

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Embassy of Algeria in the Republic of Namibia



Press Release

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DOMESTIC NEWS

State takes care not to risk lives of its citizens

ALGIERS - Minister Counselor for Communication, Official Spokesman of the Presidency of the Republic, Mohand Oussaïd Belaïd, said Tuesday in Algiers that the state is careful not to "risk" the lives of citizens, while seeking "compromises" between the revival of economic life and the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic.

Following the meeting of the High Security Council devoted to assessing the country's health situation in the light of the evolution of the Covid-19 epidemic, it had been decided to start preparing an action plan for the post-Covid-19 phase, said the Minister Counselor.

"The State had taken care from the outset not to "risk" the lives of its citizens," he added.

Release of certain detainees: President Tebboune has promised to consider request

ALGIERS - Minister for Communication, official spokesperson for the Presidency of the Republic Mohand Oussaïd Belaïd on Tuesday confirmed said Tuesday the request of President of the Jil Jadid party Soufiane Djilali on the liberation of some detainees.

The President of the Republic had promised to consider this request, he added.

Answering a question about what was mentioned in Soufiane Djilali press release concerning his request for the release of certain detainees; Minister Counselor said that it was "true" and that it was the "fruit of dialogue."

President Tebboune "responded to the request of the Jil Jadid party president and promised to consider it, within the framework of full and strict respect of his

Constitutional prerogatives and his total commitment to respecting the independence of the Judiciary," added Belaïd, saying that those who boycott the dialogue "assume their responsibilities."

Draft Constitution: Possible extension of debate, explanation campaign for reasonable length of time

ALGIERS - Minister Counselor for Communication, official Spokesman of the Presidency of the Republic Belaïd Mohand Oussaïd underlined Tuesday a possible extension, for reasonable length of time, of the debate and explanation campaign on the draft constitutional revision in order that the expected constitution be "the fruit of the broadest possible national consensus."

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The debate on the draft revision of the Constitution, despite the prevention measures against Covid-19 limiting the freedom of movement and meeting, “confirms the country’s intense need for a consensual Constitution” which lays the foundations for a new era with different presidential terms and not a tailor-made Constitution for certain people or parties, said Mohand Oussaid in a press conference held at the headquarters of the Presidency of the Republic.

Pointing out that this objective requires broadening the debate to all the segments of the society, he said that in response to the request of several political parties, civil associations and national personalities, “an extension is under review, for a reasonable length of time, of the debate and explanation campaign of the draft constitutional revision.

“The objective is to reach a Constitution that is the fruit of the broadest possible national consensus meeting the pressing need for the country to have really elected institutions under the banner of the Declaration of 1 November 1954 to build a new Republic in consolidation of the three principles of the national identity: Islam, Arab identity and Amazigh identity,” he concluded.

Day of Artist: tribute to art and culture figures

ALGIERS - A ceremony in tribute to many artists and cultural figures has been organized Monday evening in Algiers by the Ministry of Culture on the occasion of the National Day of the Artist, celebrated on June 8th.

Organized at the Moufdi-Zakaria Palace of Culture, this ceremony took place in the presence of Minister of Culture, Malika Bendouda, members of the government, advisers to the President of the Republic and the President of the ARAV (Audiovisual Regulatory Authority) Mohamed Louber.

On that occasion, tributes were paid to actress Fatiha Soltane, sculptor Mohamed Boukerche, poet Mahfoud Belkheiri, plastic artist Ammar Allalouche, singer and musician Abdallah El Mennaï, sculptor Djelloul Sahli as well as the writer and translator Said Boutadjine.

Minister of Culture also paid tribute to the work of the associations and reading clubs.

She also presented young writers who have participated in a writing residency named after late writer and poet Malek Haddad (1927-1978), which aims to support the literary scene and help the emergence of young talents.

In her speech, Minister of Culture said that "the finalization of the Status of the Artist remains the priority of the ministry" and that the latter "accompanied the artists" during this exceptional period imposed by the Coronavirus pandemic through the National Office of Copyright and Annexed Rights (ONDA).

This operation "revealed the fragility of the social condition of artists," she added.

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Grey areas' development: daily follow-up in field at highest level of State

ALGIERS - Minister Counselor for Communication, official Spokesman of the Presidency of the Republic Belaid Mohand Oussaid said Tuesday that the issue of grey areas is the subject of a daily follow-up in the field at the highest level of the State and that the future of local officials is related to that of these regions.

In a press conference held at the headquarters of the Presidency of the Republic, Belaid Mohand Oussaid reaffirmed that the grey areas “are one of the President of the Republic’ priorities,” stressing that concrete efforts are made to deal with them.

President of Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune was the first to shed light on these areas through documentary film dealing, for the first time, with suffering of these areas’ populations, made at his request and screened before the governors of the Republic, he said.

He underscored that President of the Republic instructed all the officials to follow this file on the ground, “linking the fate of local officials to that of these areas and within the set deadlines.”

Covid-19: President Tebboune sets up investigation, monitoring committee of epidemiological enquiries

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune decided to set up, with immediate effect, an operational committee exclusively charged with investigating and monitoring the epidemiological enquiries into confirmed or highly suspect Covid-19 cases, said Tuesday a communiqué of the Presidency of the Republic.

“As part of the measures taken by the public authorities to face the risks of the spread of Covid-19, President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune decided to set up, with an immediate effect, an operational committee exclusively in charge of investigating and monitoring epidemiological enquiries into confirmed or highly suspect Covid-19 cases,” said the source.

President of the Republic “decided to entrust the responsibility of this committee to Professor Mohamed Belhocine, member of the scientific committee in charge of monitoring Covid-19 pandemic, who will work in close collaboration with all the concerned authorities nationwide, notably the structures coming under the Ministry of Health, Population and Hospital Reform,” added the source.

Covid-19: Algeria repatriates to date about 13,000 Algerians stranded abroad

ALGIERS - Minister Counselor for Communication, official Spokesman of the Presidency of the Republic Belaid Mohand Oussaid said Tuesday that Algeria has repatriated about 13,000 Algerian nationals stranded abroad since the closure of the air space because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

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In a press conference at the headquarters of the Presidency of the Republic, Belaid Mohand Oussaid underlined “the State’s commitment to preserving the health of its citizens and repatriating them in the best conditions and as soon as possible,” affirming that between 12,000 and 13,000 Algerians have been repatriated so far.

“The repatriation operation is continuing,” he added, pointing out that two flights are scheduled this weekend to repatriate the Algerian stranded in Turkey.

Belaid added that the repatriated people were directly quarantined for two weeks.

ECONOMIC NEWS

Mermouri: Authorities' determined to support economic, tourist operators

ALGIERS - Minister of Tourism, Craft Industry and Family Work, Hacène Mermouri has reiterated, on Monday in Algiers, the determination of public authorities to accompany economic operators, including professionals of the tourism sector, to resume their commercial activities after lifting of the lockdown introduced earlier to curb the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In a speech delivered during the proceedings of the 63rd African Regional Committee, organized by the World Tourism Organization by a video-conference, Mermouri said that the public authorities of the country "have assumed their responsibilities towards these operators and professionals, through their support in order to boost their economic activities by taking charge of the question of granting credits and the reduction of tax and para-fiscal recovery, while preserving jobs", recalling in this context all the meetings of consultations. held with the representatives of these operators to listen to their concerns and accompany them in finding appropriate solutions to difficult financial problems caused by the cessation of their commercial activities concerning the 2020 summer season, the Minister stated that this season is officially dependent on the lifting of the containment and its preparation is being carried out in the framework of coordination with all the sectors concerned, notably the Ministry of the Interior, Local Government and Town and Country Planning.

Furthermore, Mermouri considered that this meeting in which the Ministers of Tourism of the various African countries took part "is an opportunity to reaffirm the need to strengthen and coordinate African cooperation in the field of tourism through the exchange of experiences and visits between tourists of the continent, in addition to the encouragement of partnership between the public and private sectors in order to contribute to the development of infrastructure in the field of tourism and the promotion of the African destination based on domestic, national and regional and then international tourism after the elimination of the pandemic of the new Coronavirus.

Emphasis was placed on the need to "strengthen training, promote inventiveness, and improve the handicrafts which characterize the majority of African countries, strengthen partnership, seek sources of financing and investment and consolidate bilateral and multilateral cooperation with a view to reviving tourism activity in Africa."

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The Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization (WTO), Zurab Pololikashvili recalled all the initiatives taken by the Organization "to revitalize tourism in Africa, which has been greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic", stressing the importance of "encouraging cooperation and coordination of African action within the framework of a unified strategy to boost tourism in Africa, which has a diverse natural, cultural and civilization wealth."

The same official stressed that "the tourist activity must be among the activities generating wealth and sustainable development through the creation of jobs, the promotion of training, the improvement of services and infrastructures and the strengthening of regional tourism."

This meeting was also an opportunity to announce the organization, in 2021 in Cape Verde, of the 64th African regional session.

Air Algérie suffers DZD 38 billion hit due to Covid 19

ALGIERS- the Algerian air traffic suspension since mid-March, due to the spread of the Coronavirus pandemic in the world caused DZD 38 billion loss for Air Algérie, said the Airline spokesman Amine Andaloussi said Tuesday.

Losses may increase to DZD 89 billion by the end of 2020, he added.

"We cannot give a date for the resumption of passenger air traffic. The decision to open airspace is a prerogative of the President of the Republic. However even if a decision to resume activity is made, it would be only for 30% of usual program, and you can't exceed 40% by the end of 2020," he told APS.

Thus, "with such a scenario of resumption of activity, the losses of the company may reach DZD89 billion by late 2020," he predicted.

According to experts' forecasts, the return to the 2019 flight schedule, for Air Algérie and for the other airlines worldwide is not possible before 2023 or even 2025, he noted.

Since the suspension of air traffic on March 18, except for cargo flights and for repatriation operations, some 17,620 flights of Air Algérie have been canceled, whether for internal or external routes, he said.

The company, which has repatriated more than 8,000 Algerians stranded abroad since the suspension of air and sea traffic, plans to organize other repatriation flights before the end of the week, he said.

Hydrocarbons: Sonatrach, Mayor Tecnimont partner to build Oil Treatment Train at Hassi Messaoud

ALGIERS - A Grouping made up of Sonatrach and its two partners PTTEP and PVEP, and Mayor Tecnimont an Italian company specializing in Engineering signed a contract of Engineering,

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Procurement & Construction (EPC) to build a second Oil Treatment Train (CPF) at the Bir Sebaa field, 40 km from Hassi Messaoud, said a company statement.

This project, whose contract was awarded in March 2018 following an invitation to tender, constitutes "the 2nd phase of the Bir Sebaa field development, which will allow the processing of an additional production of 20,000 barrels per day of oil," the press release said.

The production of these fields is set to double to 40,000 barrels per day.

The services and supplies of this EPC contract, signed on Monday, include in particular the detailed engineering studies, the supply of equipment and materials, construction as well as commissioning tests.

The project involves the construction of an oil treatment train, associated gas compression unit, gas lift unit, water injection unit for the maintenance of pressure, a third turbo generator (18MW), as well as the connection of 33 wells (19 oil producers and 14 water injectors), detailed the same source.

FOREIGN POLICY NEWS

Desrocher: "I had a very fruitful discussion" with President Tebboune

ALGIERS - U.S. Ambassador to Algiers John P. Desrocher said Monday in Algiers that he had a "very fruitful" discussion with President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune.

I had a very productive discussion with Tebboune. We addressed several aspects regarding bilateral relationship between the two countries and also spoke at length about the challenges facing the region," said John P. Desrocher, following a meeting with President Tebboune.

"I think we have a lot to do in pursuing our goals. I am very pleased that we have begun to build this relationship and I am pleased that we can continue to work toward that goal," he added.

President Tebboune receives US Ambassador in Algiers

ALGIERS - President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, received Monday afternoon Ambassador of the United States in Algiers, said the Presidency of the Republic.

"President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, received on Monday Afternoon, Ambassador of the United States to Algeria, John P. Desrocher," the source said.

During this meeting, the two parties reviewed relations between the two countries, as well as the situation in Libya and the region," added the same source.

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Libyan crisis: Boukadoum holds talks with several counterparts

ALGIERS - Foreign Minister Sabri Boukadoum held talks by telephone with counterparts with Libya, Tunisia, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, said Monday a communiqué of Foreign Ministry.

"The talks revolved around the ways to reinforce the bilateral relations with these countries, as well as the developments of the situation at the regional level, notably the last developments in Libya," added the communiqué.

Boukadoum has reaffirmed Algeria's inalienable position in favor of a political settlement by dialogue among the different Libyan parties in order to reaching a political inclusive solution which guarantees the unity, stability, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Libya, in conformity with the international legitimacy and in compliance with the Libyan people willingness far from foreign interference," added the source.

Moroccan Consul in Oran has left Algeria, his attitude totally inappropriate exceeded all limits of convenience

ALGIERS - Minister for Communication, Official spokesperson for the Presidency of the Republic Belaïd Mohand Oussaïd said on Tuesday that the Moroccan Consul in Oran had indeed left the national territory and that his attitude has exceeded all the limits of convenience.

"The Moroccan consul has effectively left the national territory at the request of Algeria and his attitude has exceeded all limits of convenience," Belaïd Mohand Oussaïd said as he answered a journalist's question during a press conference held in the Presidency of the Republic headquarters.

For the official spokesperson of the Presidency of the Republic, "the attitude of the Moroccan Consul was not surprising because he is a Moroccan intelligence officer".

Affirming that this page in diplomatic relations between the two countries "is now turned", he added that Algeria "is a State which works to alleviate the impact of social problems on its citizens, while others practice the policy of burying one's head in the sand," to avoid seeing the threat coming.

"We are working to preserve relations between the two brotherly Algerian and Moroccan peoples," concluded Belaïd.

President Tebboune receives German Ambassador to Algeria

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune received on Tuesday Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Algiers Ulrike Maria Knotz, said the Presidency of the Republic in a press release.

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"President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune received on Tuesday June 9, 2020, his Excellency Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Algeria Ulrike Maria Knotz," said the press release.

The two parties examined bilateral relations and the situation in the region, in particular the developments occurring in Libya, added the same source.

Libyan crisis: Algeria in favour of any initiative to end bloodshed among Libyans

ALGIERS - Minister Counselor for Communication, official Spokesman of the Presidency of the Republic Belaid Mohand Oussaid affirmed Tuesday that Algeria is in favour of any initiative, regardless of its origin, aimed at ending the bloodshed among the Libyans.

"Algeria is in favour of any initiative, regardless of its origin, aimed at ending the bloodshed among the Libyan brothers," said Belaid in his reply, in a press conference, to a question on the last Egyptian initiative for a ceasefire in Libya.

In this regard, the spokesman of the Presidency of the Republic reported an almost daily coordination and dialogue between Algerian Foreign minister and his counterparts of the region on the developments of the Libyan issue.

He affirmed that the communiqué of Foreign Affairs Ministry was very clear in this regard, adding that "we stand at the same distance from all parties, as we hope to act as a mediator that works to unite the belligerents without bias for any side or waiting for other things relating to the developments of the military situation on the ground."

He added that Algeria "follows with interest the development of the events in this country," an assertion that President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune underlined in a statement to the national and international media, assuring that Algeria "is working to save the children of the brotherly Libyan people from this tragedy marked by the involvement of foreign powers who only think about their own interests in this region," while Algeria "think only about the interest of the Libyan people."