

## EU, France, Germany and UK Urge Iran to Reverse Uranium Decision

BRUSSELS - The diplomatic chiefs of the EU, France, Germany and Britain said Tuesday they were "extremely concerned" and urged Iran to reverse its decision to breach a limit on enriched uranium reserves under a 2015 nuclear deal. "We urge Iran to reverse this step and to refrain from further measures that undermine the nuclear deal," said the joint statement signed by EU diplomatic chief Federica Mogherini and the three countries' foreign ministers -- France's Jean-Yves Le Drian, Germany's Heiko Maas and Britain's Jeremy Hunt. Tehran said Monday that it had made good on its warning that it would breach the limit in response to Wash-



ington abandoning the nuclear deal last year and hitting Iran's crucial oil exports and financial transactions with biting sanctions. Iran, which has sought to pressure the remaining parties to save the deal, announced on May 8

that it would no longer respect the limit set on its enriched uranium and heavy water stockpiles. It threatened to abandon further nuclear commitments unless the deal's remaining partners -- Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia

-- elped it circumvent sanctions, especially to sell its oil. "We have been consistent and clear that our commitment to the nuclear deal depends on full compliance by Iran," said the joint statement on Tuesday. "We regret this decision by Iran, which calls into question an essential instrument of nuclear nonproliferation." It added that the group was "urgently considering next steps under the terms" of the deal, which saw Iran commit to never acquiring an atomic bomb, accept drastic limits on its nuclear programme and submit to IAEA inspections in exchange for a partial lifting of international sanctions. (AFP)

### U.N. Aviation Agency to Review Global Pilot Training in Shadow of 737 MAX Crashes

MONTREAL - Global regulators will meet in Montreal next week to review pilot licensing requirements, the U.N.'s aviation agency said, as part of a discussion that has gained urgency following two fatal crashes of Boeing 737 MAX aircraft in the past year. It is the first time that the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), which sets global standards for 193 member countries, will undertake such a broad review on training requirements.

While the meeting was not called in response to the MAX crashes in Indonesia last October and in Ethiopia in March, it coincides with a larger debate on whether increasingly automated commercial jets are compromising pilot skills. The 737 MAX has been grounded worldwide and could not be back in service for months yet. Most attention surrounding the two 737 MAX crashes that killed a total of 346 people ... (More on P4)...(18)

### US-China Trade Talks 'Back on Track': White House Advisor

WASHINGTON - US-China trade negotiations are now headed in a positive direction following this weekend's meeting between President Donald Trump and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping, a top White House aide said Tuesday. But trade advisor Peter Navarro said Chinese telecoms giant Huawei remains blocked from participating in the development of 5G wireless networks in the United States even though Washington has

softened its stance toward the company. "We're reengaged. We're talking on the phone already. There will probably be visits. It's all good," Navarro told CNBC. "From an investor's point of view, here is all you have to know: Talks are back on track with the work that has been done to date." The US trade delegation has been led by Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin. After talks nearly col-



lapsed in May, Trump and Xi on Saturday agreed at a meeting in Japan to resume negotiations toward ending their year-long trade war. Trump accused the Chinese side of renegeing on ... (More on P4)...(14)

### Kremlin Refuses to Reveal Details about Fatal Russian Submarine Fire, Declares It 'State Secret'



MOSCOW - Two days after a mysterious fire aboard a Russian submarine killed 14 people, little details have

emerged as the Kremlin continued Wednesday to shroud the incident in secrecy. Speaking at the Russian

Navy's Arctic base of Severomorsk Wednesday, Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu praised the "heroic" crew mem-

bers that sacrificed their own lives Monday to save a civilian and several other members aboard a deep-sea submersibles that caught fire while on a research mission. "The submariners acted heroically in the critical situation," he said. "They evacuated a civilian expert from the compartment that was engulfed by fire and shut the door to prevent the fire from spreading further and fought for the ship's survival until the end." ... (More on P4)...(15)

### More Than 100 Civilians Killed in Fresh S. Sudan Violence: UN

NAIROBI - The UN said Wednesday that conflict had intensified in a region of South Sudan since a peace deal was signed, with hundreds of civilians raped or murdered by warring factions. The United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) said civilians had been "deliberately and brutally targeted" in Central Equatoria since the agreement was inked in September. At least 104 people had been killed in attacks on villages in the southern

region, it said. A roughly similar number of women and girls were raped or suffered other sexual violence between September and April, it said in its latest human rights report. Many were taken captive by armed groups to serve as "wives," it said. The surge in violence has forced more than 56,000 civilians to flee their homes, becoming displaced in South Sudan itself, while another 20,000 have crossed the ... (More on P4)...(19)

## Neighbor News

### Tehran Can Reverse Nuclear Deal Commitments in 1 Hour, Will Increase Enrichment - Rouhani

TEHRAN - Tehran can reverse the scaling back of its commitments under the 2015 nuclear deal in just one hour, the nation's President Hassan Rouhani said on Wednesday. Rouhani said that, starting from Sunday, Iran will increase its level of uranium enrichment beyond the limit of 3.67 percent set by the 2015 nuclear deal, known as the JCPOA, local media reported. From July 7, we will put aside our commitment in relation to the level of enrichment and we will increase to any level that we

wish depending on the needs and our requirements. The Iranian officials earlier called the move the "second phase" of scaling down the nation's commitments under the agreement. During the "first phase," which was activated by Iran last month, the country had increased its uranium stockpile beyond the 300kg allowed by the JCPOA. In May, Iran gave the EU a 60-day deadline to negotiate the lifting of sanctions imposed on Tehran by the US, which unilaterally left the JCPOA last year. (RT)

### Minsk, Ashgabat Aim to Expand Bilateral Co-Op - Ambassador

ASHGABAT - Belarus and Turkmenistan are setting new strategic goals for expanding bilateral cooperation, Trend reports with reference to an interview by Ambassador of Belarus to Turkmenistan Oleg Tabanyuhov to Turkmen media. The diplomat noted that the recent visit by Prime Minister of Belarus Syarhey Rumas to Turkmenistan and his meeting with President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov be-

came new impetus to the development of bilateral relations. "New concrete agreements have been reached on expanding Belarusian-Turkmen cooperation," said Tabanyuhov. "Our countries are setting new strategic goals in this direction." He noted that the intergovernmental Belarusian-Turkmen commission for economic cooperation, the ninth meeting of which was held May this year in Ashgabat, is working effectively. (Trend)

### No Leniency for National Wealth Plunderers: PM

RAWALPINDI - Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday expressed the resolve to make those people answerable who had plundered the national exchequer and burdened the nation with financial woes. He reiterated that there would be no concession for the looters and plunderers. "There will be no NRO whatever approach they make to

save their skin. I will make them answerable," he said. The prime minister was addressing an inauguration ceremony of Sir Syed Express train at Rawalpindi Railway station. He said if today, both Zardari and Nawaz Sharif brought back the looted money, the rupee would be strengthened, easing the pressure of dollar. (Monitoring Desk)

### General Motors Uzbekistan Renamed

TASHKENT - General Motors (GM) Uzbekistan changed its name to UZAUTO Motors, Trend reports with reference to Single portal of corporate information. The company has already changed its name in social networks. Earlier it was reported that national Uzavtosanoat company bought out a share of General Motors, and now the company is fully owned by the government of Uzbekistan. The fact that the car factory will be renamed became known in February. Recently, the company presented car mod-

els that are expected to be manufactured in Uzbekistan to dealers. Chevrolet Equinox, Chevrolet Traverse and Chevrolet Trailblazer were among them. Now, ten car models are manufactured under the Chevrolet and Ravon brands at three GM Uzbekistan production sites. Matiz, Cobalt (R4), Lacetti (Gentra), Spark (R2) and Nexia (R3) models are manufactured at the main production site in Asaka; Tracker and Malibu at a branch in Tashkent; and Damas and Labo models get off the assembly line at the branch in Pitnak. (Trend)

### Turkmenistan Joins UNCTAD Council

ASHGABAT - Turkmenistan has been unanimously elected as a permanent member of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Council, Trend reports with reference to Turkmen Foreign Ministry. This decision was made during the 66th session of the UNCTAD in Geneva. Turkmenistan, as

the 157th member of this Council, entered in the list of group "A", the report said. The supreme body of UNCTAD is the Conference, which meets at a ministerial-level session at least once every four years to determine the main directions of policy and address issues related to the organization's working program. (Trend)

### Construction of Main Stadium of 2020 Tokyo Olympics Almost Completed

TOKYO - The construction of the main stadium that will host the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics was almost completed, the Japan Sport Council (JSC) said Wednesday. The New National Stadium will also host the Olympic women's soccer final. The construction work started in December 2016. The JSC, which oversees the building of the stadium, said the exterior of the 150-billion-yen (1.3-billion-U.S.-dollars) multi-purpose stadium is nearly finished. The ... (More on P4)...(20)

### Vodafone Launches 5G Service in UK Using Huawei Equipment

LONDON - Vodafone UK on Wednesday switched on its 5G service, becoming the second UK mobile operator to turn on its 5G network relying on Huawei equipment. The Vodafone network is launched in seven British cities, including Cardiff, London, Manchester and Glasgow, offering much faster speeds and the opportunity for new services such as artificial intelligence, the internet of things, robotics, connected cities and self-driving cars. Meanwhile, Vodafone also announced that it's offering 5G roaming in four European countries -- Britain, Germany, Spain and Italy over the summer. Vodafone's 5G network will be working at average speeds of 150-200 Mbps, up to 10 times faster than 4G. Anne Sheehan, ... (More on P4)...(21)

### Good Luck to EU: Bundeswehr Crumbled Under Von Der Leyen, Who Is Now To Take Helm of the Union

BERLIN - Germany's Ursula von der Leyen is slated to lead the EU's executive for five years. A model centrist liberal politician with a dubious record of overseeing Germany's troubled military, she's facing rough waters to navigate. The long-serving German defense chief has all of a sudden come to the forefront as a future head of the European Union's executive branch. That might be a little unexpected, as she was not even on the list of potential candidates until recently. Yet, after marathon debates the European leaders



agreed that she would be the best fit for the position previously held by Jean-Claude Juncker. Von der Leyen is a political veteran and the only person to have held a ministerial position in all four successive governments of Chancellor Angela Merkel since

the German leader first came to power back in 2005. Minister of lack of defense Yet, her ministerial record is far from flawless. Over the past six years, during which von der Leyen headed the ... (More on P4)...(16)

### Stage Intruder Pours Water on CEO of 'China's Google' Baidu in Brazen Stunt

BEIJING - The CEO of Chinese search giant Baidu was left startled after a man jumped on stage and showered him with water before being tackled by security at an event in Beijing. The CEO resumed his speech as if nothing had happened. Robin Li Yanhong, co-founder and CEO of Baidu, China's dominant web search giant with over 70 percent of the market, was addressing a con-

ference on artificial intelligence and autonomous driving in Beijing on Wednesday when a man jumped on stage and upended a water bottle on the unsuspecting tech entrepreneur. While the stunt caught Li by surprise, he quickly regained composure, asking the intruder: "What's your problem?" as he attempted to escape. Li never received an answer, as the other ... (More on P4)...(17)

### Arab Parliament Urges France to Push Israel to Release Palestinian Tax, Customs Revenues

CAIRO - The Arab Parliament (AP) urged on Wednesday France to practice pressure on Israel to release all Palestinian tax and customs revenues it is withholding. "By refusing to transfer Palestinian tax revenues, Israel grossly violates the terms of Paris Protocol, which does not put any restrictions on how Palestinians spend their own revenues," the AP's speaker Mishaal al-Salami said. Al-Salami asserted that the AP totally rejects Israel's deduction of the revenues of the Palestinian taxes and customs it collects on behalf of the Palestinian Authority. "Israel has no right to use the Palestinian money," he added. The AP's official lauded the French stances towards the Palestinian cause, noting that France was the country that brokered Paris Protocol, a framework agreement inked in 1994 establishing the interim-period economic relations between Israel and the Palestinian Authority and regulating its finances and tax system. Al-Salami urged the international community to shoulder its responsibility toward protecting the Palestinian rights and take necessary and effective measures to restore the frozen Palestinian funds from Israel. (Xinhua)