

'Iran Expo 2024' to Host Over 2,900 Foreign Businesspersons



TEHRAN – An official at the Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) said 3,000 foreign traders and merchants will participate in the 6th International Export Potential Exhibition of the Islamic Republic of Iran, dubbed "Iran Expo 2024".

The exhibition will be inaugurated on April 27 and run through May 1, 2024, the deputy Chairman of ICCIMA for commissions, assemblies

and councils affairs stated in a meeting held with the participation of representatives of the joint chamber of commerce.

Noting that the first edition of the Iran Expo was held in 2013, Ali Chaghavand predicted that 3,000 foreign traders and merchants from various countries would partake in the latest edition of the exhibition.

This exhibition will be held in the field of exports in the

seven groups of commodities including food industries, agriculture and fisheries, hand-woven carpets, handicrafts and tourism, medicine, medical equipment and chemical products, building industry, technical and engineering services and also the petrochemical group, he stated.

Promoting trade and economic relations with other countries, booming production, propelling the business environment of the private sector to the international arena and creating a new trade and economic discourse with various countries have been cited as the main aims of holding the exhibition.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the Iran-China Joint Chamber of Commerce Majid Reza Hariri and Vice Chairman of the Iran-Russia Joint Chamber of Commerce Roshanali Yekta.

TPOI: Iran Plans to Export \$500mn of Products to Syria

TEHRAN – Director General of the West Asia Office of the Trade Promotion Organization of Iran (TPOI) Abdolamir Rabihavi said that his country is planning to export \$500 million of products to Syria in the next Iranian calendar year (to start March 21, 2024).

Rabihavi pointed to the road map for export promotion to Syria and said that effective steps have been taken to increase the volume of trade with Syria, such as encouraging the economic ac-

tivists to boost trade in two countries and making efforts for the revival of international and specialized exhibitions.

Emphasizing the launch of the trade delegations concurrent with organizing domestic exhibitions, he said that activating two trade centers in Syria and planning to dispatch commercial envoys have been put on the agenda of the organization for the next year.

He invited Syrian economic activists and officials to take part in the Iran Expo 2024, adding

that Business-to-Business (B2B) meetings with Syrian entrepreneurs are expected to be held at the expo in line with promoting bilateral trade.

Effective steps have been taken to launch a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries, he added.

The 6th International Export Potential Exhibition of the Islamic Republic of Iran, dubbed "Iran Expo 2024", will be inaugurated on April 27 and run through May 1, 2024.

Turkey, Iran Customs Officials Emphasize Expanding Trade, Economic Ties

TEHRAN – Head of the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA) Muhammad Rezvanifar and Turkey's Deputy Minister of Trade and Director General of Customs Sezai UCARMAK have stressed the need to develop and streamline the trade and economic relations between the two countries within the framework of 12 operational programs.

Following up on the agreements and memoranda of understanding (MoUs) inked between the two sides previously as well as concluding new operational programs were highlighted by Rezvanifar and Turkish official.

During the meeting, the IRICA chief pointed to the special position of Turkey in Iran's trade and economic ties with other countries and added that pursuing the provisions of the agreements and MoUs and formulating new operational programs are essential.



He also referred to the joint action plans for upgrading and facilitating the bilateral trade exchanges and highlighted holding joint border meetings consecutively between managers of the border customs offices of the two countries aimed at facilitating trade and economic activities, coordinating between border customs of the two countries in transit of trucks from the joint borders, etc.

Offering quality services at the common border customs offices

with neighboring Turkey round-the-clock, resuming the electronic exchange of the documents consecutively between customs offices of Iran and Turkey, coordinating the implementation and connection of E-TIR from Bazargan Border and deploying the representatives of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) at the customs, etc. were among the other main topics discussed between the two sides.

Official: Tehran Targeting \$20bn in Trade With Baghdad by 2027



TEHRAN – Director General of the Persian Gulf Office of Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Jahanbakhsh Sanjabi has said that the country is targeting an annual \$20 billion trade with neighboring Iraq by 2027.

Speaking at the latest session of the Coordinating Headquarters of Foreign Economic Relations Sanjabi said Iran

has targeted \$20 billion in trade with Iraq by the end of 2027.

The meeting, headed by Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister for Economic Diplomacy Affairs Mehdi Safari, was held with a focus on reviewing the latest situation of economic ties with Iraq and Syria.

Safari expounded on the significance of the diversified dimensions of economic relations of the Islamic Republic of Iran with countries like Iraq and Syria and called on both the public and private sectors to make their utmost efforts for the development of trade and economic ties with these two countries in all areas.

The ground is set for the economic activists and entrepreneurs of the country to enter the Syrian market with the aim of reconstructing and implementing the development, economic and industrial projects, Safari added.

The foreign ministry will spare no efforts to cooperate with domestic economic activists to boost bilateral trade with the aforementioned two neighbors, he emphasized

FAA Investigates United Boeing 737 Flight Missing Panel

Washington (Reuters) - The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration is investigating how a United Airlines Boeing 737-800 lost an external panel before landing safely in Oregon.

United Flight 433 landed at Medford Airport around 1:45 pm PDT (2045 GMT) carrying 139 passengers and six crew after departing from San Francisco, the FAA and airline said.

The FAA said a post-landing airline inspection of the 25-year-old airplane revealed a missing panel. United said it will also investigate and said no emergency was declared because there was no indication of the damage during flight.

"We'll conduct a thorough examination of the plane and perform all the needed repairs before it returns to service," the airline said in a statement.

Boeing did not comment, directing questions to United Airlines. According to FAA records, the plane was built in



late 1998.

The Rogue Valley Times posted a dramatic photo of the airplane with the missing panel. Traffic was briefly halted at the airport to search for the panel.

In the aftermath of an Alaska Airlines Boeing 737 MAX 9 mid-air emergency prompted by a door plug blowout, U.S. aviation incidents are getting more attention.

Boeing has been under heavy regulatory scrutiny following

the Jan 5 Alaska Airlines incident, with probes into the company's safety and quality standards in its production process.

Last week a United Airlines-operated Boeing 737 MAX rolled onto the grass and off the runway in Houston, prompting investigations.

Also last week a United-operated Boeing 777-200 bound for Japan lost a tire after take-off from San Francisco and was diverted to Los Angeles where it landed safely.

Oil Prices Jump After Ukraine Strikes Russian Oil Refineries

NEW YORK (CNBC) - Crude oil futures jumped Wednesday after Ukraine struck refineries in Russia, underlining risks to production and fuel supplies from the war in Eastern Europe.

The West Texas Intermediate contract for April gained \$2.16, or 2.78%, to settle at \$79.72 a barrel. The Brent contract for May added \$2.11, or 2.58%, to settle at \$84.03 a barrel.

Ukrainian drones hit a Rosneft refinery in the Ryazan region about 130 miles from Moscow and the Novoshakhtinsk refinery in the Rostov region, according to Reuters. The strikes came one day after Ukraine hit a Lukoil

refinery in Nizhny Novgorod, about 265 miles from Moscow.

Ukraine has repeatedly struck Russian oil infrastructure since January in a campaign to hurt the country's economy. The latest attacks come ahead of Russia's presidential election this weekend.

The targets this week are major refineries, particularly the Rosneft facility in Ryazan, which has a refining capacity of 340,000 barrels per day, according to Andy Lipow, president of Lipow Oil Associates.

The campaign of Ukrainian attacks this year has hit refineries representing 25% of Russia's to-

tal refining capacity of 6.8 million barrels per day, according to Lipow. About 50% of Russia's refining capacity is within range of a Ukrainian drone attack, he said.

The attacks will curtail Russian diesel exports and turn the country into a gasoline importer, he said.

"We're seeing oil prices rise, really being led by products on the back of these attacks which have been going on with some regularity since January," Lipow said. "The market is pricing in higher and higher probabilities of supply disruptions especially when you damage refineries."