

Iran, Indonesia team up to advance remote robotic surgery

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Indonesia and Iran have joined forces to develop remote robotic surgery, with Indonesian experts traveling to Iran for specialized training. Indonesian Ambassador to Tehran Ronny Prasetyo Yuliantoro, praised the strengthened partnership between the two nations, emphasizing the mutual benefits of their cooperation in healthcare and education. Yuliantoro discussed the cutting-edge surgical system with Iran Daily, highlighting its potential to revolutionize patient care by allowing surgeons to perform operations from a distance using wireless networks and robotic technology. Last year, the countries agreed to set up the "Indonesia-Iran Remote Robotic Surgery Center." This venture involves collaboration between the Vice Presidency for Science and Technology, Tehran

University of Medical Sciences, Sina Robotics and Medical Innovators Corporation, the Indonesia Ministry of Health, Hasanuddin University, and Indofarma Company, with the center based in a hospital in Makassar. Indonesia and Iran's cooperation in remote robotic surgery began in 2019 with a visit from Indonesia's then-Minister of Health, resulting in remarkable success over the past four years.

Iran's investment in Nusantara

The Indonesian ambassador to Iran, referring to the plan to move Indonesia's capital from Jakarta to Nusantara, invited Iranian businesspeople and entrepreneurs to invest in projects related to the capital relocation. He added that Iranian investors can currently invest in various sectors across Indonesia, but the capital relocation presents a new opportunity for joint participation in these projects. Nusantara, the future capital of Indonesia, is set to be inaugurat-



Indonesian Ambassador to Tehran Ronny Prasetyo Yuliantoro
● IRAN DAILY

ed on August 17, 2024, coinciding with Indonesia's Independence Day. This new city will replace Jakarta, which has been the capital since independence in 1945. The capital is being moved from the heavily congested Jakarta to Nu-



santara, located in East Kalimantan province on the island of Borneo, about 1,200 kilometers away from Jakarta. The construction of the new capital, initially estimated to cost 466 trillion rupiahs (around \$32 billion), was supposed to start at the beginning of 2020, but the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the project. Currently, many buildings in the new capital are unfinished, and some forecasts suggest that the entire city might not be completed until 2045. According to the Indonesian news agency Antara, "Nusantara" means "archipelago" in the Indonesian language and was named with the direct approval of the President.

Minister for National Development Planning of Indonesia explained that "Nusantara" was chosen as the capital's name due to its symbolic international significance, which instantly evokes the image of Indonesia as an archipelago. The naming process involved consultations with historians and linguists before being presented to the president. The Indonesian envoy also highlighted the long-standing relationship between Iran and Indonesia, noting that next year will mark the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Over the years, the ties between Iran and Indonesia have developed significantly, and he believes that

future cooperation will continue to grow. The Indonesian ambassador to Iran also mentioned the educational and scientific cooperation between the two countries, noting that Iranian and Indonesian universities collaborate in academic research and student exchange programs. He further highlighted the growing economic ties between Iran and Indonesia, stating that the two countries have signed an economic memorandum of understanding regarding the Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA). He emphasized that there are still many opportunities to expand cooperation between the two countries.

Iran, Burkina Faso seek to work together on handicraft sector



● MEHR

Officials from Iran and Burkina Faso stressed the importance of strengthening their ties in the field of handicrafts. Burkina Faso's Ambassador to Tehran, Mohammadi Kaboureh, met with Maryam Jalali, Iran's Deputy Minister of Cultural Heritage, Tourism, and Handicrafts for Traditional Arts, in Tehran to discuss their countries' relationship and shared interests, Mehr News Agency reported.

Jalali highlighted the similarities between the artists in both countries and underscored the importance of exchanging experiences in training and marketing. She mentioned the global significance of the art economy and said that Iran's participation in the 17th African International Handicrafts Exhibition in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, presents a great opportunity to

strengthen ties and share experiences. The meeting also covered topics such as collaboration in experience-based tourism, leveraging the skills of Iranian artists in jewelry and textiles, organizing cultural weeks in Burkina Faso, and cooperating in marketing efforts. Ambassador Kaboureh expressed hope that relations between Iran and Burkina Faso

would grow stronger in the field of handicrafts. He invited Iranian artists and craftsmen to take part in the 17th International Exhibition of Handicrafts in Ouagadougou (SIAO), one of Africa's largest handicraft events, which draws participants from more than 50 African countries. The event offers a valuable platform for showcasing Iranian handicrafts.

Iran's Qeshm, Russia's Krasnodar ink sisterhood agreement

Qeshm Island in Iran and Krasnodar in Russia have officially become sister cities. The two cities signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) during a ceremony in Krasnodar on Monday evening. The agreement was signed by Qeshm's Mayor, Mirdad Mirdadi, and Krasnodar's Mayor, Yevgeny Naumov. The MoU paves the way for collaboration between the cities in areas such as construction, education, and cultural exchanges. The signing took place in the presence of regional officials, the head of the Krasnodar city council, and an advisor from the Qeshm Free Zone Organization, IRNA wrote. Mayor Mirdadi highlighted the growing ties between



Qeshm's Mayor Mirdad Mirdadi (L), and Krasnodar's Mayor Yevgeny Naumov sign a sisterhood agreement between Iran's Qeshm Island and Russia's Krasnodar on August 12, 2024.
● MEHR

Iran and Russia, pointing to Qeshm's strategic location in the Persian Gulf. He emphasized the island's role in the North-South corridor, which connects Russia to open waters through Iran. Mirdadi also expressed Qeshm's readiness to facilitate the transport and load-

ing of goods along this route. Qeshm, known for its tourist and natural attractions, hosts over three million visitors each year. Mirdadi underscored the island's potential to boost tourism and trade with Russia. Krasnodar's Mayor Naumov noted the opportunities for

cooperation, particularly in tourism, construction, and education. He mentioned that Qeshm's status as a free trade zone and tourist destination could help strengthen ties between the two regions. Naumov also highlighted the possibility of student exchanges and joint cultural and commercial projects. In April 2024, the mayors of Qeshm and Krasnodar discussed future cooperation during a video call.

Iran's youth robotics teams triumph at 2024 RobotChallenge



Iran's U12 and U17 student robotics teams made a strong showing at the 2024 World Robot Contest Championships, also known as RobotChallenge, held in Beijing, China. The Iranian U17 team, comprising 48 students from across the country, competed in five different leagues. They participated in categories including Rugby, Sumo, Technical Report, Futsal Playing, and Innovation, IRNA wrote.

In the Technical Report category, Iran's U17 team clinched second place, with China taking first and Romania finishing third. The U12 team also made an impact in the Innovation League, winning silver and bronze medals, while China claimed the top spot. The 2024 World Robot Contest Championships ran from August 9 to 11 in Beijing, drawing over 5,000 contestants from 31 countries.