

G20 Summit Offers Opportunity to Reinvent Global Economy: EU Leaders

HANGZHOU - The ongoing Group of 20 (G20) summit hosted by China presents an opportunity to boost international cooperation and promote global economic growth, European Union (EU) leaders said Sunday.

"There could not be a more dynamic place than Hangzhou in China to inspire our discussion on how to reinforce global cooperation," said European Council President Donald Tusk at a joint press conference with European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker. The EU welcomes China's presidency of the G20 this year and is looking forward to having a successful summit in



Hangzhou, he added. Juncker, for his part, congratulated China for doing "an excellent job" in hosting the 11th G20 summit, saying that it is an opportunity to restore confidence and promote the world economy.

The EU leaders also dwelled upon the climate change issue, noting that G20 members have an important role to play in tackling the global challenge. "With major emitters around the table, we need to make sure that it is our common priority to implement the Paris Agreement early and in a robust manner," Tusk said, referring to the landmark deal reached in the French capital in December 2015. (Xinhua)

Iran Ready to Help UN Solve Mideast Crises: Leader's Aide

TEHRAN - Ali Akbar Velayati (R), a senior advisor to Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, and UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Stephen O'Brien meet in Tehran on September 4, 2016. © Tasnim News Agency

© Tasnim News Agency A senior advisor to Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei says Iran is ready to help the United Nations solve the ongoing crises in the Middle East. "The Islamic Republic of Iran is ready to help the United Nations alleviate the suffering of people in the crisis-hit countries through whatever means and approaches," the Leader's aide on international affairs, Ali Akbar Velayati, said in a meeting with UN Under-Secretary-General... (More on P4)... (20)

China, U.S. Underscore Common Interests, Agree to Control Differences

HANGZHOU - Chinese President Xi Jinping said Saturday China and the United States have far more common interests than differences and hoped bilateral ties stay on the right track. In a meeting with U.S. President Barack Obama in the eastern city of Hangzhou on the eve of a G20 summit, Xi said cooperation between China and the U.S. can lead to "great things" that are conducive to both countries and to the world at large. He said the two countries should fol-

low the principles of non-conflict, non-confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation, deepen mutual trust and collaboration, and manage and control their differences in a constructive manner, in order to push forward the continuous, sound and stable development of bilateral ties. A statement from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the two leaders compared notes on Sino-U.S. relations and on major international and regional issues of mutual concerns



low the principles of non-conflict, in-depth and friendly manner," with a series of "important consensus" reached between the duo. Noting it was in Hangzhou 44 years ago

that the normalization of Sino-U.S. ties broke the ice, Xi also spoke highly of his previous meetings with Obama since 2013. (Xinhua)

BRICS Should Coordinate More to Play Bigger Role in Int'l Affairs: Xi

HANGZHOU - Chinese President Xi Jinping said Sunday that BRICS members should enhance coordination to make emerging-market economies and developing countries play a bigger role in international affairs. Since the beginning of this year, the cooperation among BRICS countries - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - has maintained sound momentum of development with expanded scope and more

outcomes, Xi said while attending a BRICS leaders' meeting on the sidelines of a summit of the Group of 20 (G20) major economies in Hangzhou. BRICS nations are the leaders among emerging-market economies and developing countries, and also important members of the G20, Xi said, noting that they should reinforce coordination to well build, maintain and develop the BRICS and G20 platforms. (Xinhua)

US will Help Bring Turkey Coup Plotters to Justice: Obama

HANGZHOU - The United States is committed to bringing the perpetrators of the attempted coup against Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to justice, President Barack Obama said Sunday. Ankara accuses US-based cleric Fethullah Gulen of being behind the July uprising. At talks with Erdogan on the sidelines of the G20 summit, Obama said: "We will make sure that those who carried out these activities are brought to justice." Tensions between the two NATO al-

lies have risen sharply since the failed coup attempt against Erdogan on July 15, with Ankara launching a wide-ranging crackdown and demanding that the US extradite Gulen. An exiled former imam living in the eastern state of Pennsylvania, Gulen strongly denies any involvement with the bid to overthrow Erdogan. The dispute has soured public



perceptions of the United States in Turkey and risks undermining a deep security relationship. US officials insist they will extradite Gulen if Turkey can present proof he was actually involved. The meeting in Hangzhou was the two leaders' first face-to-face encounter since the coup attempt. (Monitoring Desk)

Algeria, UN Discuss Countering IS Threat in Libya

ALGIERS - Visiting UN Special Envoy for Libya Martin Kobler said here on Saturday that he discussed with Algerian officials the situation in Libya and the growing threat of the terrorist group of Islamic State. Kobler held in Algiers talks with Algerian Minister for Maghreb Affairs, the African Union and the Arab League Abdelkader Messahel over the situation in Libya.

The UN official said they discussed the fight against terrorism in this neighboring nation, and the situation in the city of Sirte which will sooner be freed from the hands of the IS. Kobler said Algeria is playing a positive role in the process of peace in Libya. For his part, the Algerian minister urged Libyan warrant parties to sit around negotiation table to reach national reconciliation through the implementation of the peace agreement signed in December 2015 in Morocco. He said another round of peace talks is due in Tunisia in the forthcoming days. Messahel said they insist the international community should further back up peace in this neighboring nation. (Xinhua)

U.S., Britain Downplay Trade Concerns after Brexit

HANGZHOU - U.S. President Barack Obama and British Prime Minister Theresa May, at their first meeting since the latter's assumption of office, downplayed concerns about bilateral trade following Britain's decision to leave the European Union (EU).

"The bottom line is we don't have a stronger partner in the world than the United Kingdom," said Obama at the meeting, which took place in this eastern Chinese city on the sidelines of the 11th Group of 20 (G20) summit. "And despite the turbulence of the political



events over the last several months, we have every intention of making sure that continues," he added, referring to Britain's shock Brexit referendum in June. Washington ruffled London's feathers when it warned ahead of the vote that the United States would prioritize its trade talks with the EU over those with Britain should the latter choose to exit the bloc. On Sunday, Obama ... (More on P4)... (21)

Turkey Can Serve as Bridge Linking China, Europe: Minister

HANGZHOU - Turkey can serve as a bridge connecting China and Europe, especially in terms of logistics, Turkish Minister of Economy Nihat Zeybekci said here Sunday. Speaking at a business summit on the sidelines of the 11th Group of 20 (G20) summit, he also expressed interest in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), saying that his country has been paying close attention to and hopes to take part in the program.

The CPEC is part of the initiative on the construction of the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk

Road (the Belt and Road Initiative), which was proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping in 2013. It is aimed at building a trade and infrastructure network connecting Asia with Europe and Africa along the ancient Silk Road routes. The Turkish minister spoke highly of the initiative, noting that the ancient Silk Road has played a vital role in exchanges between countries.

Moreover, the minister stressed the need to promote inter-connectivity in transport, human resources and information, adding that removing trade barriers is also of crucial ... (More on P4)... (23)

U.N. Chief Lauds Chinese, U.S. Commitment to Paris Climate Deal

HANGZHOU - U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Sunday spoke highly of the ratification of the landmark Paris climate change agreement by China and the United States, calling for accelerated efforts from other countries to join the ambitious pact.

"With China and the United States making this historic step, we now have 26 parties in the UN-FCCC (U.N. Framework Convention on Climate

Change Convention) and 39 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions accounted for," Ban said at a press conference on the sidelines of the 11th Group of 20 (G20) summit in this eastern Chinese city.

Describing the progress as a major success, Ban praised the "outstanding leadership" demonstrated by Chinese President Xi Jinping and U.S. President Barack Obama, who handed over legal instruments to ... (More on P4)... (22)

About 100 PKK Militants Killed or Wounded in SE Turkey

ANKARA - About 100 Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) militants were either killed or wounded in the anti-terrorism operation in southeastern Hakkari province, Turkish army said in a statement on its website Saturday. The remaining militants retreated back to northern Iraq, the statement added. Intense clashes have been ongoing in the Hakkari region since a large scale operation was launched on Friday against the PKK in the nearby Cukurca district bordering Iraq.

Two PKK hide-outs were hit by warplanes and 33 PKK members were killed, 30 wounded. Many PKK hide-outs were destroyed in the raid which was supported by an airborne operation. The statement said the Sept. 3 operation has been the biggest blow to the PKK terrorists in recent years. Meanwhile, the ongoing clashes between security forces and the PKK terrorists left eight soldiers dead and eight others wounded. (Xinhua)

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Xi Meets Putin, Calls for Firm Mutual Support

HANGZHOU - Chinese President Xi Jinping met with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin on Sunday, and called for firm support in each other's efforts to safeguard sovereignty, security and development interests. Noting that the two countries should strengthen all-round strategic cooperation, Xi urged China and Russia to push forward the alignment of their development strategies, as well as dovetailing the Belt and Road Initiative with the Eurasian Economic Union.

Meeting ahead of the G20 summit in Hangzhou, Xi said the two countries should deepen pragmatic cooperation in infrastructure,

energy, aviation, aerospace and advanced technology. He also called for stronger military and security cooperation.

Xi said the two countries should cooperate more closely on international and regional issues, as well as resolutely safeguard the principles of the UN Charter, the basic norms of international relations, and international equity and justice to promote peace, stability and prosperity. With the support of all parties, including Russia, the summit will be a success, which Xi said was in the common interest of all parties and in line with the need for global economic development. (Xinhua)

Global Determination Required to Fight Terrorism: Iran MP

TEHRAN - A senior Iranian lawmaker says firm international resolve is required to counter the scourge of terrorism plighting Middle Eastern countries such as Iraq and Syria. "By providing terrorist groups with financial and arms aid and strengthening them, the US and its regional allies have made a big mistake whose containment requires collective and international cooperation among all world countries," Chairman of the Iranian Parliament's Committee on National Security and Foreign Policy Alaeddin Boroujerdi said in a meeting with Japanese State Minister for Foreign Affairs Kentaro Sonoura. He added that Iran is earnestly engaged in the campaign against terror-

ism and said intelligence cooperation between Tehran and Tokyo can help fight terrorism. The Iranian legislator further pointed to historical and deep-rooted relations between Iran and Japan and said the nuclear agreement, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), reached between the Islamic Republic and the P5+1 group of countries and the easing of sanctions against Tehran have prepared more appropriate grounds for the further expansion of Tehran's ties with Tokyo. Boroujerdi added that the high level of interaction between the parliaments and governments of Iran and Japan should be used to improve relations in areas of common interest. (Presstv)

U.S. Offers Bounty for Fugitive Tajik Colonel

DUSHANBE - The United States is offering a reward of \$3 million for information about fugitive Tajik Colonel Gulmurod Halimov, who joined the Islamic State (IS) group last year.

Kurt Rice, acting assistant director for threat investigations and analysis at the U.S. State Department, said on August 30 that Washington considers Halimov to be a key member of the extremist group. Rice told journalists via a telephone conference

call to the U.S. Embassy in Dushanbe that information on Halimov's whereabouts could be provided to any U.S. embassy across the world or sent via e-mail to American diplomatic offices.

Halimov, the former commander of the Tajik Interior Ministry's special forces, known as OMON, joined IS in April 2015. Tajik authorities have said he has been seriously injured twice in Syria. (Agencies)

Iran Says Appointment of UN Rights Rapporteur "Unjustified"

TEHRAN - The Secretary of Iran's Human Rights Bureau Mohammad-Javad Larijani rejected the appointment of a new United Nations special rapporteur on the human rights situation in Iran, reported Tasnim news agency on Sunday.

Tehran regards the recent move by the UN Human Rights Council, appointing the Pakistani human rights activist Asma Jahangir as the UN special rapporteur on Iran, as "unjustified," Larijani was quoted as saying. Basically, Iran is against an appointment implemented under pressure from some western countries, he said.

Larijani criticized what he called "double-standard policies and selective approaches to human rights issues adopted by certain Western governments." Asma Jahangir will replace former Maldivian Foreign Minister, Ahmed Shaheed, who has been the UN rights rapporteur on Iran since 2011.

Iran rejected Shaheed's multiple reports on Iran as accusations which bore "certain professional flaws." Shaheed had demanded to visit Iran to discover the realities of the human rights situation in the country, a request refused by Iran. (Xinhua)