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U.S. Congress Becoming More Proactive on Libyan Humanitarian Crisis

Prime Policy Group and DPM Maiteeq Engaging in Critical Communications Effort

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Washington, D.C., May 17, 2019: After several media inquiries, Charlie Black, Chairman of Prime Policy Group, offered the following statement today on his firm's work for the office of Deputy Prime Minister Ahmed Maiteeq of the Government of National Accord of Libya.

"Prime registered a Foreign Agent Registration Act (FARA) filing with the Justice Department on May 2, 2019, disclosing that our firm had agreed to represent the office of Deputy Prime Minister of the GNA, Mr. Maiteeq, on a pro-bono basis to help promote peace and a unity government in Libya," said Mr. Black. "Since our engagement, our firm has reached out to key members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs about recent events in Libya. We have also consulted with the U.S. Department of State, National security officials, and private sector experts," he added.

Mr. Black went on to say: "Since our engagement began, we are starting to see many key government officials and members of Congress becoming more proactive about and interested in humanitarian and stability concerns. More U.S. officials are becoming alarmed about this violence and want the U.S. to play a stronger diplomatic role in bringing peace to Libya. Over the last three weeks, since the Libyan National Army attacks on civilian neighborhoods in Tripoli, led by Field Marshall Khalifa Haftar, over 400 Libyan citizens have died, another 1300 have been hospitalized, over 40,000 people have been displaced in-country, and thousands of refugees are pouring into Europe – creating a huge regional humanitarian crisis."

Mr. Black stressed that "A unified, democratic Libya is in the best interest of Libyans and furthers the security goals of the United States. Mr. Maiteeq has been an excellent messenger on the plight of Libyans and their desire for peace and freedom. He has been a strong advocate for a unified Libya and for urgent humanitarian action for suffering Libyans. We have urged Mr. Maiteeq to visit Washington and share his first-hand assessment of the socio-economic impact of this war on Libyan citizens and on neighboring countries."

Statement from Deputy Prime Minister Ahmed Maiteeq: "My office has been working very closely with Prime Policy Group. We have worked hard to achieve effective communication and to deliver a full assessment of the current situation in Libya in the U.S. We are grateful to see more attention being paid to Libya in hearings in Congress, that address concerns about the horrific attacks and their negative effects on all citizens. Democracy cannot be enforced upon the Libyan people through violence. What I have learned from our work is that communications have been poor and that misperceptions exist, which must be rectified. Our objective is to continue to open direct, clear and accurate communication channels between Libya and the U.S. without adding confusion by non-official parties and representatives. I look forward to continuing to address Congress on the plight of the Libyan people and the humanitarian concerns of the refugees."
