

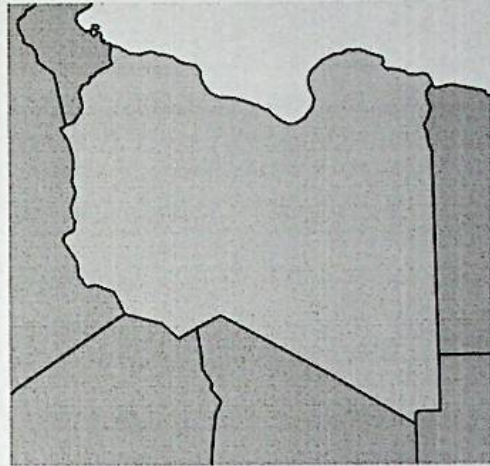
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**Libya**

**Oct 05-11**

**Summary**

Negotiations resumed this week in Morocco between Tripoli and Tobruk delegations. The talks are sponsored by the UN for the establishment of a unity government that will end the crisis in the country. A list of candidates for the new government was presented.



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**Diplomacy**

Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry has called on the parties involved in the inter-Libyan talks to find a solution to the crisis underway in the country, stressing that "there is no room for further delays" between the parties in reaching an agreement for a national unity government, said "Daily News Egypt". In a meeting with ministerial delegations from several Middle East countries, the United States, the United Kingdom and Italy, Shoukry reiterated that delays in signing the political agreement are no longer acceptable. He underlined that the UN Security Council has the right to impose sanctions on individuals jeopardising the peace process. Qatar has announced its full support to Libya, but wants to hold relations with a strong government able to commit to satisfying the Libyan population's aspirations, said Qatari Minister's Assistant for International Cooperation Affairs Abdulrahman al Thani. According to Arab media, al Thani reiterated Doha's support of the creation of a national unity government in order to restore security to the country and stability and prosperity to the people.

**Politics**

Talks between Tobruk and Tripoli resumed at the beginning of the week in Morocco to reach an agreement and present the names of the candidates that will lead the future unity government. The talks are sponsored by UN Envoy Bernardino Leon, who has come to the end of his mandate. So far, only the independent delegates have put forward names of candidates. Doubts remain between the delegations of the two Libyan parliaments that are divided internally about the need to reach an agreement. After months of trying negotiations and deadlines that have not been respected, the UN is increasing pressure so that the parties take the final step and proceed with the nominations of those who will lead the new institutions in the country. Time is running out: the mandate of the Tobruk parliament, elected on Aug. 2, 2014 and the only one recognised by the international community, expires on Oct.20. Bernardino Leon, UN Special Envoy to Libya, has said that it is necessary to overcome the resistance of a "hard core, a minority of 20 or 25 people out of 120 or 130 that represent a militia of 1,500 people allied with the President of the General National Congress of Libya (of Tripoli, Nuri Abu Sahimin)". At the end of the week, Leon presented the new Libyan unity government based on results of the negotiations underway in Morocco between the Tripoli and Tobruk delegations. The delegates taking part in the talks have chosen Faiz al Siraj as Prime Minister and Abdel Rahman al Sahwili as head of the Council of State. Musa al Kuni and Fathi al Mujbari will be Deputy Prime Ministers. Al Siraj was chosen as representative of eastern Libya, while one of the deputies is from the west and the other is from the south. Leon specified that these names have so far only been



proposed and that the future Council of State will have to approve them in order to end the crisis in the country. The UN Envoy added that "this government will represent all Libyans" while he excluded the possibility that further amendments to the agreement, as requested by the Tripoli Congress, will be accepted. Tripoli MP Mohammed al Amari has said he is shocked that names of the future Libyan unity government have been put forward. Speaking to Libyan journalists, al Amari said that "at the moment, the Congress has not presented any names for the unity government and, as a member of the delegation that is mediating in Skhirat, I have not taken part in meetings to distribute authority". Prior to the presentation of candidates, 112 Tobruk MPs out of 131 voted to extend the current legislature until new elections.

### **Security**

Islamic State fighters in Libya are gathering in the al Nawafiliya village, near Sirte, to prepare a vast offensive aimed at taking control of the so-called "oil crescent", an area located in the eastern part of Libya. According to intelligence sources, the Islamic State will attack within a month. The attack launched last Thursday against the Al Sidra oil terminal, that was repelled by guards posted to defend the site, was only an attempt to test the ability of the guards in the area. The jihads are mainly located in Labraq, west of al Nawafiliya, while others are in the outskirts of Sirte. The residents expect the first open clashes between the Islamic State and the guards to occur in the near future. A missile has hit the Tripoli Congress building causing a huge explosion while MPs were gathered inside to approve the decision made by the delegation in Morocco on members of the new national unity government. According to Libyan security sources, the missile hit the rear of the Congress building. It is unclear which group is responsible for the attack, but local security forces believe the objective was to prevent the meeting. There were no victims in the attack.

*Based on news from the following Libyan newspaper and websites: Ean Libia, Al-Wasat, Libya Al-Mustakbal, Libya Herald, Libyan News Agency LANA, Al Hayat, Al Quds Al Arabi, Al Arabiya, Sky Arabia, Al Youm.*