

## 74th Session of The UN General Assembly Begins

UNITED NATIONS - The 74th session of the UN General Assembly opens on Tuesday and is presided by Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, the second Nigerian diplomat to serve as president of the body.

Muhammad-Bande was sworn in a few hours ago and assured that he would defend the pillars of the multilateral organization. 'My promise is to continue working to ensure that we do not leave anyone behind,' he said and thanked his predecessor, Ecuadorian diplomat Maria Fernanda Espinosa, for her service and dedication at the head of the largest United Nations agency in its 73rd session.



For her part, Espinosa referred to the need for Muhammad-Bande to continue advancing the gender equality agenda, as well as the revitalization of the General Assembly.

According to the Nigerian diplomat, during his presidency he will focus mainly on three themes: poverty eradication, quality education and inclusion. He also pledged to make further

progress on gender parity issues.

The 62-year-old African leader became the second Nigerian to take up this post, after Joseph Nanven Garba, who headed the General Assembly in 1989. Yesterday, UN Secretary-General António Guterres expressed great interest in working with Muhammad-Bande and fighting to build a peaceful world for all, on a healthy planet.

On the 24th and until the 30th of this month, the high-level segment of the General Assembly will session, an event in which 97 presidents and 46 heads of government have already confirmed their presence. (Prensa Latina)

### King Salman: Saudi Arabia Capable of Responding to 'Cowardly Attacks'

RIYADH - Saudi Arabia's King Salman said on Tuesday that the Kingdom is capable of defending itself against "cowardly" attacks and called on the international community to confront those behind Saturday's drone strikes on two Aramco sites. The cabinet reviewed the damage caused by two Houthi-claimed drone strikes on Saudi Aramco's Abqaiq oil-processing plant and the Khurais oilfield, which caused the country's oil production to

temporarily fall by almost 50 per cent. Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi rebels claimed responsibility for the operation but Washington has squarely blamed Iran, with President Donald Trump saying the US is "locked and loaded" to respond. In a government statement carried in the state-run media agency, King Salman called on world governments to confront the perpetrators of the attack and "shoulder the ... (More on P4)...(10)

### Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute Becomes International Centre Under IAEA Label

IAEA - The Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute (KAERI) will provide scientists from around the world access to its research reactor and facilities for training and R&D as part of the IAEA-designated International Centres based on Research Reactors (ICERR) programme. KAERI received the ICERR designation at a ceremony today on the sidelines of the IAEA's 63rd General Conference.

"The ICERR scheme is designed to foster in-



ternational cooperation and contribute to capacity building by facilitating access to world-class research reactors and as-

sociated facilities," said Cornel Feruta, Acting Director General of the IAEA. "Member States may establish bilat-

eral arrangements with ICERR host countries for education and training activities as well as ... (More on P4)...(8)

### Russia's Putin Plans to Visit Israel in Jan 2020



MOSCOW - Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Tuesday he planned to visit Israel in

January next year to inaugurate a memorial to World War Two victims in Jerusalem.

Putin also told a meeting with a Jewish charity fund on Tuesday that Russia is paying a "high

attention" to developing mutually beneficial relations with Israel. (Agencies)

### China Denounces Foreign Financial Support for Protests in Hong Kong

BEIJING - China's central government denounced this Tuesday the financial support that external forces provide to sectors protesting in Hong Kong to stay on the streets and perpetrate violent acts. Hua Chunying, spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a press conference that large amounts of money and even training were arranged to aid the radicals leading the protests. She quoted statements by former British law-

maker George Gal-laway, who reported that the UK meddles in several ways in issues of the special administrative region. Hua stressed Beijing's opposition to all kinds of foreign interference in Hong Kong, after calling on the city's population to unite to counteract and end violence there once and for all. She also rebutted criticism from a Hong Kong lawmaker about the police response ... (More on P4)...(11)

### Canada Working with Allies after Intelligence Official Arrested: PM Trudeau

OTTAWA - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said on Tuesday that Canada was working with its allies and reassuring them after the arrest of a top police intelligence official for allegedly leaking secrets.

"We are in direct communications with our allies on security ... We are also working with them to reassure them, but we want to ensure that everyone understands that we are taking this situation very seriously," Trudeau said during a campaign stop in St. John's, Newfoundland. (Reuters)

### Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan Hold Consultations on Caspian Issues

NUR-SULTAN - Bilateral consultations between Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan on issues of the Caspian Sea were held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, Trend reports referring to the ministry.

In consultations, the Azerbaijani side was represented by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Special Representative of the President of Azerbaijan for border and Caspian Sea issues Khalaf Khalafov, while the Kazakh side was represented by Special Envoy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Special Representative of Kazakhstan on the Caspian Sea Zulfiya Amanzholova.

During the consultations, the issue of establishing the Secretariat of the Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea was discussed, and the importance of speeding ... (More on P4)...(12)

### Merkel Urges Return to Iran Nuclear Deal to Defuse Middle East Tensions

BERLIN - German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Tuesday called for a return to an international deal curbing Iran's nuclear activities as the only way to defuse tensions in the Middle East.

"We believe that the deal to stop Iran from acquiring military nuclear capabilities is a building block we need to get back to," Merkel said during a news conference with Jordan's King Abdullah.



"But there is also a long list of other burdens coming from Iran like the ballistic missiles program and its engagement in Syria," she said. "In recent days tensions in the region rose and Germany will always be in favor of deescalation and long-term solutions are only possible through a political process." (Reuters)

### OSCE-Supported Workshop Explored Links Between Research and Policy-Making in Central Asia

OSCE - Collection and analysis of migration-related data to shape effective policy-making were the focus of a two-day workshop organized by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) in co-operation with the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan, with the support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Employment and Labour Relations Ministry of Uzbekistan, on 16 and 17 September 2019 in Tashkent.

Some 60 participants, including policy-makers, representatives of civil society and research institutions from all five Central Asian countries and

the Russian Federation as well as international and regional organizations, such as the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP), and International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), shared experiences and lessons learned in developing research and analysis to inform migration policymaking.

"The recent legislative changes and practical steps in the area of labour migration management demonstrate the strong commitment of Uzbekistan to harnessing the economic potential of ... (More on P4)...(9)

## Neighbor News

### Govt Committed to Protecting Life, Property of Minorities, NA Told

ISLAMABAD - Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Ali Muhammad has said the federal and provincial governments are committed to the protection of life and property of minorities. Speaking in the National Assembly on Tuesday on a point of order raised by PML (N) leader Khawaja Asif about the ransacking of Hindu temples in Ghotki district, he said the minorities are equal citizens of Pakistan and it is the responsibility of the state to protect their rights.

He said nobody is above the law and the law will take its course. He expressed the confidence that the Sindh

government will take the requisite steps to control the situation in Ghotki. Minorities' members strongly condemned the ransacking of temples in Ghotki. They said Pakistan is our motherland and they will not leave it. They termed the incident as a conspiracy against the country.

They said they cannot think of blasphemy. They, however, said if anybody has committed the blasphemy, the culprit should be given punishment after investigation as per the law. Those who spoke on the matter included Jai Parkash, Ramesh Kumar, Dr Darshan ... (More on P4)...(14)

### Ayatollah Khamenei: No Talks with US; Maximum Pressure Campaign Futile

TEHRAN - Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei says Iran will not engage in negotiations with the United States "at any level," and that Washington's "maximum pressure" campaign against the Iranian nation has failed to achieve its goals.

Speaking on Tuesday, Ayatollah Khamenei said entering talks with the US under the current circumstances would be tantamount to surrendering to Washington's undue pressure campaign. "Negotiating would mean Washington imposing

its demands on Tehran. It would also be a manifestation of the victory of America's maximum pressure campaign," the Leader noted. "That is why Iranian officials - including the president, the foreign minister and others - have unanimously voiced their objection to any talks with the US - be it in a bilateral or a multilateral setting," the Leader stated.

Ayatollah Khamenei said talks with Iran would be possible only if the US returns to a 2015 nuclear deal that it abandoned last year. Under that multilateral ... (More on P4)...(15)

### UN Proposes Uzbekistan to Create Ministry of Social Protection

TASHKENT - UN experts suggest creating a ministry of social protection in Uzbekistan, as stated at a meeting on social protection on September 17 chaired by Deputy Prime Minister of Uzbekistan Aziz Abdulkhakov and United Nations Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan Helena Fraser. Trend reports citing Uzbek media.

Abdulkhakov noted that one of the biggest problems in the field of social protection of the country's population is the fragmentation of social services. To resolve it, a single state body is

needed to regulate the activities of all organizations and non-profit organizations involved in the social protection of the population. In Uzbekistan, social protection functions are currently distributed among several ministries and departments. Despite the fact that the country invests about 8-9 percent of GDP in social protection and is committed to the Sustainable Development Goals in the field of social protection, in recent years the gap in the social protection system ... (More on P4)...(16)

### Turkmen Power Stations Using GE Technology

ASHGABAT - The technology used at the power plants in Turkmenistan's Lebap province was developed by the US company General Electric (GE), Trend reports referring to the Neutral Turkmenistan newspaper.

The equipment was supplied to the Lebap gas turbine power plant with a capacity of 149.2 megawatts per year in Chardzhou district and Watan gas turbine power plant with a capacity of 254 megawatts in Dowlletli district.

The operation of ultra-modern equipment and complex technological processes is thoroughly controlled and managed by dispatchers via using computer technology.

The Lebap province is developing: a cement plant and a mining plant for the production of potash fertilizers were com-

missioned in this province, the report said. The biggest "Kerki-500" substation was commissioned in southern Lebap province in 2015. Previously, 110 kilovolts were supplied to Afghanistan's nearest And-hoy province through a power line stretching 62.7 kilometers. Presently, electricity with higher voltage is being supplied steadily from the Mary power station.

The construction of the most powerful gas turbine power plant in the region with an annual capacity of 432 megawatts has been launched in Chardzhou district. A corresponding contract was concluded between Turkmen Energy state corporation and Sumitomo Corporation, which plans to provide the power plant with Japanese equipment. (Trend)