Current Security Checkpoints between Ra’s Ajdir Border Crossing and Town of Abu Kammash, Libya (as of 5 March 2011)

ANALYSIS: There are two functional security checkpoints along the main road between the Tunisian-Libyan border crossing at Ra’s Ajdir and the town of Abu Kammash 19km to the east, as based on an analysis of satellite imagery acquired on 3 and 5 March 2011. Both are likely permanent locations established before the present crisis. Although there are clear indications that these checkpoints are actively controlling road traffic, there are however no associated large concentrations of either people or vehicle traffic leading to the checkpoints, strongly suggesting that these sites are NOT responsible for the drop in the number of people reaching the border at Ra’s Ajdir, as observed on 3 and 4 March 2011. It is possible that there are additional security checkpoints or temporary roadblocks located east of Abu Kammash which could be responsible for the reduction in traffic. UNITAR/UNOSAT will continue to task and analyze additional satellite imagery along this transport corridor leading to the Tunisian border.