

# Trump Affirms Peace is "Possible" between Israel and Palestinians

JERUSALEM - In the final remarks that concluded his first visit to the region, U.S. President Donald Trump said Tuesday that peace between Israel and the Palestinians is "possible."

"Making peace will not be easy," Trump said at his main speech at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, shortly before departing to Europe. "But with determination to compromise and believe peace is possible, Israelis and Palestinians can reach a deal," he said.

Speaking about his meeting with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in Bethlehem earlier on Tuesday, Trump said: "I can tell you that the Palestinians are



ready for peace, they are ready to reach for peace." He added that after his meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, "I can tell you he wants peace." He stressed that his administration is committed to help both nations to build peace. Trump arrived in Israel on Monday for meetings with Israeli and Palestinian leaders after visiting Saudi Arabia and before continuing to the Vatican to meet Pope Francis. He said his visit was aimed at reaffirming "the unshakable bond between the United States and Israel" and to push forward his effort to revive the long-stalled peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians. (Xinhua)

## Nieghbor News

### China Ready to Address Issues Related to Implementation of Paris Agreement

BERLIN - China is preparing to address the issues related to the implementation of the Paris Agreement to push forward global climate governance, China's Special Representative on Climate Change Xie Zhenhua said here Monday. Xie made the remarks at the 8th Petersberg Climate Dialogue in Berlin. China's plan aims to seek the broadest consensus among the signatories to the Paris Agreement, reflecting the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities," climate equity, and matching action and support, Xie said. In 2016, China's carbon intensity

dropped 6 percent from the previous year, much higher than the original goal of 3.9 percent, Xie said. China has taken a series of restrictive measures in the 13th Five Year Plan, including reducing 18 percent of carbon intensity and raising the proportion of non-fossil energy in primary energy to 15 percent from 2016 to 2020, according to Xie. China has launched the South-South Cooperation Foundation on climate change and cooperated with 27 countries to help improve their adaptability to climate change as well as their management and financing capabilities, Xie said. (Xinhua)

## Rouhani Calls Donald Trump 'Intellectually Unstable'

TEHRAN - Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has called US President Donald Trump "intellectually unstable". Rouhani also described Trump's visit to Saudi Arabia as "empty theatrics". Addressing reporters on Monday, 22 May, after being elected for a second term as president, Rouhani, a politically moderate cleric, said regional stability in the volatile Middle East cannot be accomplished without the help of Iran. Rouhani heaped scorn on

Trump's calls for isolating Iran. "Who can say regional stability can be restored without Iran? Who can say the region will experience total stability without Iran?" asked the 68-year-old Iranian president. Taking a dig at Iran's main regional rival Saudi Arabia, Rouhani said the ultra-conservative kingdom has not witnessed any elections. "Mr. Trump arrived in the region at the time when he saw 45 million Iranians participating in the elections. Then he



visited a country that I doubt knows the definition of elections. The poor things have never seen a ballot box," Rouhani said. Rouhani's overwhelming

victory margin was seen as a mark of approval domestically for his moderate approach sidelining powerful conservative elements. (Agencies)

## India's Election Commissions Defers Parliament Polls

NEW DELHI - India's independent Election Commission has decided to indefinitely put on hold elections for the country's Upper House of Parliament slated for next month in view of the presidential poll and a hackathon of electronic voting machines (EVMs). Earlier the elections to 10 Upper House (Rajya Sabha) seats from Goa and Gujarat in the west and West Bengal in the east were scheduled for June 8. "The presidential elections may coincide with the schedule of the biennial elections. Also the

commission has invited political parties from June 3 to try and hack EVMs," a spokesperson for the Election Commission told the media. The term of six Rajya Sabha members, or parliament members from West Bengal and three from Gujarat will expire in August and one from Goa in July this year. "The fresh program for holding elections to the Rajya Sabha seats from these states will be announced in due course," the Commission said. Indian Textile Minister ... (More on P4)... (20)

## Iran Calls for Fighting Terrorism within UN Charter

TEHRAN - Iranian Ambassador to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Reza Najafi underlined his country's resolve to confront the terrorist groups according to the United Nations charter. "Any attempt in fighting terrorism should be based on the international laws, particularly those of the United Nations," Najafi said in a UN conference on Monday. He reiterated that terrorism should not be attributed to any religion, civilization, nation or ethnicity, and said, "All attempts should be within the international laws, the UN Charter in particular." The 26th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and

Criminal Justice began in Vienna on Monday and it will continue for a week. In relevant remarks in early May, Head of the Strategic Research Center of Iran's State Expediency Council Ali Akbar Velayati underlined that his country is using all its power and capabilities to fight against the terrorist groups which have disturbed security in the region. "Iran has used all its power to confront the terrorists in the region," Velayati told reporters. Stressing that Iran will also stand against any enemy plots to disintegrate the regional states, he said, "We support Iraq's sovereignty as demanded by the country's people." (FNA)

## Turkey Summons U.S. Ambassador over Clash During Erdogan's U.S. Visit

ANKARA - Turkish Foreign Ministry on Monday summoned the U.S. Ambassador to Turkey John Bass over a clash outside the Turkish embassy chancery in Washington D.C. during President Erdogan's visit to Washington last week. In a statement released on Monday, Turkey protested against the "aggressive and unprofessional actions" of American security personnel toward the foreign minister's protection team outside the Turkish embassy chan-

cery. The ministry said "a written and verbal protest" was delivered to the U.S. ambassador over the actions of the American personnel that was "contrary to diplomatic rules and practices." The ministry formally requested that the U.S. authorities conduct a "full investigation" into the diplomatic incident and "provide the necessary explanation." This summon is the latest development of the incident between protesters ... (More on P4)... (21)

## UN Vows to Tighten Sanctions on North Korea

UNITED NATIONS - The UN Security Council on Monday vowed to push all countries to tighten sanctions against North Korea as it prepared for a closed-door meeting called in response to the latest missile launch. In a unanimous statement backed by the North's ally China, the council strongly condemned the test-firing on Sunday and instructed the UN sanctions committee to redouble efforts to implement a series of tough measures adopted last year. The council also agreed to

"take further significant measures including sanctions" to force North Korea to change course and end its "highly destabilizing behavior." The US-drafted statement was agreed on the eve of the emergency meeting requested by the United States, Japan and South Korea to discuss a course of action on North Korea. The United States has for weeks been negotiating a new Security Council sanctions resolution with China, but US ambassador Nikki Haley said last week that no final draft



text had been clinched. "This is the same movie that keeps playing. He continues to test. We've got to do action," Haley told MSNBC television. "You know, some say,

'Oh, but sanctions haven't worked'. First of all, when the entire international community speaks with one voice, it does work," she countered. (AFP)

## Putin Says Ready to Boost Anti-Terrorist Cooperation with Britain

MOSCOW - Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed readiness on Tuesday to step up anti-terrorist cooperation with Britain after a deadly blast hit a concert in Manchester. According to the Kremlin, Putin sent a condolence message to British Prime Minister Theresa May to "strongly condemn this cynical, inhuman crime." Putin confirmed his readiness to boost anti-terrorist cooperation with his British partners both on a bilateral basis and within the framework of broad international efforts, the Kremlin said in a statement. At least 22 people were killed and 59 more injured in a blast that occurred outside Manchester Arena right after the end of a concert late Monday night. (Xinhua)

## NATO's Feel-Good Meeting Aims to Impress Trump

BRUSSELS - Ribbon-cutting, jets overhead and a dinner in a new, billion-dollar headquarters: Donald Trump's first meeting at NATO on Thursday is choreographed to impress a U.S. president who called the Western alliance "obsolete". In a fortuitous twist, a series of NATO goals including a new HQ and expansion to include new member Montenegro have coalesced around Trump's visit, which officials have kept free from the dense policy debates of their biennial summits. "This is the moment to remind Trump that he's the leader of the free world," said a senior NATO diplomat involved in the preparations. "Gravitas is what the alliance does best." In that ... (More on P4)... (24)

## German Lawmakers to Travel to Turkey

BERLIN - German officials have decided to travel to Turkey from Thursday to Sunday, amid a mounting political crisis between Germany and Turkey. The German federal press office released a statement on Tuesday confirming that German lawmakers would travel to Ankara, Diyarbakir, and Istanbul to discuss the recent Turkish referendum and its consequences. They will also address the internal developments in the country as well as the relation between the EU and Ankara. The Turkish referendum proposed 18 key changes to the constitution, includ-



ing changing the current parliamentary system to an executive presidency and presidential system. German members of parliament (MPs) will meet with the Turkish parliamentary executive committee, the foreign minis-

try and several other key Turkish officials concerning the referendum. The officials are also scheduled to meet with human rights lawyers, artists, academics, as well as other representatives of civil society during their ... (More on P4)... (22)

## Former CIA Head to Answer Questions about Russian Meddling

WASHINGTON - Former CIA Director John Brennan is set to testify publicly about the intelligence underpinning the Obama administration's conclusion that Russia interfered in the 2016 election and could shed light on concerns about the security risk posed by President Donald Trump's first national security adviser, Michael Flynn. Brennan's testimony before the House intelligence committee on Tuesday comes one day after Flynn invoked his constitutional right against self-incrimination in response to a subpoena from the Sen-

ate intelligence committee. The panel had sought a wide range of information and documents about his and the Trump campaign's contacts with Russians dating back to June 2015. Both the Senate and the House intelligence committees are investigating Flynn and other Trump campaign associates as part of probes into Russia's election meddling. The FBI is also conducting a counterintelligence investigation into Russia and the Trump campaign. As Brennan answers House lawmakers' questions in ... (More on P4)... (25)

## UNICEF Seeks \$148 Mln to Help Somali Women, Children

MOGADISHU - The UN children's fund (UNICEF) is appealing for 147.9 million U.S. dollars to scale up life-saving assistance for women and children to help avert a famine in Somalia. In its situation report released on Tuesday, UNICEF said it has a funding gap of 38 percent against the revised appeal, stating that continued and timely donor support is critical to scale up the response and avert a famine. "Adequate, predictable and flexible resources will allow UNICEF and its partners to respond effectively where needs are greatest and reach the most disadvantaged children," the report says. "The projected number of children who are, or will be, acutely malnourished has increased by 50 percent since the beginning of the year to 1.4 million, including over 275,000 who have or will suffer life threatening severe acute malnutrition in 2017," UNICEF said. According to UNICEF, an estimated 4 million children are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance in Somalia. Despite the large scale humanitarian assistance delivered, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) managed Food Security and Nutrition Analysis Unit (FSNAU) and the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS Net) post Jilal assessment indicates an elevated risk of famine due to a combination of severe food insecurity, high acute malnutrition, and high disease burden. "In light of the scale of internal displacements to urban centres, it is critical to scale up access ... (More on P4)... (23)

## Nawaz Urges Muslim World to Unite Against Terrorism

MADINA - Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on Monday called for an accord among the Muslim countries to eliminate the menace of terrorism affecting global peace. "With a financial cost of around \$120 billion and [loss of] thousands of precious human lives, Pakistan has suffered a lot due to this scourge," the premier said in an informal interaction with the media accompanying him on his three-day visit to Saudi Arabia. He said that as the West was uniting against terrorism, the Muslim world should also be on the same page to tackle the threat. Nawaz, who was in the kingdom to attend the first-ever Arab-Islamic-American Summit on terrorism on the invitation of King Salman, said, "Owing to its war against

terrorism, Pakistan has curbed the menace to a large extent Afghanistan should also wage a war against terrorism." Responding to a question about his interaction with US President Donald Trump during the summit, the premier said, "It was a good meeting." On Sunday, the premier had a brief meeting with President Trump on the sidelines of the summit, according to a media report. During the meeting, Trump said he was very pleased to meet Nawaz, to which the premier responded by saying "the feeling was mutual". The US president shook hands with the PM and the exchange of pleasantries took place between the two leaders before the summit in Riyadh, said the report. (Agencies)

## Turkmenistan, UK Ready to Boost Cooperation

ASHGABAT - Ashgabat hosted a meeting with UK's Permanent Under Secretary and Head of the Diplomatic Service at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Sir Simon McDonald, the Turkmen Foreign Ministry said in a message. During the meeting, an exchange of views was held on a wide range of issues of international agenda. The sides also discussed issues of further enhancing bilateral cooperation between the two countries. The parties expressed commitment to expanding the political and diplomatic, trade and economic, cultural and humanitarian cooperation. Speaking about cooperation within international

organizations, the sides noted the interest in continuing cooperation within the UN, says the message. Discussing the issues of trade cooperation, the sides noted the role of the Turkmenistan-UK Trade and Industry Council (TUKTIC). The meeting noted the opportunities for expanding cooperation in a number of areas, such as energy and banking sphere, the fields of education and sports. Moreover, proposals were made to intensify inter-parliamentary cooperation, as well as to develop cooperation in the field of ensuring human rights and freedoms, by sharing experience in this field, according to the message. (Trend)