

Country/entity	Libya
Region	Middle East and North Africa
Agreement name	Humanitarian Appeal for Benghazi
Date	16 Mar 2016
Agreement status	Multiparty signed/agreed
Interim arrangement	Yes
Agreement/conflict level	Intrastate/local conflict

Libyan Conflicts (1969 - 1994) (2011 -)

Agreements relate to two distinct conflict dyads.

Libya-Chad. Since the 1970s, Libya under Colonel Muammar Gaddafi had a tense relationship with its neighbour Chad, predominantly focused on the resource-rich Aouzou Strip in northern Chad. Libyan claims of the Aouzou Strip were held in an unratified treaty between France and Italy in 1935, similarly Chadian claims of the Strip were argued with support of a 1955 treaty between Libya and France. In 1973, Libya effectively annexed the Strip to gain access to natural resources. This spurred cross-border clashes between 1979 until 1987 until escalated to a brief war known as the Toyota War, wherein Chadian government troops succeeded in repelling Libyan forces. A brief and repeatedly violated ceasefire was held from 1987-88, followed by a series of unsuccessful negotiations, until an International Court of Justice ruling in 1994, which granted sovereignty of the Strip to Chad.

Libya post-Gaddafi. Gaddafi's downfall following the Libyan Civil War in 2011-2012, led to several factions fighting for the country's leadership. Since 2013, the country effectively split into three entities, with the National Army controlling the east including the city of Benghazi, and the New General National Congress and their militias such as the Golden Dawn controlling the northwest including the capital of Tripoli. Significant portions of the country in the south-west are currently held by Tuareg forces. The civil war and chaos continued into 2014 as the General National Congress refused to disband after the expiry of its mandate, resulting in eruption of mass protests. The UN efforts continue to broker peace between the Libyan Army and the Libya Dawn factions, and a partial ceasefire was declared in January 2015. A new interim-government (Tunisia-based) called 'Government of National Accord' is formed with the backing of UN despite the refusal of the other forces to recognise its authority and arrived to Tripoli with the UN in 2016. A state of emergency was declared by the UN backed government amid clashed between rival militia in Tripoli's southern suburbs. Since April 2019 there has been sustained fighting between the Libyan National Army and the UN-backed government in Tripoli as the Libyan National Army aims to seize Tripoli.

Close

Libyan Conflicts (1969 - 1994) (2011 -

)

Stage	Pre-negotiation/process
Conflict nature	Inter-group
Peace process	Libyan local processes
Parties	Halimah Abdelmatloub; Sherif Abuzakouk; Aisha Agouryl Abdalla Aguilah; Naeima Aissa; Nuri Al Abbar; Khaled Al Agily; Soliman Mahmud Al Bassi; Awad Ibrahim Al Brassi; Morad Al Honi; Abdeljalil Al Rhamouk; Ziad Ballam; Jamal Belnour; Abdulmenem Ben Dardf; Abubakr Buera; Amel Bugaguis; Eman Bugaguis; Fawzi Bukatef; Mohamed Bukhey; Lamia Busedra; Ahmed Busneinah; Muhammed Faraj Doghaim; Aminah Drsy; Attiyah Edreinah; Mansour El Ammary; Fathallah El Barani; Salem El Barani; Abdulsalam Mohammed El Basyouni; Nisreenn El Bishari; Nouh Isbak El Fakhry; Issam El Fallah; Omelez El Farsi; Abdelsalam El Farsi; Anwar El Feitori; Mohamed El Ferjani; Ahmed El Gasir; Aminah El Gehani; Munem Mohammad El Gumati; Abdel Hamid El Khodar; Wanis El Mabrook; Emhamed El Magherby; Sheib El Majbari; Hussam El Majri; Abdulmenem Hassan El Manfi; Fadelallah El Mehdi; Khalil El Mismary; Moeimen El Obeidi; Giumma El Omami; Muftah Issa El Qatrani; Labib El Ramli; Mohamed El Senoussi; Jalah El Shweihdi; Marwan El Tashani; Mohamed El Taynaz; Ammani El Zwei; Mona Esswed; Abdelgader Gadoura; Allam Hassan; Abir Imneinah; Jamila Issaoui; Naeima Jebri; Mehdi Kashbur; Tarek Khalil Lamoum; Salem Lengui; Halima Magharby; Idriss Mismary; Esam Omeish; Mohamed Omeish; Tarek Awad Orfi; Abdulhafid Muftah Rajab; Nassralah Saadi; Merei Salem; Ali Sallabi; Issam Tajoury; Muhammad Ammari Zaid; Fawzi Zairi.

Third parties

-

Description

A Pre-pre-negotiation document establishing a common position among Civil Society Organisations in Benghazi, highlighting the importance of adhering to International Law, acquiring humanitarian aid for those in need, urging the importance of the right of return for Internally Displaced Persons; and working within the confines of Islam, among other matters.

Agreement document

[LY_160316_Humanitarian Appeal for Benghazi.pdf \(opens in new tab\)](#) | [Download PDF](#)

Groups

Children/youth

Groups→Children/youth→Rhetorical
Page 1, 2) record that:

- over half the population of Benghazi are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, especially women, children, and people with special needs;

Page 1, 5) believe that providing education for all Benghazi's children and youth is critical if we are not to lose a whole generation;

Disabled persons

No specific mention.

Elderly/age No specific mention.

Migrant workers No specific mention.

**Racial/ethnic/
national group** No specific mention.

Religious groups No specific mention.

Indigenous people No specific mention.

Other groups No specific mention.

Refugees/displaced persons Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Rhetorical
Page 1, 2) record that:
... • thousands of displaced persons have found shelter throughout the country and abroad; families are unable to return to their homes because of the war, or have found them uninhabitable because of damage, mines or unexploded ordinance (UXO); people are living in conditions of utter depredation and are in urgent need of assistance, above all, healthcare and shelter;

Page 1, 3) stress the right of return for these displaced people to their city and homes in the shortest possible time;

Groups→Refugees/displaced persons→Substantive
Page 2, 3. As citizens of Benghazi, we call upon international humanitarian actors to:
... 2) increase and improve immediate assistance to populations in need, including the restoration of electricity to the city, the clearance of all UXO and mines to allow the safe return of those displaced, the provision of medical care to the population, and the provision of all forms of urgent assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) throughout the country;

Social class No specific mention.

Gender

Women, girls and gender Page 1, 1. We, the sons and daughters of Benghazi, protectors of the nation and its unity, coming from diverse backgrounds and sharing the common goal of saving our city and its population, unite behind this Humanitarian Appeal. We solemnly adopt this Appeal and:

Page 1, 2) record that:

- over half the population of Benghazi are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance, especially women, children, and people with special needs;

Men and boys

Gender→Men and boys→Gender neutral wording

Page 1, 1. We, the sons and daughters of Benghazi, protectors of the nation and its unity, coming from diverse backgrounds and sharing the common goal of saving our city and its population, unite behind this Humanitarian Appeal. We solemnly adopt this Appeal and:

LGBTI

No specific mention.

Family

No specific mention.

State definition

Nature of state (general) No specific mention.

State configuration No specific mention.

Self determination No specific mention.

Referendum No specific mention.

State symbols No specific mention.

Independence/secession No specific mention.

Accession/unification No specific mention.

Border delimitation No specific mention.

Cross-border provision No specific mention.

Governance

Political institutions (new or reformed) No specific mention.

Elections No specific mention.

Electoral commission No specific mention.

Political parties reform No specific mention.

Civil society Page 1, 2. Within the limits of our power and influence, we commit and call upon all others to:
... 3) respect the role played by the Libyan Red Crescent, municipal council, Benghazi Crisis Committees, and other Libyan Civil Society Organizations in providing humanitarian assistance;

Page 2, 3. As citizens of Benghazi, we call upon international humanitarian actors to:
1) provide life-saving humanitarian assistance without preconditions, discrimination or delay;
2) increase and improve immediate assistance to populations in need, including the restoration of electricity to the city, the clearance of all UXO and mines to allow the safe return of those displaced, the provision of medical care to the population, and the provision of all forms of urgent assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) throughout the country;
3) work in all areas affected by military operations to establish the conditions and agreements for the terms of this declaration to be effective;
4) coordinate to respond to the urgent humanitarian needs; and,
5) ensure that there is an urgent response to these critical needs.

Traditional/religious leaders No specific mention.

Public administration No specific mention.

Constitution No specific mention.

Power sharing

Political power sharing No specific mention.

Territorial power sharing No specific mention.

Economic power sharing No specific mention.

Military power sharing No specific mention.

Human rights and equality

Human rights/RoL general Page 1, 7) condemn violations of IHL and Human Rights, particularly any targeting of civilians, residential areas, and vital civil infrastructure, inter alia hospitals, educational establishments and electricity plants; and

Page 1, 2. Within the limits of our power and influence, we commit and call upon all others to:

1) respect IHL and Human Rights, and remain loyal the principles of Islam and the values of coexistence;

Bill of rights/similar No specific mention.

Treaty incorporation Page 1, 6) demand that humanitarian assistance is not politicized and that all actors provide humanitarian assistance without discrimination in accordance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL);

Page 2, 2. Within the limits of our power and influence, we commit and call upon all others to:

... 4) establish the conditions under which humanitarian assistance may be provided safely to all the civilian population, in accordance with IHL;

Civil and political rights Human rights and equality→Civil and political rights→Other
Page 1, 3) stress the right of return for these displaced people to their city and homes in the shortest possible time;

Socio-economic rights No specific mention.

Rights related issues

Citizenship No specific mention.

Democracy No specific mention.

Detention procedures No specific mention.

Media and communication No specific mention.

Mobility/access No specific mention.

Protection measures No specific mention.

Other No specific mention.

Rights institutions

NHRI No specific mention.

Regional or international human rights institutions No specific mention.

Justice sector reform

Criminal justice and emergency law No specific mention.

State of emergency provisions No specific mention.

Judiciary and courts No specific mention.

Prisons and detention No specific mention.

Traditional Laws No specific mention.

Socio-economic reconstruction

Development or socio-economic reconstruction	<p>Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Humanitarian assistance</p> <p>Page 1, 6) demand that humanitarian assistance is not politicized and that all actors provide humanitarian assistance without discrimination in accordance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL);</p> <p>Page 2, 3. As citizens of Benghazi, we call upon international humanitarian actors to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) provide life-saving humanitarian assistance without preconditions, discrimination or delay; 2) increase and improve immediate assistance to populations in need, including the restoration of electricity to the city, the clearance of all UXO and mines to allow the safe return of those displaced, the provision of medical care to the population, and the provision of all forms of urgent assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) throughout the country; 3) work in all areas affected by military operations to establish the conditions and agreements for the terms of this declaration to be effective; 4) coordinate to respond to the urgent humanitarian needs; and, 5) ensure that there is an urgent response to these critical needs. <p>Socio-economic reconstruction→Development or socio-economic reconstruction→Infrastructure and reconstruction</p> <p>Page 1, 4) request the relevant Libyan authorities to undertake all efforts to facilitate the reconstruction of the city and provide compensation to those civilians adversely affected by the conflict;</p>
National economic plan	No specific mention.
Natural resources	No specific mention.
International funds	<p>Page 2, 3. As citizens of Benghazi, we call upon international humanitarian actors to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) provide life-saving humanitarian assistance without preconditions, discrimination or delay; 2) increase and improve immediate assistance to populations in need, including the restoration of electricity to the city, the clearance of all UXO and mines to allow the safe return of those displaced, the provision of medical care to the population, and the provision of all forms of urgent assistance to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) throughout the country; 3) work in all areas affected by military operations to establish the conditions and agreements for the terms of this declaration to be effective; 4) coordinate to respond to the urgent humanitarian needs; and, 5) ensure that there is an urgent response to these critical needs.
Business	No specific mention.
Taxation	No specific mention.
Banks	No specific mention.

Land, property and environment

Land reform/rights No specific mention.

**Pastoralist/
nomadism rights** No specific mention.

Cultural heritage Land, property and environment→Cultural heritage→Intangible
Page 1, 2. Within the limits of our power and influence, we commit and call upon all others to:
1) respect IHL and Human Rights, and remain loyal the principles of Islam and the values of coexistence;

Environment No specific mention.

**Water or riparian
rights or access** No specific mention.

Security sector

**Security
Guarantees** Page 1, 2) record that:
... • thousands of displaced persons have found shelter throughout the country and abroad; families are unable to return to their homes because of the war, or have found them uninhabitable because of damage, mines or unexploded ordinance (UXO); people are living in conditions of utter depredation and are in urgent need of assistance, above all, healthcare and shelter;

Page 1, 2. Within the limits of our power and influence, we commit and call upon all others to:

... 2) avoid collateral damage induced by the war and fighting;

Page 2, 2. Within the limits of our power and influence, we commit and call upon all others to:

... 5) provide security guarantees for humanitarian workers;

Ceasefire No specific mention.

Police No specific mention.

Armed forces Page 2, 3. As citizens of Benghazi, we call upon international humanitarian actors to:
... 3) work in all areas affected by military operations to establish the conditions and agreements for the terms of this declaration to be effective;

DDR No specific mention.

**Intelligence
services** No specific mention.

Parastatal/rebel and opposition group forces No specific mention.

Withdrawal of foreign forces No specific mention.

Corruption No specific mention.

Crime/organised crime No specific mention.

Drugs No specific mention.

Terrorism No specific mention.



Transitional justice

Transitional justice general	2. Within the limits of our power and influence, we commit and call upon all others to: ... 7) establish a system of transitional justice, adapted to the Libyan context, which will help heal the wounds of the victims of the conflict and facilitate social reconciliation and a return to stability.
Amnesty/pardon	No specific mention.
Courts	No specific mention.
Mechanism	No specific mention.
Prisoner release	No specific mention.
Vetting	No specific mention.
Victims	2. Within the limits of our power and influence, we commit and call upon all others to: ... 7) establish a system of transitional justice, adapted to the Libyan context, which will help heal the wounds of the victims of the conflict and facilitate social reconciliation and a return to stability.
Missing persons	No specific mention.
Reparations	No specific mention.
Reconciliation	2. Within the limits of our power and influence, we commit and call upon all others to: ... 7) establish a system of transitional justice, adapted to the Libyan context, which will help heal the wounds of the victims of the conflict and facilitate social reconciliation and a return to stability.

Implementation

UN signatory	No specific mention.
Other international signatory	No specific mention.
Referendum for agreement	No specific mention.
International mission/force/similar	No specific mention.

Enforcement mechanism

No specific mention.

Related cases

No specific mention.

Source

Copy on file with author, courtesy of Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue.

Also available at <https://www.hdcentre.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/Humanitarian-Appeal-for-Benghazi-English-16-March-2016.pdf> (Accessed on January 8, 2020; archived in the WaybackMachine)
