People's National Assembly (APN) for several terms, during which he was the ambassador and defender of the concerns of the region and the aspirations of its people, and even the representative and spokesman of all Algerians," wrote the President of the Republic.

"All expressions of condolence will not be enough to pay tribute to the mujahed Mahmoud Guemama, peace be upon him. He is leaving us today at a time when Algeria needs him," said the President.

"I pray to Almighty God to surround the deceased with His Holy Mercy, to welcome him in His vast paradise alongside the shuhadaa and virtuous. I also pray to God to lend his family and loved ones patience and comfort...there is no strength or power except in God," the President of the Republic concluded.

Council of Ministers meeting be held on Sunday

ALGIERS – President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune on Sunday will chair a Council of Ministers meeting by videoconference. The meeting will examine the evolution of the sector-based activities in the light of the new approach of the socioeconomic recovery, said Saturday a communiqué of the Presidency of the Republic.

"The Council of Ministers meeting will hold Sunday July 26, 2020 its periodical meeting by video-conference, under the chairmanship Abdelmadjid Tebboune, President of the Republic, Supreme Chief of the Armed Forces, Minister of National Defence," said the communiqué.

It will also review the launch and progress of sector-based activities, under the new approach to socio-economic recovery, and the sets of specification relating to the reorganization of industrial activities.

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The report on the socio-economic impact of Covid-19 and the evolution of the health situation in the country will also be examined.

The meeting will also consider a draft order amending and supplementing the Penal Code aimed at protecting the medical profession and health personnel, as well as a presentation on ways to protect them against the pandemic, said the same source.

COVID-19 NEWS

Covid-19: Turkey donates 8 tons of medical supplies to Algeria

ALGIERS - Algeria on Sunday took delivery of a donation of 8 tons of medical supplies from Turkey, mainly composed of breathing apparatus. The donation will contribute to the national effort to stem the spread of the Corona virus (Covid-19).

In a press statement at the headquarters of the Central Hospital Pharmacy (PCH) where the donation was received, Turkish Ambassador to Algiers Mahinur Ozdemir Goktas said the 25 donated equipments are "manufactured in Turkey and can be used for a long period of time."

The donation is also composed of thermo-cyclers for PCR, 3-ply masks, FFP2 protective masks and coveralls with hoods, added the Ambassador.

"Algeria is a brother country and we have a common history and tradition. As part of the spirit of solidarity and with honor that we donate this medical equipment to support you in your fight against the corona virus," she said during a joint press briefing with Minister of Health, Population and Hospital Reform, Abderrahmane Benbouzid, noting that "Algeria and the United States are the only countries to have received aid from Turkey".

ECONOMIC NEWS

Algeria recorded negative economic growth -3.9% in Q 1 2020

ALGIERS - Algeria recorded negative economic growth of -3.9% in the 1st quarter of 2020, against positive growth (+ 1.3%) over the same period of 2019, said the National Statistics Office (ONS). This "substantial" decline has been aggravated by the global health crisis (Covid-19), added the source.

The growth rate of the minus -hydrocarbon Gross Domestic Product (GDP) excluding hydrocarbons was -1.5% over the first three months of 2020, against +3.6% at the same period of the past year, said the provisional data from the ONS.

The first quarter of 2020 has also been marked by negative rates, especially in the hydrocarbon sectors, market-related services (transport and communications, trade, services provided to businesses and households, as well as hotels-coffee shops-restaurants) and non-market services (real estate affairs, financial services and public administration).

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In fact, the hydrocarbon sector posted a negative growth rate of -13.4%, against (-7.1%) in the same period of 2019. The hydrocarbon prices plummeted by 16.9%, which leads to 28% decline in the added value of the sector against a decrease of 8% in the same period of 2019, said the Office.

The market-related services experienced for the first time a decrease of (-2.8%) against an increase of (+ 5.0%) during the same period of comparison.

This drop in growth is mainly due to declines in the added value of the various sub-sectors. These include, in particular, transport and communications (-4.8% against + 5.3%), hotels, coffee shops and restaurants (-2.7% against + 5.5%), commerce (-1.5 % against + 4.8%) and finally services provided to households (-1.8% against +3.8%).

This trend also characterized non-market services with a drop in growth of (-1.6%) against (+ 1.8%), said the Office. This drop is mainly due to a 2% drop in the value added of the public administrations against an increase of 1.7%.

The Industry sector also recorded negative growth of (-0.5%) in the 1st quarter of 2020 against a performance of 4.9% in the same period of 2019. Except from the agro-food industries and various industries, all the sub-sectors are concerned by negative growth trends.

The economic activity experienced during the first quarter "a significant decline," said the Statistics Office, which specifies that this situation was "aggravated, especially at the end of the quarter, by the global health crisis" caused by Covid-19.

FOREIGN POLICY NEWS

Western Sahara: Polisario Front denounces Morocco's "blackmail"

NEW YORK - The Polisario Front's Representative to the United Nations, Sidi Mohamed Omar, denounced on Friday Morocco's constant recourse to "blackmail" in the implementation of UN resolutions on the Sahrawi issue, arguing that the only path sought by Rabat is the "indefinite irresolution of the conflict" in Western Sahara.

Faced with the failure of the Security Council to ensure the implementation of its resolutions on Western Sahara, Sidi Omar said, in a statement to the APS, that "the only solution sought by the Moroccan regime is the indefinite irresolution of the conflict while it persists in its vain attempts to normalize its illegal occupation of certain parts of Western Sahara."

He also pointed to "Morocco's constant recourse to blackmail" and the policy of "empty threats as a means of concealing the fact that it has no real political will" to achieve a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in accordance with UN resolutions and its doctrine on decolonisation.

"The UN-sponsored peace process in Western Sahara, launched in 1991, is now completely paralysed because of Morocco's obstructionism on the one hand, and the tendency of some parties in the Security Council and the UN Secretariat to link the entire peace process to the

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appointment of a new personal envoy on the other, which is only a pretext for taking no action or initiative in this regard," he stressed.

As for the delay in appointing a new personal envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara to replace former German President Horst Kohler, who resigned in May 2019, Sidi Omar said that the main reason is "the preconditions" that Morocco has set itself regarding potential candidates.

In this context, the Sahrawi diplomat reaffirmed the position of the Polisario that "the appointment of a new UN envoy is not an end in itself."

MISCELLANEOUS

CULTURE

Culture: Creation of Algerian screenwriters association

ALGIERS - The Algerian association of screenwriters has been recently created in Algiers, said a statement from this body. The Association counts screenwriters from 15 provinces.

"First of its kind" in Algeria, this association aims to be "a space for those who love scriptwriting in order to exchange experiences and knowledge in this area," it said.

The objective of the Association is to "offer a cultural and intellectual space with partners who share the same aspirations and ideas to promote this art considered to be the foundation, even the soul of any film or television work," the statement said.

The Algerian Association of Screenwriters proposes to "discover and orient talents, organize training sessions and improve technical skills in scriptwriting."

It is also intended to "build bridges with the bodies related to screenwriting like television channels, audiovisual production establishments and the National Copyright Office (ONDA)," added the source.