

U.N. Chief Calls for Collective Efforts to Address Challenge of Human Mobility

UNITED NATIONS - U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Monday called for more collective efforts to address the challenge of human mobility, saying that "acting together, we can respond to rising xenophobia and turn fear into hope."

The secretary-general made the remarks while addressing the opening session of the U.N. high-level meeting to address large movements of refugees and migrants, which kicked off at U.N. Headquarters in New York where world leaders are gathering for the annual high-level debate of the U.N. General Assembly. Ban noted that "more people than ever are on the



move. Some flee war; others seek opportunity." "Refugees and migrants are not to be seen as a burden," he said. "They offer great potential, if only we unlock it." The high-level meeting is expected to adopt a New York Declaration, and its effective implementation means "more children can attend school", and "more workers can seek jobs abroad, instead of being at the mercy of criminal smugglers," he said. "The Declaration we will adopt today rallies all partners around collective commitments: To protect the human rights of all refugees and migrants, regardless of their status," said the secretary-general. (Xinhua)

Russia to Develop Multi-Party System: Putin

MOSCOW - The ruling United Russia party is going to develop a multi-party system in the country in spite of its landslide victory at the latest parliamentary elections, Russian President Vladimir Putin said Monday.

"In domestic policy, we will certainly have to listen and hear all the political forces, including those that did not pass into parliament," Putin said at a meeting with the government which was broadcasted by local TV.

"We must and will de-

velop a multi-party system in Russia, and support civil society, including patriotically-oriented and non-governmental organizations," he added.

According to preliminary data, the United Russia party backed by Putin won over 54 percent of the vote at Sunday's elections to the State Duma, which



will give it a constitutional majority of two-thirds in the lower house of parliament. The Communist Party came the second with 13.45 percent of the vote. The ... (More on P4)... (20)

Netanyahu to Meet Obama during UN Meeting

JERUSALEM - Israeli Prime Minister's Office confirmed Sunday that Benjamin Netanyahu will meet U.S. President Barack Obama on the sidelines of the United Nations general assembly in New York on Wednesday.

A statement released by Netanyahu's office said the two are likely to discuss "the challenges and opportunities in the Middle East and the way to promote peace and security together."

White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest said that the meeting will be

an opportunity to discuss "the need for genuine advancement of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the face of deeply troubling trends on the ground."

The meeting will allow "an opportunity to discuss the stalwart ties between the United States and Israel, as recently underscored by the finalization of our new 10-year Memorandum of Understanding with Israel, the single largest pledge of military assistance in U. S. history," he ... (More on P4)... (21)

Germany's Merkel Admits Migrant Policy Cost Votes

BERLIN - German Chancellor Angela Merkel conceded Monday that her migrant policies were partly to blame for her conservative party's thrashing in state elections here.

"I'm the party chairwoman, and I'm not going to duck responsibility," Merkel told reporters a day after her Christian Democratic Union (CDU) party received 18% of the vote in elections in Germany's capital. The result was the party's worst ever performance in Berlin.

"If one of the reasons for the CDU's poor showing is that the direction, goal and conviction behind our refugee policy haven't been explained well enough, I'll endeavor to rectify that," she said.

While Merkel's CDU and its coalition partner the Social Democrats (SPD) were the two strongest parties in the contest, they both lost ground to Alternative to Germany (AfD), an anti-immigration party that won 14% ... (More on P4)... (22)

UNICEF Calls for Rise in Education Fund as New Report Reveals Global Crisis in Learning

UNITED NATIONS - More than two-thirds of schoolchildren in low-income countries will not learn basic primary level skills in 2030 despite an ambitious goal to get every child in school and learning, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) said here Sunday.

This was contained in a report launched by the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity, UNICEF said in a press release issued here Sunday.

The report - The Learning Generation: Investing



in Education for a Changing World -- noted that without an urgent increase in education investments by national governments,

children in low-income countries will remain trapped in intergenerational cycles of poverty and be left without the skills and

knowledge they need to contribute to their societies and economies when they reach adulthood. ... (More on P4)... (23)

Britain Says Participated in Coalition Air Strike Killing Dozens of Syrian Soldiers

LONDON - Britain's Defense Ministry on Monday confirmed that it participated in coalition airstrikes over the weekend that killed dozens of Syrian soldiers but stressed it would never intentionally target Syrian military units.

A Defense Ministry spokesman said: "We can confirm that the UK participated in the recent coalition air strike in Syria, south of Deir al-Zour on Saturday and we are fully co-operating with the coalition investigation."

It came after a video emerged showing an Islamic State (IS) fighter proudly standing on the corpse of a Syrian soldier who was killed in Saturday's U.S.-led coalition air strike. The IS claimed ... (More on P4)... (24)

Aussie PM "Regrets" Loss of Life, Admits Involvement in Syrian Airstrike Debacle

CANBERRA - Australia's prime minister expressed regrets for the loss of life and injuries sustained by dozens of Syrian government soldiers after it was revealed that Australian military jets were involved in a coalition bombing raid at the weekend.

Malcolm Turnbull said that Australian jets were involved in the airstrikes which killed dozens of Syrian soldiers, after they were mistaken for Islamic State (IS) forces at the Deir al-Zour military airport in the Middle Eastern nation's east.

Turnbull said as soon as coalition forces were made aware the soldiers were not IS militants, the operation was suspended, and added that a review of the attack would be undertaken to ... (More on P4)... (25)

U.S. Special Forces Being Removed from Northern Syria: Erdogan

ISTANBUL - Turkey has made some U.S. special operations forces leave northern Syria as the rebel Free Syrian Army (FSA) does not want American interference, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Monday.

"The Free Syrian Army does not want interference from the U.S., because the behavior of U.S. officials heightened the problem to that level," the president told the press in Istanbul prior to his departure for New York for the 71st session of the United Nations General Assembly. "Our officials, our special forces have taken out around 27 U.S. special forces from the area," he added.



Washington announced last Friday the deployment of some three dozen special operations forces in northern Syria to work with Turkish troops in fighting the Islamic State (IS). Turkey sent tanks, warplanes and special operations forces into northern Syria

on Aug. 24 in a launch of what it called Operation Euphrates Shield to fight both the IS and Syrian Kurdish militias.

The operation that offers support to the FSA on the ground is progressing well as of now, the president said. (Xinhua)

S.Korea, U.S. to Conduct Airstrike Training on DPRK's Nuke Facilities

SEOUL - South Korea and the United States plan to conduct an airstrike training on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)'s nuclear facilities through a U.S.-led multinational air defense exercise scheduled for next month, Seoul's Yonhap news agency reported on Monday.

The Red Flag exercise, which was launched by the United States in 1975, would be carried out from Oct. 3 to 21 at the Eielson air base in Alaska, accord-

ing to South Korea's air force quoted by Yonhap.

This year's exercise would involve the precision airstrike training on the DPRK's nuclear facilities following the DPRK's fifth nuclear test on Sept. 9.

South Korea, which began to participate in the drill in 2013, would send six F-15K fighter jets and two C-130H transport planes. The United States would mobilize about 50 combat aircrafts such as F-16 and F-15C. ... (More on P4)... (26)

China, Russia Conclude Joint Naval Drill



ZHANJIANG, Guangdong - Chinese and Russian naval forces on Monday concluded their joint military exercise in the waters off the southern province of Guangdong, pledging to enhance practical cooperation. Addressing the closing ceremony of the drill, which ran from Sept. 13 to 19, Wang Hai, deputy commander of the Chinese Navy, lauded the exercise as successful and the activity had achieved the desired aim.

Wang said the drill had improved the actual combat capabilities, informatization and standardization of the two navies, adding that they will expand practical cooperation and boost communication. Alexander Fedotenkov, deputy commander of the Russian Navy, said the two navies shared theoretical and practical experience and were engaged in sound collaboration throughout the exercise. Fedotenkov said the two sides will maintain close marine cooperation ties, deal with new challenges and threats, and together safeguard world peace and regional stability.

The "Joint Sea 2016" drill featured surface ships, submarines, fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters, marines and amphibious armored equipment. (Xinhua)

Nieghbor News

China Opposes European Parliament Leaders' Meeting with Dalai Lama

BEIJING - China strongly objects to the recent meeting between European Parliament leaders and the Dalai Lama, a Foreign Ministry spokesperson said on Monday.

It was reported that European Parliament President Martin Schulz and Elmar Brok, chairman of the parliamentary committee on foreign affairs, met with the Dalai Lama on Sept. 15 despite strong opposition from the Chinese side.

"They have broken the promises the EU made to China on Tibet," spokesperson Lu Kang told a press conference.

Tibet issues are core interests of China, Lu said, stressing that the Chinese

government is firmly against separatism. China opposes the Dalai Lama's visits in any name or capacity to any country or organization to engage in separatist activities, Lu said. China is also opposed to any contact between the Dalai Lama and officials from any country or organization.

China-EU ties are at a new stage, and relations between the parliaments are sound, but the meeting between the European Parliament's leaders and the Dalai Lama harms China's core interests and the political foundation of inter-parliamentary communication, Lu said. (Xinhua)

Pakistan Fully Prepared to Respond to Any Threat: Gen. Raheel

RAWALPINDI - Pakistani Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen. Raheel Sharif during a corps commander's conference on Monday said the Pakistan Army is "fully prepared to respond to the entire spectrum of direct and indirect threats", according to an Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) statement.

Presiding over the conference at General Headquarters, Gen Raheel said the Army was fully cognizant of and closely watching the latest developments in the region and their impact

on national security. The Army chief also expressed satisfaction over the operational preparedness of the Army.

The conference provided an in-depth review of the external and internal security situation and operational preparedness of the armed forces. "Pakistan's armed forces together with their resilient nation have surmounted every challenge and will thwart any sinister design against integrity and sovereignty of the country in future as well," the COAS said. (Monitoring Desk)

East Asia Peace, Stability Important to Entire World: Rouhani

TEHRAN - Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has emphasized the importance of peace and stability in East Asia for the whole world, stressing that the escalation of tensions in the region should be avoided.

"Peace and stability in East Asia is important to all of us, and everyone should prudently safeguard security and tranquility, particularly in the region of East Asia," President Rouhani said in a meeting with Kim Jong-nam, the president of the Presidium of the Supreme People's As-

sembly of North Korea. The meeting took place on the sidelines of the 17th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) on Venezuela's Margarita Island on Sunday. "Potential problems and disagreements in [various] regions should be resolved by means of political methods and by the regional countries [themselves] and it is unacceptable that some major powers, through their intervention, turn regional issues into confrontations among regional nations," Rouhani said. (Presstv)

Uzbekistan Invites Int'l Observers to Presidential Election

TASHKENT - The Central Election Commission (CEC) of Uzbekistan has sent an official invitation to a number of international organizations to observe the presidential election in the country, the commission said in a message on Monday.

In particular, invitations have been sent to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Executive Committee, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB), according

to the CEC. Participation of international and foreign observers in the Uzbek presidential election serves to strengthen the principles of transparency and openness of the entire electoral process, respect for the principles of democratic election, the message said.

Uzbekistan will hold an early presidential election Dec. 4. The election will be held in accordance with the country's constitution due to the death of President Islam Karimov. Election campaigns started Sept. 9. Registration of presidential candidates will be held from Sept. 30 until Oct. 20 in accordance with the action plan for preparations and holding the presidential election. (Trend)