

Statement of the Fezzan Forum for Libya

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

All praises be to Allah, and peace and blessings be upon his Prophet, the companions, and his allies.

We, the people of Fezzan, from all of the different components, groups, and parts, have met in the city of Sabha Manarat Arafat in An Nasiriyah on Tuesday, 20/2/2018, to announce our rejection of the divisions, wars, and insecurity that are going on in our country, all of which has hindered development in all of Libya, and especially in this area.

The intentional marginalization and neglect of the area of Fezzan by the political forces in Libya, which has led to the complete loss of livelihoods in this active and vital important in Libya, and the complete absence of the institutions of the state, especially the security apparatuses, has made us, the people of Fezzan who are gathered here in this forum, reiterate the importance of working to get out of this catastrophic situation due to these political divisions, polarization, and foreign agendas, all of which have greatly damaged the unity of our country and our people and Libya's stability. The impact that this situation has had on the people has been overwhelmingly negative in every sense of the word.

Despite Fezzan being a vital part of the country, with the resources and human capacity in it, the area is now under the control of crime and illegal migration, which have had a negative effect on people's livelihoods.

The attendees of the forum have agreed, after discussing and studying the matter in depth, on the following:

- 1- Reiterating Libya's unity, as a land and a people that cannot be divided, that all Libyans are equal in their rights and responsibilities, and that the interests of the country are above all else
- 2- That a national community reconciliation is the foundation upon which the country should be built, within a framework of reconciliatory justice that gives people their rights, ends oppression, provides reparations, instills tolerance and reconciliation, and builds confidence between all sects
- 3- Creating a social contract or a code of conduct to be signed by all of the groups in Fezzan and is binding for everyone
- 4- Uniting the legislative, executive, judicial, and military institutions of the state and ending the political divisions in the country to ensure a safe future for the country and its people.
- 5- Seriously working to find an urgent solution to stop illegal migration into the country through all entry points, and fighting against their settlement in Libya because of the problems this migration poses to the identity of the country
- 6- That Fezzan has an active role in building Libya on a foundation of equal partnership and ending the excessive centralization, marginalization, and exclusion that have affected Fezzan for far too long
- 7- Removing social protection for outlaws so that they can be apprehended and handed over for justice.
- 8- That development is the solution for the problems of the south and will stop the suffering of its people

- 9- Allocating a percentage of the revenue from the production of oil, gas, water, and other resources for the development of the area
- 10- Addressing the conditions of prisoners and detainees
- 11- Activating the transitional justice law and continuing with a comprehensive national reconciliation between Libyans because the unity of the country is more important than any conflict or dispute, and this Forum expresses its appreciation and support for all efforts for reconciliation all over the country
- 12- Confirming the return of the displaced and forcibly displaced, internally and externally, and the swift return of the forcibly displaced from Tawergha to their homes, and the Forum calls upon the dignitaries of Misrata and Tawergha to facilitate the safe return of the people of Tawergha, taking into account the issue of reparations for all
- 13- The Forum reiterates the importance of implementing the general amnesty and calls for the immediate release of political prisoners in implementation of the decree of the parliament

The Forum also agreed on the establishment of a Supreme Council for Fezzan, with the following committees in it:

- A security committee
- An economic committee
- A national reconciliation committee
- A development committee
- A committee to follow up the activation of the Sabha Airport
- A committee to follow up with the Ubari Gas Power Plant and working to secure the release of the abducted engineers

This Council shall be responsible for the functions and implementation of the goals that this Forum came to discuss, and they are:

- Security
- Reconciliation
- Development