



Security Council briefing on UNSMIL, 19 June 2023

Malta Statement delivered by Her Excellency Ambassador Vanessa Frazier
Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations, New York

Thank you President

Echoing SRSG and others, I begin by expressing Malta's heartfelt condolences to the families of the migrants who lost their lives at sea last Wednesday. We wish a speedy recovery to the survivors. The tragedy is a brutal reminder of how important it is to address the scourge of migrant smuggling and human trafficking.

I thank Special Representative Bathily for his briefing, as well as the chair of the 1970 Committee Ambassador Ishikane and Ms. Imneina for their contributions. I also welcome the participation of the Permanent Representative of Libya to our briefing today.

President

The international community's focus and support to the situation in Libya remains critical.

We take positive note of the work of the 6+6 Committee to overcome the political impasse in Libya. We are also encouraged by the Special Representative's efforts and consultations with a broad range of actors that



are aimed at generating the necessary impetus and consensus to address the political stalemate.

We support all such efforts and their effective implementation to develop the political consensus and legal framework needed to advance this Libyan-led and Libyan-owned political process under UN auspices.

Towards this end, it is fundamental that actors, including all Libyan political actors, engage with each other in a constructive and transparent manner, guided by a spirit of compromise, to address all outstanding issues. This includes the finalisation of the relevant electoral legislation that leads to free, fair, transparent, inclusive, and secure elections.

The international community has an important role to play, and must be ready to provide the necessary assistance and political support to the UN and to the Libyan authorities for the holding of such elections. It is crucial that the High National Elections Commission is provided with the necessary resources to complete its mandated tasks in a timely manner.

President

Malta also emphasises the importance of gender equality and ensuring the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women, in all political processes and electoral reforms, as well as women' safe participation in elections.



Women have a crucial role to play in the reconstruction of peace, stability, and prosperity in Libya. On this occasion, we also underline the key role of civil society and youth in mapping Libya's future.

President

The security situation in Libya continues to severely impact children and is undermined by the proliferation of weapons under the control of various State and non-State actors. Malta strongly believes in the full and rigorous implementation of 1970 sanctions and in the full compliance by all Member States with the arms embargo. In this context, we emphasise the role of Operation IRINI and welcome the Council's adoption of resolution 2684.

Security is equally threatened by the continued presence of foreign fighters, foreign forces, and mercenaries. Their full withdrawal should be prioritised

Efforts to stabilise the security situation are to be commended. We continue to highlight the role of the 5+5 Joint Military Commission and welcome the holding of the first plenary session of the Security Working Group of the Berlin Process International Follow-Up Committee.

President

The safety, stability, and protections offered to Libyans must be a priority.

As such, Malta also underlines the complimentary importance in advancing accountability efforts to achieve long-term peace and stability in Libya.



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Progress on all fronts is also necessary to address the difficult socio-economic conditions facing large segments of the Libyan population.

I thank you.