

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Embassy of Algeria in the Republic of Namibia



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DOMESTIC NEWS

Independence Day: President Tebboune receives best wishes from presidents of several countries

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune received new messages of best wishes from presidents of several countries on the occasion of the 58th anniversary of the Independence and Youth Day, said Sunday a communiqué of the Presidency of the Republic.

“On the occasion of the 58th anniversary of the Independence and Youth Day, President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune received new messages of best wishes from :

- Hage G. Geingob, President of the Republic of Namibia
- Sahle-Work Zewde, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- Ram Nath Kovind, President of the Republic of India
- Hassan Rohani, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran
- Daniel Ortega, President of the Republic of Nicaragua and Rosario Murillo, his vice-President
- Nicolas Maduro Moros, President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
- Idriss Déby Itno, President of the Republic of Chad and Head of the State, said the source

After extending his thanks to his counterparts, the President of the Republic “welcomed the good friendship and solidarity relations between Algeria and these friendly and brotherly countries,” reaffirming his willingness to “continue the joint efforts for their strengthening and the enshrinement of dialogue and consultations with their leaders.”

Prime minister starts working visit to Sidi Bel Abbes

SIDI BEL ABBES - Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad started Monday a working visit to the province of Sidi Bel Abbes in which he will inspect several economic and social projects under execution and will chair a ceremony of distribution of housing units.

Accompanied by a ministerial delegation, Djerad will visit the commune of Sidi Ali Benyoub where he will inaugurate a marble and granite processing plant. Fruit of a private investment, the plant is the largest one at the African level.

In the commune of Tabia, Djerad will visit an arboriculture farm whose irrigation is ensured through the drip system.

Djerad will then commission, in the village of Djouaher, the commune of Sidi Lahcen, natural gas supply network for the inhabitants of this village, considered as a grey area.

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On site, he will follow a presentation on a project to build a sanitation network for this agglomeration and another on a programme aimed at supporting grey areas in the province.

During this visit, the new AADL housing unit site will be named after martyr Berichi Amar, where a general survey on the housing sector programmes at the level of the province will be presented to Prime minister.

The cancer centre of the province will be named after late mujaheed Tidjani Haddam. The officials of the health sector will give an update on the management of the health crisis relating to the Coronavirus pandemic.

At the end of the visit, Djerad will chair a key handover ceremony for 1,607 subscribers to housing programmes of different formulas.

Army arrests three terrorist bunkers, homemade bomb in Medea and Boumerdes

ALGIERS - Detachments of the People's National Army (ANP) on Sunday destroyed three terrorist bunkers in Medea and Boumerdes while other automatic pistols and a quantity of ammunition were discovered in Djelfa, said Monday the National Defence Ministry in a communiqué.

"As part of counterterrorism, detachments of the People's National Army destroyed, on 12 July 2020, three (03) terrorist bunkers and one (01) home-made bomb during search and sweep operations conducted in Medea and Boumerdes (1st Military Region), while another Army detachment discovered two (02) automatic pistols and a quantity of ammunition in Djelfa (1st Military Region)," said the source.

As part of the fight against smuggling and organized crime, a combined Army detachment "arrested, in coordination with the National Police services, three (03) drug traffickers and seized 50,000 psychotropic tablets and a sum of money amounting to DZD20 million in Barika (province of Batna/5th Military Region). Another Army detachment, in coordination with Customs, seized two (02) off-road vehicles loaded with 55,860 psychotropic tablets and 40,000 packets of cigarettes in Ouargla (4th Military Region)."

In addition, Army detachments "apprehended 43 individuals and seized 52 generators, 42 jackhammers, two (02) metal detectors and gold panning equipment in Djanet (4th Military Region) and Tamanrasset (6th Military Region). Besides, Coastguards thwarted an attempt to illegally emigrate seven (07) people on board a homemade boat in Annaba (5th Military Region)," said the source.

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COVID-19 NEWS

Covid-19: Setif University designs manufactures emergency respiratory medical device

SETIF (Algiers) - Farhat Abbas University of Setif (300-km east of Algiers) has designed and manufactured an emergency respiratory medical device, pending approval by the relevant authorities, the rector of the university, Abdelkrim Beniaiche, said Sunday.

The device, designed and manufactured in partnership between Ferhat Abbas University and foreign experts, is intended for patients suffering from respiratory complications among Covid-19 patients, the same official said. He added that after adjustment, the device will provide oxygen to the lungs without the help of a nurse.

It can be used in case of saturation of intelligent breathing and resuscitation devices, currently used in hospitals to resuscitate the patient suffering from health complications and respiratory difficulties caused by the coronavirus, according to Professor Beniaiche.

"A group of researchers, doctors and specialists from Farhat Abbas University of Setif, and other institutions, has been assigned with the development of the device from a mechanical, electronic and programming point of view, in addition to another scientific advisory panel."

Covid-19: Forthcoming production of 2 million FFP2 masks per month in Algeria

ALGIERS - Two operators in Boumerdes and Algiers will soon produce two (2) million FFP2 masks per month meeting European standards, APS learned Monday from the Ministry of Pharmaceutical Industry.

Two operators will soon produce FFP2 masks per month meeting European standards, the first in the coming days and the second from August, said Dr. Madjid Benmakhlof.

Before their marketing and distribution to public and private hospitals, the produced masks will be submitted for approval by the National Agency for Pharmaceutical Products, he said.

As regards the other 3-ply masks for medical use, the same official said that five (5) operators were currently producing 40,000 units/day, stressing that the arrival in a few days of a sixth operator will increase the production capacity to 100,000 units/day.

ECONOMIC NEWS

Sonatrach: President Tebboune orders "deep audit"

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune ordered to carry out a deep audit in Sonatrach Group.

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The instruction was given in a periodic meeting of the Council of ministers, held Sunday by video conference, said a communiqué of the Presidency of the Republic, released at the end of this Council of ministers.

The Head of State ordered this audit to assess Sonatrach's holdings, as well as to reduce the number of its representations abroad.

This decision is meant to reduce the number of leadership posts which are not related to the company's productivity and profitability," as well as "to steer towards a sound cost accounting."

Energy reserves: President Tebboune orders exploitation of all deposits

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune gave the instruction to exploit all the deposits of the country and to relaunch the prospecting activities of unexploited reserves.

The instruction was given during the periodic meeting of the Council of ministers, held Sunday by video conference, said a communiqué of the Presidency of the Republic.

The Head of State also gave precise instructions for the relaunch of the prospecting activities of unexploited reserves through accurate and documented studies.

In this respect, he pointed out that there are several deposits on the national territory and off-shore, where potentialities are real as shown by the prospecting work that has already been carried out.

President of the Republic underlined that another line of work should be organized in the sector concerning the recovery of the existing reserves to be able to raise, as soon as possible, the recovery rate to more than 40%.

In this regard, the Head of State ordered to stop importing fuel and refined products as from the first quarter of 2021.

Concerning the mining sector, President of the Republic ordered an optimal and transparent exploitation of all the mining resources and natural wealth of the country.

He notably insisted on the exploitation, as soon as possible, of the iron mine of Gara Djebilet, in the province of Tindouf, of the zinc and lead deposit of Oued Amizour (Bejaia) and on the relaunch of the project of manufacturing phosphate products in El Aouinet (Tebessa).

Industry: Tebboune orders promulgation of specifications before July 22

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune has ordered the promulgation, before July 22, of the specifications relating to automotive industry, domestic appliances and spare parts as well as to the importation of used vehicles and factories.

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Speaking at the Council of Ministers meeting he chaired on Sunday, President Tebboune "instructed the minister of Industry to release the specifications before July 22 concerning the car manufacturing sector, the production of household appliances and spare parts, the importation of new vehicles and used factories," the Presidency of the Republic said in a statement.

The President of the Republic said the specifications relating to the import of new vehicles must be a mandatory procedure, with the establishment of an after-sales service network across the country, managed by the professionals of the sector.

Minister of Industry Ferhat Ait Ali Braham said recently that in addition to having the necessary capacities to carry out this activity, especially in relation to showrooms, the specifications setting out the terms and conditions for the work of new motor vehicle dealers require after-sales service workshops, hiring qualified personnel and having a prior order from the customer before making any import.

As for the new specifications relating to car manufacturing, it is meant to establish a genuine mechanical industry in Algeria, by requiring a minimum of 30% in the integration of local components as well as the manufacture of the bodywork locally, according to the Minister.

Speeding up financial reform to save USD20 bn in 2020

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune instructed the government, at the Council of Ministers meeting held Sunday, to accelerate the financial reform through several measures allowing the State to save 20 billion dollars by the end of the year.

In addition to these expected savings, the minister of Finance, Aimen Benabderrahmane, said at the meeting that the country was ready to inject "immediately" for investment and economic recovery the equivalent of 1,000 billion dinars, to which will be added an "available" 10 billion dollars, an announcement welcomed with satisfaction by President Tebboune.

Other measures have been taken to "eliminate over-billing" and "recover the money available in the informal market," according to the statement.

Among the axes of the financial reform, whose acceleration is expected to save 20 billion dollars in 2020, Tebboune insisted on banking, fiscal and customs reform, the control of imports and the recovery of money from the informal market.

He also instructed the departments concerned to reduce the level of imports, especially services and maritime transport of goods, to preserve foreign exchange reserves.

Covid-19: Untapped tourism, "one of the sector's priorities"

SETIF - Minister of Tourism, Craft Industry and Family Work, Mohamed Hamidou, affirmed Monday in El Eulma (27 km east of Setif) that the recovery of the unused tourist land will be "one of the priorities" of his Ministerial department once the crisis of Covid-19 is over.

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Speaking on the sidelines of an inspection visit of the construction works of one of the private hotels of El Eulma, the Minister affirmed that "in the absence of convincing justifications, the Ministry of Tourism, Handicraft and Family Work will proceed to the recovery of the non-exploited tourist land in coordination with the governors."

Hamidou also returned to the reinforcement of domestic tourism, noting on this subject "the organization, after the crisis of Covid-19, of meetings with the various operators of the sector, such as Air Algérie and the owners of hotel establishments, in order to review their tariff grid and to enable the citizens to take advantage of the tourist potentialities which Algeria has to offer."

The Minister stressed that his department "is ready to support and accompany all investors in the tourism sector as part of the efforts to remove all barriers to tourism investment."

It has, in this context, given instructions to those in charge of the sector in order to respond to the demands of any citizen wishing to invest with the objective of creating wealth and generating jobs in order to emerge from dependence on hydrocarbons.

The Minister of Tourism, Craft Industry and Family Work had started his visit to the province of Setif by inspecting the workshop of local craftsmen specialized in the making of surgical masks, and the building site of the project of a 4-star private hotel in the city of El Guesria, in the chief town of the province.

President Tebboune orders creation of committee for assessment of Covid-19 economic impact

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune ordered the setting up of a committee for the assessment of the Covid 19 impact on the national economy, said a communiqué of the Presidency of the Republic published following Sunday's Council of Ministers meeting.

Tebboune gave instructions for "the establishment of a committee chaired by the Prime Minister and bringing together the social partners and economic operators," said the same source. This committee will prepare a report which will be presented in the next Council of Ministers meeting.

President Tebboune has repeatedly expressed the State's commitment to support all companies and professions impacted by the pandemic, while inviting the operators concerned to be honest in seeking the assistance of the State. "We are ready to help companies which provide clear figures," he pledged.

Agriculture must be given place it deserves, says Djerad

SIDI BEL-ABBES - Agriculture must be given the place it deserves and investment in this field must be further encouraged, said Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerad who is on a working visit to the province of Sidi Bel-Abbes.

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At “Harima Rabah” farm located in the commune of Tabia, first step of his visit, Djerad stressed the importance and contribution of agriculture to the national economy and emphasized the need to attach interest to this job and wealth-creating sector in order to reduce the import bill.

“Our agricultural production is varied and of high quality. The sector must be varied by encouraging investment and mobilizing the necessary means to exploit large areas,” said the PM. In this regard, State will provide assistance but companies must assure added value, he continued. Southern regions must be given interest to diversify agricultural production and lighten the import bill.

PM affirms State’s support to investors in processing industries

SIDI BEL-ABBES - Prime Minister Abdelaziz Djerrad affirmed Monday in Sidi Bel-Abbes State’s support to investors in processing industries given their role in reducing dependence on hydrocarbons.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony of a marble and granite processing plant in the commune of Sidi Ali Benyoub, the largest in Africa, Djerad said that developing processing industries was part of the strategy of President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune which “fully supports investors in processing industries.”

“Processing industry is important to our country, which is rich in natural resources, as are mining and agriculture. It allows us to progressively enhance the industry sector and reduce dependence on oil and gas,” said Djarad.

Djerad, who received explanations on the process of transforming the raw stone material into marble and granite, urged the plant owner to train youth and create jobs. The Premier also stressed the need to support the creation of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) so that youth can invest in this kind of “important” industries.

Djerad urged Algerian investors to buy European plants in cessation of activity, notably those proposed at reasonable prices, in order to “support industry in Algeria.”

Stretching over an area of 64,542 square meters, the plant can produce 10,000 square meters of various types of marble and granite and currently provides 400 direct jobs.

According to the explanations provided on the spot, the raw stone material is extracted from four quarries in the regions of Tamanrasset and Aïn Guezzam, with an estimated processing capacity of nearly 12,000 tons per month. This plant, which operates according to international standards, covers domestic needs.

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FOREIGN POLICY NEWS

President Tebboune: Algeria, France can move forward, once history issues settled

ALGIERS - President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune said Monday that Algeria and France will be able to move forward with "serenity", once the problems related to history settled, stressing the importance of addressing the "painful events" of the past in order to restore profitable relations between the two countries.

"Algeria is essential for France, just like France is for Algeria. We need to face these painful events to restore profitable relations for the two countries, especially in the economic field.

Memory cannot be neglected ...," said President Tebboune, in an interview with the French daily l'Opinion, recalling that the recent handing over of the remains of the Popular Resistance leaders against French colonization "constitutes a big step forward."

Stressing that other crimes and massacres perpetrated by the colonial machine "deserve to be told", the Head of State said that "many French historians study these historical events with integrity." In this regard, he cited French historian Benjamin Stora who was appointed to work on memory matter.

"He is sincere and knows Algeria and its history, from the period of occupation to the present day. We will appoint his Algerian counterpart within 72 hours. These two personalities will work directly under our respective supervision. We hope that they will accomplish their work in serenity and calm to resolve these problems which poison our political relations, the business climate and good understanding," said the President of the Republic.

Speaking about the phone conversation he had with French President Macron, the President Tebboune said that his French counterpart "knows very well the events that have marked our common history." "There is human, scientific and economic cooperation between the two countries. France has just lost its first place as a supplier country of Algeria, but it's not irreversible.

With regard to the Libyan question, President Tebboune reaffirmed Algeria's readiness to host UN-led talks." The Libyans "aspire to peace" and we need to work on a "new road map which would lead to peaceful elections within two or three years, under the monitoring of the UN and a consensual government of transition," he stressed.

Regarding the crisis in Mali, President Tebboune said that Algeria has a "very close" relationship with this country, stressing that "the total destabilization of Mali would have repercussions on our country." Recalling that at the conclusion of the Algiers peace agreements, terrorism "was not as widespread", President Tebboune said that "today, 20,000 and 25,000 active terrorists are operating in Mali, Burkina-Faso and Niger combined."

"It is necessary to resolve this issue, but above all find political solutions that guarantee the territorial integrity of the country," he said.

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Broaching the Algerian-Moroccan relations, President Tebboune said that "there has always been a verbal and political escalation between our countries. But our peoples are brothers and look alike."

"We have a long common history and are neighbors. We are doomed to live together. As far as we are concerned, we have no problem with Morocco and we are focused on the development of our country," he said, adding that "our Moroccan brothers do not seem to be in the same frame of mind." The "construction of military bases at our borders is a form of escalation that must stop," he stressed.

President Tebboune receives phone call from Russian counterpart

ALGIERS - President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, received on Monday a phone call from his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, during which they addressed the efforts made by their countries to fight the corona virus pandemic and reviewed the privileged bilateral relations, the Presidency of the Republic said in a statement.

"President of the Republic, Abdelmadjid Tebboune, received on Monday morning a phone call from his Russian counterpart, President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, during which they addressed the efforts made by their countries in the fight against the covid19 pandemic, and reviewed the privileged bilateral relations with a view to strengthening them," according to the same source.

On this occasion, "the Russian President renewed his invitation to President Tebboune to visit his country," the same source added.

"At the international level, the two parties discussed the role of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Organization (OPEC), whose rotating presidency is currently held by Algeria.

In this regard, the President of the Republic welcomed "the role of Russia as a member outside Opec in order to preserve the stability of hydrocarbon prices," the source said. The two presidents further agreed to "continue consultation and coordination with the other members of OPEC and its partners for the stabilization of the international oil market."

Regarding the latest developments in Libya, the two Presidents decided "to intensify the permanent dialogue in order to facilitate the establishment of peace and security in this brotherly country, within the framework of a political solution guaranteeing the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of Libya," the communiqué concludes.

Goudjil, his French counterpart reaffirms their willingness to support dynamic of relations

Goudjil received a telephone communication from Larcher, during which the two leaders "reaffirmed their willingness to pursue coordination and consultation at the parliamentary level with a view to accompanying the new dynamic that characterizes relations between the two

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governments of the two countries, in the framework of the approach adopted by the Presidents of the two countries, Abdelmadjid Tebboune and Emmanuel Macron," the source said.

In this regard, both parties stressed the importance of the role of parliamentarians in bringing the two countries and peoples closer together."

The two parliamentary leaders also raised "several questions and issues of common interest, mainly the need to work to promote any action likely to help bring about an effective reconciliation between the memories of the two peoples and the two countries."

The talks also made it possible to "highlight the quality and level of cooperation between the Council of the Nation and the French Senate," and to review "the best possible ways to strengthen this cooperation, particularly in terms of exchanges in the parliamentary field, so as to optimize the implementation of the bilateral cooperation protocol signed between the two parties on 8 September 2015 in Algiers," added the communiqué.

The presidents of the two parliamentary chambers also discussed the latest developments in the regional situation, mainly in the Sahel and Libya, stressing at the same time "the need to work by all means possible through parliamentary diplomacy in order to achieve a peaceful settlement of these conflicts.

Boukadoum on working visit to Tunisia Monday

ALGIERS - Foreign Minister Sabri Boukadoum will make a working visit to Tunisia on Monday, to discuss with Tunisian officials ways and methods to develop bilateral relations in various fields, the ministry said in a statement.

Algerian diplomacy chief's visit to Tunisia will be an "opportunity to continue discussions with the Tunisian side on the ways and means to develop bilateral relations in various areas, including the preparation for President Tebboune's State visit to Tunisia," the statement said.

The talks with Tunisian officials will also focus on the "latest developments in the region," the statement concluded.