

Editorial Dept. Tel.: 33911561, 33110251-9

Ext.: 2334, 2336, 2337

Advertising Dept.: 33110251-9 Ext. 2336

Subscription Ext.: 2322

Facsimile: 33114228 & 33111120

Website: www.kayhan.ir/en

E-mail: kayhanintl@yahoo.com

P.O. Box: 11365/9631

Address: Martyr Shah Cheraghi Street, Ferdowsi Avenue, Tehran – Islamic Republic of Iran

In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

FM Zarif: JCPOA Not Re-Negotiable

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iranian Foreign minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, told reporters on Friday, after his meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron, that he had constructive talks with the French head of state, but meantime reiterated that Tehran will never re-negotiate the nuclear deal of 2015, officially known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

"We will keep our talks as Macron and Mr. Rouhani will continue to have phone consultations. Our stances are quite clear. We hold that the JCPOA is not re-negotiable," Zarif said, after his talks with Macron.

"Today's discussions were in line with previous phone talks between the presidents of the two countries in the past weeks. France had put

forward some proposals and we had our own proposals in return on how to implement the JCPOA and the steps needed to be undertaken by all sides," the top diplomat went on recounting.

"We had good and constructive talks, but it depends on how the European Union (EU) will be able to deliver on its commitments under the JCPOA and the commitments it made after the U.S. withdrawal from the JCPOA," Zarif highlighted.

The Iranian foreign minister arrived in Paris late on Thursday after visiting the three countries of Finland, Sweden, and Norway.

Zarif and Macron met today at noon, and the top diplomat is slated to sit down for talks with his French counterpart Jean-Yves Le Drian after his meeting with Macron.

Defense Ministry Steps In to Contain Wildfire in Northwest Iran

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iranian Defense Minister Brigadier General Amir Hatami on Friday ordered the dispatch of three helicopters to northwest of the country to assist in extinguishing a wildfire in the Arasbaran forests.

General Hatami assigned the Defense Ministry's Engineering Unit and the Aerial Firefighting Control and Logistical Support Center of Iran to deploy three choppers to the Arasbaran forests in coordination with the Red Crescent Society of

Iran and the Army Ground Force's Airborne Unit.

Two copters will be used to airlift forces and equipment, and the other firefighting helicopter, equipped with a 4000-liters water tank, would begin to help contain the wildfire.

Regional military forces have already begun efforts to extinguish the fire in Arasbaran, located in Iran's northwestern region and covering an area of more than 160,000 hectares.

Russia Confirms Holding Iran-Azerbaijan-Turkey Trio Meeting

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Kremlin confirmed the upcoming trilateral meeting between Iran, Azerbaijan and Turkey which is supposed to discuss Syrian issue.

According to Russian media, the Press Secretary for the President of Russia Dmitry Peskov said holding the event in Ankara has been planned and its due time will be announced.

Presidents of Iran, Russia and Turkey have for four times had joint meetings on fighting regional terrorism and bringing back peace, refugees and establishing political stability in Syria.

Meanwhile, the three countries have held Astana meetings for solving the issue without the intervention of foreigners in internal affairs of Syria. The 13th round of Astana talks were held in Kazakhstan on August 1-2 and the 14th edition will be held in October.

Earlier, Turkish president's spokesman said that Ankara is to discuss Idlib with Iran and Russia.

IRGC Commander:

Only Regional States Can Maintain Persian Gulf Security



Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Commander Major General Hossein Salami

MASHHAD (Dispatches) - The chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Major General Hossein Salami says array of countries other than the Persian Gulf's own littoral states can provide the region's security.

Speaking from the holy city of Mashhad, Major General Hossein Salami said: "No extra-regional country or coalition of countries would be able to maintain security in this region save for the littoral states of the Persian Gulf."

The IRGC's top commander added, "We believe in a regional security system with the participation of the Persian Gulf littoral states, and consider foreign presence in the Persian Gulf to be contradictory to security of this region."

He described any other secu-

urity mechanism other than one, in which Iran and the rest of the regional states play the pivotal role, as "unfeasible," reminding that all past experiences of foreign presence under the guise of security missions have only resulted in the "escalation of tensions and even warfare."

The United States has announced plans to form a coalition to supposedly protect shipping in the Strait of Hormuz following a series of mysterious attacks on oil tankers in the strait and the Sea of Oman.

Washington has accused Iran of having a hand in those attacks, a claim Tehran has strongly rejected. Tehran has warned that such acts of sabotage may be part of a general ploy to target Iran amid increasing regional tensions.

The U.S. has asked its allies to join the coalition, a call which has not been warmly received by several countries, including Germany, Japan and Spain, over apparent fears that such a mission could further ratchet up tensions with Iran.

Elsewhere in his remarks, the senior IRGC commander refuted the concept held by Iran's enemies that sanctions imposed on the country had acted to destroy and weaken its economy, calling the bans "instruments of our development and advancement."

The U.S.' unilateral restrictive measures have provided the Islamic Republic with room to better avail itself of its national and indigenous capacities, he concluded.

"Iran is progressing and its signs are clear to everybody. Sanctions

Senior Cleric Calls for Easing Investment, Production

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Tehran's provisional Friday Prayers leader Ayatollah Mohammad Emami Kashani on Friday urged the Iranian government and parliament to remove barriers which are obstructing more investment and further domestic production in the country.

Addressing a large and fervent congregation of the people in Tehran, Ayatollah Emami Kashani said that the government and the parliament need to abrogate laws hindering investment and domestic production.

The cleric stressed the need for economic reforms

and called on the government and the parliament to intensify their efforts to boost domestic production in line with the instructions of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution highlighted in a recent meeting with the Council of Ministers.

Ayatollah Emami Kashani said that the laws should help investors in a bid to boost employment rate.

The Friday Prayers leader added that when businesses and investment flourish, the investors can provide good sources of income to the government through paying taxes.

JCPOA Should Not Be Ignored: Chinese Envoy

MOSCOW (dispatches) - Chinese Ambassador to Russia Zhang Hanhui has said that Beijing hails implementation of JCPOA by Iran as excellent, saying that it believes that the deal should not be ignored or abandoned.

"Beijing hopes that all parties to the JCPOA should be serious in fulfilling their commitments under the deal," he said.

JCPOA is of high significance and should not be replaced by the other agreement, he said, noting that IAEA has on several occasions verified Iran's compliance with the deal.

The ambassador was also optimistic that global community would do its best to defend Iran's benefits under the deal and pave the way for full implementation of the deal.

The only effective way for solving nuclear issue is U.S. return to the international deal, he said.

Norwegian Foreign Minister Ine Eriksen Solrøide said that his country was critical of U.S. withdrawal from the JCPOA, as it still insists on compliance with the deal.

Referring to his meeting with Iranian counterpart Mohammad Javad Zarif, he said in a press conference that regional developments and bilateral relations were dealt with during the meeting where both sides underscored role of dialogue.

Expressing concern over rising tensions in the region, he regretted over sabotage on a Norwegian ship, calling for avoiding fanning flames of crisis.

"We discussed JCPOA which is significant for regional security and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons," he said.

Norway supports France's measures in line with easing tensions in the region.

The Holy Qur'an

Postponing (of the sacred month) is only an addition in unbelief, wherewith those who disbelieve are led astray, violating it one year and keeping it sacred another, that they may agree in the number (of months) that Allah has made sacred, and thus violate what Allah has made sacred; the evil of their doings is made fair-seeming to them; and Allah does not guide the unbelieving people.

The Holy Qur'an (9.37)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	13:07
Evening (Maghreb)	20:02
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:00
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:30

have not only failed to prevent our progress, but on the contrary, have created conditions, in view of our internal potentialities, without which we would not be able to activate our national and local capacities," the Iranian commander said.

General Salami highlighted the positive effect of U.S. sanctions against Iran and said they have helped the Islamic Republic to reach its economic and political independence.

"Past experiences have shown that enemies cannot infiltrate into the country and that currently, they are unable to pursue their goals," Major General Salami said.

"Sanctions cannot stop our progress," he said, adding that however, they create space for Iran to focus its attention on its capacities.

If there were no sanctions, Iran would not return to its indigenous capabilities and would not achieve its economic and political independence, the commander went on to say.

(Continued on Page 7)

VP Underlines Failure of U.S. Anti-Iran Plots

TEHRAN (Dispatches) - Iranian First Vice-President Eshaq Jahangiri has stressed that the measures and plots hatched by Washington to lead Iran's economy into collapse have all failed.

"We have been able to defeat the U.S. plots with the strategy of resistance," Jahangiri said, addressing a ceremony in the Northern city of Noshahr.

"The U.S. threatens the foreign governments and companies not to cooperate with Iran but it has not been able to attain its most important goal, that is the collapse of Iran's economy," he added.

In relevant remarks in July, Jahangiri stressed that his country's economy had remained stable one year after the US imposed the toughest embargos against Tehran.