

G20 Countries Eye Int'l Innovation, Science Collaboration: Minister

BEIJING - Participants in the G20 Science, Technology and Innovation Ministers Meeting have agreed to bolster international dialogue and cooperation on innovation to drive global growth, Chinese Science and Technology Minister Wan Gang said Friday.

Wan told a press conference in Beijing that a statement issued after the ministers meeting underscored the role of innovation in economic growth and



sustainable development. In addition, it voiced support for innovation dialogue and cooperation across a wide spectrum of areas and the sharing of best practices among G20 countries, Wan said.

Participants also encouraged cross-border sci-tech investment and entrepreneurship, and voiced support for exchanges and collaborations between sci-tech innovation parks, the minister said. (Xinhua)

UN Chief Hails Entry Into Force of Paris Agreement on Climate Change 'Historic'

UNITED NATIONS - "Today we make history," UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on Friday, marking entry into force of the Paris Agreement on climate change at a meeting with representatives of civil society working to combat rising global temperatures.

The landmark pact, only agreed to by the world's nations in the French capital on Dec. 15, 2015, already has been ratified by nearly half of them, 96 as of Thursday, according to a UN spokesman.

"Today we make history in mankind's efforts to combat climate change," Ban told the gathering here in a UN Headquarters conference room, noting it entered into force "in record time."

A previous major climate agreement, the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, took 8-years to enter into force. "This is a momentous day for all of us," said Ban, a prime mover behind the Paris Agree-



ment. "I chose to mark it by meeting with representatives of civil society. I invited them here to thank them for their outstanding contributions and to ask how they are putting the Paris Agreement into action."

He... (More on P4)... (20)

EU Should Strictly Fulfill WTO Obligations, Grant China MES on Time

BEIJING - The European Union should rethink about its new "country-neutral" method and take a more free and convenient EU-China trade into consideration, as Chinese Premier Li Keqiang is on a central and eastern Europe tour to foster cooperation.

Besides visiting Latvia, Li is to attend a meeting with government heads of the 16 central and eastern European (CEE) countries, among which 11 are EU members, and to discuss trade and economic cooperation with them.

It's also expected that both parties are to discuss whether the EU would fulfill its WTO obligations to grant China market economy status (MES) by Dec. 11 this year. The deadline is just a month away.

China has been repeatedly calling on WTO members, including the EU, to end the surrogate country practice against China in anti-dumping cases after the deadline.

... (More on P4)... (21)

FBI Examining Fake Documents Targeting Clinton Campaign: Sources

WASHINGTON - The FBI and U.S. intelligence agencies are examining faked documents aimed at discrediting the Hillary Clinton campaign as part of a broader investigation into what U.S. officials believe has been an attempt by Russia to disrupt the presidential election, people with knowledge of the matter said.

U.S. Senator Tom Carper, a Democrat on the Senate Homeland Security Committee, has referred one of the documents to the FBI for investiga-

tion on the grounds that his name and stationery were forged to appear authentic.

In a document forged to appear as though Carper was writing a letter to Clinton, Carper is quoted as saying the Department of Homeland Security had advised him of a risk that a "massive" cyber attack "could change the election results in favor of a specific candidate." The document dated October 3 was reviewed by Reuters. It concludes, "Any... (More on P4)... (22)

Iraqi Forces Enter Last Town in South of Mosul

MOSUL, Iraq - Iraqi security forces on Saturday advancing north along the Tigris River towards Mosul recaptured the last town in south of the city, as battles continued against Islamic State (IS) militants in the eastern part of Mosul, a security source said.

The Iraqi army and federal police entered the town of Hammam al-Alil, some 15 km south of Mosul, after heavy clashes with IS militants in the town, Lieutenant General Abul-Amir Yarallah from the Joint Operations Command (JOC) told reporters.

The troops recaptured the local government building around noon and raised the Iraqi flag on the building, Yarallah said.

Later on, the troops started clearing operation in the town as sporadic clashes continued in some small pockets of IS militants in the town, Yarallah said, adding that the troops also started to defuse many landmines



and booby traps planted earlier by the extremist IS group.

Also in the day, the federal police forces advanced to the village of Tal al-Dhabab, just northeast of Hammam al-Alil, as part of their troops advance

... (More on P4)... (23)

NATO Appoints New Deputy Chairman of Military Committee

BRUSSELS - U.S. Air Force Lieutenant General Steven M. Shepro on Friday entered the position of deputy chairman of NATO's military committee, NATO said.

Shepro took over the position from outgoing deputy chairman Lieutenant General Mark O. Schissler, a NATO statement said.

He most recently served as the vice director for strategic plans and policy for the joint staff at the Pentagon in Washington.

The military committee is the senior military authority in NATO, providing advice to NATO's political decision-making body, the North Atlantic Council.

The deputy chairman of NATO's military committee is always a U.S. officer, according to the statement. (Xinhua)

Cohabiting Couples Fastest Growing Family Units in Britain

LONDON - Cohabiting couples are the fastest growing family units in Britain, more than doubling over the last two decades to 3.3 million families, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) reported Friday.

In its annual survey of families and households, ONS said the 12.7 million married or civil partner couples are the most common type of family in Britain. In total there are now almost 19 million families in Britain.

The study also shows a quarter of young adults aged 20 to 34 live at home with their parents, increasing from 21 percent in 1996. ONS said... (More on P4)... (25)

British PM Speaks with Merkel, Juncker Following Brexit Ruling by Judges

LONDON - British Prime Minister Theresa May spoke Friday with Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel and European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker following Thursday's High Court judgement on triggering Britain's exit from the European Union, according to an official statement.

Three judges in London ruled that May's government does not have the authority to trigger the departure process known as article 50 without first taking it to the British parliament.

A Downing Street spokes-



person said in a brief statement Friday: "The PM explained to both Chancellor Merkel and President Juncker that while the government was disappointed with the judgment, it had strong legal arguments ahead of the case moving to the Supreme Court."

"The PM also confirmed that the government's planned timetable for notification of Article 50 remains unchanged," the statement added.

May has already announced she wants to trigger Article 50 by the end of... (More on P4)... (24)

Kurdish Women Battle IS with Songs - and Machine Guns

SAMAQA, IRAQ - When Islamic State insurgents fired mortar bombs at Iranian Kurdish women fighters holding a desert position in northern Iraq, the women first hit back by singing through loudspeakers.

Then the women opened fire with machine guns.

"We wanted to make them angry. To tell Daesh that we are not afraid," said Mani Nasrallahpour, 21, one of about 200 female peshmerga fighters who left behind their lives in Iran to take on the hard-line

Sunni militants. A commander said Islamic State - known to its enemies by the Arabic acronym Daesh - deliberately targeted the female unit with 20 mortars when the singing began.

Islamic State prohibits singing and music. It has also imposed tight restrictions on women and took hundreds of them as sex slaves since sweeping through northern Iraq in 2014 and declaring a caliphate in parts of Iraq and Syria. The Kurdish women are part of... (More on P4)... (26)

Thousands Flee South Sudan Every Day in October: UNHCR

JUBA - Thousands of people fled South Sudan every day in October due to violence, the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) said on Friday.

UNHCR figures show that on average 3,500 South Sudanese fled to Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo), Ethiopia and Sudan every day in October.

"In these countries, UNHCR, national authorities and other humanitarian actors are racing to create safe and humane conditions for new arrivals. Nine out of every ten are women and children," the UNHCR said.

Renewed fighting erupted in early July in South Sudan between government troops led by President Salva Kiir and forces loyal to sacked First Vice President Riek Machar, Kiir's long-time rival.

The UNHCR said the violence has seen around 2,400 new arrivals in Uganda every day since the beginning of October and over a quarter of a million new refugees since July 7.

"Most of the arrivals are from the Equatoria regions of South Sudan. They report armed groups harassing civilians, killings and torture of people suspected of supporting opposing factions, burning of villages, sexual assaults of women and girls and forced recruitment of young men and boys," the UNHCR said.

Tens of thousands have died and more than 2.2 million have been displaced since civil war broke out between supporters of Kiir and Machar in December 2013. (Xinhua)

Nieghbor News

Iran Signs Deal with Polish Company to Develop Oil Field

TEHRAN - The National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) and the Polish Oil & Gas Company (PGNiG SA) on Saturday signed a memorandum of understanding to cooperate in an oil field in Iran, semi-official Fars News agency reported.

The deal was inked by NIOC's deputy chief for development and engineering affairs, Gholam-Reza Manouchehri, and the president of the PGNiG SA management board, Piotr Wozniak.

Under the deal, the Polish company will carry out studies on the development of Sumar oil field in southern Iran.

Iran is hopeful that the agreement will result

in more engagement between the two sides, Manouchehri of NIOC was quoted as saying.

He said the Polish side will have a six-month deadline to complete the study on the field and provide the NIOC with the results.

The final decision on developing the field will be made once the studies are complete, and the NIOC will ultimately seek to offer the project for implementation through tender, he added.

For his part, Wozniak said his company is well experienced in the field and hopes for good cooperation with the NIOC. (Xinhua)

Banned Outfit Not Allowed to Take out Rally in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD - Possibly to avoid another embarrassment, the capital administration on Friday did not allow the proscribed Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat (ASWJ) to take out a rally. However, the party claimed that there was no official pressure for the cancellation of the rally. The local administration had been under criticism for allowing the proscribed ASWJ to hold a public rally on Oct 28 despite the imposition of Section 144 in the city.

Sectarian slogans were chanted during the gathering.

The ASWJ later announced to hold "Tahfuz-i-Harmain Sharifain" rallies across the country

against a missile strike towards Saudi Arabia by the Houthi rebels that the Saudi government claimed was targeted at Makkah.

Invitations were sent to the media repeatedly through emails and SMS that the rally would be held from Lal Masjid after Friday prayers.

However, at around 11am, another message was received by the media that the protest rally had been cancelled.

There was no reason for the cancellation of the rally and some mediapersons reached Lal Masjid to monitor the situation but found no unusual activity there. (Monitoring Desk)

Tajikistan will be Observing U.S. Elections for the First Time

BISHKEK - The observer mission of the Tajik Central Election Commission consisting of one person will head to the U.S. to monitor the elections 2016.

Daler Safar will become the first ever Tajikistani observer of the U.S. presidential elections. His travel expenses will be covered by the U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe.

Votes are cast on Tuesday, November 8. Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump are the main Tuesday race participants. The candidate

with the most votes in each state becomes the candidate which that state supports for president.

Electoral college, a group of 538 people, will choose the winner. Just half of them - 270 - are needed to make a president.

Each state has certain number of electors based on their population in the most recent census. When citizens vote for their preferred candidate, they're actually voting for the electors, some of which are pledged to one candidate, some for another. (AKIpress)

UNICEF Uzbekistan, Ucell Sign Partnership Deal to Enhance Results for Children

BISHKEK - United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) in Uzbekistan and Ucell company, part of Telia Company telecommunication group, have signed a partnership agreement to help improve the well-being of children in the country.

The collaboration will primarily focus on improving the water and sanitation conditions in 30 remote schools of Djizakh, Kashkadarya, Khorezm, Surkhandarya regions and the Republic of Karakaplanstan, through construction of sanitation facilities and water supply.

These initiatives will support programme of the Government of Uzbekistan to ensure that children stay healthy and are protected from dis-

eases like diarrhea, and that parents and teachers promote the lifesaving behavior of handwashing with soap at home and in school. As part of the agreement, Ucell will also provide telecommunication support and free access for its subscribers to UNICEF's web resources.

The company will use its resources to disseminate important information through SMS services in the country. This partnership goes beyond fundraising. It focuses on collaboration and innovation, and advancing children's rights within the context of the sustainable business agenda.

Through this endeavor, UNICEF and Ucell have committed to deliver results together, for every child. (AKIpress)