DOMESTIC NEWS

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In the Name of the Most High

Viewpoint

Hope the Misled Arab Regimes Will Regain Senses

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

"Degenerative" could be the apt word to describe the state of affairs of most Arab regimes, which never were the representatives of the people they rule because of the simple fact that they are products of Britain's colonial era, clinging currently to the American apron for survival, and now committing the treason of backstabbing the Palestinian cause through shameful dalliance with the illegal Zionist entity.

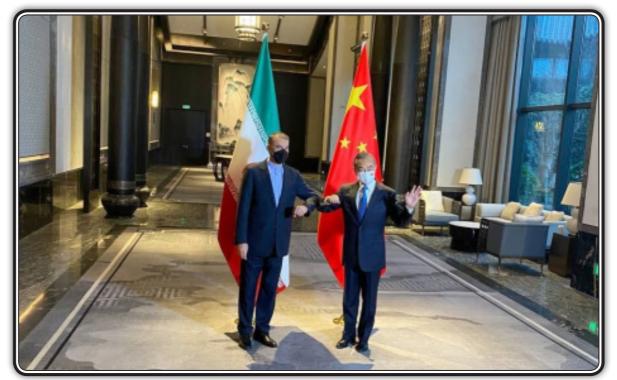
This was again evident over the past few days when the Arab League quartet of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and the UAE, issued the same repetitive statement of the past years by laying claim to three of Iran's Persian Gulf islands, followed by a similar claim on Friday from Riyadh at the end of the 153rd session of foreign ministers of the 6-member Persian Gulf Cooperation Council (PGCC).

The two bodies have been duly censured by the Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman, who dismissed their communiques as worthless with no effect whatsoever on the Islamic Republic or the people who inhabit the islands of Bu Musa, Tumb-e Bozorg and Tumb-e Kuchak.

Nasser Kan'ani advised these regimes to devote their time, energy, and wealth for promotion of the Muslim Ummah's interests including the cherished goal of the liberation of Islam's third holiest site, the al-Aqsa Mosque in Bayt al-Moqaddas in line with the aspirations of the freedom of the oppressed Palestinian people.

Hope this advice will awaken the conscience these regimes and stop them from slavishly serving the US and the usurper state of Israel, if not, neither the people nor God Almighty will forgive traitors.

China, Iran Discuss Implementation of Strategic Deal



Iranian Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian, left, meets his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi in Wuxi, China on Jan. 14, 2021.

TEHRAN -- Iranian Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian says the U.S. must stay away from the use of ambiguous language in its proposed text on how to revive the 2015 nuclear deal.

"We are still serious about striking a good, strong and lasting agreement. The US, however, must refrain from the use of ambiguous language in the text so that the agreement could be reached within the shortest possible time," Amir-Abdollahian told his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi on Thursday evening over phone.

Wang, for his part, said Beijing welcomes further expansion of relations with Tehran.

He said that the enhancement of bilateral ties will best serve both sides' interests, calling for the effective implementation of the strategic 25-year comprehensive cooperation agreement between the two nations irrespective of international developments.

The Chinese foreign minister went on to say that Beijing and Tehran share common viewpoints on many regional and international issues. He praised Iran's support for China's inclusion in negotiations on the settlement of the Syrian crisis within the framework of the Astana process.

Wang also rejected unilateralism in the international arena, voiced support for Iran's reasonable demands within the course of nuclear negotiations, and stressed that Iran is entitled to enjoy its legal rights.

On Wednesday, Amir-Abdollahian said Iran would not budge even "an iota" on its red lines in the ongoing talks in Vienna.

The top diplomat assured that while partaking in the talks, the Iranian government was carefully observing the lines that have been drawn by Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei towards neutralization of the sanctions in parallel with the negotiation process.

The red lines "are subject of emphasis by President [Ebrahim Raisi]," Amir-Abdollahian said, adding, "The Foreign Ministry is following the same path seriously and strongly."

The United States, under Donald Trump, left the nuclear deal in 2018, returning the sanctions that the officially-called Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) had lifted.

The Austrian capital of Vienna has been hosting several rounds of talks since last year to examine the prospect of the JCPOA's restoration and removal of Washington's inhumane and illegal sanctions.



TEHRAN – Iran said Friday it will forever have full sovereignty over the three Persian Gulf islands of Abu Musa, the Greater and Lesser Tunbs.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani made the comments in reaction to the final communiqué of the 153rd session of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)'s foreign ministers in the Saudi capital city of Riyadh. Dismissing "baseless accusations" raised against Tehran in the GCC statement, Kanaani said the

three islands are an eternal and inseparable part of the Iranian territory.

Iranian officials have repeatedly emphasized that the three islands are an integral part of the country. The strategically located islands are close to the Strait of Hormuz, the world's most important oil parts of the world. However, the United Arab Emirates has repeatedly laid claim to the islands.

The three islands fell under British control in 1921 but on November 30, 1971, a day after British forces left the region and just two days before the UAE was to become an official federation, Iran's

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Iran Reiterates Africa's Significance in Its Policies

TEHRAN – Iran will proceed with efforts to establish a ceasefire in Ukraine, reiterating the need to end the crisis through political means, Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian says.

In a telephone conversation on Thursday, Amir-Abdollahian and his South African counterpart Naledi Pandor talked about the most pressing issues on the agenda of expanding bilateral ties and some regional and international issues.

"We will continue our efforts to establish ceasefire in Ukraine, and our principled position is to oppose war and to end the Ukraine crisis via political means," the top Iranian diplomat said.

The minister touched on the importance of Africa in Iran's foreign policy, saying Tehran is firmly resolved to expand ties with the continent, especially with South Africa. He pointed to preparations for holding the 15th Joint Economic Commission of Iran and South Africa, hoping that the numerous opportunities and capacities of the two nations would be used more than ever.

There has been good cooperation between the two countries in the field of energy for a long time, he added, noting that Iran is ready to further bolster such cooperation in the other areas of mutual interest.

The top Iranian diplomat then thanked South Africa for its stance in support of Palestine and the oppressed Palestinian people.

For her part, Pandor pointed to the important standing of Iran and its huge potentials. She also thanked Tehran for its efforts to hold a new meeting of the Joint Economic Commission and underlined the need to implement bilateral agreements reached during the previous rounds of the commission's meetings. Referring to Iran's important role in mediating in the Ukraine crisis, the South African foreign minister stressed that a truce in Ukraine is vital for all parties and the international community because the ramifications of the war have caused food and energy crises in some countries. She then expressed hope that the concerns of Russia and Ukraine would be addressed through dialogue. Speaking about the sanctions removal talks, the South African minister said she was hopeful that the negotiations will soon produce positive results. The two top diplomats then discussed the latest state of the sanctions removal talks between Iran and the P4+1 group of countries, the Iranian Foreign Ministry's website reported.

Iran for its part, in view of its Islamic principles, does not consider these regimes as its enemies, and is confident that they will return to the Islamic fold.

As is evident by its valuable contributions to the independence, territorial integrity, development, and fight against terrorism of friendly and fraternal Arab states, the Islamic Republic's continues to extend its hand of cooperation to these misled regimes as well, who seem to be unaware of the record of treachery of the sworn enemies of Islam and Muslims – the US and Israel.

Tehran firmly believes in regional cooperation without the presence of outside forces in order to resolve all problems including the misunderstandings that have cropped up because of the sedition of Washington and its accomplices.

Only solidarity is capable of guaranteeing the peace, stability, and security of the Muslim countries, and as the Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman emphasized: "Iran welcomes positive initiatives to improve bilateral and regional relations." chokepoint. The islands have historically been part of Iran, proof of which can be found and corroborated by countless historical, legal, and geographical documents in Iran and other

sovereignty over the islands was restored.

Kanaani also said the destructive and seditious policies of the United States and the occupying regime of (Continued on Page 7)

Envoy Calls for Binding Instrument to Ban Nuke Tests

UNITED NATIONS (Dispatches) -- An Iranian envoy to the United Nations says unilateral promises by countries about stopping nuclear tests cannot replace the nuclear disarmament, unless they turn into legally binding obligations.

"Pending the achievement of this goal [stopping nuclear tests], besides the implementation of these moratoriums by the NWSs (nuclear weapons states), consequently, should be replaced by a legally binding instrument to effectively prevent such tests," Zahra Ershadi told the UN General Assembly on the occasion of the International Day against Nuclear Tests.

Ershadi stressed the importance of the immediate implementation of Article VI of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) as a "meaningful" step toward ridding the world from any threat of nuclear weapons, reaffirming it as the sole responsibility of the NWSs.

"The international community must hold the NWSs responsible and accountable by implementing this legal obligation and refrain from any activity inconsistent with that obligation," she added.

The Iranian diplomat stressed

the need to apply the approach to the Middle East "where the Israeli regime, as the sole possessor of all types of WMDs, poses the most serious threat to regional peace, security and stability."

She criticized the lack of implementation of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) in the world 26 years after its signature.

Ershadi said the international community has been and continues to be adamant about ending nuclear tests, adding that achieving this noble goal relies on the political will of the nuclear weapon states.

(Continued on Page 7)