

CHINA WATCH

No. 32

July 2013

POLITICAL ISSUES

EGYPT

1. Chinese envoy visits Egypt on Palestine and Syria

Beijing, Tuesday, 4 June 2013

As part of his regional tour, China's special envoy to the Middle East Wu Sike visited Cairo and met the secretary general of the Arab League and discussed China's four-point plan to push forward the peace process in the region. He also spoke about China's concerns on the recent developments in Syria's crisis.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/video/2013-06/04/c_132430112.htm

See also: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90883/8269216.html>

IRAN

2. China expresses commitment to resolving Iranian nuclear issue through diplomatic channels

Vienna, Wednesday, 5 June 2013

Cheng Jingye, China's envoy to International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said that China is firmly committed to pursuing dialogues and negotiations in resolving the Iranian nuclear issue and added that China has been playing a constructive role in resuming the six-party talk with Iran and maintaining diplomatic process in resolving the nuclear issue.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-06/05/c_132433431.htm

See also: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90883/8272726.html>

3. China to constructively work for talks on Iran nuclear issue: spokesperson

Beijing, Tuesday, 18 June 2013

At a press briefing, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that China would continue to make constructive efforts to advance peaceful negotiations regarding the Iranian nuclear issue following the election of Hassan Rouhani as president.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-06/18/c_132465405.htm

See also: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90883/8289709.html>

ISRAEL

4. China backs efforts to revive Palestine-Israel talks

Beijing, Tuesday, 4 June 2013

At a press briefing, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hong Lei said that China backed the international community's efforts to revive Palestine-Israel negotiations and added that China urged both sides work together and restore dialogue at an early date.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-06/04/c_132430651.htm

See also: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90883/8270980.html>

5. Israeli president calls for closer bilateral cooperation with China

Jerusalem, Tuesday, 18 June 2013

In an interview, Israeli President Shimon Peres said that Israel and China should strengthen their people-to-people exchanges and expand their cooperation in the fields of agriculture, science and technology.

Source: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90883/8289723.html>

6. China committed to boosting Mideast peace process: envoy

Beijing, Wednesday, 19 June 2013

On the sidelines of the UN meeting in support of Israeli-Palestinian Peace, China's special envoy to the region Wu Sike said that Beijing was pro-active in advancing the Middle East peace process.

Source: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90883/8290808.html>

PALESTINE

7. Palestinian delegation heads for Beijing for UN peace meeting

Ramallah, Sunday, 16 June 2013

A Palestinian delegation headed by Bassam Al-Salhi, the leader of the People's Party headed for China to participate in the UN Meeting in support of Israeli-Palestinian Peace in Beijing. The delegation also comprised of Palestinian envoy to the UN Riad Mansour and officials from Fatah and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-06/16/c_132459322.htm

SYRIA

8. China calls for fair inspection on Syrian chemical weapons

Beijing, Friday, 14 June 2013

During a press briefing, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that China was hopeful that the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Syria would be fair and objective in investigating the alleged use of chemical weapons in Syria.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-06/14/c_132456039.htm

See also: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90883/8285374.html>

9. China eyes early Geneva meeting on Syria, warns against escalation

Beijing, Tuesday, 18 June 2013

A Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hua Chunying said that the priority for resolving the Syrian conflict was to hold the Geneva peace conference and avoid any action that might escalate tensions.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-06/18/c_132465529.htm

See also: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90883/8289722.html>

SECURITY ISSUES

LEBANON

10. China, Lebanon to further promote military ties

Beijing, Tuesday, 25 June 2013

Fang Fenghui, member of the Central Military Commission of China and Chief of General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, met Walid Salman, the Chief of Staff of the Lebanese Armed Forces and discussed exchanges and cooperation between the two militaries.

Source: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90786/8300106.html>

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

11. China to build new university hospital in Tunisia

Tunis, Saturday, 8 June 2013

The Vice Minister of National Health and Family Planning Commission of China Ma Xiaowei met Tunisian Health Minister Abdel Latif Mekki and promised aid to build a new university hospital in the Tunisian industrial city of Sfax.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/africa/2013-06/08/c_132441627.htm

12. Beijing Opera performance to make Tunisian debut

Beijing, Saturday, 8 June 2013

The Beijing Opera would be performed for the first time in Tunisia as part of the 49th edition of the Carthage International Festival.

Source: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90782/8278380.html>

13. China exports stainless steel metro to Turkey

Chashang, Sunday, 9 June 2013

A stainless steel metro vehicle manufactured at CSR Zhuzhou Electric Locomotive Co. Ltd. was exported to Turkey, the first of its kind to be exported to the European market.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2013-06/09/c_132444685.htm

See also: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90778/8280551.html>

15. Beijing on alert for Middle East virus

Beijing, Tuesday, 18 June 2013

The Beijing Municipal Bureau of Health called for vigilance among the general public and urged travellers returning from the Middle East who develop respiratory infections to see a doctor as soon as possible.

Source: People's Daily, Beijing

<http://english.people.com.cn/90882/8288882.html>

16. Israel streamlines visa policy for Chinese tourists

Beijing, Saturday, 22 June 2013

The Embassy of Israel in China announced a set of new visa policies for Chinese tourists at the 2013 Beijing International Tourism Expo which included simplified visa application process for business visas and other favourable policies targeting residents of the cities of Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/travel/2013-06/22/c_132477601.htm

17. Chinese painting and calligraphy exhibition in Bahrain

Manila, Tuesday, 25 June 2013

An art exhibition was hosted by the China International Culture Communication Centre at the international auto-drome of Bahrain. The exhibition featured more than 70 works from over 30 renowned contemporary artists.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/life/2013-06/26/content_16664113.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

As part of its editorial policy, the MEI@ND standardizes spelling and date formats to make the text uniformly accessible and stylistically consistent. The views expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views/positions of the MEI@ND. Editor, **MEI@ND: P R Kumaraswamy**