

# **CHINA WATCH**

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## **Political Issues**

### **Egypt**

**1. China, Egypt seek cultural cooperation via Cairo book fair**

Cairo, Monday, 23 January, 2011

As a part of bilateral efforts to enhance cultural cooperation between the two countries, China will participate as the Guest of Honour in the 43<sup>rd</sup> Cairo International Book Fair in Egypt.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/24/c\\_13703828.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/24/c_13703828.htm)

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**2. China blocks “Egypt” searches on Micro-blogs**

Beijing, Sunday, 30 January, 2011

China has blocked the word “Egypt” from micro blog searches displaying concern that protests calling for political reform in Egypt could spill over into Chinese internet space.

**Source:** Reuters

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/01/30/us-egypt-china-idUKTRE70T0O420110130>

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**3. China sends planes to bring back stranded Chinese in Egypt**

Beijing, Monday, 31 January, 2011

Concerned about the security of Chinese citizens in Egypt, the Chinese government has sent two planes to bring back stranded citizens there.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/31/c\\_13714797.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/31/c_13714797.htm)

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### **Iran**

**4. China receives invitation to visit Iran's nuclear sites: China FM**

Beijing, Tuesday, 4 January, 2011

The Chinese Foreign Ministry confirmed that China, along with certain EU and Non Aligned nations as well as other permanent members of the UN Security Council, received an invitation from Iran to visit its nuclear sites.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/04/c\\_13676405.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/04/c_13676405.htm)

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### **5. China, Iran officials discuss nuclear issue**

Beijing, Wednesday, 12 January, 2011

Iranian Deputy Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council Ali Bagheri met with Vice-Foreign Minister Zhang Zhijun and Assistant Foreign Minister Wu Hailong in Beijing to discuss bilateral ties as well as Iran's nuclear programme, but did not comment on the pending invitation to visit Iranian nuclear facilities.

**Source:** Reuters

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2011/01/12/china-iran-nuclear-idUKTOE70B06L20110112>

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### **6. China says "difficult" to accept Iran nuclear invite**

Beijing, Thursday, 13 January, 2011

The Chinese Foreign Ministry said that it would be 'difficult' for them to visit Iranian nuclear facilities, following the European Union declining a similar invitation.

**Source:** Reuters

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/01/13/china-iran-nuclear-idUSBJZ00000920110113>

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### **7. US may punish China firms evading Iran sanctions: Clinton**

Washington, Wednesday, 19 January, 2011

United States' Secretary of State Hillary Clinton announced that some Chinese firms were still failing to comply fully with UN sanctions and suggested that Washington could impose its own sanctions on them. This in spite of Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Ma Zhaoxu insisting earlier that Beijing was implementing UN sanctions against Iran.

**Source:** AFP

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5h5-Mbk7v8Et7uMDvIX3G9yDj7mVQ?docId=CNG.2b77591c55e379cfdb5543b179328f06.111>

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### **8. China: Iran nuke issues cannot be solved after one meeting**

Beijing, Sunday, 23 January, 2011

Following the failure of the two day talks at Istanbul, between Iran and the United States, France, Germany, China, Russia and Britain, Chinese Assistant Foreign Minister Wu Hailong said that both sides needed to be dedicated to talks and negotiations as the nuclear issue could not be resolved in just one or two discussions.

**Source:** Reuters

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/01/23/us-china-iran-idUSTRE70M0AL20110123>

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## **Israel**

### **9. Settlement issue is greatest block to resumption of direct Palestinian-Israeli talks: China**

United Nations (New York), Wednesday, 19 January, 2011

Recognising that "the question of settlements is the greatest block to the resumption of the direct talks" between Israel and Palestine, China urged Israel to "immediately and completely cease" its settlement construction activities, in the 'occupied territories' including West Bank and East Jerusalem.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2011-01/20/c\\_13698412.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2011-01/20/c_13698412.htm)

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## Jordan

### 10. China hands over aid project to Jordan

Amman, Tuesday, 19 January, 2011

The Low-income Family Housing Project funded by the Chinese government to benefit low income Jordanians was handed over to the Jordanian government. The Chinese government had earlier granted 15 million U.S. dollars to implement the project.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2011-01/18/c\\_13695011.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2011-01/18/c_13695011.htm)

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## Qatar

### 11. China, Qatar vow closer energy co-op

Beijing, Wednesday, 12 January, 2011

In a meeting in Beijing, Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping and Qatari Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah bin Hamad Al-Attiya both expressed their determination to expand bilateral cooperation in the areas like energy, finance and infrastructure.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/12/c\\_13687454.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/12/c_13687454.htm)

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## Sudan

### 12. China says it will send observers to Sudan referendum

Beijing, Tuesday, 4 January, 2011

The Chinese Foreign Ministry announced that, at the invitation of both the north and the south, it would send observers to Sudan, when the south holds an independence referendum, in order to play a 'proactive and constructive role for the sake of Sudan's peace and stability'.

**Source:** Reuters Africa

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJOE70309C20110104>

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### 13. China still partner of Sudan's north, south after referendum: ambassador

Khartoum, Friday, 7 January, 2011

Hoping for permanent peace and stability in Sudan, the Chinese Ambassador there, Li Chengwen stated that China would continue to cooperate with Sudan's north and south and seek mutual benefit regardless of the outcome of the forthcoming southern Sudan referendum.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/07/c\\_13680904.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/07/c_13680904.htm)

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#### **14. China urges long-term peace in Sudan**

United Nations (New York), Wednesday, 19 January, 2011

While China welcomed the smooth completion of the referendum in Southern Sudan, it emphasized that the referendum was not an end in itself in implementing the Comprehensive Peaceful Agreement and that realizing sustainable peace, stability and development was the final goal.

**Source:** China Daily/Xinhua

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011-01/19/content\\_11877928.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011-01/19/content_11877928.htm)

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### **Syria**

#### **15. Syrian-Chinese Unique Historic Relations Discussed**

Damascus, Sunday, 16 January, 2011

The Syrian Vice President Dr. Najah al-Attar met the Vice Chairperson of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, Chen Zhili (also the President of All-China Women's Federation) and highlighted the deep rooted relations between the two countries over the last few years and pledged to boost cooperation prospects between women's organizations in both countries as well as bilateral media relations.

**Source:** Syrian Arab News Agency

<http://www.sana.sy/eng/21/2011/01/16/326805.htm>

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#### **16. Syria Baath party leader meets with President of All-China Women's Federation**

Damascus, Tuesday, 18 January, 2011

The President of the All-China Women's Federation Chen Zhili, praised Syria's stances in supporting Chinese core issues and strategic role in regional and international arenas and affirmed China's support to Syria's right to defend its territories, while the Assistant Regional Secretary of the Ba'ath party advocated broadening cooperation between his party and the Chinese Communist Party.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/18/c\\_13696390.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/18/c_13696390.htm)

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### **Tunisia**

#### **17. China hopes stability in Tunisia restored: FM**

Beijing, Saturday, 15 January, 2011

Stating that, "Tunisia is China's friend," the Chinese foreign ministry hoped that stability was restored in Tunisia as soon as possible.

**Source:** Xinhua

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/15/c\\_13692097.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2011-01/15/c_13692097.htm)

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### **Economic Issues**

#### **Iran**

#### **18. China's LNG work has eyes on Iran, and beyond**

Beijing, Friday, 14 January, 2011

China may gain the capability to build a natural gas liquefaction plant in five years, potentially opening the door to vast gas reserves in Iran (second largest in the world) where sanctions have kept away western firms.

**Source:** Reuters

<http://in.reuters.com/article/2011/01/14/idINIndia-54165120110114>

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**19. China renews Iran oil deal with steady volume**

Beijing, Saturday, 22 January, 2011

China, the world's largest buyer of Iranian crude oil, has renewed its annual import pacts for 2011, keeping volumes steady at some 460,000 barrels per day.

**Source:** Arab News

<http://arabnews.com/economy/article239487.ece>

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## Iraq

**20. China Considers Cement Plant in Anbar**

Anbar, Wednesday, 5 January, 2011

A delegation of Chinese companies visited the Anbar province of Iraq to discuss investment in Cement production projects in the region.

**Source:** Iraq Business News

<http://www.iraq-businessnews.com/2011/01/05/china-considers-cement-plant-in-anbar/>

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## Israel

**21. China, Israel ink contracts worth about \$100 million**

Thursday, 20 January, 2011

A package of economic and trade cooperation contracts valued at 648 million Yuan (\$98 million) were signed between enterprises from Israel and the Chinese city of Harbin.

**Source:** People's Daily Online

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90778/7266534.html>

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## Jordan

**22. Trade volume between Jordan, China drops slightly**

Amman, Friday, 28 January, 2011

According to the Customs department of China, the total trade volume between China and Jordan in 2010 amounted to \$2.05 billion, reducing by 0.48 per cent from the previous year.

**Source:** The Jordan Times

<http://jordantimes.com/index.php?news=33908>

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## Kuwait

**23. Kuwait: crude oil exports to China soar 33%**

Tuesday, 25 January 2011

Kuwait's crude oil exports to China increased by 32.9 per cent in December 2010 compared to a year earlier. Kuwait's exports to China increased by 39 per cent over in the year 2010.

**Source:** Global Arab Network

<http://www.english.globalarabnetwork.com/201101258779/Economics/kuwait-crude-oil-exports-to-china-soar-33.html>

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## Morocco

### 24. Morocco, China encouraging investments, strengthening relations

Beijing, Thursday, 20 January 2011

Moroccan Industry, Trade and New Technologies Minister Ahmed Reda Chami and China's Vice Commerce Minister Fu Ziyang met and expressed their will to improve bilateral economic and trade relations and increase investment. China is currently Morocco's third largest trading partner.

**Source:** Global Arab Network

<http://www.english.globalarabnetwork.com/201101208718/Economics/morocco-china-encouraging-investments-strengthening-relations.html>

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## Oman

### 25. Oman's oil output up 6.6% in 11 months

Saturday, January 08, 2011

As Oman's oil output increased by 6.6 per cent in the first 11 months of 2010, China has emerged as the largest importer of Omani Oil, receiving around 100 million barrels (41.7 % of Oman's total oil exports).

**Source:** Emirates 24/7

<http://www.emirates247.com/business/energy/oman-s-oil-output-up-6-6-in-11-months-2011-01-08-1.339344>

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## Qatar

### 26. China's CNPC, Qatar Petroleum planning JV in China

Beijing, Thursday, 13 January, 2011

In a meeting between visiting Qatar Oil Minister/Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah al-Attiyah and Wang Yong, the head of state-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission (SASAC), it was decided that China and Qatar will strengthen cooperation in the oil and gas industries, ostensibly through a planned joint venture project between China National Petroleum Corp and Qatar Petroleum.

**Source:** Reuters Africa

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFTOE70C06920110113>

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## Saudi Arabia

### 27. Saudi Arabia boosts term crude sales to China as oil use surges

Beijing/Singapore, Wednesday, 26 January 2011

In a bid to cement its stake in the fastest growing fuel market, Saudi Arabia will boost contract crude sales to China Petroleum and Chemical Corp (Sinopec) by 10 per cent in the year 2011.

**Source:** The Daily News Egypt/Reuters

<http://www.thedailynewsegypt.com/energy/saudi-arabia-boosts-term-crude-sales-to-china-as-oil-use-surges.html>

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## Sudan

### 28. China-Sudan bio-energy project launched

Khartoum, Sunday, 30 January, 2011

A joint China-Sudan bio energy project to be established 25 kilometres east of Khartoum was inaugurated by the Sudanese Vice-President Ali Osman Mohamed Taha.

**Source:** China Daily/Xinhua

[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011-01/30/content\\_11938375.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011-01/30/content_11938375.htm)

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## UAE

### 29. Dubai, China trade exceeds Dh38b

Dubai, Friday, 21 January, 2011

In a meeting held between Ahmed Butti, the Executive Chairman of Ports, Customs and Free Zone Corporation, and the Chinese Consul General in Dubai Zhan Jingbao, it was announced that trade exchange between China and Dubai exceeded Dh38 billion in the first ten months of 2010.

**Source:** Khaleej Times

[http://www.khaleejtimes.com/darticlen.asp?xfile=data/business/2011/January/business\\_January349.xml&section=business](http://www.khaleejtimes.com/darticlen.asp?xfile=data/business/2011/January/business_January349.xml&section=business)

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