

CHINA WATCH

No. 53

April 2015

POLITICAL ISSUES

IRAN

1) Parties come closer on Iranian nuclear issue: Chinese envoy

Vienna, Thursday, 5 March 2015

China's envoy to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Cheng Jingye said that the parties involved in the Iranian nuclear talks have a strong will to reach an agreement and have come closer in addressing "thorny issues".

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-03/05/content_19724112.htm

2) China hopes to finish Iran nuclear talks at an early date

Beijing, Sunday, 8 March 2015

Foreign minister Wang Yi said that China urged all parties to work together to facilitate a political decision on the Iranian nuclear issue. He added that "we can already see the light at the end of the tunnel, despite some uncertainty still clouding over the prospect of the negotiations."

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-03/08/content_19752495.htm

3) New round of Iran nuke talks pragmatic: China's representative

Lausanne, Saturday, 21 March 2015

China's representative to the Iranian nuclear talks Wang Qun said that in the new round of talks on Iran's nuclear issue parties have showed strong political will and pragmatic attitude.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-03/21/content_19873659.htm

4) China calls for all parties to push forward Iran nuclear talks

Beijing, Wednesday, 25 March 2015

During a telephonic call with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that all parties involved in the Iran nuclear issue should grasp the opportunities to strike a comprehensive deal.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-03/25/content_19903144.htm

5) Chinese FM arrives in Lausanne for nuclear talks

Lausanne, Monday, 30 March 2015

Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi arrived in Switzerland to join the ongoing talks on the Iranian nuclear issue.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-03/30/content_19948905.htm

TUNISIA

6) China condemns terrorist attack in Tunisia

Beijing, Thursday, 19 March 2015

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hong Lei said that China joined international condemnation of the terror attack on the National Bardo Museum in Tunis.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-03/19/content_19859737.htm

YEMEN

7) China to evacuate citizens from Yemen

Hainan, Saturday, 28 March 2015

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said that the Chinese government has launched preparatory work for the evacuation of over 500 Chinese nationals from Yemen.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-03/29/content_19943741.htm

8) Warship arrives to evacuate Chinese nationals from Yemen

Beijing, Monday, 30 March 2015

Ministry of National Defence announced that China has sent a naval fleet to help evacuate Chinese diplomats; medical staff and technicians from Yemen as the situation gets worse.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-03/30/content_19950055.htm

9) Chinese evacuate 122 from Yemen

Beijing, Monday, 30 March 2015

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that 122 Chinese citizens have been evacuated from Yemen to Djibouti and 400 remaining are expected to be evacuated soon.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-03/30/content_19953207.htm

10) Over 500 Chinese evacuees from conflict-torn Yemen arrive in Djibouti

Djibouti, Tuesday, 31 March 2015

Around 449 Chinese nationals and six people of other nationalities were evacuated from Yemen and brought to Djibouti.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-03/31/content_19964609.htm

ECONOMIC ISSUES

ISRAEL

11) China, Israel to begin FTA talks

Beijing, Wednesday, 18 March 2015

Ministry of Commerce spokesperson Shen Danyang said that China will kick off negotiations on a proposed Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Israel later this year.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-03/18/content_19844999.htm

12) Israel, China launch task force to boost economic ties

Jerusalem, Tuesday, 31 March 2015

Israel and China launched a joint Israeli-Chinese Task Force to boost business cooperation and aims to expand bilateral economic ties to about US\$5 billion per year within five years.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2015-03/31/content_19960834.htm

TURKEY

13) Turkey eyes greater economic cooperation with China

Ankara, Wednesday, 25 March 2015

Cavit Dagdas, Undersecretary of Treasury in Turkey said that he backs strong economic ties with China as it has been Turkey's second largest source of imports. In 2014, China's exports to Turkey reached US\$24 billion which accounted for 10 percent of Turkish imports.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-03/25/content_19904224.htm

UAE

14) China's Huawei to partner with Etisalat for Network 2020

Dubai, Sunday, 8 March 2015

Chinese Telecom Company Huawei and UAE's Etisalat issued a joint statement that they would jointly develop a framework for end-to-end network from 2020 onwards.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/tech/2015-03/08/content_19749711.htm

15) UAE central bank partners with China's UnionPay

Abu Dhabi, Monday, 30 March 2015

The Central Bank of the UAE and UnionPay International of China said that they have signed a deal for linking with UAE-Switch, a service that connects ATMs across UAE.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-03/30/content_19948570.htm

MULTILATERAL ISSUES

EGYPT

16) China welcomes Egypt's application to AIIB

Beijing, Monday, 30 March 2015

China welcomed the application of Egypt to join the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to join the bank as a founding member.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2015-03/30/c_134110798.htm

See also: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-03/31/content_19961805.htm

GCC

17) China to advance free trade talks with Arabs, Israel

Beijing, Thursday, 5 March 2015

A Chinese government report stated that China will advance talks on free trade zones with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and Israel.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-03/05/content_19725656.htm

18) China banks on ties with Gulf Cooperation Council

Beijing, Friday, 27 March 2015

Cao Jiachang, Deputy Director-General of the Department of West Asian and African Affairs at China's Ministry of Commerce, said that trade cooperation between China and members of the GCC is playing a significant role in the development of "Belt and Road" initiatives of China.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-03/27/content_19923102.htm

TURKEY

19) Turkey applies to join China-proposed AIIB

Beijing, 27 March 2015

Turkey applied to join the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) as a prospective founding member.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-03/27/content_19925936.htm

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

TURKEY

20) Missile sale to Turkey confirmed

Langkawi, Thursday, 19 March 2015

China confirmed an agreement to sell the HQ-9 air defence missile system to Turkey during the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace exhibition in Malaysia.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2015-03/19/content_19850860.htm

UAE

21) Chinese currency trade settlement gains popularity in Gulf region

Dubai, Friday, 13 March 2015

With Chinese currency the Yuan becoming increasingly acceptable in banks and enterprises in the Gulf region, banks are seeking ways to catalyze the growing demand for conducting trade with the currency. "By the end of 2014, the Yuan has become the world's seventh largest payment currency and the ninth largest trading currency," Tian Jun, general manager of Abu Dhabi branch of Bank of China said.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/business/2015-03/13/content_19802674.htm

TERRORISM/ISLAMIC STATE

22) IS recruits Xinjiang residents

Xinjiang, Wednesday, 11 March 2015

Zhang Chunxian, an official from the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, observed that some Xinjiang residents have joined the Islamic State.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-03/11/content_19781069.htm

COMPILED BY DIPANWITA CHAKRAVORTTY

Dipanwita Chakravortty is a doctoral candidate in School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Email: dipa.chaks@gmail.com

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