



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



Security Council Briefing on the situation in Libya 18 August 2026

Statement delivered by
Mr. Ioannis Stamatekos, Chargé d' Affaires
Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations, New York

Thank you, Madame President.

I would like to thank SRSG Tetteh, for her comprehensive briefing and for her continued efforts to advance the political process in Libya. I would also like to thank Ms. Bek for her remarks, and I welcome the participation of the Permanent Representative of Libya in this meeting.

Madame President,

Greece considers Libya an important partner for stability, security and prosperity in our region. We remain firmly committed to supporting the UN-led political process and to further strengthening our bilateral cooperation with Libya.

Continuing instability across the wider region underscores the importance of a unified and stable Libya, with effective and functioning state institutions and a sustainable and inclusive political settlement. The UN-led framework remains the most credible path towards achieving these objectives.

We welcome initiatives that promote dialogue and confidence-building among Libyan stakeholders, provided they reinforce and complement the UN-led process and contribute to a lasting settlement based on Libyan ownership and broad national consensus.

We encourage all Libyan actors to overcome entrenched divisions and engage constructively in a genuinely Libyan-led and Libyan-owned political process. Creating the necessary conditions for free, fair, transparent, inclusive and credible presidential and parliamentary elections must remain a priority.

In this regard, we call on all stakeholders to participate constructively in the next steps outlined by the Special Representative and to seize the opportunity to move Libya towards unified institutions and bring an end to the prolonged transitional period.

Madame President,

We welcome the conclusion of the Structured Dialogue and believe that its recommendations can provide a useful basis for addressing long-standing challenges and building greater consensus on the way forward. We urge all stakeholders to translate these recommendations into concrete actions and to ensure their effective implementation.

We also note the progress made towards establishing a unified national budget, facilitated by the United States, as well as continued efforts to strengthen security coordination among Libyan institutions across the country. We support further efforts towards a unified national security architecture.

Against the backdrop of growing environmental challenges, we further welcome Libya's adoption of its first Strategic Climate Framework under the Paris Agreement.

Nevertheless, serious challenges remain.

The fragmentation of the judiciary continues to undermine the rule of law and institutional unity, while the security situation remains fragile, as demonstrated by the recent clashes in Zawiya.

Political progress must be accompanied by tangible and verifiable steps towards the withdrawal of all foreign forces, fighters and mercenaries, in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions and with full respect for Libya's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Migration and refugee movements also remain a major regional concern. A comprehensive approach is needed that addresses the root causes of displacement, strengthens protection for migrants and refugees and effectively combats trafficking and smuggling networks. Greece continues to engage closely with Libya in addressing irregular migration, with full respect for international law, including applicable international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

We are also concerned by misinformation, disinformation, threats and hate speech targeting refugees, migrants and UN personnel. Such actions heighten protection risks, fuel hostility towards humanitarian actors and undermine social cohesion. They must cease.

Madame President,

Regarding the sanctions regime, we particularly welcome the issuance of the Implementation Assistance Notice concerning paragraph 14 of Resolution 2769. This is a significant and positive step. We hope that this guidance will provide greater legal clarity, facilitate the effective administration of Libyan Investment Authority funds, help address instances of over-compliance and contribute to their proper management for the benefit of the Libyan people, while fully preserving the integrity of the sanctions regime.

In conclusion, Madame President,

As a longstanding friend and partner of Libya, Greece remains firmly committed to its sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity.

We will continue to support efforts towards a stable, secure and prosperous Libya, at peace with itself and maintaining constructive relations with all its neighbors.

We look forward to a Libya free from external interference, with unified national institutions exercising full authority throughout its territory and contributing to peace, stability and prosperity across our shared region.

I thank you.