Recommendations of the Youth Track of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (LPDF)

Sunday, 18 October 2020 via Zoom

Attended by the Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UN Support Mission in Libya, Ms. Stephanie Williams, and organized by the Public Information and Communication Office, the first meeting of the Libyan Youth Track was held on Sunday, 18 October 2020. 40 young men and women from all over Libya participated in the event and agreed on a set of important recommendations, as follows:

I. General Points on the Upcoming Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (LPDF) to be held next November, and the Security and Economic Tracks as well

- There should be an adequate representation of youth in the Dialogue Committee and not simply hold virtual meeting of the Youth Track.
- Demand allocating seats for civil society institutions as "observers" within the security and economic dialogue tracks as partners in combating corruption as well as in building peace and achieving security.
- Include competence as a basic criterion through expanded selection options for each position and nominate three candidates to select the most suitable for each of the positions that will be determined by the dialogue committee.
- Impose sanctions on anyone attempting to obstruct the LPDF, be it an individual or institution.

II. The Executive Authority during the Preparatory Period

- Define a clear timeline that ends with holding the elections according to a constitution agreed upon through a referendum.
- Form a reduced crisis cabinet with specific functions and powers. It should:
1- Make the necessary preparations for the elections.

2- Work on unifying the executive institutions.

3- Address, in parallel, the economic bottlenecks and provision of services to the Libyans across Libya without exception.

- Ensure better representation of youth and women in ministries, middle administrations and sovereign positions.

- Determine the objectives of the organizational bodies and structures emanating from the [Libyan] Political Agreement and agree on appropriate mechanisms to follow up and assess their commitment to and implementation of these objectives in a manner that ensures neutrality, professionalism and transparency, using clear mechanisms that guarantee rectifying the tracks as necessary.

- Emphasize giving paramount importance to transitional justice in the upcoming preparatory stage and include of the national reconciliation strategy that UNSMIL has been working on through an expanded set of meetings with various components of the Libyan population as part of the priorities of the upcoming government.

- Work on the political, security and financial laws and procedures necessary for the return of IDPs; release of all arbitrarily detained and address the issue of the detained without due legal procedures. Combat torture in detention facilities across Libya and reactivate the role of the National Council for Public Freedoms and Human Rights.

- Grant service providing authority to the municipalities through a transparent and equitable distribution of budgets according to the needs of each municipality.

III. Constitution:

1- Resolve the issue of the constitutional rule in the forthcoming political agreement document by stipulating the law under which the referendum on the constitution will be carried out and assign the organization of the
referendum to the High National Electoral Commission (HNEC) automatically.

2- The referendum on the constitution should be held in accordance with the referendum law before the elections and appropriate timelines should be put in place, in addition to defining the time needed for amendment of the draft and recalling the referendum in the event that the draft is rejected in the first referendum.

3- Ensure the necessary security arrangements for the referendum are in place.

IV. Elections

1- The parliamentary and presidential elections must be conducted according to a clear election law and in compliance with the new Libyan constitution.

2- An undertaking should be made to respect the results of the elections due to be held within a year from signing the new agreement in a manner that guarantees the handover of power to an elected body.

3- The necessary security arrangements for holding the elections should be guaranteed.

V. Economy

1- Unify the branches of the Central Bank of Libya and all financial, sovereign and service institutions.

2- Unify the exchange rate.

VI. Judiciary

1- Emphasize the independence of the judiciary and non-interference in its work by the executive authority, particularly with regard to selecting its members and emanating bodies.
2- Penalize those who obstruct and disrupt the outcomes of the political, security, economic, humanitarian and human rights dialogue tracks.

3- Penalize those individuals, institutions and media channels that practice hate speech.

4- The General Amnesty Law enacted by the House of Representatives should be ratified by The UN Security Council.

VII. Security Track

1- Integrate all regular brigades within a unified military institution, dismantle all armed formations and remove all foreign forces from the Libyan territory.

2- Reform the security sector and implement a national program to dismantle and reintegrate members of armed groups individually.

VIII. Mechanism for Conveying these Outcomes to the LPDF

- In addition to the representation of youth in this committee, it was agreed that the recommendations of this meeting would be presented to the LPDF online session by the youngest female participant.

- Several participants believe that Twiwhah document (recommendations of a youth meeting in Southern Libya) needs to be included in the literature of the LPDF.

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