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Libyan Arab Jamahiriya • Crisis
Situation Report No. 32
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OCHA
 Coordination Saves Lives

United Nations Office
 for the Coordination of
 Humanitarian Affairs

This report produced by OCHA Libya in collaboration with humanitarian partners, covering the period of 28 April to 1 May. The next report will be issued on or around 3 May.

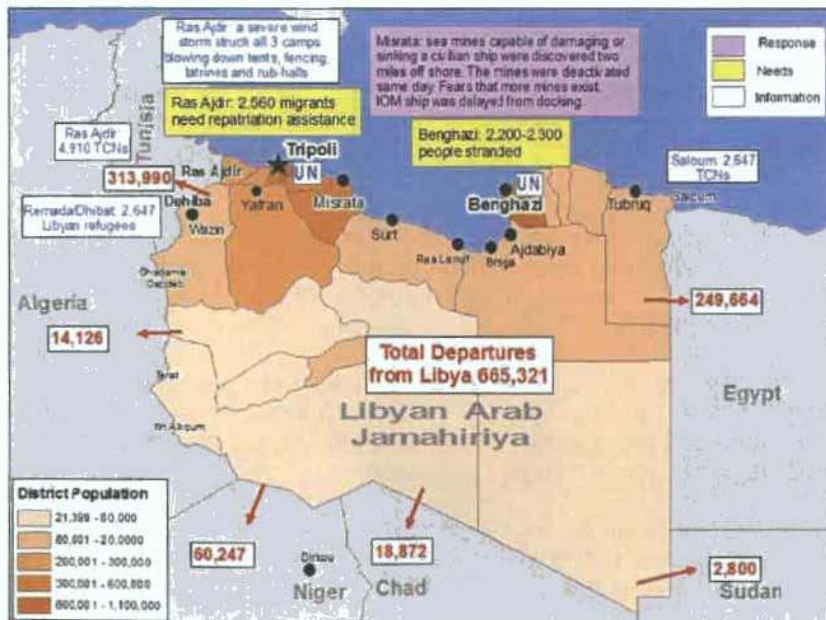
I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- International United Nations staff in Tripoli were evacuated to Tunisia following hostilities against the United Nations and diplomatic residences and offices in Tripoli on 1 May.
- The discovery of three sea mines two miles from Misrata on 30 April led to the temporary close of the port. Two of the mines were deactivated and a third was isolated.
- Fighting at the Wazin/Dhibat border resulted in civilian casualties as clashes spilled briefly into Tunisian territory.
- On 1 May, WFP flew the inaugural flight of UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), carrying 21 passengers from seven organizations between Malta, Cairo, and Benghazi.
- The US\$ 310 million Flash Appeal for the Libyan Crisis is currently funded at 43 per cent with \$134 million committed and \$3.4 million in pledges.

II. Situation Overview

The Libyan government has said that on 30 April a NATO air strike killed Col. Qadhafi's son Saif al-Arab Gaddafi and three of his grandchildren. NATO issued a statement saying that all NATO's targets are military and individuals are not targeted. On 1 May, a number of diplomatic residences and offices belonging to states involved in NATO were attacked, as were some United Nations offices. United Nations staff, including the United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator were evacuated to Tunisia.

On 30 April, three sea mines capable of damaging or sinking a civilian ship were discovered two miles off shore in the approach to Misrata. Earlier that day the Government of Libya had warned that it would attack any ship that tries to dock at Misrata port. NATO deactivated two of the mines and isolated the third. There are fears that more mines exist. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) ship was delayed from docking but managed to complete an evacuation of around 1,000 people on 1 May. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has suspended sea operations temporarily. To date, over a dozen aid ships have docked at Misrata, evacuating around 12,000 people and delivering over 3,000 of tons of humanitarian aid.



Government and opposition forces and refugees fleeing Libya were included in the casualties when fighting between Government and opposition forces broke out on 29 April at the Wazin/Dhibat border. Qadhafi forces took over the border the morning of 29 April. The number of casualties is unconfirmed. War-wounded from both sides were treated in health facilities in Dhibat and Tatouine. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) reported 16 combatants had been transported to Tatouine Hospital. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) issued a statement saying that it is "very concerned that people fleeing Libya could

be caught in the cross-fire as government and opposition forces battle for control in the border area." The Tunisian army has sent in reinforcements on the Libyan border.



Over 29 – 29 April, media reports indicate about 5,000 people crossed into Tunisia. Because Government forces control of the checkpoint, a number of people crossing into Tunisia use informal routes rather than the road through Wazin. For this reason, precise numbers of Libyans crossing are unavailable.

Reports from local sources indicate that the port area and other parts of Misrata under heavy fire the morning and afternoon of 1 May. Seven deaths and many injuries were reported. The main hospital is overwhelmed. From 28 - 29 April, rocket and mortar fire killed at least nineteen people and wounded 35, including a child.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response



SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFI)/MIGRATION/POPULATION MOVEMENTS

Libya:

Hostilities in the Nafusa/Western Mountains continues. About 2,500 people cross into Tunisia daily using informal routes. Fighting in Zintan, Nalut and around Wazin has led to around 38,500 people crossing into Tunisia to date; over 21,500 since 21 April. Government forces are reportedly located on the eastern gate of Zintan. Shrapnel and rockets have hit a school, mosque and hospital since the fighting started there several weeks ago.

NATO has indicated that Qadhafi forces are expanding their perimeter around Misrata. Opposition forces have reported to media that the town of Jalo, near Ajdabiya, has been shelled and casualties are reported. Medical facilities are overwhelmed. To date, IOM has evacuated 5,079 people including 4,585 third-country nationals (TCNs). IOM estimates that 500 – 1,500 people require evacuation from Misrata.

Public disquiet over fuel shortages was reported in Tripoli on 29 April. Clashes between residents and troops at petrol stations were reported in recent days, after security forces tried to cut into long lines. Fuel and other sanctions were imposed on Libya in February.

On 1 May, 2,200 - 2,300 people remain at the Benghazi transit camp. Shelter/NFI cluster partners UNHCR, IOM, ICRC and Turkish Red Crescent Society and other humanitarian actors continue to provide services.

Tunisia:

On 29 April, there were 4,910 people at the camps in Ras Adjir. About half of the camp population are persons of concern, according to UNHCR. On 28 April, a severe windstorm struck Ras Adjir camps, blowing down tents, latrines and Rub halls. Of particular concern were families with small children. Humanitarian agencies responded by helping to repair shelters and re-distribute damaged material.

Around 5,000 Libyans were reported to have crossed into Tunisia around Dhibat from 28 – 29 April. As the fighting neared Dhibat, a number of people move to the UNHCR camp at Remada. On 29 April, there were 1,746 people at Remada Camp, an increase of over 300 in 48 hours. There were 901 UAE camp in Dhibat on 29 April; a decrease of about 400 people from 27 April. Remada Camp continues to function as a reception point for Libyans who arrive and stay for a short period and then move to a more permanent place. UNHCR has plans to open an office in Sfax, Tunisia on 3 May.

Egypt:

At the Saloum transit point, 2,872 people remain including 617 persons of concern as of 30 April. The majority of those evacuated to Saloum from Misrata (via Benghazi) are Nigerien nationals. In the latest inflow of evacuated TCNs, IOM transported 610 people to Saloum, of which 594 were from Niger. There are 700 Nigeriens stranded at the transit center at Benghazi.

Nationals from Niger and Chad are now the key aid beneficiaries at Saloum transit point. IOM-chartered planes plan to evacuate 372 Bangladeshis on 30 April another 611 on 1 May. The majority of those crossing at Saloum are Libyan nationals, three quarters of whom return the same day to Libya. UNICEF continues to provide recreational and psycho-social support to children staying at Saloum.

A needs assessment report on Libyans in Marsa Matruh has just been issued and will be reviewed by the humanitarian community on 02 May. The assessment team was made up of representatives from the WASH and Shelter/NFI clusters, the child protection sub-cluster and a regional NGO.



FOOD SECURITY



The World Food Programme (WFP) has prepositioned or mobilised 13,500 metric tons of food for Libya -- enough for nearly 300,000 people for three months. WFP has also been providing cooked meals for TCNs. Over one million meals have been provided since operations started.

To date, WFP has delivered a total of 3,500 metric tons of mixed food commodities into Libya. In 15 locations, 820 metric tons of food has been distributed in the east, to over 247,000 internally displaced persons, TCNs and other vulnerable groups. WFP and the Libyan Red Crescent have distributed 46 metric tons in and around Tripoli to 4,500 displaced people, mainly from Misrata. 125 metric tons of food have been delivered and mostly distributed to 13,600 people living in shelters or with relatives in the Nafusa (Western) Mountain towns of Gharyan, Mizdah, Kikla, Asabaa, Ghanima and Yefren. Distributions are ongoing and further WFP convoys into Libya are planned.

Food distribution is ongoing at camps and transit points at the Libyan borders where Libyan refugees and TCNs are staying. The Libyan Red Crescent continued to distribute food to 2,200 TCNs in Benghazi and Misrata.

Gaps & Constraints:

WFP's supply route is facing serious challenges due to insecurity and fuel shortages.



HEALTH

Reports from World Health Organization (WHO) indicate shortages of doctors, nurses and medical supplies in Misrata. Health staff are overextended and several hundred patients need to be evacuated for urgent medical treatment. Health cluster partners report that there is a backlog of between 500 and 800 patients, including many children and women who urgently need to be evacuated from Misrata.

Medicines and supplies including lumbar puncture needles, surgical blades, skin staplers, local anesthetics, medications for heart failure and diabetes medications as well as medical personnel from IMC are being delivered on 1 May to Misrata. IMC is providing training on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) to health staff at the Benghazi Psychiatric Centre. To address nursing staff shortages in the east of Libya, IMC is planning to shortly provide 30 nurses to health facilities.

Gaps & Constraints

Medical facilities in Misrata are over-crowded and sometimes patients are discharged earlier than optimal to make room for more urgent cases. Ambulances with ventilators are needed to move in areas where fighting is taking place. There is a shortage of vaccines such as DPT, Penta vaccine and tetanus toxoid at the Saloum border. WHO and the Ministry of Health are exploring possibilities to provide these vaccines.



PROTECTION

The protection of civilians continues to be of utmost concern to the humanitarian community. Numerous reports of civilian casualties over the past several days include indications that children have been among the casualties. The presence of sea mines off the coast of Misrata is a serious protection concern as it hampers the delivery of humanitarian aid to Misrata and endangers humanitarian and commercial boats.

Increased departures of TCNs from Choucha Camp in Tunisia back to Libya have been reported, resulting in an increase in child separations. A Family Service Centre will be opened in the Choucha camp on 2 May. Child protection sub-cluster partners will offer health, nutrition, sanitation and psychosocial services for families and children staying in the camp. About 500 refugee children who cannot be repatriated to their home countries will be benefiting from these centres. A child-friendly-space is currently being established at Remada Camp by UNICEF and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). The centre is due to be functional and receive children next week.

UNICEF is negotiating the possibility of partially reopening schools/recreational facilities in the eastern parts of Libya to restore a sense of normality for the many children who have been forced to stay at home during the last months.

Government forces entered into Tunisian territory on 29 April. Fighting between Government and opposition forces took place very close to civilian areas. A child was injured by a shell and another by a bullet as a result of the fighting.



Gaps & Constraints

There were protection concerns for a number of Libyan refugees from Wazin because they were perceived to have pro-Gaddafi sentiment. These people continue to be displaced and monitored and assisted by MSF and the ICRC whenever possible.



WATER SANITATION HYGIENE (WASH)

The establishment and maintenances of WASH facilities in camps and transit points is a main focus of cluster partners. In Saloum, Egypt the installation pipelines for drinking water continues to be a high priority. In Tunisia, WASH structures in the Remada camp covering water supply, sanitation, hygiene and vector control, which will be assured by Norwegian Church Aid (NCA).



EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The Emergency Telecoms cluster (ETC) has provided critical communications equipment and personnel to Benghazi, including data and voice services to reduce disruption due to daily electrical load-shedding. Security mitigation measures including radio rooms for staff and vehicle tracking are in place with the Benghazi radio room fully operational with 24-hour coverage. The ETC has provided data connectivity to eight UN agencies and three NGOs. ETC data and voice services are expected to be operational in Benghazi at the common UN hub building in the coming week. An inter-agency information/communication technology assessment mission has begun in Tripoli. The ETC continues to liaise with both UN and NGO partners and actors on the ground to coordinate the emergency telecoms response across Libya, Tunisia and Egypt.

Communication equipment to Libya via neighbouring countries still remains an issue. The limit in the number of staff allowed in Libya also hampers the deployment of more staff to support the humanitarian community in Benghazi.



LOGISTICS

On 1 May, WFP flew the inaugural flight of the UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), carrying 21 passengers from seven organizations between Malta, Cairo, and Benghazi. UNHAS services in North Africa will ensure the humanitarian community has access to key locations in Libya, a means of transporting light relief items and a secure and timely evacuation option. Further details about accessing these services are available for download at <http://www.logcluster.org/ops/lby11a/unhas-schedule-and-forms>.

WFP is returning warehouse space located in the Port of Benghazi to the port authority to ensure the space is available for commercial shipments. Warehouse operations and inventory are being shifted to the 20,000 square metres store in Ganfuda, 25 kilometres from Benghazi. Currently WFP is storing relief items from several agencies UNICEF in Benghazi and continues to offer transport services to the humanitarian community from Alexandria/Cairo to Benghazi/Tubruq on a cost recovery basis.

Gaps & Constraints

There is an urgent need for commercial liners to resume operations to the ports of Tubruq and Benghazi, to facilitate imports of basic items as well as humanitarian deliveries.

IV. Coordination

Cluster coordination is ongoing. Please refer to <http://libya.humanitarianresponse.info/> for all cluster coordination updates and meeting schedules, and comprehensive information on the humanitarian response to the Libyan crisis.

V. Funding

According to the Financial Tracking Services, the US\$310 million Flash Appeal for the Libyan Crisis is currently funded at 43 percent with US\$ 134 million committed and \$3.4 million in pledges. All humanitarian partners, including donors and recipient agencies, are encouraged to inform OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS - <http://fts.unocha.org>) of cash and in-kind contributions by e-mailing fts@un.org.

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