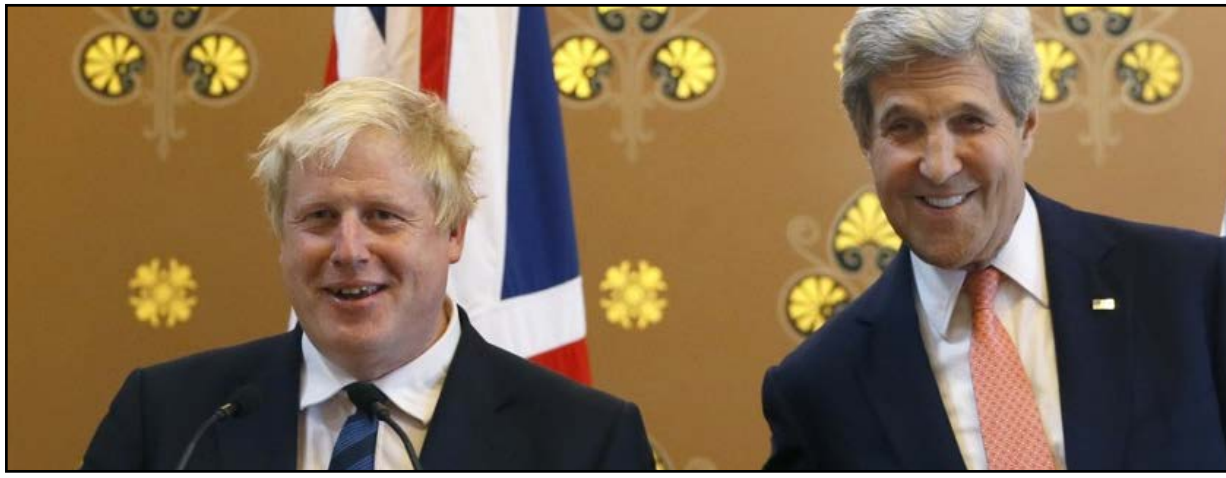


# U.S. Secretary of State Reaffirms Close U.S.-British Ties after Brexit

LONDON - U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said here on Tuesday that he wants to reaffirm the special and unbreakable ties uniting the United States and Britain, as he visited London for the first time after Britain's vote to leave the European Union.

"The United States of America depends on a strong United Kingdom. We mean united and it depends on an engaged United Kingdom," Kerry told a joint press conference with his newly-appointed Brit-



ish counterpart Boris Johnson in London.

Kerry said the United States also depends on a close relationship with the EU. He said America

wants the smoothest possible transition to Brexit and

a collaborative EU-British relationship.

He said he was encouraged by what he heard from British Prime Minister Theresa May and Johnson, as May has assured him Britain still intends to play a leading role in global affairs.

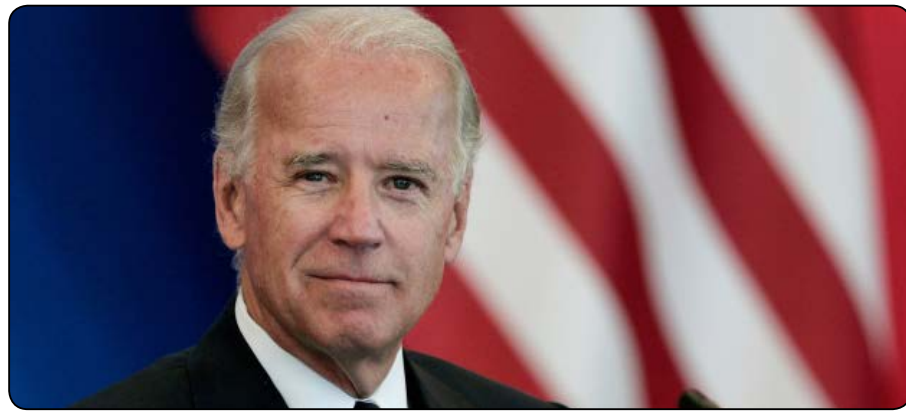
Stressing that there has not been a time when the world has faced so many global challenges, Kerry said he had discussed with Johnson issues about Syria, Ukraine, the Middle East, ...*(More on P4)...(24)*

## Biden Reiterates Importance of Australia in U.S. Military Pivot to Asia

SYDNEY - Australia is key to the core of the United States' Asia-Pacific pivot as each country has the other's back, visiting U.S. Vice President Joe Biden said as he ends his visit here on Wednesday.

Biden has been on a four-day public relations tour of Australia in a bid to boost its presence in the mind of locals.

In an address hosted by think-tanks in Sydney on Wednesday, Biden played to the nostalgic heart strings of a century of linkages in a bid to get a tired Australian public back on



side following a series of pessimistic local commentaries towards their Asia pivot.

"The partnership between Australia and America is

at the core of our vision for the region's future," Biden told the audience which included three former Australian prime ministers Tony Abbott, John How-

ard and Bob Hawke. "Here in the early years of what's truly going to be the Pacific century, it's critical America and Australia ...*(More on P4)...(25)*

## US Expands Challenge to China's Restraints on Raw Material Export at WTO

WASHINGTON - The United States on Tuesday expanded its challenge at the World Trade Organization (WTO) to China's export restraints on key raw materials.

It requested consultation with China on the country's export duties on chromium, as well as China's export quotas on antimony, indium, magnesium, talc and tin, said the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR).

USTR claimed that China's export restraints on these materials, includ-

ing duties and quotas, provide an unfair competitive advantage to China at the expense of American workers and manufacturers.

On Tuesday, the European Union also launched a legal challenge at the WTO to China's duty and quota requirements on the export of 11 raw materials, including graphite, cobalt, copper, lead, chromium, magnesium, talc, tantalum, tin, antimony and indium.

China's Ministry of Commerce (MOC) said in a ...*(More on P4)...(26)*

## Turkey Remains U.S. Partner despite Coup Drama: DM

WASHINGTON - Turkish Defense Minister (DM) Fikri Isik has promised that his country remains "a determined and committed partner" of the United States in the fight against terrorism, the Pentagon said Tuesday.

Isik made the gesture in a telephone conversation with U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter, according to the Pentagon. Carter reiterated U.S. support for Turkey's democratically elected civilian government and the rule of law, Pentagon spokesman Peter Cook said in a statement.

Isik appreciated Carter's

phone call and assured the United States that Turkey remains "a determined and committed partner and ally" in the fight against the Islamic State (IS) and terrorism of all kinds, Cook said.

Specifically, the two defense chiefs discussed the importance of the operations at Incirlik air base for the counter-IS campaign, he added, without giving further details. The phone conversation was held after a failed military coup attempt in Turkey last week that left more than 290 people dead and 1,440 others injured. ...*(More on P4)...(27)*

## Turkey Probes 262 Military Judges and Prosecutors over Failed Coup Bid

ANKARA - Turkish Defense Ministry announced on Wednesday it has launched investigation on all military judges and prosecutors, suspending 262 of them. Two people, respectively in the Central Anatolian province of Karaman and the Black Sea province of Zonguldak, were arrested for praising the July 15 failed coup attempt and insulting President Erdogan on social media, Hurriyet Daily News reported on Wednesday. Meanwhile, Turkish Chief of General



Staff Gen. Hulusi Akar's aide, Infantry Lt. Col. Levent Turkkan, have

confessed allegiance to the suspected group behind the coup, Turkish

media reported, citing Turkkan's testimony. (Xinhua)

## Moon Calls on World Leaders to Submit Ratification Documents of Paris Agreement

UNITED NATIONS - UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has invited world leaders to submit their ratification documents of Paris Agreement on climate change at a special event on Sept. 21, said UN Deputy Spokesperson Farhan Haq on Tuesday.

The Paris Agreement was reached last year by parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), aiming to hold the global average rise in temperature below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and preferably below



1.5 degree Celsius. A total of 178 parties of UNFCCC have signed the agreement. However, for the pact to come into effect, ratification documents must be submitted by at

least 55 parties representing 55 percent of global carbon emissions. Currently, 19 countries, accounting for 0.18 percent of global carbon emissions, have completed this process.

"The event will provide an opportunity to other parties to publicly commit to joining or ratifying the agreement before the end of the year," Haq told a daily briefing. (Xinhua)

## Turkey Launches Massive Dismissal in Key Organs over Coup Purge

ANKARA - A total of 30 senior staff of Turkish Parliament have been dismissed from posts over suspected involvement in failed Gulenist coup attempt, pro-government media Daily Sabah reported Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Turkish Higher Board of Education on Wednesday bans all academics from travelling abroad, Turkish national TRT said in its news broadcast.

According to the local media report, 257 personnel of Turkish Prime

Ministry and 245 employees of Youth and Sports Ministry were dismissed on Wednesday over the investigation of the failed coup attempt.

It added that a total of 15,200 employees from education ministry, 1,577 deans, 492 clerics, 8,800 police, 6,000 soldiers and 2,700 judges have been dismissed from their duties during the ongoing purge of President Erdogan and the Justice and development Party ruling government after the failed coup attempt. (Xinhua)

## Iraqi PM Accepts Resignation of 5 Cabinet Members

BAGHDAD - Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi on Tuesday accepted the resignations of five cabinet ministers, as part of his anti-corruption reform that includes substantial cabinet reshuffle.

In a brief statement issued by his office, Abadi accepted the resignations of the ministers of oil, transportation, reconstruction and housing, water resources, industry and interior. The Interior Minister Mohammed al-Ghabban submitted resignation to

Abadi on July 5, two days after a massive bombing in Karrada area in central Baghdad that killed some 165 people and wounded 225 others, but his resignation was officially accepted on Tuesday's decision.

On Friday, tens of thousands of Iraqi people rallied in downtown Baghdad in response to the call by the populist Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr to protest against corruption and sectarianism in Iraq. Sadr ...*(More on P4)...(30)*

## Nieghbor News

### US Urged to Facilitate Iran Banking Transactions: Araqchi

TEHRAN - The US has been urged by fellow members of the P5+1 group of countries to facilitate banking ties with Tehran through the clarification of transaction channels with the Islamic Republic, a senior Iranian official says.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Abbas Araqchi made the remarks in Vienna on Tuesday after a fourth meeting of the commission monitoring the implementation of the nuclear agreement, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), between Iran and the P5+1 group of countries in July 2015.

"In the [meeting of the] JCPOA commission, a demand was raised that the US clarify [the means for] the facilitation of banking ties with Iran,"

Araqchi said. He added that members of the P5+1 group lack consensus on the methods of banking transactions with Iran following the implementation of the JCPOA on January 16.

"Some countries admitted that the current circumstances, particularly the conditions created by the US Treasury on the international level, do not provide the necessary clarification and information to economic firms and enterprises that wish to work with Iran," the member of the Iranian nuclear negotiating team said.

He noted that some P5+1 member countries called on the US to outline a clear path for economic enterprises to transact with Iran and allay their concerns over the US Treasury moves. (Presstv)

### Tajik Border Guards Complete Large-Scale Special Operation

DUSHANBEH - At least 8 violators of the state border, 20 violators of the state border regime, 8 illegal migrants, 15 individuals, involved in terrorist and extremist activities, and 53 wanted persons have been arrested during a special border operation Chanub-2016. The Public Relations and Media Department of the State Border Service reported.

During the operation, there were also seized 31 smooth-bore guns, 10 rifle guns, 25 rounds of ammunition, more than 30 kilograms of drugs, liquidated 30 tons of cannabis and imposed an administrative fine of

more than 100,000 soms. As a result of border control, 197, 639 people and 16,000 transport units have been passed through the border. At least 166 people were not allowed to cross the border, 116 of them had problems with documents. Security forces officers also detected 18 individuals who were denied departure from Kyrgyzstan.

Press service of the Border Service stressed that Chanub-2016 operation was held in three stages from June 6 to June 29, it was attended by security forces and law enforcement agencies ...*(More on P4)...(31)*

### Beijing-Shanghai High-Speed Railway Reaps 6.58 Bln Yuan

BEIJING - A state-owned high-speed rail operator between Beijing and Shanghai reported net profits of 6.58 billion yuan (982 million U.S. dollars) for 2015, a shareholder document showed.

Beijing-Shanghai High-Speed Railway Co. has never disclosed its earnings before. Its 2015 figures were made public after a shareholder released a document on Monday, revealing the firm's profit data.

A bond prospectus released by Tianjin Railway Construction Co., a share-

holder of Beijing-Shanghai High-Speed Railway Co., showed that the total assets of the company amounted 181.54 billion yuan at the end of last year, with the total liabilities standing at 50.37 billion yuan. In 2015, the gross revenue of the company was 23.42 billion yuan, and its total operating costs hit 16.74 billion yuan. Known as the "the world's most profitable high-speed rail," the Beijing-Shanghai high-speed railway covers more than 1,300 km within five hours. (Xinhua)

### Turkmenistan Reviewing Project on Long-Term Gas Supply to Europe

ASHGABAT - Tasks on developing a procedure for implementing infrastructure projects with an aim to ensure the long-term supply of natural gas to European markets was discussed in Turkmenistan, read a message from Turkmen gas state concern. The discussions were held during a reporting meeting of heads of industrial enterprises of Turkmen gas state concern in Ashgabat.

The meeting participants summed up the results of the production activities in H1 2016, and set the priority tasks for coming months as part of implementation of the plans for developing Turkmenistan's oil and gas industry until 2030, said the message.

The meeting participants focused on the measures aimed at accelerating the development of large gas fields, and intensifying the settlement of the issues related to diversification of the routes of Turkmen natural gas supply to world markets. The talks between Turkmenistan and the EU on supplying Turkmen gas to Europe have been going on since 2011.

A project for laying a 300-kilometer gas pipeline across the Caspian Sea to the coasts of Azerbaijan is considered as the best option for delivering Turkmen resources to the European markets. Further, Turkmen fuel can be delivered to Turkey, which borders with European countries. (Trend)

## DPRK Top Leader Guides Ballistic Rocket Test-Firing

PYONGYANG - Top leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) Kim Jong Un has guided a test firing of a ballistic rocket of the Hwasong artillery units of the strategic force of the military, the official news agency KCNA reported Wednesday.

The test-firing was conducted under simulated conditions of launching preemptive strikes at the ports and airfields in South Korea where the U.S. nu-

clear hardware is to be mobilized, the KCNA said. The test also "examined the operational features of the detonating devices of nuclear warheads mounted on the ballistic rockets at the designated altitude over the target area," it added.

Kim was satisfied with the test result and instructed to ensure the speed and security of the operation of nuclear attack system and develop diversified ballistic ...*(More on P4)...(28)*

## Heart Diseases Kill Around 200,000 People in Vietnam each Year

HANOI - Heart diseases kill around 200,000 people in Vietnam each year on average, accounting for one fourth of disease-caused deaths in the country. The figure was released at a conference held by Vietnam's National Heart Institute (NHI) and the National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) in capital Hanoi on Wednesday, reported the state-run news agency VNA.

In addition, some 47.3 percent of those aged over 25 years old have high blood pressure.

Speaking at the conference, Do Doan Loi, NHI head said that more young people have gone down with heart diseases in Vietnam due to lifestyles as they are too lazy in physical activities, drink too much alcohol and smoke.

Besides, frequent pressure and ...*(More on P4)...(29)*