



Weekly Report

MARCH 30 - APRIL
5, 2014

1 Negotiation between rebels and tribal leaders results in alleged divide of rebel leadership

Talks between Rebels and Government indicative that "*there are good intentions*"
- Libya Oil Minister Omar Shakmak

Libya

John Morrissey

Divide in Rebel forces made apparent following indirect discussions with tribal leaders

- As the rebels continue to occupy crucial oil ports in eastern Libya, acting oil minister, Omar Shakmak has reported that indirect talks between tribal leaders on behalf of the central Libyan government and the rebel militias are indicative of good intentions.
- However, the content of these discussions has resulted in conflict and a subsequent divide in the rebel camp, as eight rebels have left the rebels' leadership team, which is headed by leader, Ibrahim Jathran.
- A pivotal issue in the discussions is whether Libya's government will agree to a referendum that would provide for the implementation of a federalist state.
- A federalist state would permit the delegation of some power and controls over the oil industry revenues to regional authorities, though the government fears this may lead to further referendums concerning secession
- A deal between the government and the rebels would not end all oil port blockades, but would allow Libya to return to exporting its main commodity, oil, in greater quantities.
- Source: Reuters

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/04/03/us-libya-oil-idUSBREA3223020140403>