

Middle East Institute @ New Delhi

...for Openness and Credibility

CHINA WATCH

No. 44 July 2014

POLITICAL ISSUES

EGYPT

1) Chinese president congratulates Sisi on election win

Beijing, Thursday, 5 June 2014

Chinese President Xi Jinping congratulated Abdel Fattah al-Sisi on his election as Egypt's new president.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/05/c_133386258.htm

2) Egyptian Ambassador: we need more support from China

Beijing, Thursday, 5 June 2014

Egypt is in need of more support from China, Egypt's Ambassador to China Magdy Amer said on the sideline of the opening ceremony of the sixth ministerial conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum (CASCF) in Beijing.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/05/c_133386532.htm

3) Chinese, Egyptian FM meet on ties

Beijing, Friday, 6 June 2014

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with his Egyptian counterpart Nabil Fahmy at the sidelines of the conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum (CASCF) and discussed recent events in Egypt and measures to improve bilateral ties.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/06/c_133388111.htm

4) Chinese president's envoy to attend Egyptian president's inauguration

Beijing, Saturday, 7 June 2014

China's Industry and Information Technology Minister Miao Wei would attend the Egyptian president's inauguration ceremony, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hong Lei announced.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/07/c_133390453.htm

5) New Egyptian president calls for more Chinese investment, aids

Cairo, Sunday, 8 June 2014

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi said that his country welcomes more investment and continued assistance from China while meeting with China's Industry and Information Technology Minister Miao Wei.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/09/c_133392263.htm

KUWAIT

6) Xi meets Kuwait prime minister

Beijing, Wednesday, 4 June 2014

President Xi Jinping said that China pays great attention to the situation in Middle East, during a meeting with visiting Kuwait Prime minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2014-06/04/content_17563183.htm

IRAN

7) China pledges constructive participation in Iran nuclear talks

Beijing, Monday, 9 June 2014

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that China would keep close communications with parties involved in Iran nuclear talks and play a constructive part.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/09/c_133394519.htm

8) Chinese delegation to attend Iranian nuclear talks

Beijing, Monday, 16 June 2014

China would send a delegation to attend a new round of high-level nuclear talks between Iran and world powers in Vienna. Wang Qun, director-general of the Department of Arms Control of the Foreign Ministry, would head the delegation.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/16/c_133411699.htm

9) Chinese State Councillor meets foreign policy advisor to Iran's Supreme Leader

Beijing, Monday, 16 June 2014

Chinese State Councillor Yang Jiechi met Ali Akbar Velayati, foreign policy advisor to Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and discussed issues of mutual cooperation.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/16/c_126627573.htm

IRAQ

10) China urges release of hostages in Iraq

Beijing, Thursday, 12 June 2014

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that China strongly condemned the attacks in Mosul and urged the militants to unconditionally release hostages.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/12/c_133403020.htm

11) China hopes for Iraq stability

Beijing, Friday, 13 June 2014

In the wake of the latest violence in Iraq, Foreign Ministry said that China is hoping for an early restoration of peace.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/13/c_133405764.htm

12) China hopes for restoration of stability in Iraq

Beijing, Tuesday, 17 June 2014

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said that China is paying close attention to the situation in Iraq and hopes that the country would restore safety, stability and normal order as soon as possible.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/18/c_126633364.htm

13) No mass Chinese evacuation from Iraq

Beijing, Wednesday, 18 June 2014

China does not want the Iraqi situation to worsen and wishes to avoid a mass evacuation of Chinese nationals as there was from Libya in 2011, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/18/c_133418159.htm

14) China pledges support to Iraq

Beijing, Thursday, 19 June 2014

China expressed concern on the deterioration of the security situation in Iraq and called for support for Iraq's reconstruction and anti-terrorism efforts.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/19/c_133421195.htm

15) Chinese, French FMs discuss Iraq situation

Athens, Friday, 20 June 2014

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and his French counterpart Laurent Fabius exchanged views over phone on the situation in Iraq.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/21/c_126650953.htm

16) Concern surrounds Chinese security forces in Iraq

Beijing, Tuesday, 24 June 2014

Chinese security forces in Iraq who are in charge of providing security to Chinese industries and petro-chemical investments have increasingly become a target for the jihadists and have become a matter of concern for the Chinese embassy in Iraq.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2014-06/24/content_17612027.htm

17) Over 1,000 Chinese workers unable to flee Iraq

Beijing, Thursday, 26 June 2014

Chinese nationals employed by a Chinese company in northern Iraq returned to their construction site after the first bus taking them to safety was stopped by government forces outside Baghdad.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2014-06/26/content_17617919.htm

18) China coordinating with Iraq on worker evacuation

Beijing, Thursday, 26 June 2014

China has been in close contact with Iraq on the evacuation of workers amid growing sectarian violence in Iraq, a Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/26/c_133440693.htm

See also: China Daily, Beijing

http://europe.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2014-06/26/content_17618323.htm

19) 50 trapped Chinese flown to Baghdad by helicopter

Beijing, Friday, 27 June 2014

More than 50 Chinese nationals trapped in conflict-torn northern Iraq arrived in Baghdad by helicopter.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2014-06/27/content_17619973.htm

20) 1,200 Chinese employees evacuated to Baghdad: FM spokesperson

Beijing, Friday, 27 June 2014

More than 1,200 employees of a Chinese company have been safely evacuated from the war-torn northern city of Samarra and moved to Baghdad, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Qin Gang said.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/28/c_133444014.htm

See also: China Daily, Beijing

http://africa.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2014-06/28/content_17621737.htm

ISRAEL

21) Li Bin accompanies Vice Premier Liu Yandong on visit to Israel

Beijing, Monday, 9 June 2014

Li Bin, minister of the NHFPC, accompanied Vice Premier Liu Yandong on a visit to Israel, and visited Israel's largest emergency rescue hospital and state medical insurance institution to learn about its emergency rescue capacity during both peace and war, as well as its national medical insurance system.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/m/chinahealth/2014-06/09/content 17573663.htm

22) Liu Yandong and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu witness signing of PoA on health emergency cooperation

Beijing, Monday, 9 June 2014

Vice Premier Liu Yandong met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and witnessed the signing of Plan of Action (PoA) on Health Emergency Cooperation between the NHFPC of the PRC and the Ministry of Health of Israel.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/m/chinahealth/2014-06/09/content 17573681.htm

23) China deeply concerned by Israeli abduction

Beijing, Wednesday, 25 June 2014

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying voiced deep concern over the recent disappearance of three Israelis and the ensuing tensions between Israel and Palestine.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/25/c_133437694.htm

LIBYA

24) China hails Libyan election

Beijing, Friday, 27 June 2014

Spokesperson for China's Foreign Ministry Qin Gang praised this week's Libyan election, calling it "important and positive progress in the country's political transition."

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/27/c_133443893.htm

PALESTINE

25) China welcomes new Palestinian unity government

Beijing, Tuesday, 3 June 2014

China welcomed the new Palestinian unity government which was sworn in the West Bank city of Ramallah, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hong Lei said.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/03/c 133381026.htm

SAUDI ARABIA

26) Saudi Arabia backs China in terror fight: ambassador

Beijing, Wednesday, 18 June 2014

Saudi Ambassador to China Yahya A.S. Alzaid pledged support to China in its moves to punish terrorists.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-06/18/c_133417875.htm

SYRIA

27) China urges political settlement on Syria issue

Beijing, Thursday, 5 June 2014

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hong Lei said that China called on all parties involved to adhere to a political settlement on the Syria issue after President Bashar al-Assad was re-elected.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/05/c_133386251.htm

28) China backs UN Syria mediation

Beijing, Monday, 23 June 2014

China voiced support for UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon's mediation efforts to resolve the ongoing crisis in Syria, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/23/c_133431146.htm

29) China welcomes removal of all Syrian chemical arsenal

Beijing, Tuesday, 24 June 2014

China welcomed the removal of last chemical arsenal from Syria and called on all parties to build on the progress for the political settlement of the issue.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/24/c_133434078.htm

ECONOMIC AND ENERGY ISSUES

BAHRAIN

30) Chinese trade delegation to discuss investment in Bahrain: statement

Manama, Tuesday, 17 June 2014

An official Chinese trade delegation consisting of representatives from Ministry of Commerce, Commerce and industry chamber of China's Hunan Province, along with those from such sectors as construction, new and solar energy visited Bahrain to discuss investment and industrial policies.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/18/c_133415339.htm

KUWAIT

31) China and Kuwait sign energy agreements

Beijing, Wednesday, 4 June 2014

China and Kuwait inked energy deals ahead of an annual forum of China and Arabian countries in Beijing. Premier Li Keqiang and visiting Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber al-Mubarak al-Hamad al-Sabah officiated at the signing ceremony.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2014-06/04/content_17560510.htm

32) Refining giant: Sinopec links with Kuwait Petroleum

Beijing, Monday, 30 June 2014

Construction of a giant China-Kuwait petrochemical project started on Donghai Island in the port city of Zhanjiang, in the west of Guangdong province. Sinopec and Kuwait Petroleum Corp project is designed to process 15 million tons of crude oil annually and produce more than one million tons of ethylene.

Source: China Daily, Beijing

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/cndy/2014-06/30/content_17623027.htm

MULTILATERAL ISSUES

33) China, Arab to make plan for closer ties at upcoming ministerial meeting

Beijing, Monday, 2 June 2014

China and Arab nations would unveil a series of plans to upgrade relations at an upcoming ministerial meeting, according to Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/02/c_133378498.htm

34) China, Arab nations to cooperate against terrorism

Beijing, Wednesday, 4 June 2014

China and Arab nations should cooperate to fight terrorism, Chinese and Yemeni foreign ministers said during their meeting in Beijing ahead of the sixth ministerial conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/04/c_133383953.htm

35) Chinese president addresses CASCF ministerial meeting

Beijing, Thursday, 5 June 2014

Chinese President Xi Jinping attended the opening ceremony of the sixth ministerial conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum (CASCF) held in Beijing and delivered the keynote speech on the relations and cooperation between China and Arab states.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/bilingual/2014-06/05/c_133385894.htm

36) Landmark China-Arab ministerial meeting to reap harvest: Chinese FM, AL chief

Beijing, Wednesday, 4 June 2014

The upcoming sixth ministerial conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum (CASCF) would be a "landmark and reap a good harvest," Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi and Arab League (AL) Chief Nabil Elaraby said. This meeting also coincides with the 10th anniversary of the CACF's founding.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/05/c_126580486.htm

37) China, Arab states to enhance exchanges to mark "friendship years"

Beijing, Thursday, 5 June 2014

China and Arab states have decided to designate 2014 and 2015 as the years of China-Arab friendship, and hold a series of exchange events within the framework, Chinese President Xi Jinping announced.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/05/c_133385904.htm

38) Chinese president urges joint efforts in building Silk Road economic belt

Beijing, Thursday, 5 June 2014

Chinese President Xi Jinping called on China and Arab states to make joint efforts in negotiations, implementation and sharing in building the "One Belt and One Road".

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/05/c_133386039.htm

39) Development paths should be respected: President Xi

Beijing, Thursday, 5 June 2014

Chinese President Xi Jinping called on China and Arab states to respect each other's choice of development path.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/05/c_133386111.htm

40) China opposes discrimination or prejudice: President Xi

Beijing, Thursday, 5 June 2014

Chinese President Xi Jinping called on Arab states to encourage mutual learning among civilizations, saying China opposes discrimination or prejudice against any nation or religion.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2014-06/05/c_133386395.htm

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

41) Bahrain kicks off construction of Dragon City project

Manama, Thursday, 26 June 2014

Work on the first phase of the Chinese investment project, the Dragon City, has started with ground breaking ceremony in Diyar Al Muharraq and is expected to be completed by mid-2015.

Source: Xinhua, Beijing

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-06/26/c_133440403.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**