

G20 Nations to Revive Global Economic Recovery Via Pro-Growth Strategies, Innovation

BEIJING - Less than one month before the kickoff of a Group of 20 (G20) summit, G20 countries are envisioning global economic recovery through pro-growth strategies and innovation.

Since China took over the G20 presidency on Dec. 1, 2015, the country has hosted a series of high-level meetings to set the stage for the summit, which is scheduled for Sept. 4-5 in Hangzhou, the capital city of east China's Zhejiang Province.

PRO-GROWTH STRATEGIES



Over the past few months, several meetings of finance ministers and

central bank governors have focused on concrete economic and financial

problems, laying the foundation for a consensus to be reached at the

leaders' summit. Prior to the Hangzhou summit, three meetings of

finance ministers and central bank governors and four meetings of finance and central bank deputies have been held to give advice and suggestions to promote global economic growth.

On July 23-24, G20 finance ministers and central bank governors met in Chengdu, in southwest China's Sichuan Province, and issued a statement on the global economic situation, saying they would use "all policy tools" at their disposal to boost confidence in the global economy and promote growth. (Xinhua)

Syria's Jaish Al-Fateh Rebels Announce Plans to Capture All Aleppo City

DAMASCUS - The Jaish al-Fateh rebel group announced Sunday that their next target is to capture the entire city of Aleppo, a day after they scored some victory against the government forces of President Bashar al-Assad.

In a statement, Jaish al-Fateh, or the Army of Conquest, boasted what they called the victory they made against the government forces, when they managed to storm some military installa-

tions on Saturday in the southern countryside of Aleppo.

The group also claimed that they had broken the three-week-long siege by the government forces on rebel-held areas in the eastern part of Aleppo city. "Since the Assad army besieged hundreds of thousands of civilians in Aleppo, the people there cried out for help from the mujahideen, and your brothers in the Jaish al-Fateh answered their calls,"... (More on P4)... (18)

Seoul Invites Strategic Catastrophe as THAAD Threats More than Pyongyang

BEIJING - The South Korean government is either making a historic misjudgment, or is using it as a weak excuse to state that the deployment of a U.S. anti-missile system could pit Beijing against Pyongyang.

Instead, the decision to deploy the anti-missile system will bring catastrophe to the Korean Peninsula and destroy the hard-won political mutual trust and economic ties between Seoul and its neighbors in Northeast Asia. Trying to



defend an unpopular decision to install the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system in

Seongju county, southeast of Seoul, a South Korean government spokesman on Sunday called China's

criticism unreasonable and shifted the blame to the "nuclear and missile ... (More on P4)... (19)

Austria's FM not Favor New Negotiation Chapters Between EU, Turkey: Report

VIENNA - Austria's Foreign Minister Sebastian Kurz said he doesn't favor the "new chapters" of EU-Turkey negotiation in an interview with the Austrian newspaper Kurier.

"I have a seat and vote in the (EU) foreign ministers' council, there it is about whether new negotiating chapters with Turkey is to be open. And I'm against it," Kurz said in the interview.

The Austrian foreign minister means he might veto the unanimous

agreement required by the council, according to the report.

Turkish accession to the EU has been a topic for years with little progress made. Kurz said the requirement for accession talks has not been met and the criteria for visa liberalization would not be fulfilled by Turkey.

According to a deal reached with EU earlier this year, Turkey would stop illegal migration to Europe through its corridor, in return for EU's financial aid. (Xinhua)

Japanese Emperor Hints at Possible Abdication Due to Declining Fitness

TOKYO - Japanese Emperor Akihito delivered a video message to the public Monday afternoon, hinting at his wish to abdicate though not directly referring to it.

In his 10-minute video message, broadcast at 3 p.m. on Monday, the 82-year-old emperor expressed worries that his old age and deteriorating physical strength may hinder him from fully carrying out his duties.

"When I consider that my fitness level is gradually declining, I am worried that it may become diffi-



cult for me to carry out my duties as the symbol of the state with my whole being as I have done until now,"

the emperor said. He also said it could be hard to cope with the situation just by cutting duties.

"In coping with the aging of the Emperor, I think it is not possible to continue ... (More on P4)... (20)

AU Observer Optimistic of Peaceful Zambia Polls

LUSAKA - Goodluck Jonathan, who is leading an African Union (AU) Election Observer Mission for Zambia's August 11 polls, has expressed optimism that Zambia will hold peaceful elections and maintain its record of being an oasis of peace.

Jonathan, a former Nigerian president, said Zambia was a shining example of democracy in Africa and it was important that the political players ensure that the record was maintained.

He told reporters on Sunday in Lusaka, the country's capital that the AU mission was satisfied with the atmosphere across the country ahead of the general elections, adding that environment was suitable for the holding of free and fair elections.

He said the AU mission was happy with the preparations done by the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) and added that the prevailing environment that has seen peace, law and order to reign before the elections should be maintained. (Xinhua)

360 Settlements on Ceasefire in Syria: Russian Defense Ministry

MOSCOW - Four more settlements in Syria have joined the ceasefire over the past 24 hours, bringing the total number of the inhabited areas signing the truce agreements to 360, the Russian Defense Ministry said in a document Sunday.

According to the document, negotiations on joining ceasefire regime have been continued with field commanders of armed opposition detachments in the provinces of Rif-Dimashq, Daraa and Homs.

While noting the ceasefire has been observed in most provinces of Syria, the Russian center



for reconciliation of opposing sides in Syria also registered eight violations of the ceasefire regime in Syria, including six in the Damascus province and one in the Latakia

province over the last 24 hours. "Groupings of al-Nusra and IS international terrorist organizations do not stop making attempts to break the ceasefire regime," the document said. (Xinhua)

Indonesia to Block IS Online Communication

JAKARTA - Indonesian police plans to block communication of the Islamic State (IS) in Syria with militants here in an effort to prevent the group from launching strikes.

The plan was made after the Indonesian police found out evidence of intensive communications between an Indonesian citizen who is engaging the IS terror activity in Syria, Bahrun Naim and the group of militants plotting rocket strikes to Marine Bay of Singapore from Indonesia's Batam Island who were arrested on Friday, ... (More on P4)... (21)

Turkey Police Detain U.S. Journalist for Illegal Entry

ANKARA - A U.S. citizen has been detained for trying to enter Turkey illegally from Syria, the governor of the southern province of Hatay was quoted by Anadolu Agency on Monday.

U.S. Journalist Snell Lindsteyler who was detained in Hatay's Altinozu district near the Syrian border, was taken into custody on the grounds that she crossed Syria illegally from Turkey and then tried to re-enter Turkey, Governor Ercan Topaca said ... (More on P4)... (22)

Iranian, Azeri, Russian Presidents to Meet in Trilateral Summit in Baku

TEHRAN - Iranian President Hassan Rouhani will meet shortly with his Russian and Azeri counterparts in a key tripartite summit in Azerbaijan's capital Baku, to explore avenues for trilateral cooperation.

President Rouhani will meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ilham Aliyev, the Azeri president, on Monday to discuss means of enhancing cooperation in the areas of commerce, energy, communications as well as transport and transit.

They are also expected

to exchange viewpoints on environmental issues and the fight against terrorism.

President Rouhani has traveled to Baku on a two-day state visit and at the head of a high-ranking delegation. The Iranian chief executive and the accompanying delegation arrived in the Azeri capital on Sunday. The Iranian president will further hold a meeting with President Putin in Baku to discuss Tehran-Moscow relations and several issues of common interest. (Presstv)

Russian Paralympic Team Still Hopes to Take Part in Rio Games

MOSCOW - The Russian Paralympic team is still preparing for competition, as Moscow attempts to reverse the ban on its participation in the Rio 2016 Games, the president of the Russian Paralympic Committee (RPC) Vladimir Lukin said Monday. "If necessary, we will seek legal solutions to this problem. We are studying, which arbitration is acceptable," the RIA Novosti

news agency quoted Lukin as saying at a press conference.

"Our team continues to prepare for the Games," he added. The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) issued on Sunday a statement banning Russian athletes from 2016 Rio Paralympics "with immediate effect". The IPC has opened suspension proceedings against the RPC ... (More on P4)... (23)

Neighbor News

US Losses Outweigh Gains in JCPOA Breaches: Iran FM

TEHRAN - Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif says the US losses as a result of its lack of commitment to its obligations under last year's nuclear agreement between Iran and the P5+1 group of countries outweigh any benefits Washington may reap.

"It is election year for the Americans and they are more inclined to choose a method that will serve their interests in the election," Zarif said in an exclusive interview with IRIB in Baku, Azerbaijan, on Sunday.

"They [US officials] are making a mistake because what they have lost so far as a result of the escalation of the Iranian nation's distrust due to the US lack of commitment has been far greater than what they can achieve," he added. He emphasized that all countries which have signed the nuclear agreement, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), are duty-bound to implement it, adding, "We are also pursuing its implementation with seriousness." (Presstv)

US State Department Deputy Spokesperson's Remarks Misplaced: Pakistan

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan on Sunday angrily reacted to remarks by the U.S. State Department deputy spokesperson Mark Toner's critical remarks that Pakistan is selective in targeting terrorists and does not go after those threatening its neighbors.

Toner told a news conference in Washington on Friday that the U.S. has been very clear with the highest levels of the government of Pakistan that they must "target all militant groups, and that includes those that target Pakistan's neighbors, and they must also close all safe ha-

vens." Pakistan Foreign Ministry spokesman said the remarks of the U.S. State Department deputy spokesperson are misplaced and are not sensitive to Pakistan's security concerns. "We have taken a serious note of the remarks made by the U.S. State Department deputy spokesperson, which are self-contradictory and oblivious of the fact that Pakistan has taken concrete measures to counter terrorism in a phase-wise manner keeping in view Pakistan's national security concerns." (Xinhua)

Turkmenistan Protests at 'Mistreatment' of Delegation

ISLAMABAD - Turkmenistan has recorded a protest with Pakistan over 'mistreatment' of a parliamentary delegation and Turkmenistan Parliament Chairperson Akja Tajiyewua Nurberdiyeva at Benazir Bhutto International Airport in the federal capital, sources told Daily Times.

National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has ordered an inquiry into the matter, the sources said. Parliamentary sources said that a parliamentary delegation of Turkmenistan was returning home after completing its two-day official visit to Pakistan last week when the officials at the Benazir Bhutto International Airport made it to stay at the state lounge for three hours despite

the fact that the delegates had been declared VVIP guests of the state of Pakistan.

Nurberdiyeva came to Pakistan by a special plane and her country paid \$ 1,500 as landing and handling charges to the airport authorities, but even then she was stopped at the airport for hours. The airport officials told the visitors that the runway was busy and they would be allowed to fly as soon as the runway is cleared, the sources said. When the National Assembly speaker came to know about this issue, he immediately called the aviation secretary and directed him to resolve the issue. Finally, the aviation secretary cleared the way for delegation's departure. (Monitoring Desk)

Chinese Company Expected to Participate in Energy Development Projects in Tajikistan

DUSHANBE - Chinese company is expected to participate in implementation of the energy development projects in Tajikistan.

The Electric Power Planning & Engineering Institute (EPPEI) of China Energy Engineering Corporation and Tajikistan's Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on cooperation in Dushanbe. According to the CCI press center, the agreement provides for intensification of cooperation in implementing priority energy projects in Tajikistan, including construction and rehabilitation of hydro-power and combines

heat and power (CHP) plants, construction and rehabilitation of power transmission lines and substations, etc.

Senior representatives of the EPPEI Executive Committee at the end of last week also held talks with top managers of the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of Tajikistan, the State Committee on Investment and State-owned Property Management, Barqi Tojik (Tajikistan's national integrated power company) and other relevant ministries and agencies of Tajikistan to discuss further expansion of bilateral energy cooperation between Tajikistan and China, the source said. (Asia-Plus)