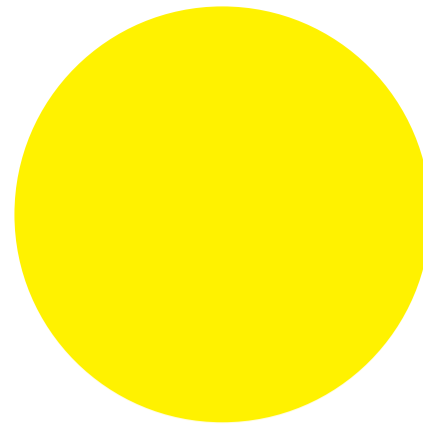




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Iran Daily



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Vol. 7361 • Sunday, Aug. 13, 2023 • Mordad 22, 1402 • Muharram 26, 1445 • Price 40,000 Rials • 8 Pages

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Nearly 200 NTBFs active in Iran's agricultural biotech sector: *Official*

Economy Desk The head of the Agricultural Biotechnology Research Institute of Iran announced on Saturday that nearly 200 new technology-based firms (NTBFs) are active in the country's agricultural biotechnology sector. Gholamreza Salehi-Jozani put the value of products of the said NTBFs at about \$500 million, adding that the figure is expected to hit \$2 billion in the near future, IRNA reported. "The annual turnover of the technology market is close to \$1 trillion in the world, and by 2030 it will rise to about \$3 trillion, of which currently, \$200 billion, equal to 20 percent, is related to the agricultural sector." Salehi-Jozani said, "Certainly, the development of technology-based agriculture dealing with modern technologies (biotechnology and nanotechnology) is necessary to solve the challenges of the agricultural sector." Page 2 >

Iran-US deal just a prisoner swap and no more



By Mostafa Khoshcheshm
International affairs analyst

Following a recent agreement between Iran and the United States on the exchange of prisoners and analyses about this agreement. Citing Israeli officials, the media claimed that the prisoner swap was part of a larger deal between Tehran and Washington, and other media said that there was an unwritten agreement between Iran and the US, of which the prisoner exchange was part of it. They reported that the deal also contained Iran's nuclear activities, including the reduction of uranium enrichment, etc. Page 4 >

Saudi Arabia names first ambassador to Palestine

Saudi Arabia on Saturday named a non-resident ambassador for the Palestinian Territories who will also serve as consul general in Al-Quds. The role will be filled by Nayef al-Sudairi, the current ambassador to Jordan, according to a social media post from the embassy in Amman confirmed by a Saudi Foreign Ministry official. The appointment represents "an important step" underscoring the desire of King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman "to strengthen relations with the brothers of the State of Palestine and give it a formal boost in all areas", Sudairi said in a video broadcast by the Saudi state-affiliated Al-Ekhbariya channel. Saudi Arabia does not recognize Israel and did not join the 2020 US-brokered Abraham Accords that saw Israel establish ties with two of the kingdom's neighbors, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran invests \$1m on renovation of maritime fleet

IRNA – Iran invested \$1 million on the construction or purchase of ships in two years since President Ebrahim Raisi took office in August 2021, according to the director of the country's Ports and Maritime Organization (PMO). Noting that many ships have been bought to commute either in the Caspian Sea in northern Iran or in the southern Iranian waters, Ali Akbar Safaei said that some of the purchased vessels have already been delivered to Iran and some others are being transferred to the country.

First ship carrying LPG berths at Abadan

TASNIM – With the failure of cruel US sanctions against Iran and the country's success in boosting gas exports, the first consignment of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) was loaded at Abadan Oil Refinery.

There are plans for selling the surplus products of the refinery at the international markets along with meeting the demands of the country, CEO of Abadan Oil Refinery Hakim Qayem said.

Sepehr, Jofeir oil production to start soon

SHANA – The Petroleum Engineering and Development Company (PEDEC) managing director said oil production at Sepehr and Jofeir fields in southwestern Iran could officially start during the Government Week (August 24-30). Abouzar Sharifi added a comprehensive plan has been outlined for the development and production of Sepehr and Jofeir fields in three phases.

According to him, a major part of the first phase of the two fields' development plan has been implemented and their crude oil production – around 20,000 barrels per day (bpd) – could start during the last week of August.

Iran's Pistachios Top in the World



By Sadeq Dehqan
Staff writer

Around four years ago, Iran held its position as a leading global producer of pistachios. However, the United States has overtaken Iran in this regard through expanding the acreage of pistachio cultivation, securing its status as the top producer of this commodity worldwide. Despite Iran's slip to second place in global pistachio production, it continues to excel in pistachio exports and maintain a reputation for quality. Driven by the enlargement of pistachio orchards, the United States has increased its annual pistachio output to approximately 700,000 tons this year. A mere few years ago, its maximum production stood at 240,000 tons, when it held the top spot in pistachio production globally. The US benefits from favorable land and water resources, facilitating its expansion of pistachio cultivation. In contrast, Iran grapples with constraints in terms of water availability and suitable cultivable lands. Iran's pistachio yield for the current year stands at around 200,000 tons, with an additional 30,000 tons carried over from the preceding year, summing up to a total of 230,000 tons for the ongoing year.

Globally, the collective annual pistachio production hovers over 1.2 million tons. In this context, Iran accounts for roughly 20%, while the US commands about 58% of global pistachio production.

Mohammad Salehi, the head of the Iranian Pistachio Association, told Iran Daily that while the US consistently ranks among the world's top pistachio producers, a considerable proportion of its output is consumed domestically.

"In the previous year alone, around 270,000 tons of pistachios were consumed within the United States. This dynamic maintains a close contest between Iran and the US in terms of pistachio exports to international markets," he said.

Salehi delineated the destinations for Iran's pistachio exports, pointing to the European Union nations, India, the Arab states of the Persian Gulf, Russia, Central Asian nations, and particularly China as major customers. Emphasizing the unmatched quality and flavor of Iranian pistachios, he asserted that "they still captivate traditional and exclusive clientele in global markets".

Unfavorable conditions including frost during certain months and water scarcity have impacted pistachio production in Iran. These challenges not only inhibited production growth in previous years but also contributed to a



IRNA

decline in output levels. Salehi, however, commended the robust pistachio production performance in the current year, saying that last year yielded up to 115,000 tons, whereas the ongoing year is projected to yield 230,000 tons, signifying a remarkable 100% growth rate.

Assessing Iran's pistachio export situation, Salehi pointed to the issue of for-

exchange obligations imposed by the government on exporters.

"These obligations have created obstacles for pistachio exporters. If the government fails to address this matter, it will significantly impact both exports and potentially lead to unwarranted reductions in pistachio prices within the country," he warned.

The fulfillment of foreign

exchange obligations came to existence 2018 when the government began to issue executive instructions about it. The government's aim with this initiative is to ensure that all entrepreneurs and businesses engaged in exporting bring back their foreign currency earnings into the country.

According to Salehi, repatriating foreign currency as the government

intends proves challenging due to Iran's banking sanctions in certain countries. "This has emerged as a hindrance for exporters," he complains.

Salehi also believes that the government's practice of setting a pistachio price for farmers lower than the prevailing market rate discourages exporters from purchasing and subsequently exporting the product.

Nearly 200 NTBFs active in Iran's agricultural biotech sector: Official



IRNA

These technologies include genome-based modification and gene editing, genetic engineering, bioinformatics and meta-

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(vertical agriculture, disposable bioreactors, hydroponics, aeroponics and aquaponics), seawater agriculture, desert agriculture, artificial meat, 3D printing, microalgae, blockchain

platform (digital currency), smart agriculture, drones, biological products, artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things, the official explained.

"By 2050, Iran's population will increase to about 100 million and the country's need for agricultural products will be about 200 million tons, while now Iran's need for agricultural products stands at 150 million tons."

Salehi-Jozani noted that until 2050, the average temperature of the Earth will increase by at least one degree and the available water resources will decrease by 30 percent as the current 100 billion cubic

meters of renewable water in the country will decrease to 70 billion cubic meters.

"The seven million hectares of saline land, the penetration rate of technology in the agricultural sector of the country is below five percent, the import of about \$3 billion of various types of agricultural technological factors of production (hybrid seeds, some chemical fertilizers, chemical pesticides, vaccines and animal medicines, advanced machines, food industry additives and starters) are among the other challenges of this sector."

Some of the technologies introduced into the field of agriculture have been used on about 205,000 hectares

of land across the country which have saved more than \$175 million annually by increasing the added value of the country's agriculture.

Technology transfer and industrial production of livestock, poultry and aquatic probiotics, technology transfer and commercial production of bio-fertilizers are based on the Trichoderma method, which is commercial and quick-yielding, the official said.

Implementation of a program-oriented approach and effectiveness instead of a process-oriented approach are the new strategies of the research insti-

tute, he noted.

Our plan is based on upstream documents, in which the goal is to double the effectiveness of the research institute over a four-year period, Salehi-Jozani said, adding that increase in production and reduction of waste are included.

He listed the formation of a network of research centers, to cooperate with the private sector and executive assistants through holding innovation and technology events as well as creating innovation centers with the management of the private sector are among other strategies of his research institute.

Iran, 18th natural gas exporter in the world in 2022: OPEC

Iran ranked 18th among the world's exporters of natural gas in 2022, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) said in its latest report, noting that natural gas producers exported 1.407 trillion cubic meters of this strategic product last year.

Iran's natural gas exports in 2022 registered

a two-percent decline compared to the same period last year, OPEC added, according to Tasnim news agency. Iran exported 18.8 billion cubic meters of this product in 2022, while the country had exported over 18.4 billion cubic meters of natural gas in 2021.

With the export of 195 billion cubic meters of

gas, the United States was the largest exporter of natural gas in the world in 2022 due to the Ukraine war.

Before the start of the war in Ukraine, the Russian Federation was the largest exporter of natural gas in the world, but Moscow's export of gas decreased 24 percent in 2022, reaching 184 billion cubic meters.



TASNIM

Kuhpayeh city has high potential for tourism development

Iranica Desk

Kuhpayeh, a city located east of Isfahan Province, with a 3,000-year-old history, has high potential for tourism. The residents of the city are hard-working, innovative and artistic people who are in need of more attention.

With a population of 27,000, Kuhpayeh is 60 kilometers from the provincial capital city of Isfahan, IRNA wrote.

The city is neighbor to Ardestan and Borkhar in the north, Isfahan in the west, Harand and Varzaneh in the south, and Naein and Yazd Province in the east.

Three industrial townships, with 10,000 workers and engineers, are operating in the city, the expansion of which, especially in the field of new technologies, would lead to further

development of the province.

A three-story underground city, dating back to the Sassanid era, was found in Kuhpayeh, which can be turned into a large tourism complex. The realization of this objective would help generate a fixed source of income for the city. A research project is presently being implemented in the underground city by the city's municipality.

Head of Kuhpayeh's Islamic City Council Mohammad Ali Momenian told IRNA that efforts are made by various organizations to prepare conditions for further development of the city.

He added that the private sector supports production of handicrafts including *no-qreh-kari* (silver-working), *qalam-zani* (engraving) and *mina-kari* (enameling).

"A trade center is being constructed next to the main square of the city, which can be a suitable place for selling the handicrafts produced by the local craftspeople," he added. Referring to the importance of the city's ancient castles as the places drawing tourists to the city from across the country, Momenian said that the Abbasi Caravanserai of Kuhpayeh is presently being used as a hotel hosting a large number of guests throughout the year.

He said that the city has four *ab-anbars* (cisterns), the most popular of which is called Haj Mohammad Jafar.

He continued that Kuhpayeh has abundant land resources which are favorable for the establishment of various infrastructures, pointing out that the vast lands surrounding the city can be turned into solar

and wind energy farms.

"It not only helps produce clean energy in the city but also generates revenues for the local people," he noted.

Appreciating the efforts made by those involved in the activities related to the city's farming sector, he said that jujube, saffron, wheat and barley are among the main agricultural crops of Kuhpayeh.

He said that fruitful cooperation made between the city's mayor and some urban organizations of the city helped many projects make significant progress.

Momenian stated that the implementation of five projects are on the Kuhpayeh Municipality's agenda, including the construction of an entrance square, a women-only park, a cultural complex, and an artificial grass field.



● IRNA

Development of metallurgy

The history of metallurgy begins with copper. It is in large parts a random outcome, although the proximity to mining sources played a decisive role, as its three pioneering regions Anatolia, Iran and Palestine demonstrate. However, the road from the exploitation of a material to the understanding of its properties can be quite long.

If native copper was used in Anatolia since the 8th millennium BCE to manufacture about forty various small objects, and later, in the 7th millennium BCE, for rolled beads, such as the bead from Ali Kosh (Iran), or the bracelet of eight beads from Mehrgahr in Pakistan, it was first due to its beautiful colour and metallic sparkle, and copper was certainly considered before all as a stone.

From the 5th millennium on, the use of copper increased markedly and the spectrum of objects broadened. In Sialk, pins, awls and spirals, probably



↑ Cross shaped pendant dating back to late 4th millennium BCE

cold-hammered, were found in the two layers that precede the establishment of Susa.

Real metallurgy, which uses casting in addition to ham-

mering to shape objects, and which also transforms the copper mineral to metal through smelting, only developed in the second half of the 5th millenni-

um BCE, and its impulse seems to have come from the Iranian Plateau. Here in the highlands, Tal-e Iblis and especially Tappeh Ghabrestan provide our main sources of information as to the treatment of the raw material. For typological variety and the manufacturing techniques of objects, Susa in the lowlands is our reference.

It should be mentioned that numerous metals exist in two forms: A native form, when they are already metallic in their natural state – as is the case for gold, electrum, copper, platinum, silver, and native and meteoric iron – and an oxidized form, when they are in a mineral state from which the metal has to be extracted by smelting.

Typology of production

Right from the foundation of the city, the inhabitants of Susa displayed a great talent for metalworking, far superior in number and quality of manufactured objects to the production

at other contemporary sites. The most prolific area is the Susa I Necropolis, contemporary to layers 27-25 of Acropole I: Flat axes, awls, needles and mirrors, all made of copper, had been deposited in 70 of the 2000 graves that J. de Morgan excavated.

The ductility of copper was cleverly exploited to draw the metal into needles, its reflecting properties were displayed by the mirrors, its melting point at around 1100°C allowed the casting of solid objects, and its malleability permitted their reworking after they were taken from the mould.

The Processing of raw materials

Ancient metallurgy at Susa is only known through its finished products, since no workshops have been discovered at the site, or any material proof of their existence, such as hearths, crucibles or moulds.

The analyses carried out by the Laboratoire de Recherche des Musées de France show that two thirds of the objects from the Necropolis consist of very

pure copper, the only notable impurities being arsenic and nickel.

Finding out whether this alloy from the Susa I period was intended or not, is not easy, since analysis cannot distinguish between the casting of native copper and the casting of copper obtained through smelting. Information about the composition of available sources and contemporary metallurgical practices at the sites on the Iranian Plateau, however, can shed more light on the manner in which the metallurgists of the 5th and 4th millennia dealt with raw materials.

Deposits

Two copper deposits in Iran, Talmessi and Meskani, have most probably been exploited from the Neolithic to the Early Bronze Age. They are in the Anarak district, in the north of the Lut Desert and 200km east of Tappeh Sialk. The copper from Anarak also contains cobalt and nickel impurities. At present, Talmessi is considered the probable supplier of Sialk, Susa and Mesopotamia during their earliest periods.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iran-US deal ...

These claims, in the most optimistic scenario, are the beliefs of these media. In fact, no agreement has been reached between Tehran and Washington other than the prisoner swap and the release of Iran's funds.

After the latest round of nuclear negotiations in September, the nuclear talks have stalled due to the US excessive demands. The Americans were trying to implement the issue of prisoner exchange in the framework of the nuclear negotiations, but Iran insisted that these are two separate issues.

Washington's policy was to exert financial pressure on Iran in order to force Tehran to give more concessions or withdraw from some of its legal privileges. In this regard, they began a hybrid war against Iran, especially during last year's unrest, when they hoped that internal problems along with external pressures would force Tehran to retreat from its stances.

However, by adopting the resistance strategy, Tehran has stood up against US pressure. Over the past years, Iran's regional and international status has improved, and the region's Arab countries, especially Saudi Arabia, have restored their relations with Tehran.

Therefore, when the Americans did not find any achievements in their hybrid war against Iran, they retreated from their positions and accepted that the issue of a prisoner exchange should be pursued separately.

The US acquiescence to the agreement ahead of the first anniversary of the riots, which was sparked by the death of a girl in police custody in Tehran, conveys the message that the Americans are disappointed with the effectiveness of the opposition movements active in foreign countries and the policy of creating chaos inside Iran.

Iran arrests terrorists involved in Friday attack



FARS – Iranian security forces captured two terrorists involved in the martyrdom and injury of several members of volunteer Basij forces in the Southeastern city of Qasr-e Qand on Friday. Provincial Police Chief Doostali Jalilian said on Saturday that the detainees were members of the so-called Ansar Al-Furqan terror outfit and were arrested hours later in the border province of Sistan and Baluchestan.

Iran's frozen funds released, to be transferred via banking channel



Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Bagheri Kani (r) bumps fist with his South Korean counterpart, Choi Jong-kun, on the sidelines of the nuclear negotiations in Vienna, Austria, in January 2022.

● SOUTH KOREAN FOREIGN MINISTRY

International Desk

Iran's nearly \$7 billion that was frozen in South Korea is reportedly released and to be soon transferred via a dedicated banking channel.

Mohammad Reza Farzin, the governor of the Central Bank of Iran (CBI), tweeted on Saturday that all of Iran's assets blocked in South Korea were released and will be used in the form of banking payment to purchase non-sanctioned goods and commodities, according to Fars news agency. "I take this opportunity to

thank the currency diplomacy team of the country for their success in unfreezing Iran's assets. Undoubtedly, what has been obtained is beyond the estimations and, of course, this trend will continue," the CBI governor wrote.

Farzin reiterated that Iran's frozen assets had been deposited in South Korean banks in the form of won (the national currency of South Korea) during the late 1990s, and the total sum has accrued no interest since then. "Nearly \$1 billion of the asset faced a decrease

in parity value due to the decrease in the parity of won to the dollar," he added.

The CBI governor announced that the released assets will soon be deposited into the accounts of six Iranian banks in Qatar. A statement issued by the Iranian Foreign Ministry on Friday stressed that Iran has received the necessary guarantees from the US that it will honor its commitment under the deal on frozen funds. It also said that Iran will determine how to use these assets to meet various needs of the country.

New banking channel

Qatari Minister of State Mohammed al-Khulaifi stated on Friday that the ongoing negotiations between the US and Iran regarding a prisoner exchange and the release of frozen Iranian funds include the establishment of a banking channel. Al-Khulaifi added that the banking channel would address several agreed-upon matters among the parties, without specifying the nature of these issues, Asharq Al-Awsat reported.

Iranian officials have stipulated that the transfer of frozen Iranian assets in South Korea to foreign bank accounts is a prerequisite for the release of the five American detainees. In press statements, al-Khulaifi clarified that the agreement was preceded by intensive visits by Qatari officials to both Washington and Tehran. He emphasized that Doha has played a "central and fundamental role" in facilitating negotiations and dialogue between the two parties.

Furthermore, Al Khulaifi expressed optimism that this move would be followed by further steps towards reconciliation, affirming that his country will spare no effort in making additional endeavors to bridge the perspectives between the parties. The Qatari official stated his hope that the Wash-

ington-Tehran agreement would lead to broader understandings, including a return to the "nuclear deal".

Tehran never left talks

Highlighting Iran's uninterrupted efforts to nullify the illegal sanctions, Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian stressed that Tehran has not backed out of negotiations and diplomacy. In a post on his account on X — the social media site formerly known as Twitter — Amir-Abdollahian said the incumbent administration has focused on dynamic diplomacy to fulfill Iran's national interests since it took office in August 2021, Tasnim news agency wrote.

The foreign minister underlined that Iran has never abandoned the course of negotiations and diplomacy, but it has simultaneously proceeded with efforts to neutralize the illegal sanctions.

"The efforts will go on until the achievement of ultimate results and the complete fulfillment of Iran's rights," he stated. The ministry emphasized that releasing the funds has consistently been on its agenda, noting that these funds were "illegally blocked" under the pretext of "overseas banks' concerns about the oppressive sanctions of the United States".

MKO terrorists planning relocation to Canada: Report

The leaders of the terrorist Mujahedeen Khalq Organization (MKO) are making arrangements to relocate their members from Albania to Canada. The MKO ringleaders have reportedly decided to relocate their base to Canada following the Albanian government's pressure and after the failure of their negotiations with the Paris government over relocation to France.

An informed security source told Tasnim news agency that the MKO terrorists have come up with the relocation plan after the government of Albania and its counter-terrorism court imposed restrictions on the terrorist group following the discovery of incriminating evidence from their Ashraf-3 camp near Albania's capital Tirana.

"The MKO heads are making preparations for the gradual pullout of their members [from Albania]," the source said. The source noted that the MKO terrorists have failed to obtain France's consent for the relocation of a number of their elements to a camp in Auvers-sur-Oise on the northwestern outskirts of Paris. The MKO terrorists have employed their lobbies in

the Canadian government, the source noted, adding that arrangements have been made to relocate the MKO elements with temporary Canadian passports or temporary resident permits in Canada in the first step. Last week, the government of Albania banned Maryam Rajavi, the ringleader of the terrorist MKO group, from entering the country.



▲ A checkpoint set up outside MKO's camp in Tirana, Albania
● TASNIM



Mohammad Ali Rajabi
Cartoonist



Iranian MPs meet Hezbollah chief, Palestinian parties

A delegation of senior members of the Iranian Parliament met and held talks with the head of the Lebanese resistance movement, Hezbollah, as well as Palestinian parties in Beirut on Saturday.

Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, secretary general of Hezbollah, met with the Iranian parliamentary delegation led by the Chairman of the National Security and Foreign Policy Committee of the Iranian Parliament Vahid Jalalzadeh, IRNA reported on Saturday, citing



a report by Alahad News Network.

The two sides discussed a range of issues concerning the region and the latest developments in Lebanon and Palestine.

The Iranian delegation had also visited the Syrian capital Damascus.



Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah (third-r) meets with Iranian parliamentary delegation in Beirut, Lebanon, on August 12, 2023.
● IRNA

Armenia calls for UN help on Nagorno-Karabakh



A bridge and a checkpoint are seen on a road towards the region of Nagorno-Karabakh, in Armenia, on July 28, 2023.
● HAYK MANUKIAN/PHOTOLURE VIA AP

Armenia on Saturday urged the UN Security Council to hold a crisis meeting on Nagorno-Karabakh, citing a "deteriorating humanitarian situation" after accusing Azerbaijan of blocking supplies to the disputed region. The Caucasus neighbours have been locked in a dispute over the enclave – internationally recognised as part of Azerbaijan – since the 1980s and fought

two wars over the territory, AFP reported. The second, in 2020, saw the defeat of Armenian forces and significant territorial gains for Azerbaijan. "The Armenian government demands the intervention of the UN Security Council as the main organ for safeguarding global security," Mher Margaryan, Armenia's permanent representative to the UN, said in a letter to the body. For months, Yerevan has accused Baku of stopping traffic through the Lachin corridor – a short, mountainous road linking Armenia to Armenian-populated settlements in the breakaway region of Nagorno-Karabakh. In his letter, Margaryan referred to "serious shortages" of food, medicine and fuel in the majority Armenian-populated region of Azerbaijan and cuts in electricity and gas supplies. "This situation has led to rising mortality due to several illnesses," said Margaryan, citing patients suffering from conditions including diabetes and cardiovascular diseases. "The population of Nagorno-Karabakh today stands on the edge of a veritable humanitarian catastrophe," he warned, accusing Azerbaijan of "deliberately creating unbearable living conditions for the population." That, he wrote, amounted to an "atrocious" design to force them from their homes. Armenia and international aid groups have meanwhile been warning that the humanitarian situation in Nagorno-Karabakh is dire and deteriorating, with shortages of food, medicines and energy. The two neighbours have been unable to reach a lasting peace settlement despite mediation efforts by the European Union, United States and Russia.

W African regional group weighs next steps on Niger

West African leaders were weighing their next moves on Saturday as they seek to overturn a military coup in Niger that has rocked the region but also triggered a groundswell of support in the country.

Niger's military last month imprisoned President Mohamed Bazoum and assumed power, drawing condemnation from international powers and raising the spectre of further conflict in the impoverished Sahel region of West Africa which is already overrun by a deadly insurgency, Reuters reported.

The regional bloc ECOWAS on Thursday decided to activate a task force drawing on troops from across the region for a possible military intervention to undo what was the seventh coup in West and Central Africa in three years. At stake is not just the fate of Niger – a major uranium producer and key Western ally in the fight against the Islamists – but also the concerns of global powers with key strategic interests in the semi-desert zone.

Thousands of people gathered in Niger's capital on Friday to demonstrate in favour of the coup. The rally began at a French military base in the capital Niamey, then protesters with signs and flags spread onto surrounding streets. "Long live Russia," one protester's sign read. "Down with France... Down with ECOWAS," referring to the Economic Community of West African States.

Regional army chiefs were set to meet in the coming days. It was not yet clear how long the ECOWAS force would take to assemble, how big it would be and if it would actually invade. The organisation stressed that all options were on the table and it hoped for a peaceful resolution. Security analysts said the force could take weeks to set up, potentially leaving room for negotiations. Meanwhile, the African Union, the EU, the US and the UN all said they were increasingly worried about Bazoum's detention conditions.

The UN Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk on Friday said the conditions were "rapidly deteriorating" and could amount to a violation of international human rights law.



Niger's junta supporters take part in a demonstration in front of a French army base in Niamey, Niger, August 11, 2023.
● MAHAMADOU HAMIDOU/REUTERS

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pakistan picks caretaker PM

AFP – Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar, a little-known senator from Pakistan's least-populous province, will be caretaker prime minister to see the country through to the next election, the leader of the opposition said Saturday. "We first agreed that whoever should be prime minister, he should be from a smaller province so smaller provinces' grievances should be addressed," said Raja Riaz Ahmad after a meeting with outgoing premier Shehbaz Sharif. Pakistan's parliament was dissolved on Wednesday and by law an election should be held within 90 days, but the results of the latest census released last week means more time will likely be needed to redraw constituencies.

Biden's remark on China downplayed



BLOOMBERG – The White House pushed back on suggestions that President Joe Biden is toughening his rhetoric on China, a day after he called the world's second-largest economy a "ticking time bomb," saying the remarks were consistent with US criticisms of Beijing.

"The president is referring to the domestic challenges that China has at home, and some of those are on the economic front. And some of those are on the social and cultural front," US National Security Council spokesman John Kirby told reporters. Kirby said he wanted to counter the idea that the US had "sharpened our language."

Hawaii fire death toll hits 80



● REUTERS

AFP – The death toll from wildfires that destroyed swathes of Hawaii this week has risen to 80, Maui county officials said Friday. "The number of fatalities is at 80," the county said in a regular update, adding that 1,418 people were at emergency evacuation shelters.

Russia downs 20 drones over Crimea following spate of attacks on Moscow

Russia thwarted an attack by 20 Ukrainian drones targeting Crimea overnight, the Russian Defense Ministry said Saturday. Fourteen drones were shot down by Russian air defenses and a further six were jammed electronically, the ministry said in a Telegram post, AP reported. No casualties or damage were reported. Kyiv officials neither confirmed nor denied Ukraine's involvement in the attacks. Crimea was reunited with Russia in 2014. As videos circulated on Russian social media Saturday appearing to show smoke rising above a bridge linking Russia to Crimea, the peninsula's



Police and emergency vehicles parked at the side of the wreckage of the drone fell near the Karamyshevskaya embankment to the after a reported drone attack in Moscow, Russia, on Aug. 11, 2023.
● AP

Moscow-appointed governor, Sergei Aksyonov, reported that Russian air defense had also prevented an attack there by shooting

down two Ukrainian missiles. The bridge was not damaged, he said, although traffic was briefly halted.

An adviser to Aksyonov, Oleg Kryuchkov, claimed that "a smoke screen was put up by special services." In Moscow, officials said Friday they had destroyed a drone aimed at the capital, the latest in a string of attacks on the city in recent days. A Ukrainian drone was destroyed over the western outskirts of Moscow, Defence Ministry said, adding there were no casualties or damage as a result of the incident. In July, Ukrainian drone strikes on Crimea blew up an ammunition depot and damaged the bridge across the Kerch Strait linking the peninsula to Russia's mainland. In Ukraine, Russian attacks

on Saturday killed a policeman and injured 12 other people in the southern Zaporizhzhia region. A man was also killed in the Kharkiv region, according to local authorities.

Three drones were destroyed over Zaporizhzhia, and a missile attack targeted Kryvyi Rig, the hometown of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, according to Governor Sergiy Lysak. Also Friday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky announced the firing of all the heads of regional conscription centers, part of his crackdown on corruption since the outbreak of Russia's war in Ukraine more than 17

months ago.

The step was taken after Ukrainian security services presented details of 112 criminal cases against draft board officials suspected of taking bribes and engaging in corrupt practices. Zelensky said in a Telegram post that the jobs should instead go to war veterans, including those with injuries. Zelensky previously fired senior officials suspected of corruption. That has sent a signal to Western allies providing Kyiv with tens of billions of dollars in military aid that Ukraine is serious about clamping down on graft, which has long plagued the country's military.

Australia PM condemns 'scare' tactics on Indigenous reform

Australia's Prime Minister Anthony Albanese on Saturday attacked an opposition "scare campaign" against his plan to give Indigenous people a constitutional right to be consulted on laws that impact them. Opinion polls show faltering support for the reform, which was proposed by Indigenous communities to

give them a so-called Voice on policymaking as well as recognition in the constitution for the first time, AFP reported. Australians will vote on it in a referendum expected in mid-October. An Essential survey of 1,150 voters released last week put the "no" camp ahead for the first time with 47 per-

cent against, 43 percent in favour and 10 percent undecided. Other recent surveys indicated the "yes" side was slightly ahead despite a gradual decline over the past year. To pass, the constitutional amendment needs a majority of votes in favour, both nationally and in most

states. Albanese said the conservative opposition Liberal Party had been "running a scare campaign about the Voice". Opposition leader Peter Dutton has warned that putting the Voice in the constitution would "change our whole system of government". But he has vowed to simply

recognise Indigenous people in the constitution if he wins government. Supporters say the constitutional reform enshrining a Voice would help address the colonial legacy and inequalities faced by Aboriginal Australians, whose ancestors have lived on the continent for at least 60,000 years.

More than 200 years since British settlement and the ensuing persecution of Indigenous Australians, they are more likely to be poor, undereducated, sick or jailed. But opponents say the proposal is divisive, lacks detail, adds unnecessary bureaucracy and risks clogging up the courts.

Iran to go all out for GR glory in Asian Games: Report



Mohammadreza Geraii is expected to be part of the Iranian Greco-Roman squad at the Hangzhou Asian Games.

● iwjir

Sport Desk

The Iranian Wrestling Federation has picked the Greco-Roman team for the upcoming Asian Games in Hangzhou, China, ISNA reported.

For four members of the team the wrestling event in the Far East – starting October 4 – will come 10 days after their campaigns at the World Championships conclude in Belgrade, Serbia, but the Iranian federation has still decided to take a full-strength squad to the Games.

The Tokyo Olympic champion, Mohammadreza Geraii, who will be chasing a third successive world medal in the Serbian capital, is willing to represent the country in the 67kg weight class in Hangzhou, ISNA wrote, though he could be replaced by Saeed Esmaili due to the tough weight loss process in the buildup to the Games.

Superheavyweight wrestler Amin Mirzazadeh, looking to improve on last year's world final defeat, will be the favorite to walk away with the ultimate prize in the 130kg contests in Hangzhou, while Mohammad-Hadi Saravi, the Iranian 97kg contestant in the Wrestling Worlds, will hope to add the Games gold to his impressive medal haul, which includes the Tokyo Olympic bronze and the 2021 world gold in Oslo.

Also an Iranian representative in Belgrade, Nasser Alizadeh will take part in the 87kg competitions on the back of three successive gold-winning campaigns at the Asian Championships – the last of which came in April.

Meysam Dalkhani – a world gold medalist in 2021 – made his return from a long-time injury to win the gold in February's Ranking Series event in Alexandria, Egypt, and despite missing out on a place in the Iranian team in Belgrade, will be eyeing the coveted 60kg gold in October.

Two-time world junior champion and a double Asian gold medalist Amin Kavianejad (77kg) will complete the country's Greco-Roman lineup for the Asian Games.

FIVB U19 World Championship: Iran left heartbroken by France in the final

The final setback still capped a glittering display in the international age-group events for Iran in 2023, following a second world under-21 crown, coupled with the top spot at the inaugural Asian U16 Championship, in July.



France's Amir Tizi-Oualou (3) sets up his teammate during a 3-1 victory over Iran in the final at the FIVB Boys' U19 World Championship in San Juan, Argentina, on August 11, 2023.

● FIVB

Sport Desk

Iran's brave run at the FIVB Boys' U19 World Championship came to a disappointing finish after a 3-1 defeat against France in the final showdown in San Juan, Argentina.

Mohammad Vakili's boys recovered from a first-set 25-22 loss to win the second 25-16 before France took the next two sets 25-18 and 25-21 for a maiden world youth crown.

For the two-time champion Iran, meanwhile, it was a third silver medal in the history of the competition and still an improved finish on the previous edition, where the Asian side settled for a

third bronze on home soil two years ago.

The runner-up spot also capped a glittering display in the international age-group events for Iran in 2023, following a second world under-21 crown, coupled with the top spot at the inaugural Asian U16 Championship, in July.

Outside-hitter Mathis Henno, who went on to pick up the tournament's Most Valuable Player award, contributed with a game-high 18 points for France, with his teammates Joris Seddik and Adrien Roure scoring 16 and 15 points respectively.

Mohammadreza Alejalil

chipped in 14 points for Iran, while Armin Qelichniazi (11), and Taha Behboudnia (10) also finished in double figures.

The French blockers made the difference throughout the contest as the European team registered 18 kill blocks against eight for Iran. France also outscored Iran with six aces – all into Henno's name – against Iran's five, though Vakili's side did slightly better in offense with 47 successful spikes against 46, and in precision with 21 unforced errors against 26 for France.

Iranian head coach Vakili, for whom it was a sixth

participation in the world youth event, hailed the tournament as a "top-notch competition", adding: "The final showpiece against France was one of the best games that I've ever been a part of. The fans' presence added to the excitement of the match."

"We dominated our opponents en route to the final and gave it our best shot today but I have to say France was the superior team," admitted the Iranian.

"They did much better than us with blocking and that's what ultimately cost us the title. I'm still glad we have introduced a group of fine players for the future of the

Iranian volleyball," Vakili added.

There was a bit of consolation for the Iranian boys in the awarding ceremony as Qelichniazi was named the joint Best Middle Blocker of the tournament – alongside France's Seddik – while Morteza Tabatabaei was rewarded with the Best Libero prize.

Henno, who shared the Best Outside-Hitter award with South Korean Lee Woo-jin, and Seddik were joined in the Dream Team by French teammates Thomas Pujol (Best Opposite) and Amir Tizi-Oualou (France). Earlier on Friday, South Korea defeated USA 3-1 (25-

18, 25-19, 21-25, 25-23) in the bronze medal contest, while Bulgaria – runner-up to Poland in 2021 – also came out on top in four sets against Belgium for the fifth place.

Three successive victories over South Korea, Puerto Rico, and Colombia had seen Iran win Pool C without conceding a single set. The Iranians then had to come from behind twice to beat Serbia in a five-set thriller in the knockout phase, before a straight-set victory over Belgium sent Iran into the last-four game against South Korea, which finished with a 3-1 win for Vakili's team.

Kane seals Bayern move to end record-breaking Tottenham career

BBC – England captain Harry Kane has joined German champions Bayern Munich on a four-year deal, ending his record-breaking career at Tottenham.

The 30-year-old striker, who has signed a deal worth more than 110m euros (€95m), leaves Premier League Spurs as their all-time top scorer with 280 goals in 435 appearances. In a social media post he said he "felt this was the time to leave" Spurs. Kane's future had been uncertain all summer because he only had one year left on his contract at Spurs.

He has won the Premier League Golden Boot three times – in 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2020-21 – and with 213 goals from 320 games in the English top flight, needed just 48 more

to break Alan Shearer's Premier League scoring record.

Kane, who is England's all-time leading scorer with 58 international goals, has never won a major trophy with club or country.

"I'm very happy to be a part of FC Bayern now. Bayern is one of the biggest clubs in the world, and I've always said that I want to compete and prove myself at the highest level during my career," said Kane, who will wear the number nine shirt at Bayern.

"This club is defined by its winning mentality – it feels very good to be here." Bayern Munich claimed their 33rd Bundesliga title last season – and 11th in a row – and have won the Champions League six times and German Cup on 20 occasions. Bayern chief executive

Jan-Christian Dreesen said their pursuit had been "a long process" but that Kane was their "absolute dream player right from the start".

"He is a perfect fit for us and the club's DNA in terms of both football and character," he added.

"World-class centre forwards have always been an important factor when FC Bayern has celebrated its greatest triumphs, and we're convinced that Harry Kane will continue this success story.

"Our fans can look forward to one of the best goal scorers of our time." Club president Herbert Hainer said the transfer required "tenacity, bite and perseverance", adding: "Kane will not only strengthen FC Bayern, but also be a real asset to the entire Bundesliga."



Harry Kane poses with Bayern Munich's No. 9 shirt after signing for the German club in Munich, Germany, on August 12, 2023.

● fcbayern.com

Iran to implement 'Family Health' plan in 59 cities: *Minister*

Social Desk

The Iranian Minister of Health has announced the implementation of the "Family Health" plan in 59 cities across the country. Under this initiative, individuals are assigned a unique file based on their national code. Family doctors maintain these files and record patients' medical conditions, referring them to specialized care if necessary.

Notably, if someone is hospitalized through this system, their treatment expenses are covered by insurance at an impressive rate of 95 percent, as reported by Tasnim News Agency.

Minister Einollahi expressed appreciation for the efforts made by health journalists in enhancing society's level of health literacy. Journalists play a crucial role in addressing lifestyle issues and raising awareness about topics like increased consumption of high-calorie fast foods influenced by Western dietary patterns – contributing to a rise in infectious diseases.

By fostering hope within communities, journalists strengthen social capital while countering attempts by foreign media outlets to erode trust in government institutions.

Einollahi emphasized journalism as both an art and a mission, highlighting its significance within health reporting specifically. Recognizing its challenges and often limited profitability, he called for improved welfare packages for journalists including service benefits and supplementary insurance coverage for themselves and their families. The minister also acknowledged the role played by journalists as storytellers of hope, vitality, and resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic while making valuable contributions to public health. Reflecting on Iran's response to COVID-19, Einollahi stated that despite challenging sanctions situations, the country successfully administered 1.6 million vaccine doses daily. He highlighted the achievements made under the current administration in controlling the

pandemic with vaccination rates positively impacting decreased COVID-19 related deaths. While Iran experienced approximately 122,000 deaths until December 2021 due to COVID-19, that number reduced significantly to 22,000 since the beginning of this year.

Expressing gratitude for healthcare workers' sacrifices during these difficult times, Einollahi acknowledged that around 350 individuals from various medical professions, including doctors, nurses, and service personnel, lost their lives while serving on the frontline of the pandemic.

Proudly sharing a notable accomplishment, Einollahi revealed that Iran is the only country in the region capable of producing six different types of COVID-19 vaccines using various platforms. This achievement has positioned Iran ahead of neighboring nations in terms of health indicators – recognition received from the World Health Organization. Furthermore, the Minister highlighted that not only



does Iran meet its own population's healthcare needs but it has also become a sought-after destination for treatment by individuals from neighboring countries. This marks a significant shift from pre-Revolution times when Iranians often traveled abroad for medical care.

Einollahi also emphasized cultural factors' significance regarding childbirth. Despite stable financial situations, many individuals choose not to have children – a trend that requires attention. The Minister expressed concerns about population decline

within the country and stressed that if this issue is not addressed within the next six years, Iran will face severe challenges and move towards becoming an aging society.

MEHR

Autopsy reveals Tara's cause of death

Social Desk

The results of the autopsy conducted on a 4-year-old male cheetah in the Turan region have been released, revealing that anemia was the primary cause of death. The young male cheetah, named Tara, tragically passed away recently. Tara, son of Talkhab, died due to severe anemia caused by leeches. During the examination, approximately 30 leeches were found attached to the roof of his mouth, with a significant number discovered at the back of his throat, Fars News Agency reported.

In Tehran's autopsy report, it was revealed that necrosis had affected part of Tara's heart and extensive bleeding occurred in his cerebellum - leading

to loss of balance. Ascites or emphysema in the lungs indicated heart failure and severe ultra-acute anemia resulting from weakness likely caused by multiple leeches present in his mouth and esophagus.

This specific male cheetah was born in 2019 and initially identified within Turan National Park area through camera traps operated by Semnan Province's General Environment Department.

While there is no available information about Talkhab's mother and her presence has not been captured on camera traps, Faraz, her brother, still resides within Turan National Park. The fate and gender status of another sibling named

Turang remain unknown.

The identification process for Talkhab and her family has sparked curiosity among wildlife enthusiasts and Iran's environmental community regarding name attribution accuracy. Initially assigned as Khorshid in 2016, when she was recognized as an immature cub, alongside her mother Parieh and brother Faraz, subsequent events led to proper re-identification as Talkhab.

As investigations into this unfortunate incident continue, conservationists are determined to gain a better understanding of circumstances surrounding Tara's death while shedding light on potential threats faced by cheetahs within Turan region's ecosystem.

Maximum heat limit for human body identified



GETTY IMAGES

Scientists have identified the maximum mix of heat and humidity a human body can survive.

Even a healthy young person will die after enduring six hours of 35-degree Celsius (95 Fahrenheit) warmth when coupled with 100 percent humidity, but new research shows that threshold could be significantly lower, according to Science Alert. At this point sweat – the

body's main tool for bringing down its core temperature – no longer evaporates off the skin, eventually leading to heatstroke, organ failure and death.

This critical limit, which occurs at 35 degrees of what is known as "wet bulb temperature," has only been breached around a dozen times, mostly in South Asia and the Persian Gulf, as per Colin Raymond of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

None of those instances lasted more than two hours, meaning there have never been any "mass mortality events" linked to this limit of human survival, said Raymond, who led a major study on the subject.

But extreme heat does not need to be anywhere near that level to kill people, and everyone has a different threshold depending on their age, health and other social and economic factors,

experts say. For example, more than 61,000 people are estimated to have died due to the heat last summer in Europe, where there is rarely enough humidity to create dangerous wet bulb temperatures.

But as global temperatures rise – last month was confirmed on Tuesday as the hottest in recorded history – scientists warn that dangerous wet bulb events will also become more common.

Maisa, Eram Zoo's calf, doing fine

Social Desk

World Elephant Day, which is celebrated every year on August 12, is named with the aim of spreading awareness about the danger of extinction of these

valuable, useful animals in the wild.

Maisa, the offspring of two Sri Lankan elephants, which transferred to Iran a few years ago, now is two years old and is under necessary veterinary care and regular round-the-clock monitoring, according to ISNA.

Zoo elephants usually consume 60-80 kg of a combination of fruits, vegetables and fodder daily and since Maisa's consumption of



ISNA

milk is greatly reduced, she eats between 20 and 30 kg of vegetables and

fruits daily, as per Mehdi Sa'adat, director of Eram Zoo.



FARS

Iranian film wins at Russian festival



Arts & Culture Desk

ILNA - The cinematic work, 'Kan Pamenar,' directed and produced by Ashkan Darvishi, was awarded the Special Jury Prize at the fifth edition of the Patriki Film Festival in Moscow, Russia.

'Kan Pamenar,' based on a concept by Ashkan Darvishi, sheds light on the lives of child laborers in the impoverished neighborhoods of Tehran's urban outskirts, as well as the support for marginalized Afghan girls. The film's closing credits feature the iconic 'Sharh-e Rozegar' track with Salar Aqili's vocals.

Having premiered in the Art & Experience Cinema chain in March 2023, the film received a warm reception from audiences. 'Kan Pamenar' became exclusively available on the Iranian streaming platform Filimo, starting May 22, while providing access to viewers.

The film boasts performances by Siyamak Safari, Babak Nouri, Alireza Ostadi, Neda Hosseini, Cyrus Hemati, and Mehdi Tarokh, with a special appearance by Fariba Kowsari.

Italy gets back 266 antiquities from New York seizures



AP - Italy celebrated the return of 266 antiquities from the United States, including Etruscan vases and ancient Roman coins and mosaics worth tens of millions of euros (dollars), that were looted and sold to US museums and private collectors.

The returned items include artifacts recently seized in New York from a storage unit belonging to British antiquities dealer Robin Symes, officials said. In addition, the haul that arrived in Rome included 65 objects that had been offered by a collector to Houston's Menil Collection, but were declined.

The art unit of Italy's Carabinieri paramilitary police said the owner of the collection "spontaneously" gave back the items after investigators determined they had come from clandestine excavations of archaeological sites, according to a carabinieri statement.

While the carabinieri said the works had been part of the Menil Collection, the museum said they never were.

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Iran's Rahbari to conduct Chinese orchestras

Arts & Culture Desk

Celebrated Iranian conductor and composer Ali Rahbari received an invitation to lead symphony orchestras during the upcoming Shenzhen International Festival in China, scheduled for later this year. Rahbari is set to conduct two masterpieces by

Czech composer Antonín Leopold Dvořák and Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky on October 12, 2023, in the vibrant city of Shenzhen, according to a report from IRNA on Saturday. The China Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra, through this festival, aims to bridge cultural divides among nations

across the globe, as highlighted by the festival's directors. Ali Rahbari, also known as Alexander Rahbari, extended an invitation to the China Philharmonic Orchestra to perform in Iran approximately six years ago. He has previously led the China Philharmonic Orchestra in a remarkable performance

held in Beijing. With a history of participating in major international festivals in cities including Vienna, Pretoria, Brussels, Geneva, Hong Kong, and Caracas, among others, the Iranian conductor has garnered recognition and acclaim on the global stage. The Shenzhen Interna-

tional Festival has become a significant event in China's musical landscape, attracting numerous artists from diverse countries. Rahbari's participation is expected to add another layer of cultural exchange to the event, enhancing the festival's mission of fostering international understanding through music.

Two Iranian animations to be adapted into novels



Arts & Culture Desk

The animated films 'Princess of Rome' and 'The

Elephant King' are set for being adapted into novels, recent reports confirm. Hamed Ja'fari, the produc-

er behind these animations, announced the decision to adapt the films' screenplays into literary

works, IRNA wrote. Although originating from Honar Pooya Animation Studio in previous years, these films have maintained their captivating allure for audiences, sustaining significant popularity across various platforms. Derived from these films and featuring characters from the original animations, secondary products continue to hold appeal among children and teenagers. The decision to craft novels based on these works aims to enrich the value chain, enhance merchandise, and maintain strong connections with the audience. Furthermore, developments for both 'Princess of Rome' and 'The Ele-



phant King' are underway, with gradual updates anticipated. Ja'fari noted that the adaptation of film scripts into respective novels will be carried out as part of the novelization process. He also discussed recent

sessions organized by the Institute for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults (IIDCYA) for the animated film 'Smart Kid,' highlighting discussions centered on crafting and publishing storybooks related to it.

Authors threaten boycott of Edinburgh book festival over sponsors' fossil fuel links

Authors including Zadie Smith, Ali Smith and Katherine Rundell have called on the Edinburgh International book festival to drop any sponsor that invests in fossil fuels. The lead sponsor of the literary festival, which started on 12 August, is investment firm Baillie Gifford. Based on calculations by media outlet The Ferret, the company has up to £5bn invested in corporations that profit from fossil fuels. An open letter signed by a group of more than 50 authors and event chairs stated that these corporations are "making huge profits from global disaster, and

hide behind esteemed cultural institutions, like the Edinburgh book festival, as sanction for its continued operations". The letter, which has also been signed by journalist and author Gary Younge and novelist Jessie Burton, asks that Baillie Gifford stops investing in fossil fuel companies. If the firm does not do so, it calls on the festival to find alternative sponsors for 2024. If these demands are not met, the letter asks all authors to boycott the festival next year, the Guardian reported. This comes after climate activist Greta Thunberg

pulled out of her scheduled appearance at the festival earlier this month, accusing Baillie Gifford of "greenwashing". Gifford is an Edinburgh-based independent investment partnership founded in 1908. The

firm supports a number of initiatives in the literary world, including the sponsorship of some of the UK's largest book festivals, including Hay and Cheltenham as well as Edinburgh. It also sponsors the UK's most prestigious



nonfiction prize, the Baillie Gifford prize, the most recent winner of which was Rundell. In response to the letter, Nick Barley, festival director, thanked the authors for their letter. "We fully acknowledge your concerns about the devastating impact of fossil fuel exploitation on the climate: as individuals and as a charity we firmly agree. For these reasons we promise to think about your letter carefully. The last thing we want is to let anyone give the impression we are on opposite sides." Barley proposed that the festival organisers and the signatories "talk at the festival - with each other and with audience members who share the same concerns." A representative from Bail-

lie Gifford told the Guardian that the firm "has nothing further to add" to the statement it issued last week in response to Thunberg's withdrawal, in which Baillie Gifford partner Nick Thomas said the company is "not a significant fossil fuel investor". However, the representative went on to say that the firm would like to draw attention to the notes at the end of the statement, specifically a section that reads: "Baillie Gifford describes its investment style as 'long-term growth'. That means they look for companies with the potential to grow significantly over a decade or more. These companies tend to be using technology to provide society with progressive products, services, healthcare and materials."