



The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya
United Nations Security Council
2021-2022

STATEMENT AS DELIVERED BY AMB. MICHAEL KIBOINO - DPR, DURING THE
BRIEFING ON THE UNITED NATIONS SUPPORT MISSION IN LIBYA (UNSMIL)

WEDNESDAY, 24 MARCH 2021 (10:00AM)

Thank you Madam President,

1. The Kenya delegation thanks **Mr. Jan Kubis**, Special Envoy of the Secretary General to Libya for his briefing. We congratulate him, being the first time he is briefing the Council since taking up office and assure him of our support and cooperation. I also welcome the participation of the Libyan PR - Taher El-Soni, in this meeting.
2. The milestones we celebrate today, would not have been achieved, without the resilience and strong push by the people of Libya. Therefore, Kenya commends the people of Libya for their abiding commitment to peace in their country.
3. We congratulate them for the establishment of a Government of National Unity. We welcome the fact that it reflects a significant development in the representation of Women in high profile portfolios including Foreign Affairs and Justice Ministries.
4. The newly established Government bears on its shoulders, the responsibility, to pursue the aspirations of the Libyan people, as spelt out by the Prime Minister Abdul Dbeibah including: the delivery of national elections slated for 24 December; restoration of services in all parts of Libya; ensuring the departure of foreign fighters and mercenaries; revival of the economy; and, national reconciliation.
5. Kenya commends Ms. Stephanie Williams, former Acting Special Representative of the Secretary General, as well as all stakeholders including neighboring countries, particularly Tunisia, for the roles they played in facilitating the Libya peace process reach where it is today.
6. To protect these gains and sustain the current momentum, it is important, that the Security Council continues to speak in a strong unified voice in support of the peace process. The Presidential Statements of February and March were timely. We believe a

stronger voice within a resolution would send a resounding message to the stakeholders to stay the course of the Libya-led and Libya-owned peace process.

Madam President

7. Even as we celebrate the positive developments, Kenya remains concerned, about the continued presence of foreign fighters and mercenaries, who are not adding value to the quest for peace and stability of Libya and the region. We therefore continue to call for their exit, in line with the ceasefire agreement of 23 October 2020.
8. One of the risks associated with the foreign fighters, is the proliferation of arms, falling in wrong hands, not just in Libya, but also in neighbouring countries. Kenya continues to insist, on the need for a coordinated Disarmament, Demobilisation, and Reintegration programme, in a manner that corresponds with the withdrawal of foreign fighters and mercenaries.
9. For sustainable success of the DDR programme, it should be carried out in cooperation and coordination with the neighbouring States and the African Union.
10. Kenya is further concerned with continued violations of the arms embargo. We cannot over-emphasize the need for respect of the arms embargo and holding all violators accountable.

Madam President,

11. We note the Secretary General's report on the advance team, and that it has not completed its work. We are keen to receive the full report of the team soon, noting that it will inform the Council's decision, on the form of support that the UN should provide.
12. Meanwhile, I wish to underscore the imperative for the United Nations, to support the Libya Ceasefire Monitoring Mechanism. Kenya also supports the expansion of the UNSMIL mandate, to include a ceasefire monitoring component, including the 5+5 Joint Military Commission's request, for unarmed, non-uniformed individual international monitors, to be deployed under the auspices of the United Nations.
13. Finally, National reconciliation must be given priority to ensure that the peace dividends are sustainable. With the establishment of the Cabinet, the sitting of the House of Representatives, and the continued dialogues, the conditions are ripe.
14. Kenya welcomes support offered by the African Union in advancing national reconciliation in furtherance of the peace process. We therefore anticipate close cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union in this regard.

I Thank you