



THE TRIPOLI POST

AU Chairman: Crisis in Mauritania is Over, Backs Lifting of AU Sanctions

Nouakchott-The Chairman of the African Union Muammar Al-Qathafi has declared on Thursday that the political crisis in Mauritania that started in August last year had ended and that sanction imposed by the AU on Mauritanian officials should now be removed.

Gaddafi spent more than three days in Mauritania last week during which he mediated between conflicting factions in a bid to solve their dispute peacefully.

"I have assured myself that the military authorities are determined to organise presidential elections on June 6, so this file is closed from now on," Gaddafi told reporters in a reference to sanctions before leaving Nouakchott.

"The problem is over, the case is closed, because what is needed is the return to civil life," the Libyan leader said.

Meanwhile, Gaddafi told reporters on Thursday that he would be traveling to Guinea-Bissau and Guinea-Conakry from Mauritania in order to help bring down the increasing tensions in the country since the assassination of Joao Bernardo Vieira, the president of Guinea-Bissau, just hours after the assassination of his army chief of staff.

Gaddafi said he was going on such mission because that was his responsibility as President of the African Union to find peaceful solution to these tensions and to prevent foreign intervention in these African countries.

Political dispute in Mauritania was intensified after the military seized power



President of the AU r Muammar Al-Qathafi leads a prayer in Mauritania to commemorate the birthday of Prophet Mohammed, pbuh. Al-Qathfimediate between disputing parties in Mauritania and declared the crisis was over and called for lifting of AU sanctions on the country.

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LD20 Billion Fund for Medium and Small Businesses

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the Tripoli Business Incubator on Tuesday, the Secretary of the General People's Committee Mr. Al-Baghdadi Al-Mahmoudi said Libya has earmarked twenty billion Libyan dinars (about \$16 billion) for the promotion of medium and small businesses in the country.

Al-Mahmoudi said, "a 'Financial Fund' of LD20 billion has been established with the objective to help the National Program of Medium and Small Businesses achieve its sought objectives."

The inauguration of Tripoli Business Incubator comes within the perspective of restructuring the Libyan economy as to involve as many individuals as possible in the process of producing goods and

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