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Time Not Right to Ease Russia Sanctions: EU

Union foreign ministers said on Monday there were no grounds to lift economic sanctions against Russia despite conciliatory proposals from the EU's foreign policy chief as violence intensified in eastern Ukraine.Federica Mogherini had suggested in a confidential memo seen by Reuters that member states could start talking to Russia again about global diplomacy, trade and other issues if Moscow implemented agreements to end the separatist conflict in neighboring Ukraine.

"I don't think that we now should think how to re-engage. Russia should



think how to re-engage," Lithuanian Foreign Minister Linas Linkevicius told reporters as he arrived for a meeting where Mogherini's paper was to be discussed.Mogherini's suggestion has gone

down badly with some of the EU's more hawkish states, such as Lithuania, which suggested it would send the wrong message to Russian President Vladimir Putin that the EU's resolve

was cracking. The EU has joined the United States in imposing tough sanctions on Russia over its alleged support for the pro-Moscow rebels in Ukraine but the bloc's 28 member ...(More on P4)...(25)

EU to Appeal against Court: Official

BRUSSELS - The European Union (EU) has decided to appeal against a court ruling made last December that Hamas be removed from terrorist list, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs Federica Mogherini said on Monday. The ruling was clearly based on "procedural grounds" and did not imply any assessment by the court of the merits of designating the Hamas as a terrorist organization, said Mogh-

The Judgement of the General Court of the European Union on Dec. 17 annulled measures taken by the Council of the European Union against Hamas which designated Hamas as a terrorist organization and froze Hamas' funds. Mogherini said that as a result of the appeal, the effects of the Judgement are suspended until a final decision is made by the Court of Justice.

She noted that the EU institutions are also studying carefully other appropriate remedial actions that may be taken to avoid possible annulments in the future within the ongoing review process of EU autonomous measures to combat terrorism.

The EU foreign policy chief said the fight against terrorism remains a priority and the EU is determined to stem the financing of terrorism, for which EU autonomous measures are an essential tool.

Nieghbor News

Zarif Advises US to **Put Immediate End** to Dangerous Game

TEHRAN - Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif called on the US officials to stop the policy of pressures against Tehran, adding that the negotiations with the world powers have entered a complicated

"If the Americans want to reach results, they should put an immediate end to the dangerous game of pressuring Iran," Zarif told reporters in Tehran on Monday.

Elaborating on the latest round of talks between Tehran and the Group 5+1 (the US, Russia, China, Britain and France plus Germany) which was held in Geneva on Sunday, he said, "The negotiations have become very complicated and we are studying the details. Positions on general points are clear; we have been studying the details for a long time.""As I have repeatedly stated, the principle of enrichment, the necessity for removing the sanctions and preserving Iran's nuclear program have all been accepted and we have

been negotiating on details for several months now," Zarif said.

Noting that the Chinese and French came to the nuclear talks with good proposals, specially on the nuclear fusion, he said, the Iranian team of negotiators will probably hold meetings with their G5+1 counterparts in Davos and Munich on the sidelines of two upcoming international confer-

There might be another round of negotiations between Iran and the G5+1 in Munich," Zarif contin-

Asked if the Iranian side is ready to reach a comprehensive agreement with the world powers by mid March which marks the new Iranian year, he said, "We believe that if the other side shows determination and good will, one week will be enough for reaching an agreement" and the Iranian side is ready for a final deal by the anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran on February 11. (FNA)

Non-CPC Parties **Encouraged to Pool Support** for Reform, Rule of Law

BEIJING - Senior Chinese

sensus with the CPC.

the United Front Work Department shows the CPC Central Committee attaches great importance to united front work and multi-party cooperation. They said they would make efforts to play a

promote healthy devel-

better role in state affairs. Sun was appointed head of the United Front Work Department in late December, replacing Ling Jihua, who was Hailing the work of non- removed from office afagency announced an investigation into him for "suspected serious disciplinary violations."

opment of non-public sectors of the economy. Chairpersons of the non-CPC parties said Sun's appointment as head of

Communist Party official, Sun Chunlan, has encouraged non-Communist parties and the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce (ACFIC) to pool support for China's deepening reforms and the rule of law. Sun, newly-appointed head of the United Front Work Department of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, made the comments while visiting the central committees of the eight non-communist political parties and the

communist parties in ter the CPC's discipline past years, Sun called on non-communists to enhance their political con-She asked the ACFIC to

Sharif Vows Action against Officials Responsible for Petroleum Crisis

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on Monday chaired a meeting on the petroleum crisis that is paralysing transport in Punjab and areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, vowing not to pardon those responsible for fuel shortage.Minister for Petroleum Shahid Khaqan Abbasi and other highranking officials participated in the meeting which took place at the Prime Minister's House in the federal capital.

During the meeting, Abbasi briefed the participants on the reasons behind the acute shortage of petrol, and also highlighted the steps undertaken to overcome it. (Monitoring Desk)

Over 90% of Turkmenistan's Export is Fuel and **Energy Resources**

ASHGABAT - Turkmeni - particular, natural gas stan's foreign trade in 2014 amounted to almost by 11.2 percent on-year. \$33 billion, a 3.6 percent The main importers of increase compared to

Exports accounted for 54 percent of the total trade volume, Turkmenistan's state information service

TDH reported. China's share in Turkmenistan's foreign trade has increased significantly, while Turkmen exports to Azerbaijan, Armenia, Iran, Uzbekistan, Turkey, Afghanistan, and India have been

Turkmenistan's exports in 2014 grew four percent compared to 2013. More than 90 percent of all exports were fuel and energy resources (mainly natural gas and oil). In

on the rise

export in 2014 increased Turkmen products are China, Russia, Iran, Italy, Azerbaijan, and Afghanistan. Compared to 2013, Turkmenistan's export to Azerbaijan in 2014 grew 22-fold due to growing supplies of oil and oil products, exports to India increased almost three-fold due to growing exports of oil and chemical products and cotton fabric. Turkmenistan also increased its cotton exports to Belarus, Ukraine, and Russia. The export of Turkmen wheat to Iran increased more than seven-fold (Iran and Afghanistan are the main importers of Turkmen wheat). (TCA)

EU Calls for Anti-Terror Alliance with Arab Countries

BRUSSELS - The European Union on Monday called for an anti-terror alliance with Arab countries to boost cooperation and informationsharing in the wake of deadly attacks and arrests across Europe.

EU foreign policy chief

Federica Mogherini said Monday that "we need an alliance. We need to strengthen our way of cooperating together." Mogherini later met with Arab League Secretary General Nabil Al-Araby. She also attended a meeting of the EU foreign ministers who are preparing for a summit of EU leaders in February focused on ter-

has started the long-

delayed destruction of

bunkers and hangars that

were used for the pro-

duction and storage of

chemical weapons, dip-

lomatic sources told Reu-

Damascus last year

handed over 1,300 metric

tonnes of toxic agents af-

ter joining the Organisa-

tion for the Prohibition

of Chemical Weapons

(OPCW), but it is months

behind schedule in de-

stroying the facilities

used to make and store

Work at a first tunnel

began on Dec. 24, but

was delayed by winter

storms. The site will be

its deadly stockpile.

ters on Monday.

dozen underground

Some ministers emphasized the importance of working with Muslim countries, rather than really follow what is goblaming them for the problem.

They will continue to be in the front line, and we have to work closely with them to protect both those countries and the European Union countries," British Foreign Secretary Philip

Hammond said. Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders said the police raids launched in his country last week to break up a suspected network of foreign fighters demonstrate that informationsharing is the key to

Syria Begins Destruction of

Chemical Weapons Facilities

walls by the end of Janu-

ary, said one source in

The Hague, where the

global chemical weapons

"The work finally began,

which is good news,"

said another source.

"There were some tech-

nical issues and the bad

weather has slowed up

the process."Syria joined

watchdog is based.

"We have to exchange information in Europe and outside Europe to ing on and to prevent any acts that could be launched on our territory," he said.

Belgium deployed the military over the weekend to guard public buildings. As the ministers met, soldiers walked the perimeter of the European Council building, where internal security has also been beefed up in recent days.Many ministers said no quick solution to the challenge of foreign fighters is likely, and that the real answer is to help end the conflicts in Syria and Iraq. (AP)

Sanaa Clashes Halted As Yemen President Meets **Houthis: Spokesman** SANAA - Clashes be- spokesman, told Xinhua.

Houthi fighters near the presidential palace in the capital Sanaa stopped on Monday after President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi started a meeting with Houthi representatives, a government spokesman said.

"President Hadi started an extraordinary meeting with his advisors and Houthi representatives, urging all sides to calm down for the sake of Yemen," Rajeh Badi, the

17 Killed in

Clashes with IS

Militants

tween Yemeni presiden- The Houthis, who detial guards and Shiite mand more rights for the country's Zyadi Shiite Muslims, seized Sanaa in September and advanced into central and western parts of the country where Sunni Muslims predominate. Fresh clashes erupted in Sanaa after the director of the Yemeni presidential office, Ahmed Awad bin Mubarak, was kidnapped by the Houthis two days ago, in a wrangle over the country's draft constitution.An of-

ficial at Hadi's office told Xinhua that Hadi asked the Houthi group during the meeting to release bin Mubarak.Earlier, the Houthi group said in a statement that the arrest of bin Mubarak was a necessary step to prevent influential parties from approving the draft constitution.According to the draft constitution, Yemen will be divided into six federal regions. However, the Houthi group demands that the country be divided into only two regions. (Xinhua)

Davutoglu.How-

two predecessors

in the presiden-

tial job - Ahmet

Necdet Sezer and

Abdullah Gul --

performed largely

ceremonial roles

president to do so was

Suleyman Demirel, who

served as head of state

from 1993-2000. Erdogan

is just the sixth Turkish

president in the history

of the modern republic

founded in 1923 to chair a

cabinet meeting.Erdogan

transformed Turkey in

over a decade as prime

minister from 2003 to

2014, winning plaudits

for speeding up develop-

ment and growth but also

facing accusations of im-

posing a creeping Islami-

sation and authoritari-

anism on the country's

secular democracy. (AFP)

Erdogan's

Erdogan Chairs Turkey Cabinet for First Time As President



In Iraq's northern central province of Salahudin, avy clashes broke out between the Iraqi police and IS militants at the edges of the town of Dujail, leaving eight IS militants killed and 11

others injured, while two policemen were killed and five others injured, a provincial security source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. The policemen also seized a cache of weapons and ammunition of the IS militants, the source added.

In the eastern province of Diyala, Abu Adnan al-Jubouri, an IS media member responsible for ...(More on P4)...(26)

an was chairing a cabinet meeting on Monday for the first time as head of state, in a move aimed at

key's undisputed number Erdogan, who took over the presidency in August elections after more than a decade as premier, hosted the cabinet meeting at his own hugely controversial presidential palace on the outskirts of Ankara.The Turkish president has the right under the constitution to chair cabinet meetings, which are usually overseen by Prime Minister Ahmet

ANKARA - Turkish Presiand never chaired a govdent Recep Tayyip Erdogernment meeting. The last

cementing his role as Tur-

Japan Eyes First Overseas SDF Long-Term Base in Djibouti: Report

TOKYO - Japanese government is consider-

ing to extend the Djibouti base's functions, making it the first semi- permanent and a multi-purpose base for the Self-Defense Force (SDF) to act in Africa and Middle East, local media reported Monday. Japan opened the anti-piracy base in Djibouti, East Africa in June 2011 on a 12-hectare place adjoining Djibouti-Ambouli International Airport and has built a command headquarters, boarding facilities, parking apron there at a cost of 4.7 billion yen (40.07 million U.S. dollars). About 180 Japan SDF personnel are stationed at the country's first full-fledged and only overseas base on a four-month rotational basis to ensure the safe passage of passenger and commercial ships through the treacherous Gulf of Aden off Somalia. According to Japan's Asahi Shimbun, Defense Ministry and SDF officials are considering allowing SDF troops to use the base for disaster relief and UN peacekeeping activities, as well as accommodating SDF troops that are dispatched from Japan in the event of emergencies and terrorism activities. Thus, the base will become an operational center for SDF troops in the region on the assumption that Japan will continue utilizing it on a long-term basis. (Xinhua)

د افغانستان اسلامي جمهوريت د اقتصاد وزارت د افغانستان د بيارغوني او پرمختيايي خدماتو دفتر



U.S. (Reuters)

sealed off with cement the OPCW after a sarin

gas attack killed more

than 1,000 people in the

Damascus suburb of Gh-

outa on Aug. 21, 2013,

prompting threats of

military intervention by

the United States, which

blamed President Bashar

al-Assad's government.

Assad's government and

rebels blamed each other.

جمهوري اسلامي افغانستان وزارت اقتصاد دفتر خدمات بازسازي و انكشافي افغانستان

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Ministry of Economy Afghanistan Reconstruction & Development Services

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)

Procurement Entities	ARDS on behalf of Ministry of Energy and Water, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.
Funded By	World Bank-IDA
Item Description	Consultancy services for Capacity Strengthening Program for Financial Supervision Department (FSD) of Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB).
Ref No.	DAB/ 1984/ QBS
Deadline for EOI Submission	7 February 2015 at 11:00 Hrs local time.
Address for EOI Submission	ARDS office, Ministry of Economy, 4 th and 5 th Floor, Malik Asghar Square, Kabul – Afghanistan. Telephone: - 0093 (0)788 78 48 40, 0093 (0)752055747
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