

WHO Session Discusses Public Health Response to Europe's Migrant Crisis

VILNIUS - The public health impact of large-scale migration in Europe is being discussed during the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Committee's session which started on Monday in Vilnius. It is the first time the WHO's Committee for Europe convenes in the Baltic States. The current large influx of migrants in Europe calls "for a regional, comprehensive and systematic public health response," Dr. Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO Regional Director for Europe, was quoted as saying in a statement. "As refugees and migrants move, intercountry coordi-



nation must be strengthened across the European Region, as well as with the countries of origin and transit," she added. Lithuania's President Dalia Grybauskaitė stressed in her welcome address

to the participants of the session that Europe will be facing new challenges ahead, particularly those of migratory flows and a changing society. "I very much welcome the World Health Organization's call for politicians, especially those in the health sector, to adapt health care systems to the needs of society," the head of the state noted. Senior officials attending the meeting called for continued involvement and support from WHO to respond adequately to the growing numbers of refugees arriving in Europe. The organization claims it ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

Hollande Urges Border Controls Amid Worsening Refugee Crisis

PARIS - French President Francois Hollande Monday urged border controls in southern European countries to protect European borders amid the massive influx of refugees and "welcome (them) with dignity." France and Germany are "extremely insistent" that border control centers be set up in Greece, Italy and Hungary, Hollande said one day after Germany reintroduced border controls on its southern border with Austria to curb thousands of asylum seekers knocking on its doors every day. According to reports, around 13,000 arrived in

the southern German city of Munich on Saturday, and another 3,000 on Sunday morning. Hollande also stressed the necessity to reach common alternatives so that "Europe can enforce its borders" amid the resistance of some eastern European states to accept European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker's plan of compulsory quotas to redistribute about 160,000 refugees in the European Union (EU). At an emergency meeting on Monday, interior ministers from the EU's 28 member states were scheduled to discuss



Juncker's proposals and try to bridge differences and come up with a compromise able to address the worst refugee crisis in Europe since World War II. Speaking to RTL radio, French Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve urged neighboring coun-

tries to assume their responsibility, arguing that "there can be no solidarity within the European Union if every country does not assume liability." "If Europe wants to face this situation, it must make decisions quickly," he said. (Xinhua)

Vast Opportunities for U.S. Companies in India: FM

NEW DELHI - India Monday said there are vast opportunities for U.S. companies in this country and hoped the bilateral trade grow up to 500 billion U.S. dollars. "There are vast investment opportunities in India for American companies, especially in the infrastructure sector like roads, ports, railways and clean energy," Indian Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said. "Our objective is to build on Indo-U.S. bilateral relations. We have a large number of resources while they have the capital. We hope the Indo-U.S. bilateral trade

grow from the current 100 billion U.S. dollars to 500 billion U.S. dollars." The Finance Minister, who was addressing the 11th Indo-U.S. Economic Summit in the national capital, also said India is taking all possible efforts to put in place a predictable and fair tax regime. "There is need for us to have several internal changes, including quick decision-making, stable policies, predictable tax regime and improve ease of doing business. Already the current government is taking efforts to resolve several legacy issues," he said. (Xinhua)

Cameroonian Army Foils Boko Haram Attack in North Region

YAOUNDE - Cameroonian army over the weekend foiled an attack by Nigeria's Islamist sect Boko Haram in Balgaram locality in the country's Far North region near the border with Nigeria, a security source told Xinhua. An unknown number of assailants who had planned to capture the locality and carry out killings of civilians were quickly repulsed by soldiers who were present, the source said. Three bodies of suspected Boko Haram fighters were discovered after the army pushed back the assailants during the Sunday morning incident. "There was heavy casualty in the enemy's camp. Majority of the bodies were collect-

ed by the assailants, but three bodies were found at the scene of the battle. Maybe some more bodies will be found because we are still continuing with a search in the area," the security sources continued. The attack came just a day after Gen. Bouba Dobeke took over as the Commander of the First Sector of the Multi-national Joint Task Force that was put in place by member states of the Lake Chad Basin Commission to fight against Boko Haram. He will be based in Cameroon's Far North region, where two other suicide attacks occurred on Sunday in Kolofata locality. Military sources said at least 10 ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

UN Human Rights Chief to Release Crucial Report on Sri Lanka

COLOMBO - UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Raad al Hussein is expected to release a crucial report on Sri Lanka's war crimes at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva on Wednesday, the UN office in Colombo said. In his opening address at the 30th session of the UN Human Rights Council on Monday, al Hussein said the findings in the report were of the most serious nature. "Six years ago, we were confronted with serious violations and loss of civilian life in the last months of Sri Lanka's long civil war. This Council has been deeply engaged with the need for accountability, as a necessary step toward reconciliation in that country," the Human Rights chief said. "On Wednesday I

will release the report of the comprehensive investigation that OHCHR (Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights) was mandated to conduct in March 2014, including my recommendations. Its findings are of the most serious nature," he added. The Sri Lankan government last week received a copy of the report and has five days to make its response in writing. According to local media reports, the report has made strong indictments against both the troops and the Tamil Tiger rebels over purported war crimes alleged to have taken place in the final months of the country's civil war. The war ended in May 2009 with the defeat of the rebels, but the UN estimated that around 40,000 Tamil ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

Canada Starts Training Ukrainian Troops

KIEV - Canadian military instructors have started a long-term training program for Ukrainian army troops who fight against pro-independence insurgents in eastern regions, spokesman for the Ukrainian Defense Ministry Alexander Poronyuk said Monday. A total of 300 Canadian instructors will coach Ukrainian servicemen until March 2017 in medi-

cine, disposing explosive ordnance, defending road checkpoints and escorting troops, Poronyuk told local media. According to him, foreign trainers will work at military facilities in Ukraine's western Lvov and Khmelnytsky regions, more than 1,000 kilometers away from the frontline in eastern Ukraine. Military trainers from the United States and Britain

are also providing security assistance to Ukrainian servicemen. The insurgents' leadership has strongly objected the presence of foreign military personnel in Ukraine, saying that it undermines the peace process in the country. On Sept. 1, a new ceasefire agreement between government troops and rebels was established in the frontlines in Donetsk

and Lugansk regions. Despite sporadic violations, the truce has appeared to be well maintained in recent days for the first time since the start of the bloody conflict. According to the United Nations, nearly 8,000 people have lost their lives and more than 17,800 have been wounded in eastern Ukraine since the conflict began in mid-April 2014. (Xinhua)

Turnbull Wins Party Ballot to become Australian Prime Minister

CANBERRA - Malcolm Turnbull, former Australian Minister for Communications, won the party room ballot Monday night to replace Tony Abbott as the leader of the ruling Liberal Party and thus is to become Australia's 29th prime minister. Turnbull grabbed 54 of the Liberal parliamentarian votes, 10 more than the votes Abbott managed to get. At a late night press conference held after the ballot, Turnbull paid tribute to outgoing Abbott, saying the government under Abbott has made "formidable" achievements, including reaching Free Trade

Agreements with Japan, South Korea and China, and secured Australian border by stopping the boats of illegal immigrants. However, he pointed out that in the years ahead the world will be more competitive and greater opportunities arise, he is aimed to ensure that the Australian people can take advantage of that. "My government would be a thoroughly liberal government committed to freedom, the individual and the market," he said. Turnbull also noted that the culture of Liberal Party leadership has always been "thoroughly tra ...*(More on P4)...(22)*

No Plan to Close Iran Embassy in Yemen: Diplomat

TEHRAN - A senior Iranian diplomat has reaffirmed the Islamic Republic's strong support for Yemen, saying Tehran has no plan to close its embassy in the Yemeni capital of Sana'a. Deputy Foreign Minister for Arab and African Affairs Hossein Amir-Abdollahian on Monday dismissed claims by the Qatar-based satellite TV channel Al Jazeera that Iran's ambassador to Sana'a along with other embassy staff had fled the war-hit country. "The Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassador in Sana'a has come to the country for just a few days for medical examinations," Amir-Abdollahian said. He added that the ambassador has been conducting his mission during the Saudi military campaign against Yemen and heavy airstrikes in Sana'a. "Undoubtedly, Iran's embassy [in Sana'a] will continue its routine activities," the official pointed out. He noted that Iran has given necessary warnings to Saudi Arabia to protect the Iranian diplomatic missions in Yemen based on international diplomatic and consular regulations. Saudi Arabia began its aggression against Yemen on March 26 - without a UN mandate - in a bid to undermine the Ansarullah movement and restore power to the fugitive former Yemeni President Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi, a staunch ally of Riyadh.

The conflict has so far left more than 5,200 people dead and thousands of others wounded, according to the Yemeni TV Channel al-Masirah. Amir-Abdollahian further said, "We will strongly back the Yemeni people in the fight against terrorism and will undoubtedly continue our effective political and humanitarian support for the Yemeni people. (PressTV)

Chinese, Russian PMs Discuss Bilateral Ties over Phone

BEIJING - Chinese Premier Li Keqiang on Monday held phone talks with his Russian counterpart, Dmitry Medvedev, to discuss relations between their countries. During the phone conversation, Li said China and Russia have exchanged frequent high-level visits and meetings recently. China is willing to strengthen communication and coordination with Russia, he added. He said his country is also ready to take the next round of regular meeting between

Chinese and Russian prime ministers, as well as the prime ministers' meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), as an opportunity to jointly promote bilateral ties and pragmatic cooperation in various fields for new achievements, so as to provide fresh momentum for common development. Medvedev said Russia and China have enjoyed a friendly relationship, adding that he is looking forward to attending ...*(More on P4)...(23)*

Neighbour News

Chinese President Vows Stronger Ties with Mauritania

BEIJING - President Xi Jinping met with Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz in Beijing on Monday, vowing to improve ties with Mauritania within the framework of the China-Arab Cooperation Forum. Aziz was in China for the second China-Arab States Expo, a key platform to promote ties between China and Arab states, in Yinchuan, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, northwest China. Xi thanked Mauritania for its firm support on issues concerning China's core interests and major concerns. China will maintain close contact with Mauritania and enhance bilateral cooperation in such areas as culture, media, education and youth, he said. He expressed willing-

ness to deepen cooperation with Mauritania in infrastructure construction, mining, fisheries, agriculture, hydropower and clean energy. China will share its experience in developing special economic zones and industrial parks with Mauritania, and will continue to dispatch medical teams and medical supplies to the nation, he added. China is ready to work with Mauritania and other African countries to hold a successful Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), and its sixth ministerial meeting in December this year in South Africa, said Xi. Aziz said Mauritania values the traditional friendship with China and will actively participate in the Belt and Road Initiative. (Xinhua)

JCPOA, Roadmap Involve Reciprocal Measures: Iran

TEHRAN - Iran says both its recent nuclear agreement with six world powers and a roadmap signed between Tehran and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) entail reciprocal measures that should be observed "objectively" by both sides. "As the Islamic Republic of Iran, in realization of its voluntary confidence building measures and practical steps taken, is committed to its undertakings under the JCPOA (Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action) and the roadmap, we likewise expect the IAEA and the P5+1 to reciprocate through impartial and objective conclusion of the ongoing process and removal of the unjust sanctions, respectively," said Director of the Atomic Energy Organization of

Iran (AEOI) Ali Akbar Salehi during the 59th Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference in Vienna on Monday. Salehi hailed the recent nuclear agreement between Iran and the P5+1, saying the result of the negotiations proved that the Iranian nation will never bow down to economic "sanctions" and "military threats." "The agreement opens a horizon to new opportunities and is a step forward by the involved parties to end a contrived and unnecessary crisis that has been deliberately prolonged for more than a decade," he said. Salehi also stressed that the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 authorizes Iran to possess "peaceful nuclear technology including full fuel cycle and the ...*(More on P4)...(24)*

Sharif Inaugurates Pak-China Friendship Tunnels

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on Monday inaugurated the Pakistan-China Friendship Tunnels, which have been constructed by China overlooking the Attabad Lake in Gilgit-Baltistan region of Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK). The seven-kilometre-long five tunnels are part of the 24-km portion of the Karakoram Highway (KKH) which was damaged in 2010 due to

land slides at Attabad. Two major bridges and 78 small bridges have also been constructed on the rebuilt section of the highway, reported Radio Pakistan. The tunnels have been constructed by the National Highway Authority (NHA) in collaboration with the China Road and Bridge Corporation to restore part of the road which had become submerged under the Attabad lake waters. (Agencies)

Kazakhstan, Tajikistan Become Strategic Partners

BAKU - A number of documents were signed in Dushanbe as part of the negotiations of Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev and Tajik President Emomali Rahmon, the presidential press-service of Kazakhstan said Monday. An agreement on strategic partnership between the countries, an agreement on cooperation in the field of technical protection of information and cooperation program between the foreign ministries of the two countries were signed. The two sides also signed a protocol on amendments and addi-

tions to the agreement on labor activity and protection of the rights of migrant workers, the citizens of Kazakhstan and Tajikistan temporarily working in two countries dated May 4, 2006, as well as a protocol on amendments and additions to the agreement on education dated June 13, 2000. Moreover, an agreement was signed between the Ministry of Culture and Sports of Kazakhstan and the Committee for Youth, Sports and Tourism under the government of Tajikistan. President Nazarbayev is in Dushanbe on an official visit. (Agencies)