

Commission on Libya crisis

June 5th, 2014

VIA FAX & FED-EX

Honorable Secretary General
Mr. Ban Ki Moon

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United Nations
405 East 42nd Street
New York, NY10017 - Telephone: 212-963-9999 Fax 212-963-4879

Dear Honorable Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki Moon:

As a group of concerned Libyans, we offer our most sincere gratitude for your expression of concern about recent developments in Libya of increased military activities and your call for a dialogue by all Libyan parties.

Three years after the fall of the Qaddafi regime, the Libyan people have not been able to establish viable democratic institutions, and a functioning state. The crisis at present has reached alarming levels and threatens the peace and security, not only of Libya but also of North Africa, the Sahel countries and the Mediterranean. The prospects of an intractable civil war are looming, and Libya is on the brink of becoming a failed state at the center of a critical region of the World.

We are writing to you to seek the counsel and immediate intervention of the United Nations and the International community.

We are grateful for the on going engagement by the UN in Libya, the G7 Leaders statement made in Brussels today, and for recent envoys dispatched by the EU, USA, UK, and the Arab League, including UK Ambassador Jonathan Powell and U.S Ambassador David Satterfield who are currently in Libya to assess the situation on the ground.

Clearly, the political and security situation in Libya is dire and requires **IMMEDIATE CONSTRUCTIVE AND ACTIVE INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION**. The mission of such intervention, however, must be under the UN and in accordance to UN Security Council resolutions.

We are proposing the following immediate steps:

1- Strengthen and expand the mandate of the UNSMIL, under the existing UN resolutions adopted in 2011, to actively convene a conference of all Libyan armed militias and all key political groups. In such conference the UN would start and directly administer a credible and serious process of national reconciliation, disarmament, and amnesty programs between all parties in order to go beyond all grievances of the past including those before February 17, 2011. The UN should act, as the neutral party Libya needs now the most and take the lead in managing and guaranteeing the enforcement of any outcome by all means referenced in the current active resolutions with the support of the International Community.

2- UN should guide a new political road map and democratic mechanisms for the establishment of a legislative body as soon as possible that can replace the current General National Congress (GNC) and provide direct support and effective guidelines for the nominations, elections and congressional conduct for the new parliament.

3- The UN should provide more direct and active support for the new constitution's drafting and ratification process, already in place by the recently elected committee in charge of drafting the constitution, as well as greater support for the adoption of the new constitution in a national referendum to be managed by the UN.

4- Work closely with the national army of Libya, under the authority of a newly elected Parliament and its nominated government to stabilize the country and create viable and secure Libyan territories for all its civilian population whom may potentially be caught within the warring factions in different regions of the country.

5- Support the inclusion of all Libyans regardless of beliefs or political opinion in the process of a peaceful political transition including all political exiles and war refugees.

We look forward to hearing your reply and we stand ready to meet with you to discuss the urgent matters contained herein and help achieve stability and security in Libya.

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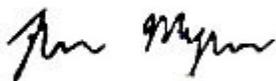
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Honorable Secretary General
Mr. Ban Ki Moon
United Nations

Respectively yours,



A Omar Turbi
Member - National Advisory Board
American-Arab Anti Discrimination Committee (AADC)



Karim Mezran
Senior Fellow - The Atlantic Council



Hafed Al-Ghwell
Advisor- Board of the World Bank Group



Dr. Hani Shennib
Former President - National Council on Canada Arab Relations

It must be noted here that during the course of drafting this document and planning this initiative the cosponsors signing above spoke with many Libyan government officials, current and former holders of senior positions, former prime ministers, and deputy prime ministers, members of the General National Congress (GNC) and Libyan Ambassadors abroad. The vast majority who reviewed the draft and final version of this document have applauded its content and endorsed the call for IMMEDIATE AND ACTIVE INTERNATIONAL INTERVENTION IN THE ONGOING LIBYA CRISES and pledged their support. While we would like to publish all of their names, they have, however, requested their names to be withheld at this time due to personal and security reasons.

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Biographies of Commission members:

Biography

A Omar Turbi

Member - National Advisory Board

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A. Omar Turbi (Fathi) recognized for lobbying and credited for persuading the U.S. government to take part in NATO operations during the February 17th, 2011 revolution. He communicated with the US Congress, the White House, U.S Department of State, and other branches of the U.S Government, and carried his message on major international media like PBS/News Hour, BBC. He is a frequent commentator on CNN, BBC Al-Jazeera and other major TV and radio networks. Turbi arranged for the safe entry for CNN news into eastern Libya the 1st week of the revolution <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgP0Gro52c8> causing one the largest rallies in Benghazi 2-23-2011. The 1st major televised event.

Turbi served as an advisor to the **National Transitional Council (NTC)** during the first eight months of the Libyan revolution, and diligently provided humanitarian and assistance. Since the start of the Libyan revolution in February, 2011, Turbi relentlessly lobbied the U.S and EU governments for intervention to save Libyan civilians, and remove the Qaddafi regime. Late March 2011, he helped draft U.S Congressional resolution HR188 and pushed for recognition of the interim **National Transitional Council (NTC)** as the legitimate representative of the Libyan people.

Turbi is a distinguished Arab American, recognized for his support for democratic institutions and Arab causes in the U.S. He is a member of the National Advisory Board of **American-Arab Anti Discrimination Committee, (AADC)**, a Chairman Emeritus of the **Arab American Republican Club**. He served on the board of Trustees of the **World Affairs Council of America**. Turbi, is a prominent human rights activist with a keen interest in Libyan, Arab and western affairs. A founding member of the **Libyan Human Rights Commission** The Commission gained prominence when it delivered the 1st ever, intervention speech in the history of the UN Human Rights Committee in February, 1989. The Commission helped secure political asylum for hundreds of Libyans in Western Europe throughout the nineties

Turbi promoted constructive engagement between the U.S and Libyan governments and delivered testimonies to Congress in 1999, and 2004 and participated in think tanks paving the way for the release of 413 political prisoners in 2001, and the safe entry by thousands of opponents to the Libyan regime into Libya for the next seven years.

He holds an engineering degree in power systems (BSEE) from the University of Wisconsin, in addition to graduate work in business and international relations. He worked for IBM, and later Motorola, where he learned Six Sigma Quality Systems and became expert in off shore high technology manufacturing. He is currently President & CEO of Orbit Systems, Inc. a semiconductor, computer products, and IT services, commercial & defense based in California.

Biography

Hafed Al-Ghwell

Advisor- Board of the World Bank Group

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Hafed Al-Ghwell is currently serving as an Advisor to the Dean of the Board of Executive Directors of the World Bank Group in Washington, DC. From 2009 to March 2012, he was an Advisor in the office of the Vice President for the Middle East and North Africa at the World Bank Group and a Program Coordinator in the Office of the Vice President of UN and External Affairs, also at the World Bank Group. From 2007 to 2009, he served as a member of the management team and the Director of External Affairs and Communication at the Dubai School of Government; a partnership of Harvard Kennedy School of government in the Arab World. Hafed joined the Dubai School of Government on secondment from his position as the Head of Public Diplomacy and Information Centers for the World Bank Group.

He holds a B.A. In Economics from the George Washington University, as well as a Harvard University's Certificate for Leadership, and a Certificate from Stanford University in strategic communication and publishing.

Hafed has been a frequent commentator on Libya and Middle East Affairs for many years. His views have been published widely in international media outlets such as ABC News, BBC Radio, Al-Jazeera English, BBC World TV, NPR, Financial Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Times, UPI, Newsweek, the National Newspaper, Gulf News, Washington Diplomat, among many others.

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Biography

Karim Mezran

Senior Fellow - Atlantic Council

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Karim Mezran is a Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council's Rafik Hariri Center for the Middle East and Adjunct Professor at the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University. In addition to teaching at SAIS, Karim Mezran was an assistant professor of political science at the John Cabot University and acted as a visiting professor at the Libera Università per gli Studi Sociali (LUISS) in Rome (2002). He has been the director of the Center for American Studies (Rome). He received his Ph.D. in international relations at SAIS. He also holds a J.D. in comparative law from the University of Rome "La Sapienza" (Italy), a L.L.M. in Comparative Law from George Washington University (U.S.), a M.A. in Arab Studies from Georgetown University (U.S.), and a B.A. in management, Hiram College (U.S.).

His most recent publications are: "Libya in Transition: From Jamahiriya to Jumhuriyya?" in "The New Middle East: Protest and Revolution in the Arab world", Fawaz Georges (ed), London, January 2014; "Power Shifts in the Arab Spring: A Work in Progress", in Bologna Center Journal of International Affairs, vol. 15, 2012 (with Alice Alunni); Libia. Fine o rinascita di una nazione? Roma: Donzelli Editore 2012 (ed with Arturo Varvelli); "Libya's wars", in The American Interest, September/October 2011 issue; Negotiation and Construction of National Identities, Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, 2007.

Biography

Dr. Hani Shennib

Former President - National Council on Canada Arab Relations

Professor, College of Medicine, University of Arizona

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Dr. Shennib is an internationally recognized cardiovascular and thoracic surgeon and an opinion leader in health care policies and international relations. He has a keen interest in foreign policy and has played key roles in international conflict resolution. He participated in the Middle East world economic forum as part of the Canadian delegation. Chaired the Libya European Benghazi Children with AIDS Working Group and made presentations to the European Union Parliament on this subject of Bulgaria-Libya conflict. He is in the Canadian Who's Who registry. He held leadership posts like president, National Council on Canada Arab Relations, President of the Quebec Muslim Association, and was appointed member of the board of governors of Concordia University in Montreal in 2002. He is an editor and an editorial member of numerous journals.

Dr. Shennib serves regularly as an advisor in designing regional health care models worldwide and has participated in the development of educational and health care projects and reviews for numerous countries including Bosnia, Kazakhstan, UAE, Egypt and Libya and received an honorary PhD from Kazakhstan Institute of Medical Sciences at Astana for his contributions.

Dr. Shennib is currently a Professor at the College of Medicine, University of Arizona and Adjunct Full Professor at McGill University Faculty of Medicine in Montreal. After completing his postgraduate residency training in general surgery and cardiothoracic surgery at London University in the UK and McGill University in Montreal he underwent further fellowship training in Thoracic Surgery and Transplantation at the University of Toronto and in Vascular and Endovascular therapy at the Arizona Heart Institute. He holds the American Board Certifications in Surgery, Thoracic Surgery and Vascular Medicine. He is a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, the American College of Surgeons and is a member of numerous specialty societies. Dr. Shennib also holds a Master of Science degree in Experimental Surgery from McGill University.