

# UN Chief Appalled by Military Escalation in Syria's Aleppo

UNITED NATIONS - UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on Saturday that he is appalled by the military escalation in Syria's northern city of Aleppo.

In a statement released by his spokesperson, Ban said Aleppo is facing "the most sustained and intense bombardment since the start of the Syrian conflict."

Nearly 30 civilians were killed on Friday by bombardment in eastern part of Aleppo, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a local monitor group. The incident came one day



after the Syrian Defense Ministry announced the commencement of a new offensive on rebel-held areas in eastern Aleppo.

Ban noted that since the announcement of the offensive, there have been repeated reports of airstrikes involving the use of incendiary weapons and advance munitions such as bunker buster bombs.

"The Secretary-General underlines that the apparent systematic use of these types of indiscriminate weapons in densely populated areas may amount to war crimes," said the ...*(More on P4)...(14)*

## Russia, Turkey Reach a 'Gentleman's Agreement' on Syrian Airspace

Turkey and Russia are currently in talks over a protocol to coordinate combat flights in the Syrian airspace to prevent incidents, a Turkish military source told Hurriyet Daily News.

While working on a draft protocol, both sides reached a "gentleman's agreement," the source said. According to the agreement, one side must not enter the area where the other side is conducting combat operations. The decision to coordinate combat flights over

Syria was made on September 15 at a meeting in Ankara between Russian Military Chief of Staff Valery Gerasimov and his Turkish counterpart Hulusi Akar.

This was the first visit by a Russian high-military commander to Turkey after a Turkish jet shot down a Russian



bomber over Syria in November 2015. After the incident, contacts between the Russian and Turkish militaries were suspended. During the meeting, Moscow and Ankara ...*(More on P4)...(15)*

## UNSC to Hold Urgent Session on Syria

UNITED NATIONS - The UN Security Council (UNSC) is scheduled to have an emergency meeting on the current situation in Syria on Sunday morning, diplomatic sources told Xinhua Saturday night.

The meeting is scheduled to start at 11:00 EDT (1500 GMT) at the request of the United States and France, two of the five permanent members of the 15-nation UN body, the sources said.

UN officials also confirmed that the emergency council meeting is to

be an open one, at which ambassadors are expected to air their views on the latest development on the ground in Syria.

The council meeting is unusual on Sunday as the annual high-level debate of the UN General Assembly is going on at UN Headquarters in New York.

The last emergency council meeting was held last Saturday evening at the request of Russia in response to the airstrikes staged by the U.S.-led coalition on ...*(More on P4)...(16)*

## EU, Not Trafficker, Should Decide who Come to Europe: Austrian Chancellor

VIENNA - Austrian Chancellor Christian Kern on Saturday said the European Union (EU) should be able to decide who could be able to reach the European continent, not the human traffickers.

Kern made the remarks at a press conference after the Vienna summit of European leaders.

Kern said he believes the better protection of EU border could be a solution of the migrant crisis, though the influx of the illegal migrants has been

slowing down. He noted there were still some 50,000 migrants reaching Germany after the closure of the so-called Balkan route.

"Seventy percent of the target has been reached," said the Austrian chancellor in regard to migrant influx after the Vienna summit, but noting the EU should make more progress.

"We need to decide who gets to come to Europe, not the traffickers," he emphasized, saying the EU ...*(More on P4)...(17)*

## Turkey Ready to Join Hands with U.S. to Take IS Stronghold, Sets Conditions

ISTANBUL - Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Sunday signaled his readiness to work with the United States in removing the Islamic State (IS) from its de-facto capital of Raqqa in northern Syria, but insisted on the exclusion of Syrian Kurdish militias from any operation, local media said.

"Our foreign ministry officials and military officials have been in contact with the U.S. about the Raqqa issue," the president said on his way back from New York after at-



tending UN General Assembly sessions, according to private NTV news channel. "Raqqa is the

most important center for Deah. If U.S. will not make PYD and YPG be involved in this business,

we can of course join this struggle with the U.S.," he said. On ...*(More on P4)...(18)*

## UN, Guinean Leaders Meet on Development, Post-Ebola Recovery

UNITED NATIONS - UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Saturday met with Guinean President Alpha Conde, and the two leaders discussed the economic development and post-Ebola recovery in the West African country.

During the meeting, "the secretary-general commended Guinea's efforts to promote economic development, implement key reforms in the security and justice sectors, and pursue post-Ebola recovery," UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric told reporters here.

On June 1, the World Health Organization declared the end of Ebola virus transmission in Guinea, one of the three West African countries ...*(More on P4)...(19)*

## Syrian Army Advances in Aleppo Amid Alleged Intensified Airstrikes

DAMASCUS - The Syrian army captured a key area in the northern province of Aleppo, as opposition activists accused Syrian and Russian air forces of intensifying airstrikes on rebel-held areas in eastern Aleppo.

State news agency SANA said Syrian forces backed by Palestinian groups succeeded Saturday to recapture the Handarat Camp for Palestinian refugees in Aleppo from the hands of rebels.

The capture of Handarat, 13 km northeast of Aleppo, came after the Syrian army and Palestinian factions destroyed the last position of the rebels there, SANA said.

Bomb squads have started dismantling explosive devices and roadside bombs the rebels had planted. ...*(More on P4)...(20)*

## OPEC Supply Cut only Way to Push up Oil Prices: Poll

DUBAI - A Dubai-based regional research firm said here Sunday the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) needs to cut production to sustain a rise in crude prices above 50 U.S. dollars a barrel.

According to the GIQ Industry Survey, "it does not matter if the world's biggest oil producers agree to freeze output when they meet in Algiers later this week, because they must slash supply to support a protracted price rally," said the Gulf Intelligence in a statement.

This is the view of two-thirds of the 250 interna-



tional energy executives operating across the Gulf who participated in the GIQ poll on Sept. 22, and the results were released earlier Sunday. OPEC, which pumps about one third of the world's oil supply, and non-OPEC producers are scheduled

to meet on Sept. 28 in Algeria in a bid to reach a deal to boost prices by limiting oil production. "This is the right time for action as all stakeholders are ready," Falah Alamri, OPEC Governor in Iraq said in reaction to the survey results. (Xinhua)

## Russian Navy Holds Cruise Missile Firing Exercises in Drills in Barents Sea

MOSCOW - Warships from Russia's Northern Fleet have carried out cruise missile firing exercises during the final stage of the ongoing naval drills in the Barents Sea, Russian Northern Fleet press service head Vadim Serga said Sunday.

"During today's final stage of Northern Fleet forces exercises, the Pyotr Velikiy heavy nuclear missile cruiser and a project 949A Antey cruise missile submarine have carried out combat firing exercises with underwater-launched cruise missiles,"

Serga was quoted as saying by the Sputnik news agency.

Granit naval anti-ship cruise missiles were used in the exercise, Serga said, adding that complex simulated enemy targets were hit near the Arctic Novaya Zemlya archipelago coast. The area was closed to shipping ahead of the exercise, said Serga. Northern Fleet drills kicked off on Sept. 20, involving 12 warships, as well as submarines, 10 supply vessels, air force and naval aircraft. (Xinhua)

## Americans' Trust in Political Leaders, Public at New Lows

WASHINGTON - Americans' trust in their political leaders and the public to make political decisions has dipped to new lows, a new Gallup poll has found.

The survey asked U.S. adults how much they trust "the men and women in political life in this country who either hold or are running for political office" and how much trust they have in the American people to make "judgments under our democratic system about the issues facing our country."

It showed that 43 percent of Americans trust political leaders while 56 percent trust Americans people. The percentages are down roughly 20 percentage points since 2004 and are currently at new lows in Gallup's trends.

These items are included in Gallup's annual Governance poll, conducted each September, alongside questions measuring Americans' trust in the three branches of the federal government, state and local governments, and the mass media.

Trust in most of these institutions is lower now than a decade ago. This is possibly a symptom of Americans' low levels of satisfaction with the way things are going in the country. In the past decade, Americans' top concerns have been the economy, the Iraq War and the way the government is working in general. However, while levels of trust in political leaders, the American people and the mass media all continue to erode this year, trust in the federal, state and local governments has improved. (Xinhua)

## Nieghbor News

### China Air Force Conducts West Pacific Drill, Patrols ADIZ

NANJING - The Chinese Air Force on Sunday sent more than 40 aircraft of various types to the West Pacific, via the Miyako Strait, for a routine drill on the high seas, a spokesperson said.

Shen Jinke, spokesperson of the People's Liberation Army Air Force, said the fleet, including H-6K bombers, Su-30 fighters, and air tankers, conducted reconnaissance and early warning, attacks on sea surface targets, and in-flight refueling to test the Air Force's fighting capacity on the high seas. Bombers and fight-

ers of the PLA Air Force also conducted routine patrol in the East China Sea Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ), the spokesperson said at an east China airport. Shen said routine drills in the West Pacific and patrols in the East China Sea ADIZ are conducted "in accordance with the needs of the Air Force to defend national sovereignty and security, as well as to maintain peaceful development."

Since the East China Sea ADIZ was set up nearly three years ago, the Air Force has kept regular patrols. (Xinhua)

### Iran Urges Trade Cooperation among D-8 States

TEHRAN - Iran urged to boost trade ties among member states of the Developing-8 Organization for Economic Cooperation (D-8) in line with the global trends of sustainable developments, local media reported on Saturday.

Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Abbas Araqchi called for "strong" economic ties within the organization, as he attended the extraordinary meeting of foreign ministers of D-8 on the sidelines of the 71st annual session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on Friday.

Araqchi said that D-8

states enjoy ample opportunities for economic cooperation, Tasnim news agency reported.

As an organization for development cooperation among Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey, D-8 is striving to improve member states' position in the global economy, and to create new opportunities in trade relations.

Araqchi also said that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a proper international framework that could help the D-8 members outline their priorities and promote cooperation. (Xinhua)

### World Pharmacists Day: 6,000 Pharmacists' Posts Vacant in Punjab

LAHORE - The World Pharmacists Day being observed on Sunday (today) promises nothing for these professionals in Punjab where over 6,000 posts of pharmacists are lying vacant.

The data sounds more dismal to the province where even the major teaching hospitals are facing an acute shortage of clinical pharmacists. The government's apathy could be gauged by the fact that there are only two pharmacists in the Punjab Institute of Cardiology (PIC) Lahore, where over 100 patients had died in a drug reaction scam in 2012.

An official privy to the information told Dawn that the Supreme Court of Pakistan had also ordered posting of at least one clinical pharmacist against 50 beds in public sector hospitals. The ratio had also been recommended by a high-powered commission formed in the wake of the PIC drug reaction scam, he added.

Similarly, the commission had recommended the establishment of Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR) system at all the major teaching hospitals of the province envisaging a major role for the clinical pharmacists. But, ...*(More on P4)...(21)*

### UN is Key to Achieving SDGs and Tackling Terrorism, Tajikistan Tells Assembly

DUSHANBE - From spurring momentum to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to combatting terrorism and drug trafficking, the United Nations is the crucial element for success, Tajikistan told the General Assembly on Sunday.

"The United Nations remains the key platform for achievement of consensus on the main issues of international security and development, as well as for coordination of joint actions of the international community in addressing challenges and threats of the day," Foreign Minister Sirodjidin Aslov told

the Assembly's annual general debate.

"It is essential that we jointly search for ways of addressing the issues of poverty, the negative impact of globalization, preventing and resolving conflicts. There is also the need to strengthen intercultural and interfaith dialogue, mutual trust and tolerance," she said.

Stressing that combatting international terrorism and extremism has become a top priority, he called for national, regional and international mechanisms to eliminate military infrastructures, channels of financial and ...*(More on P4)...(22)*