



Intervention de
S.E. Monsieur Marc Pecsteen, Ambassadeur
Représentante permanente

au Conseil de sécurité des Nations Unies

Briefing Libye

New York, le 08 juillet 2020

Mr. President,

I would like to thank the Secretary-General for his intervention today and for his commitment to have a political solution prevail in Libya.

Belgium condemns the war logic in which the Libyan parties seem to have locked themselves in with the increasing support of external actors. No valid reason exists for not responding positively and immediately to the multiple calls for cease-fire, including by this Council last week.

Military action needs to stop immediately, independently of the location of the front lines. A dialogue remains the only sustainable solution to the crisis and the parameters are well known: the Libyan Political Agreement, the principles agreed in Berlin, UNSMIL's 3 tracks approach and resolution 2510. We welcome the timid steps taken in the Joint Military Commission in 5+5 format and urge the Government and Gen. Haftar to engage more forcefully and in good faith with UNSMIL in that forum.

Mr President,

I would like to use this opportunity of a wider participation in today's meeting to address directly the States supporting the Libyan actors: stop the

negative impact and rather use your influence in a positive way by finally encouraging the path of dialogue. Most importantly, your words should be followed by concrete actions that demonstrate your commitment to the political solution. Let me thank those States around the table who have taken genuine initiatives for dialogue.

I would also like to tell some of the States participating today: there is also no excuse for not respecting the arms embargo. By violating it, you are contributing to the ongoing spiral of violence, exacerbating tensions between Libyans and severely undermining a durable exit from the crisis. More importantly, you are contributing to the loss of life of innocent civilians, Libyans and migrants.

Mr. President,

I want to reiterate that it is the responsibility of all parties to protect civilians, including the most vulnerable. I would like to reiterate here my country's commitment to ensuring that the most serious crimes committed in Libya do not go unpunished, whether in the national courts or the International Criminal Court. I welcome the establishment of a fact-finding mission by the Human Rights Council to investigate violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law by all parties to the conflict. The FFM has also the mandate to preserve evidence with a view to ensure that perpetrators are held accountable. With this, important steps are taken towards ending impunity for terrible crimes that took place in Libya, as the discoveries in Tarhouna and elsewhere sadly illustrate.

We are deeply concerned by the continuous blockade of oil production, which has disastrous consequences for the economy of the country and the population as a whole. Libya's natural resources belong to all Libyans and

their exploitation is vital to maintain the country's economy, particularly given the need to address the COVID-19 pandemic. I urge to respect the civilian nature of oil infrastructure and encourage further dialogue on how better sharing the revenues it generates.

In closing, allow me to once again salute the courage and determination of the entire staff of UNSMIL and the whole country team. In that context, I would like to emphasise the urgent need for the appointment of a new SRSG.

I thank you.