

Iran urges SCO to establish 'joint deterrence' system against security threats

Bagheri Kani: US-Israeli war aimed at 'attack on Global South'

Economy Desk

The deputy secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) said on Thursday that the Islamic Republic supports moves to set up "joint deterrence mechanisms" within the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) to combat security threats against the member states and the world.

Speaking at the 21st meeting of the secretaries of SCO member states in Kyrgyzstan's Bishkek, Ali Bagheri Kani said one of the organization's founding goals was to identify and address challenges emerging in the 21st century.

"Today, it can be said with certainty that the greatest problem of the 21st century is the emergence of the pathological theory of 'peace through strength,' which effectively means capitulation instead of agreement," Bagheri Kani said.

He underlined that such an approach leads to the continued use of war as a primary tool for managing international relations, threatening both regional and global security while undermining national and multilateral economic development plans.

"The Islamic Republic of Iran supports the design, coordination and strengthening of joint deterrence mechanisms within the

Shanghai Cooperation Organization so that member states are prepared for a new era of international security."

Bagheri Kani said the solution lay in preserving cohesion within the SCO and increasing resistance against what he described as "pressures for submission." He added that the organization should address modern and hybrid threats alongside traditional security challenges and strengthen cooperation among members in line with the SCO Charter. Iran also supports Russia's proposal to establish a "rapid response mechanism to international challenges," and an initiative to create strategic resource reserves within the frameworks of the SCO and BRICS, Bagheri Kani said, adding that establishing financial settlement systems would be a vital infrastructure for enhancing cooperation.

Iran war aimed at eroding Asian convergence

Pointing to the US-Israeli "40 days of uninterrupted aggression" against Iran, Bagheri Kani accused unnamed adversaries of carrying out attacks on military officials, civilian infrastructure, industrial and educational facilities, and peaceful nuclear installations, while also supporting separatist and militant groups around Iran's borders.

"Before the conflict, Iran's foreign policy had focused on neighborhood diplomacy and maximizing engagement with neighboring and aligned countries," Bagheri Kani said. "The war against Iran was intended to undermine Asian convergence and was the beginning of an attack on the Global South."

"This war, although it began with Iran, is not limited to Iran," he said. "Any weak response is an invitation to more war."

Bagheri Kani also censured Israel's expansionism and said its efforts to occupy and annex surrounding territories and spread violence across the region had become the main source of insecurity in West Asia.

He said lasting peace and stability in the West Asian region could only be achieved through a comprehensive and just resolution to the Palestinian issue, based on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian State.

During his visit to Bishkek, the deputy secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council also met and held talks with Adyl Orozbekov, the secretary of the Security Council of Kyrgyzstan.

During the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on issues of mutual interest as well as ongoing regional and international develop-



Ali Bagheri Kani, deputy secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council, addresses the 21st meeting of the secretaries of SCO member states in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, on May 14, 2026. MEHR

ments.

They also reviewed the current state and prospects for cooperation in several areas of interest to both countries.

The meeting underscored the importance of Kyrgyzstan's role as the current chair of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and emphasized the need to further strengthen multilateral cooperation within the framework of the organization.

Founded in 2001 by China, Russia, and several Central Asian republics to address regional security concerns, the SCO has since expanded to include India, Pakistan, Iran, and Belarus. An additional 16 nations hold observer or dialogue partner status.

The organization engages in joint counter-terrorism drills, coordinates on security matters, and fosters collaboration in trade, energy, and education.

Iran crude tops \$104 per barrel amid smoldering Hormuz tensions



IRNA

Economy Desk

Prices for Iranian crude oil traded above \$104 per barrel in global markets, with benchmark oil prices climbing on concerns over tensions involving Iran and uncertainty surrounding shipping through the Strait of Hormuz.

According to the latest data published by OilPrice, Iranian crude grades posted mixed prices across regional markets despite a daily decline of 1.31%.

Iranian Light crude for delivery to northwest Europe was priced at \$103.25 per barrel, while Iranian Heavy and Forozan Blend traded at \$101.35 and \$101.60, respectively. In the Mediterranean market, Iranian Light crude stood at \$102.60 per barrel, while Iranian Heavy and Forozan Blend were priced at \$100.45 and \$100.70, respectively.

The highest recorded price for Iranian crude was at Egypt's Sidi Kerir terminal, where Iranian Light reached \$104.50 per barrel. Iranian Heavy traded

there at \$102.35 per barrel, while Forozan Blend was priced at \$102.60.

Global oil benchmarks also rose sharply. Brent crude futures climbed \$1.27, or 1.2%, to \$106.99 a barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate crude gained \$1.42, or 1.4%, to \$102.59 a barrel.

Brent prices have risen nearly 6% over the past week, while US crude has gained more than 7%, amid uncertainty surrounding a fragile ceasefire linked to the conflict involving Iran and persistent concerns over maritime security in the Strait of Hormuz, a critical artery for global oil shipments.

The gains followed comments by US President Donald Trump, who said in an interview broadcast by Fox News on Thursday night that he would not "be much more patient" with Iran and urged Tehran to sign an agreement.

Despite statements from Tehran that around 30 vessels had recently passed through the Strait of Hormuz, concerns

about attacks and ship seizures in the region continued to weigh on markets.

Jamieson Greer told Bloomberg on Friday that China was taking a "very pragmatic" approach toward engagement with Iran and that keeping the Strait of Hormuz open remained critically important for Beijing.

Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping were expected to meet on Friday to conclude a two-day state visit marked by ceremonial events and trade discussions.

Analysts said the Beijing summit failed to produce significant progress on Iran, prompting markets to refocus on the ongoing impasse and risks surrounding the Strait of Hormuz, including the possibility of renewed military escalation.

Among the market expectations from the summit were signals of stronger energy cooperation between Washington and Beijing. Trump said China had expressed willingness to purchase oil from the United States.

NIGC: 75 firms agree to join nationwide gas-saving push

Economy Desk

The head of the National Iranian Gas Company (NIGC) announced on Thursday that 75 operator companies had signed agreements with provincial gas firms as part of a nationwide drive to optimize natural gas consumption and improve energy efficiency.

Saeid Tavakoli made the remarks during the 5th meeting on natural gas consumption optimization programs, held via videoconference with senior managers from provincial gas companies, refineries and operational regions, according to the company.

Tavakoli said Iran would continue implementing gas consumption management programs, describing targeted optimization projects as a central pillar of the country's energy strategy.

He said current measures were progressing favorably. Iran, which holds some of the world's largest natural gas reserves, has struggled in recent years with rising domestic demand, seasonal shortages and inefficiencies in consumption, particularly during winter months when residential heating demand surges. Authorities have increasingly focused on efficiency measures to reduce pres-

sure on the national grid and maintain stable supplies to industries and power plants.

Tavakoli said ongoing projects included boiler room optimization, replacement of high-consumption heaters and energy management initiatives in greenhouses, poultry farms and other high-use facilities.

"These measures have played an effective role in controlling gas consumption and improving the efficient use of the country's energy resources," he said.

He added that consumption reduction targets had been established across sectors including agriculture, industry, power generation, poultry farms and greenhouse operations, with optimization projects being pursued in each area.

According to Tavakoli, 75 operator companies from 29 provinces have signed agreements with provincial gas firms, with the number of contracts continuing to grow as more companies seek participation.

He said expanding cooperation with operator companies and increasing private-sector participation were among the NIGC's key approaches to implementing consumption optimization policies.



Iran relies heavily on natural gas for domestic energy use, electricity generation and industrial production. However, international sanctions, aging infrastructure and rapid consumption growth have complicated efforts to modernize the sector and improve efficiency.

Tavakoli said the continued rollout of the optimization programs was expected to generate significant gas savings nationwide.

He also stressed the importance of monitoring projects and evaluating completed measures, saying stronger coordination among provincial gas companies, refineries and operational regions — alongside the sharing of successful experiences — would help achieve Iran's broader energy management and supply stability goals.

Second Announcement


N.I.S.O.C
 NATIONAL IRANIAN SOUTH OILFIELDS COMPANY
 AHVAZ-IRAN

TENDER NO.: 08-21-0340014

The National Iranian South Oil Company (NISOC) is seeking to procure the specified goods listed in the table below through a Qualitative Evaluation Call for conducting a public tender via the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD). All stages of the tender process including the receipt of tender documents, submission of bidders' proposals, and the opening of bid envelopes, shall be carried out exclusively through the Government Electronic Procurement System (SETAD) portal at www.setadiran.ir. Bidders who have not previously registered must complete the registration process on the aforementioned portal and obtain an Electronic Signature certificate to participate in the tender.

Item	Material Description	Quantity
01	CASING, NON API, GRADE P-110SS, SEAMLESS, "N.VAM", THD OR EQUIVALENT, RANGE 3 (MAX LENGTH: 40.5 FT), AS PER API 5CT / ISO 11960 NACE MR0175, MARKING: STENCIL PRINTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH API 5CT MAX. H.R.C:29, H2S (PPM): 21600, CO2 (PPM): 49000, TEMPERATURE: 225 F, SIZE, WEIGHT, DRIFT AS SPECIFIED; REF. NISOC/ NIOC APPROVED STANDARD MANU COLLAPSE PRESSURE: 8530 PSI BURST PRESSURE: 11220 PSI, 7 IN., 29 PPF, DRIFT: 6.125 IN.	4,000 LE
02	COUPLING CASING, NON API GRADE, SMI, AS PER API 5CT/ ISO 11960 NACE MR0175 TO BE ELECTRO PLATED MARKING: STENCIL PRINTING IN ACCORDANCE CASING SIZE, GRADE, THREAD AS SPECIFIED REF. NISOC/ NIOC APPROVED STANDARD MANU NON-API GRADE P-110SS, 7 IN., NEW VAM OR EQUIVALENT	200 NO

Vendors who intend to participate in aforesaid tenders are requested to send their "Intention To Participate" letter via fax to the following number along with their resume according to Qualitative Assessment Form no. 1, available at: www.setadiran.ir, not later than 14 days after the second announcement, otherwise, their requests for participation in the tender will be disregarded. The applicants should have relevant background in supplying the required goods and capability to provide and submit a bid bond of 48,935/29 EURO or 78,385,328,896 RIAL, in favor of NISOC.

ONLY ACCEPTABLE DELIVERY TERM IS CFR, BANDAR IMAM KHOMEINI, IRAN PAYMENT TERM IS C.A.D INCLUDING 25% ADVANCE PAYMENT, SUBSEQUENT TO NISOC'S MATERIAL APPROVAL.

FOREIGN PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

Bldg. No. 104, Material Procurement Management Complex,
 Kouy-e-Fadaeian Islam (New Site), Ahvaz, Iran
 Tel. No.: 061 341 23589 Fax No.: 061 34457437

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