

# UN Calls for New Approach to Sustain Development, Peace

UNITED NATIONS - The United Nations on Tuesday called for a holistic approach to promote development, prevent conflict by addressing the root causes and sustain peace. "The best means of prevention, and of sustaining peace, is inclusive and sustainable development," said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres at a high-level dialogue themed with building sustainable peace for all. "We need a global response that addresses the root causes of conflict, and integrates peace, sustainable development and human rights in a holistic way, from conception to execution," said Guterres. Among the root causes, Gu-



terres illustrated that inequality is growing when societies are making progress in development by noting recent figures that eight richest people in the world have the same wealth as 3.6 billion poorest people. He said implementing the sustainable development agenda which includes a set of global goals to eliminate poverty, promote equality and combat climate change will make an enormous contribution to sustaining peace. The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda was adopted in September 2015 by UN member states to guide the international development and cooperation till the year 2030. President... (More on P4)... (21)

## UN, NGOs to Reinforce Support for Area Affected By Syrian Crisis

HELSINKI - The United Nations (UN) and its NGO partners showed their commitment here on Tuesday to strengthen support for Syria and the neighboring countries affected by the ongoing crisis. A conference named "Supporting Syrians and the region" was held in Helsinki aiming to launch the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP) for 2017 and 2018, and provide humanitarian support for the region. At the conference, UN agencies and NGOs called for 4.63 billion U.S. dollars

in new funding to help at least 4.8 million people who'd escaped the war by going abroad. The new funding for 3RP is in addition to the estimated 3.4 billion dollars to meet the needs of 13.5 million people in Syria in 2017. The funding totals about 8 billion dollars. Finnish Prime Minister Juha Sipilä, who opened the conference, said Syria's humanitarian crisis was the worst since the conflict broke six years ago. The population ... (More on P4)... (22)

## EU Brexit Talks to Take Notice of Non-EU Nations

LONDON - The European Union's chief Brexit negotiator says the interests of the EU and Norway "for a large part are corresponding." Michel Barnier has told Norwegian news agency NTB that during the negotiations with London "we will take pay attention to third countries that are closely associated with the EU, like Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein." Barnier was on a one-day visit to non-EU member Norway. The Scandinavian country is part of the European Economic Area that belongs to the EU's huge,

tariff-free single market in goods and services, pays into EU coffers and accepts free movement from member states. On Tuesday, Britain's Supreme Court ruled Prime Minister Theresa May must seek parliamentary approval before get parliamentary approval before triggering Brexit. London police have arrested a second person for allegedly making threats to Gina Miller, the lead plaintiff in the Supreme Court challenge related to Britain's planned departure from the European Union. (AP)

## Trump Speaks with Indian PM: Modi

NEW DELHI - Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and U.S. President Donald Trump spoke to each other via phone Tuesday night, during which they discussed global terrorism and the security situation in South and Central Asia, apart from swapping invitations. In a series of tweets Wednesday morning, Modi said the telephonic conversation was warm and both have decided to work closely to further strengthen bilateral ties. "Had a warm conversa-



tion with President @realDonaldTrump late last evening. President @realDonaldTrump and I agreed to work closely in the coming days to further strengthen our bilateral

## German G20 Policy to Stay Constant after Cabinet Changes: Spokesman

BERLIN - Germany's Presidency of the G20 will not be affected by alterations in German Chancellor Angela Merkel's cabinet related to changes within the ranks of her Social Democrat (SPD) junior coalition partner. "The continuity of the lines of our foreign and economic policy will remain," government spokesman Steffen Seibert said at a regular government news conference when asked about the G20 presidency. "We are working together on the basis of the coalition deal we agreed.. There will be continuity," he said. Economy Minister Sigmar Gabriel is expected to switch to ... (More on P4)... (26)

## Russia Prepares Draft Constitution for Syrian Opposition

ASTANA - Representatives of Russian delegation who took part in peace talks on Syria on Tuesday presented a draft Constitution to the representatives of the armed opposition of Syria. "We presented the draft of Constitution to the Syrian armed opposition, which was developed by Russian experts," said Alexander Lavrentyev, special representative of Russian President on Syria. According to him, this was done to speed up the adoption of the Constitution of Syria and give it additional

impetus. Lavrentyev also called on the international community to help Syrian government and opposition to create conditions suitable for working on the project of new Syrian Constitution. The Russian delegation advocates the creation of the Constitutional Committee consisting of the members of Syrian government and the opposition. "We consider that it is correct to allow all Syrian opposition delegations to participate in the peace talks in Geneva. All opposition delegations should have



competent representatives there," said Lavrentyev. "The negotiations were quite difficult, but nonetheless quite effective. All the efforts exerted by Russian side to the peace talks have

led to positive results," he told reporters. International peace talks on Syria finished on Tuesday in Astana, capital of Kazakhstan. Delegations of ... (More on P4)... (23)

## British PM Vows to Publish Brexit Plan in White Paper Amid Pressure

LONDON - British Prime Minister Theresa May on Wednesday pledged to set out the government's Brexit plans in a formal policy document, a White Paper, responding to members of Parliaments (MPs) who have been calling for greater Brexit transparency. The latest promise came during the prime minister's Question Time, one day after the British Supreme Court ruled against the government regarding whether it

needs the parliamentary approval before officially starting Brexit. May said she recognized there was an "appetite" for a White Paper setting out her "bold plan." Local media reports say that a number of Conservative MPs had joined Labor in asking



Reports say that a parliamentary bill paving the way for talks with the

European Union could be introduced as early as Thursday. (Xinhua)

## U.S., Indian Leaders Pledge Cooperation in Fighting Terrorism

WASHINGTON U.S. President Donald Trump and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi vowed Tuesday that the two countries will stand shoulder to shoulder in the global fight against terrorism. During a telephone conversation with Modi, Trump emphasized that the United States considers India a "true friend and partner" in addressing challenges around the world, the White House said in a statement. The two leaders discussed opportunities to strengthen the partnership between the United States and India in broad areas such as the economy and defense. They also discussed security in the region of South and Central Asia. Trump looked forward to hosting Modi in the United States later this year, the statement said. (Xinhua)

## Trump Expected to Launch Measures to Curb Illegal Immigration

WASHINGTON - U.S. President Donald Trump is expected to begin signing executive orders aimed at curbing illegal immigration on Wednesday, beginning with a directive to build a wall along the U.S. border with Mexico and another to boost personnel needed to crack down on illegal immigrants, congressional aides with knowledge of the plan told Reuters. In the coming days, Trump is expected to limit the number of refugees admitted to the United States to 50,000 a year, down from 100,000, and to impose a temporary ban on most refugees. Trump, who took office last Friday, will begin signing the orders at the Department of Homeland Security on Wednesday. On Twitter on Tuesday night, Trump reiterated his promise to build the border wall, which was a cornerstone of his presidential campaign and which he has promised to make Mexico pay for. The border enforcement order includes plans to hire 5,000 more U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents used to apprehend migrants at the border and to triple the number of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agents used to arrest and deport migrants living in the United States illegally. The Customs and Border Protection agency has already struggled to meet its hiring mandate, with a little more than 19,000 agents on the payroll, out of a congressionally mandated 21,000. Immigration enforcement away from the border is also ... (More on P4)... (25)

## US Senate Confirms Trump's Pick for UN Ambassador

WASHINGTON - U.S. Senate on Tuesday voted to confirm U.S. President Donald Trump's pick for U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley's nomination easily cleared the Senate as she got wide bipartisan support for the post. "I was reassured by Gov. Haley's unequivocal opposition to President Trump's alarming statements regarding Russian war crimes in Syria (and) her clear grasp of the importance of U.S. engagement in international institutions," Senator Robert Menendez said in a statement. Born to Indian immigrants in South Carolina in 1972, Haley is the first woman

and visible minority to serve as governor of South Carolina. Haley supported Trump's rival Senator Marco Rubio of Florida during the Republican nomination race last year, and she was one of the most vocal critics of Trump early in his run. Haley frequently called out Trump for his hard-line immigration policy, and also criticized Trump for refusing to release his tax returns. "Governor Haley has a proven track record of bringing people together regardless of background or party affiliation to move critical policies forward for the betterment of her state and our country," Trump said when he nominated Haley in November last year. (Xinhua)

## Nieghbor News

### China-U.S. Cooperation Expected to Continue in Trump Era: Chinese Ambassador

WASHINGTON - China and the United States are expected to continue cooperation under the new U.S. administration led by Donald Trump, the Chinese ambassador to the United States said Tuesday. Although the Trump administration has yet to formulate its China policy, the general trend of China-U.S. cooperation cannot be reversed as it is "the only right choice" for both countries, said Cui Tiankai on the sidelines of a Lunar New Year reception at the Chinese Embassy. Cui noted that such cooperation is in the interests of both China and the United States, the world's two top economies and permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. He also expressed the

hope that the two sides can maintain the multi-layer dialogue and exchange mechanisms, which were created in the past years. Tangible progress has been achieved over the years in China-U.S. joint efforts to build a new model of relationship based on nonconfrontation, nonconflict, mutual respect and win-win cooperation, Cui said. The Chinese envoy listed a range of areas where the two countries can continue and deepen cooperation, including trade, finance, security, energy, infrastructure and mutual investment, as well as some regional and global issues. Cui expressed the hope that the two sides could open up new areas for cooperation as their interests are increasingly intertwined. (Xinhua)

### Sharif to be Called If Necessary: Pak SC Judges

ISLAMABAD - The Supreme Court (SC) on Tuesday hinted that it might call Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to explain his position on the Panamaagate case, if the need arose. "The court will definitely call the prime minister if [necessary], or may consider deciding the case at hand on the available material, after listening to the stance of all parties [concerned]," observed Justice Asif Saeed Khosa. However, he was quick to add, that stage had not come. Justice Khosa heads a five-judge bench

hearing petitions seeking disqualification of the prime minister over the investments made in offshore companies by members of his family. The observation came when Advocate Taufiq Asif, representing Jamaat-i-Islami (JI) chief Sirajul Haq, asked the court to summon the prime minister to record his statement and provide him an opportunity to clear his position on the serious allegations levelled against him. Under the circumstances, the prime minister should come to ... (More on P4)... (27)

### Nuclear Deal Revolutionized Iran Global Standing: Araqchi

TEHRAN - An Iranian deputy foreign minister and senior nuclear negotiator says the country's 2015 nuclear agreement with world powers justly revolutionized its standing in the international arena. Abbas Araqchi said the deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), completely changed Iran's international position, enabling the Islamic Republic to play a more influential role in the global community. In the post-JCPOA era, Iran turned into a

more active player in issues of international importance, adding that the United Nations Security Council now recognizes the Islamic Republic as a guarantor of peace and security in Syria. The JCPOA was signed in July 2015 between Tehran on the one side and the US, France, Russia, and China plus Germany, on the other. The deal, which was later enshrined in a legally-binding UN Security Council resolution, rolled back nuclear-related sanctions... (More on P4)... (28)

### Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan Plan to Resume Train Connection

TASHKENT - Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan are discussing resumption of train connecting between Uzbek capital of Tashkent and Issyk-Kul which is the main tourist destination in Kyrgyzstan, Kyrgyz Transport and Roads Minister Zhamshidbek Kalilov told KyrTAG. Tashkent-Issyk-Kul-Tashkent tourist train connection was stopped after clashes between ethnic Kyrgyzs and Uzbeks in Southern Kyrgyzstan in 2010. It was resumed for summer period in 2015, but did not operate in 2016. Kalilov said that the train connection is planned to be resumed in summer period. The exact date of the train launch has not been approved yet. The railway administrations of the two countries are working on the work schedule of the train, he said, adding that the issue of pricing is being considered by the Uzbek side. (Trend)

### Tajikistan Exports 300,000 Tons of Cement

DUSHANBEH - Tajikistan last year produced a record amount of cement. Production of cement increased by nearly 500,000 tons in 2016 compared to 2015. According to Minister of Industry and New Technologies of Tajikistan Shavkat Bobozoda, the bulk of cement is export-

ed mainly to Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. About 300,000 tons of cement have been supplied to these countries last year, he said. The Minister noted that cement production increased after creation of new plants in Vahdat, Bobojon Gafur and Yavan districts. (AKI)