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## Support for Iraq a 'long-term strategy': Iran

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** — Iran's judiciary chief said on Sunday that judicial relations between Iran and Iraq could contribute to the development of political ties, noting that Tehran's support for Iraq is a "long-term strategy."

Sadeq Amoli Larjani left Tehran for Iraq on Saturday to hold talks with his Iraqi counterpart as well as other Iraqi judiciary officials.

He met on Sunday with Medhat al-Mahmoud, the head of the Iraqi Supreme Judicial Council, to discuss relations between Tehran and Baghdad.

During a press conference following the meeting, Larjani said, "The aim of the trip is to bring the Islamic Republic of Iran and Republic of Iraq closer together."

Larjani pointed out that the two sides discussed the agreements reached between the two countries to contribute to more cooperation in human rights issues and the fight against terrorism.

"The agreements reached between the two countries are very important. The two sides stressed the need for the implementation of the agreements," he said.

The Iranian judiciary chief further said that the two neighboring countries exchanged views on the characteristics of their judicial systems. → 2

## Iran sees politics behind election of S. Arabia to UN rights panel

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Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi (standing), Iran's head of the Department of Environment Masoumeh Ebtekar (2nd R) and UN resident coordinator in Iran Gary Lewis (3rd R) attend a ceremony in Tehran on Sunday to mark the 71st anniversary of the United Nations.

## Austrian bank plans to open branch in Iran

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** — Raiffeisen Bank International (RBI), as one of the major banks in Austria, plans to open a branch in Iran, Austrian Ambassador to Iran Friedrich Stift announced on Saturday.

He made the remarks in Tehran on the sidelines of a meeting between the director of Iran's Trade Promotion Organization, Mojtaba Khosrotaj, and the second president of the Austrian National Council, Karlheinz Kopf, Tasnim news agency reported.

Stift underscored that Austria Import-Export Bank will secure trade with the Islamic Republic, adding that the bank increased its line of credit up to \$1 billion from its previous level of \$230 million following the recent visit paid by the governor of the Central Bank of Iran to Austria.

During this meeting, Khosrotaj admitted that Iran is decisive to improve its trade balance with Austria and provide suitable business environment for further cooperation. The Iranian official, elsewhere, called on Austrian companies to collaborate with Iran in development of its technological know-how.

"Technological and academic cooperation between Iran and Austria is on the course of being expanded and hopes are high for further cooperation in tourism," he added.

Kopf, for his part, asserted that the post-sanction era has provided good chances for both sides to boost their bilateral ties.

## Bank of China inclined to commence activity in Iran

**ECONOMY TEHRAN** — The CEO of Bank of China, Chen Siqing, has expressed his bank's tendency to open branches in Iran, IRIB news reported on Sunday.



In a meeting in Tehran with the governor of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI), Valiollah Seif, the Chinese official said that Bank of China is aimed at primarily launching a representative office in Iran which would lead into opening branches in the Islamic Republic.

"Launching brokerage relations meeting international standards can pave the way for Bank of China to open its branches in Iran," he said.

CBI governor, in his turn, confirmed that establishing a representative office in Iran can provide the Chinese side with transparent data about potential risks in the Iranian market and economy.

Seif, in addition, highlighted the role of launching brokerage relations between the two countries and suggested that Iranian banks can open brokerage accounts in Bank of China.

## Foreign powers must accept Aoun as Lebanon president

Free Patriotic Movement (FPM/also known as the Aounist party) Member of Parliament Ibrahim Kanaan on Sunday called on foreign powers to accept Lebanon's agreement over the presidency, saying that Michel Aoun will be the first truly Lebanese head of state in decades.

In an interview with Voice of Lebanon radio, Kanaan said that Lebanon was on the verge of "collapse and disintegration" if political factions did not reach an understanding on the president.

His comments come one day before Lebanese lawmakers are set to head to Parli-

ment to elect a new head of state, ending the more than two-year presidential vacuum. FPM founder, Aoun, is expected to be voted president, as he has secured the support of the country's main factions including the resistance movement of Hezbollah, the Lebanese Forces and most recently, the Future Movement.

"The election of Aoun is the only solution to preserve the state and constitution by reactivating the work of the institutions," Kanaan said.

He added that as president, Aoun will work to build good ties with everyone and not get

involved in the affairs of regional states and their conflicts.

"He will try to find a middle ground in the disputes between different sides and political factions concerning many issues," he noted.

Kanaan said that following the elections, Aoun will immediately begin consultations with politicians on the formation of a new government.

"The Cabinet is the right place for the development and applications of the (country's) future visions," Kanaan said.

(Source: Daily Star)

## 71st UN anniversary marked in Iran

By Marjan Golpira

**TEHRAN** — On Sunday, the United Nations Office in Tehran marked the 71st anniversary of the biggest international body with some high ranking officials such as Iran's head of Department of Environment Masoumeh Ebtekar, Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi, UN resident coordinator in Iran Gary Lewis, and a number of diplomatic corps and ambassadors in attendance in Tehran.

Annually, the United Nations celebrates October 24 as UN Day.

Gary Lewis, the first speaker of the event, opened his speech by reading Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon's statement on the occasion.

Lewis then read the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN, adopted by all UN member states, calling the 17 goals "a meaningful set of objectives which represents the fullest, most complete plan yet to sustain our future on this fragile, endangered planet."

The goals, to be met by 2030, are aimed at eradicating poverty, fighting inequality, building peaceful, inclusive, and resilient societies, and securing the future of the planet and the well-being of future generations, he noted.

Lewis also announced that Iran has decided to deliver a report on its SDG performance in New York during the 2017 UN High Level Political Forum, which is a central platform for following up and reviewing implementation of the SDGs.

Through the UN Development Assistance Framework – or UNDAF, United Nations will work on implementation of SDGs in Iran, Lewis said, adding that UNDAF was signed in the presence of Abbas Araqchi and will start its mission at the beginning of 2017.

"In the next five years, from 2017 to 2021, the UNDAF will work on four areas in Iran: environment, health, a resilient economy and drug control."

The UN resident coordinator in Iran also expressed his gratitude to his 400 working team members in the country, out of whom, he said, "90 percent are Iranians."

Lewis reinstated the goals of his UN team in Iran as peace, justice, human rights and development. → 13

## Kolkata festival to pay tribute to Abbas Kiarostami

**ART TEHRAN** —

The Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) will join other numerous world events showing respect to Abbas Kiarostami by paying tribute to the renowned Iranian master of cinema.

The festival, which will be held from November 11 to 18, will host a screening of his acclaimed film "The Wind Will Carry Us", the Times of India reported on Sunday.

The film is about irreverent city engineer Behzad who comes to a rural village in Iran to keep vigil for a dying relative. In the meanwhile the film follows his efforts to fit in with the local community and how he changes his own attitudes as a result.

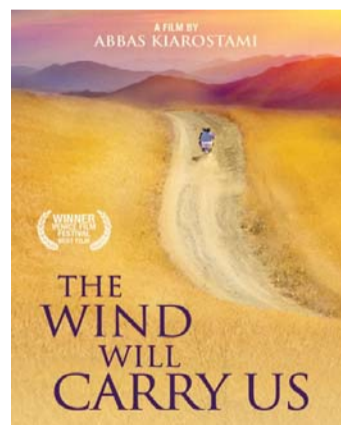
Many international events, including the Venice festival, paid tribute to Kiarostami who died in July.

The KIFF also plans to com-

memorate Polish director Andrej Wazda who passed away in early October.

The festival will also remember the 400th anniversary of the passing of William Shakespeare by screening some of the major film adaptations of the Bard's works.

At least three important Shakespeare adaptations, including Orson Welles' 1951 film based on "Othello", will be screened at the KIFF.



## Ebtekar urges public to campaign against food waste

**SOCIETY TEHRAN** — The chief of Iran's Department of Environment (DOE) has urged the public to join the campaign against food waste.

Masoumeh Ebtekar has asked the public to participate in the campaign to fight food waste by changing their daily habits and throwing less food away, DOE official website reported.

Iran is among the countries with great annual food waste and as revealed by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) everyday some 134 kilo calories of food is being dumped per person in Iran.

Meanwhile, DOE has quoted unofficial statistics indicating that some 35 percent of agricultural products per annum are discarded in

Iran. In other words, out of 100 million tons of agricultural products some 35 million tons go to waste.

Throwing away food stuff means wasting hundreds of liters of water used for cultivating and in general producing food stuff as well as the energy used for preparing it.

Moreover, burying these waste in landfill are also extremely detrimental to the environment.

This also implies that not only we are wasting food while millions of people are suffering from famine in the world but also we are contributing to the soil erosion, greenhouse gas emission, dryness of wetlands, long periods of drought, etc.

It is probably best to reconsider and even



break old routines of being extravagant with food stuff and try to be more careful with how much we eat and throw away.

## Iran Male Team Kumite wins World Championships

**SPORT** Iran's Male Team Kumite defeated Japan to win the 2016 edition of the Karate World Championships on Sunday.

The Iranian team beat its powerhouse opponent 3-2 and won the title for the second time



in a row.

Iran claimed the title in the previous edition beating host Germany in the final match.

Iranian team was formed by Sajad Ganjzadeh as main representative, Saeid Ahmadikaryani, Bahman Asgari Ghonheh, Ali

Fadakar, Mahdi Khodabakhshi, Zabiollah Poorshab and Iman Sanchooli.

Ryutaro Araga, Rikiya Iimura, Masaya Ishizuka, Hideyoshi Kagawa, Ken Nishimura, Hiroto Shinohara and Daisuke Watanabe were in Japanese team.

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