

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iranian,
Omani FMs
meet in
Tehran

IRNA – Iran's Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and his visiting Omani counterpart Sayyid Badr Albusaidi discussed a range of issues during a meeting in Tehran on Monday.

Bilateral ties and the latest regional and international developments were among the issues discussed in the meeting.

Iran and Oman enjoy good relations in many fields. Oman has long been an interlocutor in interactions between the West and Iran.

Late in May, Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said paid an official visit to Tehran at the head of a high-ranking delegation. During his stay, the two countries signed four documents to improve cooperation in various sectors.

Iran:
Direct talks
best way to
settle
Japan-Russia
dispute

ISNA – The head of Iran's Strategic Council on Foreign Relations said the best way to resolve the territorial disputes between Japan and Russia is direct negotiations between the two countries. Kamal Kharrazi made the remarks in a meeting with the Japanese Ambassador to Tehran Kazutoshi Aikawa on Monday.

Kharrazi underlined that Iran is opposed to any military intervention and violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries.

Called the Kurils by Russia and the Northern Territories by Japan, the string of volcanic islands is at the heart of a decades-long feud between the two countries that has prevented them from signing a formal World War II peace treaty.

The Iranian official also described the US non-compliance with the 2015 nuclear agreement as one of the main obstacles facing the expansion of relations between Tehran and Tokyo.

Iran: US efforts to block Iran's
assets 'banditry'

International Desk

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said the US attempts to block Iran's assets in other countries is an example of "banditry" and stealing the assets of the Iranian nation.

Kanaani said that Tehran does not tolerate any US move, either directly or through third countries, to seize Iran's assets.

"We expect all countries to ignore such demands from the US government and to adhere to their responsibilities regarding other countries", Kanaani told a weekly press conference on Monday.

His comments came after the French Supreme Court rejected a US request to confiscate \$247 million in Iranian assets.

On June 28, the French Court of Cassation upheld a March 2021 verdict by a court of appeal that refused the US call for confiscating Iranian assets as per a US federal court verdict in 1998.

Elsewhere in his remarks, he urged the US to refrain from any "provocative" moves in the region, especially close to the coun-



IRNA

try's borders, stressing that Tehran reserves the right to take "deterrent measures" under international law.

Kanaani said that the US government's role regarding the issue of regional security has never been peaceful and constructive. "Iran monitors with sensitivity and accuracy any illegal and unconstructive

act that affects the security of the region, and it will ... pay special attention to any provocative and illegal moves, especially near its borders," he added.

Kanaani also warned that the Islamic Republic will use its "inalienable rights" in response to the US moves.

"Iran reserves the right to take due deterrent

measures under international laws, rules, and regulations given the capability of its Armed Forces in protecting the security of borders, as well as that of navigation and aviation in the Persian Gulf region," he said.

On Friday, a senior American defense official said the US will send F-16 fighter jets to the Persian

Gulf region this weekend in a bid to "protect ships" from "Iranian seizures".

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, claimed that the F-16s will give air cover to the ships moving through the strategic Strait of Hormuz and increase the US military's visibility in the area, the Associated Press reported.

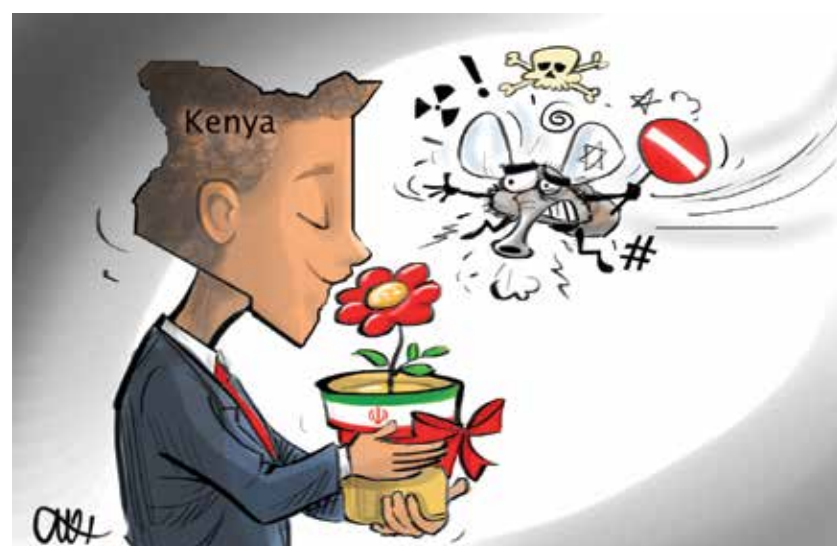
Two
major
projects ...

The petrochemical industry holds a vital role in Iran's non-oil economy, with petrochemical exports serving as the country's second-largest revenue source after crude oil. Currently, petrochemical exports constitute nearly 33% of Iran's non-oil export earnings.

The president also visited the nomadic area of Saqaveh Plain and was warmly welcomed by the nomads of the province.



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist

Iran ready to back any regional
initiative on Afghanistan: FM

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian announced Tehran's readiness to contribute to the advancement of regional initiatives on the issue of Afghanistan under the auspices of the United Nations. Amir-Abdollahian made the remarks during a meeting with Feridun Hadi Sinirlioglu, the UN secretary-general's special coordinator for the independent assessment process on Afghanistan, on Monday, Press TV reported. He said forming an inclusive government in Afghan-

istan and fighting against terrorism are important, emphasizing the need to support regional initiatives, particularly those offered by Afghanistan's neighbors, in order to resolve the challenges in the war-torn country.

"Afghanistan needs urgent solutions, and if the international community does not pay serious attention to the security challenges of this country caused by the movements of terrorist groups, its negative consequences would affect the

region and the world," the top Iranian diplomat said. Amir-Abdollahian further described Sinirlioglu's mission as "difficult," expressing hope that thanks to his experience, the UN official will have a more accurate assessment of the realities on the ground in Afghanistan and accomplish his mission successfully. Sinirlioglu, for his part, presented his assessment regarding the developments in Afghanistan and the country's situation in various fields.