

Libyan Women's Charter

December 2025

Introduction

This document builds on and is complementary to the efforts by Libyan women over the past years to strengthen their participation and contributions to peacebuilding and political processes. It is based on the “Libyan Women’s Document for Peacebuilding and Enhanced Role in Social Peace” of 2015, the recommendations drawn from the statement of Libyan women participating in the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (LPDF), and on the outcomes of multiple consultations facilitated by the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) and UN Women since 2020. The document compiles these previous priorities and recommendations with those gathered through consultations facilitated by UNSMIL, in partnership with UN Women and the UNDP, from October to November 2025 with Libyan women from various regions and sectors and from inside and outside of Libya.

The aim of this document is to inform the agenda, discussions and outcomes of the UNSMIL-facilitated Structured Dialogue, commenced in December 2025, the political roadmap and any future political processes. It aims to embody a broad framework of the priorities and recommendations of Libyan women, related to governance, economy, security, national reconciliation and human rights, in line with the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and the Women, Peace and Security agenda. The document provides a basis for development of more targeted advocacy tools and strategies and remains open to further revisions in line with developments in the Libyan context and the political process.

The role of the United Nations in developing this document has been limited to facilitation of the above-mentioned consultations and technical support for drafting of the document, and it does not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations.

Recommendations

1. Governance

a. Constitutional review

- Formation of a committee with a clear timeline to address the contentious issues in the Draft Constitution developed by the Constitution Draft Assembly in 2017, including legal experts and representation of women and cultural components.
- Enhancing the participation of civil society organizations in discussions related to the constitutional process to ensure inclusive dialogue and a broader national consensus.
- Constitutionalize the right to grant citizenship to the children of Libyan women married to non-Libyans.
- Include the establishment of a High Council for Women within the constitution, as an independent constitutional body reporting to the legislative authority.

b. Women's participation in governance

- Adhering to the ratified international covenants and international standards related to the rights of women and effectively implementing their provisions.
- Adopting the necessary mechanisms and measures to empower women politically, economically, and socially, while ensuring their meaningful representation in all political and executive positions at rate of no less than 35%.

c. Formation of a unified government

- Establish a new, unified government, based on principles established by the Structured Dialogue, while ensuring a representation of women at rate of no less than 35%.
- Reunify the institutions, including the sovereign institutions, and appoint new leaderships based on merit and integrity, ensuring representation of women at rate of no less than 35%.
- Set a term for the new executive authority and ensure representation of women at rate of no less than 35%.

- Ensure that at least one of the vice presidents or deputies of the prime minister is a woman to guarantee women's concrete participation in the highest level of decision-making.
- Activate the Women's Support and Empowerment Unit within the Presidency Council and the Women's Empowerment offices in all government authorities and institutions and allocate budgets thereto.
- Strengthen the role of the Ministry of State for Women Affairs and allocate a ministerial portfolio for it with a clear budget and responsibilities.

d. Electoral laws

- The electoral laws should include a quota for women at rate of no less than 35% in both chambers (the House of Representatives and the Senate).
- Promote the list system to ensure women's horizontal and vertical participation in the lists, while ensuring representation of women from cultural components and women with disabilities.
- Include an explicit article in the electoral laws on preventing and addressing political violence against women to criminalize all forms of threats, intimidation, violence and defamation.
- Ensure an increased number of women in the management of polling stations and electoral departments.
- Guarantee the rights of Libyan women married to non-Libyans to enjoy full citizenship rights, including the right to vote and run for elections.
- Address the issue of national numbers, and their permanent registration in the electoral register to ensure they are not excluded from political and electoral participation.
- Raise awareness among the public on the importance of women's participation in elections - as voters, candidates and polling officers.

2. Security

a. Reform of the security and military institutions

- Unify the military institution under civilian authority, with commitment to utmost political impartiality.

- Secure and protect borders from smuggling, security breaches and organized crime through the development of border control systems and international and regional cooperation.
- Enhance the capacity of law enforcement institutions through adequate training for security and judicial personnel on transparent and independent investigation, evidence collection and documentation and justice administration.
- Request international technical assistance to enhance the preparedness of security institutions to prevent and combat security threats, including terrorism, and modernization of the security equipment.
- Develop standards and professional requirements for career progression in the military and security institutions.

b. Women's participation in the security sector

- Establish a clear mechanism for women's participation in security institutions and related sub-committees, ensuring that women are represented at rate of no less than 35%.
- Increase public awareness on the importance of women's active participation in the security and military affairs.
- Develop a database of women personnel working in the security and military sector to support strategic planning and capacity-building.
- Establish a regular communication mechanism between women security sector actors and women's civil society organizations.

c. Women's participation in peacebuilding and ceasefire processes and conflict prevention

- Review and update the 2020 ceasefire agreement in cooperation with legal experts and human rights organizations, to ensure that women are included in its provisions and in monitoring and implementation mechanisms.
- Involve women working in security sector at all phases of ceasefire processes, train them as local monitors, involve them in the sub-committees, and support the establishment of local women's early warning networks.

- Strengthen the role of women's civil society organizations in raising awareness on the ceasefire agreement to build bridges between communities and to reduce community violence.
- Engage women as negotiators, mediators, and policymakers at all stages of negotiation, consultations, and the drafting of agreements and policies to ensure that women's priorities and perspectives are included in future peace settlements.
- Contribute to building trust among the communities in conflict areas through dialogue and community cooperation, with the participation of local women peacemakers, religious and community leaders and civil society organizations.
- Support women's civil society organizations in raising awareness and providing training for women affected by conflicts, equipping them with negotiation and mediation skills.
- Provide psychosocial support to conflict-affected populations, especially women and girls, to enhance their stability, resilience, and participation in peace efforts.

d. Disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of armed groups

- Develop a comprehensive national plan, with a clear time-bound implementation mechanisms for disarmament, collection of weapons and reintegration of members of armed groups.
- Cooperate with civil society organizations and media to launch national awareness campaign on the role of local women's networks and groups in preventing and addressing community violence.

e. Role of the international community in supporting stability in Libya

- Impose appropriate sanctions against individuals, entities, and states that violate Security Council arms embargo resolutions.
- Recognize and address the impact of arms proliferation on the security of women and girls undermining their opportunities to participate in public life.

f. Role of persons with disabilities in security and peacebuilding

- Empower people with disabilities to participate in local security and community committees tasked with protection of civilians and in building trust between security actors and communities.
- Incorporate the needs of people with disabilities to ensure access to services, rehabilitation programs, and psychosocial support.
- Strengthen the capacities of people with disabilities in mediation and community peacebuilding through training and capacity building in conflict management and local mediation.
- Ensure protection of people with disabilities during security crises and conflicts and develop mechanisms that consider their specific needs.
- Ensure representation of women with disabilities in security and peace initiatives, including ceasefire committees to ensure inclusive decision-making and policies.
- Train police officers on how to engage with people with disabilities during investigations.

3. Economy

a. Fiscal Governance and Economic Oversight

- The subsidy policy and related economic policies should be reviewed only by an elected government, not the transitional government.
- Establish mechanisms to effectively combat smuggling to mitigate its disastrous impacts on the macro and micro economy, while prosecuting those involved and addressing impunity.
- Adopt clear economic policies to combat inflation and parallel spending with full transparency and accountability.
- Ensure rigorous oversight on sovereign revenues and entities responsible for their management while ensuring their accountability.
- Evaluate the performance of oversight bodies, ensure timely issuance of their annual reports and hold oversight bodies accountable for any shortcomings in uncovering corruption.

b. Private and Banking Sector Reforms

- Adopt clear economic policies to combat inflation and parallel spending with full transparency and accountability.

- Ensure stability and enhanced performance of the banking sector and develop effective banking policies and procedures.
- Activate the private sector, amend the laws and modernize and simplify regulations.

c. Public Sector Development and Accountability

- Adhere to the approved staffing structure and policies for each government entity and institution.
- Address corruption in the public sector, including excessive financial and in-kind benefits.
- Ensure fair distribution of reconstruction and development projects across all regions of Libya and engage municipalities in promoting spatial development.

d. Economic Empowerment of Women

- Develop a national plan to support women inclusion of women in private sector and the finance sector.
- Establish a quota of no less than 35% to ensure women's representation in boards of directors and committees of key financial institutions, and other economic decision-making positions.
- Establish a fund to support women's economic participation, entrepreneurship and businesses
- Enhance the participation of women with disabilities through inclusive economic policies that take into account their needs to ensure equal opportunities in all areas of economic and social development.

4. Human Rights and National Reconciliation

a. Human Rights

- Strengthen the role of the international community in monitoring the implementation of international human rights agreements, especially those concerning women's rights and the rights of persons with disabilities.
- Protect women human rights defenders, women's rights activists and journalists from threats and harassment through effective legal and institutional mechanisms.

- Adopt draft laws submitted to the legislative authorities, including the draft civil society law and the draft law on protecting women from violence and ensure their implementation through the competent authorities.
- Address online violence against women, provide protection and support mechanisms for victims, and work with civil society organizations and the media to raise awareness on its impacts on women and the society.
- Provide protection and necessary support for the families of victims of arbitrary arrests and forcibly disappeared persons.
- Establish an independent mechanism to monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, with the participation of civil society organizations.
- Raise awareness among women, in general, and women with disabilities about their rights, and facilitate access to services.
- Provide psychosocial support for women survivors, including shelters, and allocate a budget for provision of services and support.
- Increase the presence of female police officers in law enforcement centers.

b. Transitional Justice and National Reconciliation

- Develop a comprehensive national plan for national reconciliation, reparations and justice for victims, along with amending the transitional justice law, to address impunity.
- Engage women in national reconciliation and transitional justice processes and fact-finding and affiliate committees at rate of no less than at 35%.
- Promote dialogue among women, decision-makers, and local communities to ensure their effective participation in national reconciliation and peace-related decision-making.
- Include representatives of persons with disabilities in fact-finding committees at a rate of no less than 5% and incorporate awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities in all tracks.

- Establish mechanisms, implement plans, and allocate a budget for the return of the internally and forcibly displaced, ensuring their protection.
- Create a social and humanitarian track within the national reconciliation process to reinforce the Libyan identity, provide reparations, and address hate speech and discrimination, while adhering to the international conventions.

5. Cross-cutting recommendations for the UNSMIL-facilitated political process

a. Recommendations for the political roadmap

- Establish a mechanism to evaluate the outcomes of previous dialogues facilitated by UNSMIL, while engaging civil society in the evaluation process to learn from past experiences.
- Establish a clear mechanism to monitor and follow up on the implementation of any political agreement and the results of the political process.
- Ensure that all those who have assumed political and executive positions are held accountable to their commitments and impose measures and sanctions on entities or individuals obstructing the political process.
- Commit to a clear roadmap with a defined timeframe and adhere to announced schedule.

b. Recommendations for the Structured Dialogue

- Establish a mechanism for coordination between the different tracks and integrate their outputs to reach an integrated national political vision.
- Transparently disseminate the minutes of sessions and ensure public access thereto.
- Ensure protection of participating women and youth, for both in person and through digital platforms.
- Launching an independent track within the Structured Dialogue on constitutional review; or incorporating it as a main topic within the

Governance track, while ensuring necessary expertise within the group, including women, people with disabilities and all cultural components.

- Add a separate theme within the Structured Dialogue to discuss local governance issues and ensure their integration into the political process.
- Integrate a human rights perspective into all stages of the political process, including the Structured Dialogue thematic areas.
- Incorporate the issues of arbitrary arrests and forcibly disappeared persons within the human rights track of the Structured Dialogue.

Documents Consolidated in this Charter :

- 1.** Libyan Women's Document for Peacebuilding and Enhanced their Role in Social Peace, 2015.
- 2.** Summary and recommendations from the consultative sessions between Libyan women leaders from political parties, civil society, female legal experts, academics, media professionals, and human rights defenders and the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), on the political, military, economic, and human rights tracks, October 2020.
- 3.** Recommendations from representatives of women's civil society, female members of the High Council of State and the House of Representatives in 2024 in Tripoli and Benghazi.
- 4.** A Women's Vision for Security Sector Reform and Sustainable Peacebuilding - Initiative Towards Stability, 2023.
- 5.** UN Women Report on the Consultative Workshop: The Role of Libyan Women in National Reconciliation, 2022.
- 6.** Outcomes of the Workshop on Enhancing Libyan Women's Participation in Parliamentary Elections - UN Women and UNSMIL, October 2023.
- 7.** Outcomes of the Workshop on the Role of Women in Implementing the Ceasefire Agreement, May 2025.
- 8.** The Parallel Report for the 4th Universal Periodic Review of the State of Libya, November 2025, by the Solidarity Organization for Advocacy of Women's Issues with a Group of Organizations.
- 9.** Statement by Libyan women participating in the National Dialogue Forum.

