

## Chinese FM Says to Support All Endeavors Conducive to Safeguarding Iran Deal

UNITED NATIONS - Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said here Monday that China supports all endeavors which are conducive to safeguarding the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), known commonly as the Iran nuclear deal or Iran deal.

Wang made the remarks after meeting with counterparts from Russia, France, Britain, Germany, the European Union (EU) and Iran on JCPOA. "The positions of all parties are highly consistent, and new consensus has been formed," Wang said, noting that all parties have reaffirmed to continue to safeguard and implement the Iran deal.

All parties have deeply re-



gretted the U.S. withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal, while recognizing that Iran has fulfilled its nuclear commitments un-

der the deal, said Wang. All parties are committed to properly address the difficulties in maintaining nor-

mal economic and trade cooperation with Iran, Wang added.

The Iran deal is an agreement on the nuclear program of Iran reached in Vienna on July 14, 2015 between Iran and the P5+1 (the five permanent members of the UN Security Council -- China, France, Russia, Britain and the United States -- plus Germany).

On May 8, 2018, U.S. President Donald Trump announced that the United States would withdraw from the agreement. Following the U.S. withdrawal, the EU enacted an updated blocking statute on Aug. 7, 2018 to nullify U.S. sanctions on countries trading with Iran. (Xinhua)

### China Denies Hong Kong Port Visit for U.S. Navy Ship amid Trade Tensions

HONG KONG/BEIJING - China has denied a request for a U.S. warship to visit Hong Kong, the U.S. consulate in the Chinese city said on Tuesday, amid rising tension between Beijing and Washington over trade and a U.S. decision to sanction the Asian nation's military. The amphibious assault ship Wasp had been due to make a port call in the former British colony of Hong Kong in October, diplomatic sources said.

"The Chinese Government did not approve a request for a U.S. port visit to Hong Kong by the USS Wasp," a consulate spokeswoman said.

"We have a long track record of successful port visits to Hong Kong, and we expect that to continue," she added. In Beijing, Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang did not directly answer a question on whether China had denied the request. (Reuters)

NEW YORK - President Donald Trump said Tuesday he had no plans to meet with Iranian leader Hassan Rouhani at the United Nations "despite requests" to do so.

"Maybe someday in the future. I am sure he is an absolutely lovely man!" Trump tweeted just hours before both leaders were set to speak at the UN General Assembly, and four months after the US president ditched the Iran nuclear deal.

Trump withdrew from

### Trump: 'No Plans' to Meet Iran's Rouhani 'Despite Requests'



the nuclear deal in May to the dismay of European allies, Russia and

China which had invested years in negotiations to achieve a milestone

agreement on keeping Iran's nuclear ambitions in check. (AFP)

### Turkey Sends Reinforcements to Syria's Idlib



SARAQIB (Syria) - Turkish troop reinforcements entered Syria's rebel bastion of Idlib on Tuesday, an AFP correspondent reported, a week after a

deal between Ankara and Moscow averted a government offensive. Around 35 military vehicles travelled south down the main highway near

the town of Saraqib after midnight.

The convoy was accompanied by pro-Ankara rebels of the National Liberation Front (NLF), who control part of the enclave on the Turkish border.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based war monitor, said the forces deployed to several Turkish positions around the northwestern province.

Since last year, Turkish troops have manned 12 monitoring positions in the rebel zone under a

de-escalation agreement between Turkey, Russia and fellow regime ally Iran.

Last week, Ankara and Moscow announced a new agreement for a demilitarised zone along the horse-shoe shaped front line between the rebels and government troops.

Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, a jihadist alliance led by Syria's former Al-Qaeda affiliate, controls more than half of the rebel zone, while NLF fighters hold sway over most of the rest. (AFP)

### Greenpeace 'Occupies' Indonesia Palm Oil Plant with Rock Band

JAKARTA - Greenpeace activists Tuesday scaled storage tanks at an Indonesian palm oil refinery along with a popular rock band which played pro-environment songs, protesting against a commodity found in everything from soap to biscuits.

The green group said 30 activists - including several foreigners - and Indonesian metal group Boomerang had been "occupying" the site on Sulawesi island to draw attention to widespread environmental destruction caused by clearing forest for palm oil planta-

tions.

They painted "Dirty" in large letters and dropped a banner that read "Drop Dirty Palm Oil Now" on storage tanks owned by Singapore-listed Wilmar International, the world's biggest palm oil trader which supplies major brands including Colgate, Nestle and Unilever, Greenpeace said, adding the protest ended after 12 hours. One group of activists also climbed the anchor chain of a tanker transporting palm oil and are preventing it from moving, according to the group. (AFP)

### S. Sudan Surgeon Wins UN Prize for Treating Refugees

JUBA - A South Sudanese surgeon has been named the 2018 winner of the Nansen Refugee Award supported by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Evan Atar Adaha will be honored for his outstanding 20-year commitment to providing medical services to people forced to flee conflict and persecution in Sudan and South Sudan, as well as to the communities that welcome them, said a UNHCR statement released in Juba on Tuesday.

The statement said that Atar runs the only functional hospital in Bunj, in the northeastern part of South Sudan where he has served more than 200,000 people, including 144,000 refugees from the Blue Nile State and the local Maban County population of about 53,000. (Xinhua)

### UN Rushes Aid to Hunger-Stricken Yemeni District

CAIRO - The United Nations and individual donors are rushing food to a desperate corner of northern Yemen where starving villagers were found to be living off leaves. Aid officials are searching for ways to ensure aid reaches those in need amid alarm that the country's hunger crisis is worsening beyond the relief efforts already strained capabilities.

The aid push was directed at a district called Aslam where The Associated Press recently found some families eating leaves, partially due to local authorities manipulating aid distribution and resisting requests to set up biometric registration for those receiving assistance. (AP)

### Tunisia Reforms Face Fresh Strain after President Ends Islamist Tie-Up

TUNIS - Efforts to rescue Tunisia's ailing economy face the prospect of fresh turmoil after the president declared his alliance with moderate Islamists at an end, deepening divisions in a fragile coalition managing the country's transition from autocracy.

Political analysts say Monday evening's announcement by President Beji Caid Essebsi could make it difficult for the government to enact tough economic reforms sought by international lenders.

"There will be no real risk of toppling the government in parliament,



but the problem is that division will deepen, social tension will rise and reforms are threatened under a fragile government coalition," Nizar Makni, a journalist and analyst said.

"Reforms need broad consensus and the lack of compromise may lead to mass protests in the streets, especially that powerful unions rejected all proposed reforms", he added. (Reuters)

### Egypt Uncovers Massive Archaeological Ancient Building in Giza

CAIRO - Egyptian archaeologists have discovered a massive ancient building in Giza province, Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities said on Tuesday.

The building was discovered in the town of Mit Rahina, 20 km south of Cairo, Mostafa Waziri, secretary general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities, said in a statement.

The building is 17 meters long and 15 meters wide, Waziri added, suggest-

ing it was part of a residential complex of the area, which was the ancient Egyptian capital of Memphis.

Memphis, founded around 3,100 B.C., was home to Menes, the king who united Upper and Lower Egypt.

Waziri said the ancient Egyptians used mud bricks in founding the building, and the outside walls, fence and basement were made from red bricks. (Xinhua)

### Europe's Far-Left Seeks Inspiration at UK Labour Fest

LIVERPOOL - Criticised at home for its ambiguity on Brexit, Britain's Labour Party is the envy of European leftists with its 550,000-strong membership and social media-savvy campaigning tactics.

Representatives of far-left groups from countries including France, Greece and Spain have been attending the party's annual conference this week to learn about its grassroots appeal.

Jean-Luc Melancon, head of the France Unbowed party, was a star speaker at the meeting in Liverpool, northwest England where he met Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn and spoke about "building ties".

Melancon, a former member of France's main Socialist Party, said he saw parallels between himself and Corbyn and credited his rise to a "wave of kick them out sentiment" that had overturned the party's previous leadership.

Members of Germany's Die Linke, Spain's Podemos and Greece's ruling Syriza party, as well as the En Comu party from Catalonia also took part in multiple discussions during the conference.

Their interest is mainly in Momentum, the youthful pro-Corbyn activist group that has taken British politics by storm with its brand of local campaigning and swelled the Labour ranks. Podemos senator Idoia Villanueva tweeted from the conference: "Where next for the European Left? Time to work for an alternative with progressive forces for a popular, democratic and rupturist project for Europe". (AFP)

## Neighbor News

### World Community Should Stand Up to US Violations of Intl. Law: Iran President

TERHAN - Iran's President Hassan Rouhani has called on the global community to stand up to Washington's violations of international agreements and regulations, saying it is especially in the interest of independent nations to unite against US bullying and interventionist policies.

Rouhani made the remarks in meetings on Monday with world leaders on the sidelines of the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

In a meeting with his Bolivian counterpart, Evo Morales, Rouhani emphasized the need for both the Iranian and Bolivian nations to put up resistance to American interventionism and unilateralism.

Touching on the US

unilateral and illegal withdrawal from the 2015 nuclear deal, Rouhani said, "The international community must stand firmly against the Americans' violation of this agreement."

"Today, the international community, with the exception of a few countries, has adopted a decisive stance on the US move, and we should try to show that those who breach international laws will never have the approval of the world's public opinion," he added.

Back in May, President Donald Trump pulled the US out of the 2015 Iran deal, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), despite objections from the other signatories to the accord. (Press TV)

### Pakistan Wants Ties with US Based on Mutual Respect: Qureshi

NEW YORK - Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi on Monday said Pakistan desires a broad-based relationship with the United States based on mutual trust and respect.

The foreign minister's comments came during a meeting with Congressman Joe Wilson, a Republican member of the House of Representatives, who called on him in New York, according to an official statement.

Qureshi, who is leading Pakistan's delegation to the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly, appreciated Congressional assistance provided in the past for enhancing Pakistan's counter-terrorism capacity. "Pakistan has successfully turned the

corner in its fight against terrorism at a great cost of human life and resources," Qureshi said.

Qureshi also shared Prime Minister Imran Khan's vision for a peaceful neighbourhood which is critical to achieving the government's ambitious socio-economic plans for Pakistan. The foreign minister also outlined his government's domestic and foreign policy priorities. He said the support of young Pakistanis had played a major role in Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's election victory.

A major part of the government's wide-ranging development agenda was focused on delivering education, jobs and opportunities to the youth, Qureshi told Wilson. (Monitoring Desk)

### Tajikistan Becomes Chairman of CICMA

DUSHANBE - The chairmanship of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia (CICMA) has moved from China to Tajikistan, Sputnik Tajikistan reported, citing the press service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan.

As part of the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly, a special meeting of Foreign Ministers of the CICMA member states has been held, the message says.

"During the meeting, the ceremony of transferring the chairmanship of the CICMA from the People's

Republic of China (2014-2018) to the Republic of Tajikistan (2018-2020) has been held. Khabibollo Mirzoyev has been appointed the new Executive Director of the Secretariat, whose candidacy has been unanimously supported by all 27 member countries of the CICMA", the message says.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan Kairat Abdrakhmanov expressed gratitude to the PRC and the retiring Executive Director Gong Jianwei for their support and contribution to the development of the CICMA process. (Trend)

### Some 735 People Receive Turkmen Citizenship

ASHGABAT - The President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov has signed a decree "On the reception into the citizenship of Turkmenistan", the "Neutral Turkmenistan" newspaper wrote Sept. 25.

In accordance with the document, 735 people permanently residing in Turkmenistan, who do not have citizenship and are representatives of different nationalities, have become citizens of the country.

The relevant agencies have been instructed to facilitate the employment and housing of

new citizens of Turkmenistan, if necessary. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the State Migration Service of Turkmenistan have also been instructed to continue work on the registration of documents of stateless persons who have applied for citizenship of Turkmenistan, with subsequent submission of relevant proposals.

In the period between 2011 and 2017, 8,145 people were admitted to the citizenship of Turkmenistan on the grounds of relevant decrees of the head of state. (Trend)