



Islamic Republic of Iran
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

MFA DIGEST

CENTRE FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

43rd Anniversary of the Islamic Revolution



Issue #52, February 1 – 15, 2022

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DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING OF IRISH FM WITH PRESIDENT RAISI;

DR RAISI: TEHRAN DETERMINED TO FURTHER ENHANCE TIES WITH FRIENDLY, INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES



The President described the relations between Iran and Ireland brotherly and constructive, and said, "Tehran and Dublin have wide capacities to strengthen and increase the level of relations in various trade and economic fields, and using these capacities is in the interest of development and prosperity of the two countries".

Speaking during a meeting with Irish Foreign Minister Simon Coveney, Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi referred to the two countries' cooperation capacities in various fields, including energy, science and technology, industry and agriculture, and said, "The volume of relations and trade between the two countries can be higher than the current level. Tehran is determined to further enhance its relations with friendly and independent countries". Referring to Ireland's approach to world political and economic relations, the

President said, "We welcome Ireland's independence from the United States and some European countries".

Dr Raisi described the protection of the interests of nations and mutual respect as the main priority and axis of the foreign policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the new era and noted, "What we emphasise in the current negotiations is that sanctions should be lifted and the rights of the Iranian people must be respected".

At the same meeting, the Irish Foreign Minister Simon Coveney stressed that his country attaches special importance to the development of relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran, saying, "We believe that we are at a strategic level in our relations with Iran, and we seek to develop and improve the level of multilateral relations, and in this regard, we are determined to reopen our embassy in Tehran".

Stating that the discourage and despair of the Iranian people in nuclear talks because of the United States' violation of its promises is understandable, saying, "Ireland believes that in the current nuclear talks, the necessary guarantees should be given to Iran so that the agreement can be re-established".

RAISI IN A MEETING WITH FOREIGN AMBASSADORS IN TEHRAN:
**IRANIAN NATION STANDS ON IDEALS OF ITS
REVOLUTION**



The President described the clear message of the Islamic Revolution as the denial of hegemony and domination, defending the oppressed and the right to self-determination, and stated, "These ideals are universal values, disagreement with which means denying human and moral values, and the proud Iranian nation still stand by these ideals".

Speaking in a meeting with foreign ambassadors in Tehran a day before the celebration of the 43rd anniversary of the glorious victory of the Islamic Revolution, Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi expressed hope that the current year would be the year of peace and excellence of high human values".

The President said that the great Iranian nation is celebrating the 43rd anniversary of the victory of the Islamic Revolution these days, adding, "This revolution is the product of the people's deep belief in the transcendent principles and values of Islam, freedom, justice and intelligent leadership".

Dr Raisi stated, "The strategic thought of the Islamic Republic of Iran is rooted in the school of Imam Khomeini (RA), the founder of the Islamic Revolution and the concept of pure Islam".

He said, "These ideals are universal values, disagreement with which means denying human and moral values, and the proud Iranian nation still stand by these ideals".

Raisi described comprehensiveness, dynamism and intelligence as the characteristics of the Islamic Republic's foreign policy, adding, "The foreign policy of the popular administration, since the beginning of its office, has been based on the Supreme Leader's guidelines, which are 'Maximum interaction with neighbouring countries and allies', 'attention to the capacity of regional and international organisations' and 'development of economic diplomacy'".

The President said that the 13th government has proved its sincerity in strengthening the relations and friendly relations with neighbours and other international partners in the period since its inauguration, saying, "In our efforts for a new approach in the field of diplomacy, we are trying to create a new chapter of cooperation and multilateralism".

The President continued, "We have also taken effective steps to improve relations with all neighbours and by strengthening ports and transit corridors, we have prepared the way for the development and expansion of cooperation with neighbours".

Raisi stated, "Although the development of relations with neighbouring countries and Asia and the activation of economic diplomacy by prioritising the economy in foreign interactions, especially with Asian partners, is one of the priorities of the diplomatic apparatus, but due to balanced, dynamic and intelligent foreign policy, special attention is paid to deepening relations and increasing cooperation with the aim of benefiting from reciprocal capacities with other geographical regions such as Africa, Latin America and Europe".



MFA NEWSLETTER

IN A MEETING WITH THE FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTER, PRESIDENT:

WE WILL NOT LEAVE OUR COUNTRY'S ECONOMY TO JCPOA'S FATE



Referring to the United States' violation of its promise in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), Dr Raisi stated, "If the sanctions are lifted, the ground is ready for an agreement, and Iran has shown that it is living up to its commitments".

"Relations between the two countries have been very good in the years since the Islamic Revolution, but Finland's relations with other countries should not be influenced by outsiders," said Dr Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi during a meeting with Finnish Foreign Minister Pekka Haavisto.

Referring to the 13th Administration's approach to developing neighbourly relations, Dr Raisi said, "We are looking for good relations with all countries in the region and we will continue this policy. Wherever there is a problem in our region it is because of the interference of outsiders".

Finland can play a more active role in building peace and preventing insecurity, he said, adding, "In addition to the economic and commercial relations, Iran and Finland can cooperate with each other in the fields of human rights, fighting terrorism and organised crimes".

Referring to Afghanistan's problems, Dr Raisi said, "The United States and NATO have been present in this

country for more than two decades, but its security has not increased, but the result has been destruction, war, poverty and misery for the Afghan people".

Referring to the nuclear talks in Vienna, Dr Raisi said, "Those who violated the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) were the Americans and those who did not fulfil their obligations were the Europeans, while the International Atomic Energy Agency confirmed Iran's peaceful actions in its numerous reports".

"We have stated that the ground for an agreement is ready if the sanctions are lifted," he said adding, "Iran has shown that it is living up to its commitments, but we will not leave our country's economy to JCPOA's fate".

Referring to the Americans' acknowledgment of the disgraceful failure of the policy of maximum pressure on Iran, Raisi stated, "We hope that European countries will choose the path of independence from American domination, because the United States is not a trustworthy country".

Referring to the 90th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Iran and Finland, Finnish Foreign Minister Pekka Haavisto said, "We attach great value to Iran and there is a lot of potential for increasing joint cooperation between the two countries. We are working to promote bilateral interaction as well as cooperation between the two countries on regional security and world peace".

"We share common concerns," he said, "I agree with you on the formation of an inclusive government in Afghanistan. That was the same message we sent to the Taliban".

"It is unfortunate that the Americans have given up their commitment under the JCPOA," he said, expressing dissatisfaction with the US behaviour in the nuclear deal.



IRAN, FINLAND TOP DIPLOMATS HOLD

DISCUSSIONS

Finnish Foreign Minister Pekka Haavisto, who arrived in Tehran to pay an official visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran, met with top Iranian diplomat Hossein Amir Abdollahian.



During the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on bilateral relations and regional as well as international issues. On the occasion of the 90th anniversary of the establishment of relations between Iran and Finland, the two foreign ministers explored ways to enhance political, economic and parliamentary relations between the two countries. While acknowledging the great economic and trade potentials of the two countries, the two top diplomats stressed that they intend to significantly increase cooperation in these areas. Accordingly, special emphasis was placed on utilizing the important capacities of relations in the fields of transportation, agriculture, technology, medicine, forestry and wood and paper, environment, water resources management and scientific exchanges.

Another part of the ministers' talks focused on the common efforts of the two countries to manage the effects and consequences of the developments in Afghanistan regarding refugees, the fight against drug trafficking and the fight against terrorism. Both sides stressed the need to support the formation of an inclusive government in Afghanistan, in a way that promotes internal stability in Afghanistan and security in the region.

While exchanging views on the latest status of Vienna talks, Pekka Haavisto and Amir Abdollahian stressed the need for the talks to be fruitful in a way that leads to the return of all parties to the full implementation of their obligations under the nuclear agreement. In this meeting, the top Iranian diplomat highlighted the definite failure of the policy of maximum pressure adopted by governing establishment of the United States. He criticized the inaction of the three European countries in the face of this inhumane policy, emphasizing that the Islamic Republic of Iran, based on its national interests, with determination to achieve a good agreement, will continue to participate in the negotiations, but reaching an agreement requires important decisions from the Western parties, especially the United States. It should be noted that the two sides exchanged views on some other regional and international developments, including Syria, Yemen and Ukraine.

FMS OF IRAN, MALI DISCUSS EXPANSION OF RELATIONS



Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian hosted his counterpart from the Republic of Mali, Abdoulaye Diop, and his accompanying delegation.

In the meeting, the two sides exchanged views about various topics of common interest at bilateral, regional and international levels. The Iranian foreign minister pointed to the significance of mutual trips by officials of the two countries for the expansion of bilateral ties and highlighted the status of Africa in the Raisi administration's foreign policy.

Amir Abdollahian stressed the Iranian administration's serious determination for the all-out enhancement of exchanges and interactions with Mali in all areas of bilateral interest.

He pointed to the Islamic Republic of Iran's achievements in different scientific and industrial spheres, including in health, medication, and medical supplies, expressing Tehran's readiness to

share these achievements with and transfer of technologies to the friendly country of Mali.

For his part, Diop expressed gratitude for the Iranian side's invitation and hospitality, voicing his country's preparedness to boost bilateral ties, particularly in trade and economy.

The Malian foreign minister enumerated areas of bilateral cooperation and invited Iranian companies to his country.

The two sides also stressed the necessity of broadening cooperation in the areas of mutual interest, including in education, health, modern technologies, animal husbandry, energy, and especially solar energy.

They agreed on drawing up a road map for cooperation at the earliest.

Meanwhile, given the scope of bilateral cooperation, the two foreign ministers decided to set up a joint cooperation committee between the two countries and convene its first session in the Malian capital of Bamako in the near future.

The Malian foreign minister also invited his Iranian opposite number to visit Bamako. Amir Abdollahian accepted the invitation and it was decided that the trip take place at the earliest time possible.

IRAN FM RECEIVES A COPY OF CREDENTIALS OF IRELAND'S ACCREDITED AMBASSADOR



Ms. Sonya McGuinness, the accredited ambassador of the Republic of Ireland, held a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian at the start of her mission and handed over a copy of her credentials to the top Iranian diplomat.

CUBAN AMBASSADOR SUBMITS CREDENTIALS COPY TO IRAN FM



Alberto Gonzalez Casals, the new Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba to the Islamic republic of Iran, met with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian on Monday afternoon, February 7, at the beginning of his mission in Iran.

During the meeting at the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs, the Cuban ambassador presented a copy of his credentials to the top Iranian diplomat.

OUTGOING SWITZERLAND AMBASSADOR SAYS FAREWELL TO IRAN FM

Christian Didier Dossy, the outgoing ambassador of Switzerland to the Islamic republic of Iran, met with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian, February 7, at the end of his mission in Iran and bid farewell to the top Iranian diplomat.



NEW AMBASSADOR OF THE PALESTINIAN GOVERNMENT PRESENTED COPY OF CREDENTIALS TO IRAN FM

Ms. Salam Zavavi, the new Ambassador of the Palestinian Government to the Islamic Republic of Iran, met with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian on Monday afternoon, February 7, at the beginning of her mission in Iran and presented a copy of her credentials to the top Iranian diplomat.





IRANIAN

NATIONAL

43

rd

DAY

 **IRIMFA_EN** Center for Public Diplomacy of the I.I Iran



MFA NEWSLETTER



Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the National Day of Sri Lanka (February 4)

Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the National Day of New Zealand (February 6)



Iran's Ministry of Foreign Affairs marks the National Day of Serbia (February 15)

TWIPLOMACY

Iran's leader on sanctions: nullifying via domestic production, economic dynamism and use of a knowledge-based economy is more important

Khamenei Media
@Khamenei_m

In the field of diplomacy, our good, revolutionary brothers are working for the #sanctions to be removed. That's good, but more important is nullifying sanctions via domestic production, economic dynamism and use of a knowledge-based economy.



In the field of diplomacy, our good, revolutionary brothers are working for the sanctions to be removed. That's good, but more important is nullifying sanctions via domestic production, economic dynamism and use of a knowledge-based economy.

Imam Khamenei | Feb. 17, 2022

Iran's leader introduced two of the main enemy's tools: media and economic hostility

Khamenei.ir
@khamenei_ir

There are two tools in the hands of the enemy for separating the people from the establishment & changing people's way of thinking & thoughts: economic hostility & media hostility. The youth should stand against these. The #IranianNation should stand against these two actions.

Iran's determined to conclude Vienna talks, Iran's FM spokesperson quotes FM minister in MSC2022

Saeed Khatibzadeh | سعید خطیبزاده
@SKhatibzadeh

FM @Amirabdollahian at #MSC2022: Iran is determined to successfully conclude the #ViennaTalks. We have already made our serious decisions & have demonstrated our seriousness all along. To reach the final agreement, it is now up to the E3 and the US to do the same,urgently.



Iran's FM spokesperson warns about misinformation disguised as reporting; there will be spins but pay no

Saeed Khatibzadeh | سعید خطیبزاده
@SKhatibzadeh

Misinformation disguised as reporting is dangerous.

The final deal to let the US return to the JCPOA will be far from the unsourced spin making the rounds. It won't be a bilateral agreement either.

Expect more spin as we approach final days.

TAJIKISTAN CULTURAL WEEK TO BE HELD IN IRAN



Emphasising that Tajikistan is sending its most important cultural and artistic figures to Tehran, the Tajik ambassador to Iran proposed holding a Tajik Cultural Week in Iran.

Two artistic groups, Ferdowsi and Lal Badakhshan from Tajikistan, traveled to Iran to participate in the 40th Fajr International Theater Festival (FITF), and Tajikistan's Ambassador to Tehran Nizamuddin Zahedi, met with the head of the Islamic Culture and Relations Organization (ICRO) Mohammad Mehdi Imanipour.

Zahedi said that the two countries intend to use the existing capacities to develop Tajik-Iranian relations in all areas.

Imanipour also said: "Iran-Tajikistan relations are long and cultural interactions are always very important for Iran."

The head of ICRO expressed hope that the exchange of cultural and artistic delegations between the two countries would continue, through

which excellent relations would be established.

PERMANENT EXHIBITION OF IRAN OPENS AT MULTICULTURAL MUSEUM OF SOUTH KOREA



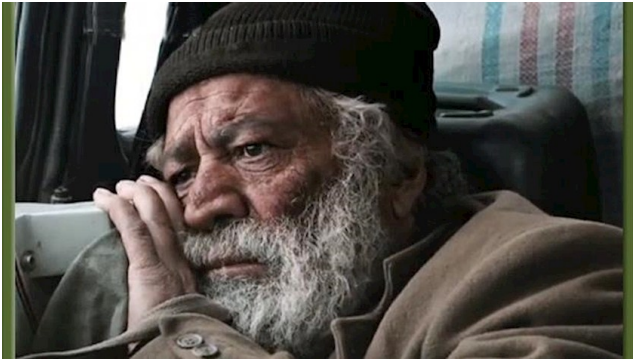
Coinciding with the 60th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations between Iran and South Korea, the Permanent Exhibition of Iran opened at the Multicultural Museum in Seoul.

Many foreign embassies and representations in South Korea have exhibited their countries' historical, cultural, and customs features by providing cultural, artistic, and handicraft items to the Multicultural Museum in Seoul.

The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Seoul also presented cultural, artistic, and handicraft items, traditional clothes, paintings, carpets and kilims, historical and literary books, etc., to the museum to display parts of Iran's civilization and art to visitors.

BEST FILM AWARD GOES TO DAYAN IN AMERICAN INDIEFEST FILM AWARDS

'Dayan,' directed by Behrouz Nouranipour, won Best Picture and Best Director awards at The IndieFEST Film Awards in the United States.



The festival, which has been held in Los Angeles since 2008, seeks to provide new filmmakers with a space to be seen better.

The closing ceremony of this edition was held on February 11, and Behrouz Nouranipour was awarded two honorary diploma awards (as one of the top ten films for the jury) and the best director award for his film.

'Dayan' narrates the story of nearly 4,000 women refugees who could not join their families over the borders during the war with the ISIL terrorist group.

Dayan is an unflinching and brutal look at the realities of war. An aging Syrian father living in exile has to make a choice: part with his special-needs children to escape or keep them and put all of their lives in danger. As he struggles, the world around him crumbles under the weight of war. The performances are outstanding and craft, technical. Stars include Naser Babayian, Abdollah Zavare and Bahar Marofi.

THREE IRANIAN FILMS WIN AWARDS AT BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL

Three Iranian films won awards at the 72nd Berlin Film Festival. The jury announced the selected works of the 72nd Berlinale Film Festival on Wednesday night, after 6 days of competition. (17 February 2022)

The Berlinale Co-Production Market has awarded its top prize to the Iranian-French project My Favourite Cake.

The feature took home the Eurimages Co-Production Development Award, worth €20,000. It centers on an aging woman who dares to live her desires against society's expectations.

'See you Friday, Robinson' by Mitra Farahani won the Special Jury Award. The film has been co-produced by France, Switzerland, Iran, and Lebanon.

The jury's statement about the movie reads, "The encounter of two poets in the autumn of their lives, orchestrated by the director with mischief and a loving yet discerning regard. A playful battle of egos, that doubles as an intimate and moving meditation on language, communication and artistic creation."

Elsewhere, the Iranian short film 'Deer' directed by Hadi Babaeifar grabbed the Special Prize of the International Jury in Generation Kplus for the Best Short Film.



BORUJERD NICKEL SILVER WORLD REPUTATION; BEAUTY OF IRANIAN HANDICRAFTS



The art of making nickel silverware is one of the original arts of Borujerd in Iran's Lorestan Province.

The nickel silverware industry is about 170 years old, and today in Borujerd, limited artists are still making beautiful nickel silverware.

Making nickel silverware is the art of producing metal objects using nickel silver alloy. This profession became popular in some cities of Iran during the Qajar and Pahlavi periods, and today nickel silverware production workshops are limited to Borujerd, but this industry is slowly moving towards oblivion.

Nickel Silver alloy was imported to Iran from Germany and Poland due to its excellent quality, and Borujerdi artists created beautiful metal works from nickel silver sheets such as trays, samovars, teapots, sugar bowls, etc. through hammering and engraving techniques.

Borujerd is known as the main center for making

nickel silverware and engraving in Iran and is the only city that still has a number of workshops, museums, and artists active in this field. Borujerd was nationally registered in 2019 as the national city for making nickel silverware.

In an interview with Iran Press, Amir-Hossein Raufian, an artist who makes silverware in Borujerd, stated that he was following in his father's profession so that this precious industry would not be forgotten.

He also pointed out that Borujerd nickel silverware production dates back to about 170 years ago.

This prominent artist highlighted that the industry and art of making nickel silverware in Iran are only in Borujerd, and this beautiful handicraft has a global reputation, and the type and quality of making nickel silverware in Borujerd do not exist anywhere in the world.

Having diverse tourism and handicraft capacities, Lorestan Province is one of the most important travel destinations for tourists in western Iran.



ITALIAN MUSICIAN: I HAVE NEVER SEEN MORE CULTURED THAN IRANIAN PEOPLE



Italian brilliant pianist says that he has never seen people more cultured than the Iranians.

Giovanni Guidi, a prominent Italian pianist, wrote in a message to the Iranian people: "I have never seen more cultured, emotional, warmer, and more informed people than the Iranians."

Giovanni Guidi, an Italian pianist who performed the Small Italian Orchestra with his six-member ensemble at the 37th Fajr Music Festival five days ago, released a message for Iranian audiences and art lovers after leaving Iran.

The 37th edition of Fajr International Music Festival was held in Tehran from February 11 to 15.

Fajr Music Festival, Iran's most prominent Music Festival, is annually held in different sections, wherein many renowned national and international musicians perform in diverse genres.

Guidi wrote on his Instagram page: Now we are leaving Iran. I was there last time in 2016 and I swear I have never met a more cultured, emotional, warm, and informed Iranian. I know they are even higher than these definitions.

Since the beginning of the corona pandemic, the

musicians held two musical performances for the first time outside of Europe; two pieces of a very original version of contemporary jazz music, composed by Guidi himself, amid a very warm reception by the Iranian public.

The first concert, entitled 'Little Italy', was held at Vahdat Hall on February 14, and presented as a highlight of the 37th Fajr Music Festival.

"Little Italy is a tale, a story of migration in music. It narrates countless stories of those Italians who set out into the unknown in search of fortune, opportunities, or simply dignity. It is the story of young women and men who left everything, risked everything, lost everything or found everything", were the words used by Giovanni Guidi in commenting on his musical program.

IRANIAN FILM GALOO WINS BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY AWARD AT CANNES WORLD FILM FESTIVAL

The short film "Galoo" was nominated for an award at the Cannes world film festival in the categories of best film, best cinematography, and best director.

The short film "Galoo" directed by Kasra Tirsahar, was selected and won the Best Cinematography Award at the Cannes World Film Festival, held on January 16, 2022, and lasted until January 25, 2022.

The film was also nominated for Best Picture, Best Cinematography, and Best Director, winning Best Cinematography.

BAHMAN



photo : Michel Setboun

Try delicious Iranian foods: Zereshk Polo



Zereshk Polo is one of the classic Persian foods that served with fried chicken. It is served in the ceremonies because it is a yummy dish, and its colorful design plays with your appetite. When you hear Zereshk Polo, you will ask yourself what does it mean? Polo means rice, and Zereshk is red and sour that Barberry is its equivalent in English. Now, let's talk about how to cook this delicious food.

Ingredients of Zereshk Polo :

To test this tasty food, you have to know about its recipes. The ingredients which you may need are as follows: Rice, chicken, chopped onion, turmeric, tomato paste, lemon juice, barberry, pistachio slice, butter, salt, saffron, and sugar.

TRANSIT OF GOODS FROM IRAN INCREASED BY 75%



Director General of Iran's Customs announced a 75 percent increase in goods transited via Iran.

Alireza Moghadasi, the head of Iran's customs, said: more than 10 million and 228 thousand tons of goods made in other countries in the first ten months of this year in the Persian calendar (starting from March 20) transited through Iran, which has increased by 75% compared to the same period last year.

Moghaddasi added: "One of the government's main policies is to develop trade with neighbors and facilitate the transit of foreign trade through Iran."

The director-general of Iran's customs also added: "Transit has increased again this year and is expected to reach 12 million and 400 thousand tons by the end of the year."

Moghaddasi stressed: Iran is a corridor between the south-north and east-west, and establishing a corridor between Iran, Pakistan, and Turkey can increase the country's transit.

IRAN'S TRADE VOLUME INCREASES BY ALMOST 3 TIMES

Iranian foreign minister reported that the volume of the country's trade increased 2.8 times within the past six months as the administration has implemented the Asian-centered foreign policy approach.

Hossein Amir-Abdollahian said on Thursday that paying special attention to trade and economic relations was among the missions of Iran's embassies and consulates abroad, besides their inherent duties. (11 February 2022)

President Ebrahim Raisi's administration has set a balanced foreign policy approach with Asia-centeredness as a leading priority.

Amir-Abdollahian said: "Balanced foreign policy pursues the interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran in terms of relations with all parts of the world, which is a priority of the thirteenth administration."



IRAN, OMAN INK COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC CO-OP MOU

Iran and Oman signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for expanding economic cooperation in a variety of areas at the end of the two countries' 19th Joint Economic Committee meeting.



The MOU was signed by Iranian Industry, Mining and Trade Minister Reza Fatemi-Amin and Omani Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Investment Promotion Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, who co-chaired the joint meeting.

During the mentioned committee meeting, the two sides stressed the need for further expansion of economic cooperation between Tehran and Muscat through Iran's southeastern Chabahar Port.

Speaking at the end of the meeting, Al Yousef underlined the significance of Chabahar port as a platform for boosting the level of trade between the two countries, saying that in order to implement the signed cooperation document, an Omani economic delegation will soon visit Chabahar port to assess the infrastructure, equipment, and capabilities of Iran's oceanic port.

Fatemi-Amin visited Oman's capital Muscat on top of a high-ranking trade delegation to attend the 19th Iran-Oman Joint Economic Committee meeting which was held

during February 8-9.

TEHRAN, MINSK STRESS PROMOTING BILATERAL TRADE TIES

Head of Tehran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (TCCIMA) Masoud Khansari and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Belarus to the Islamic Republic of Iran Dmitry Koltsov met on Wednesday to discuss ways of expanding trade ties between the two countries.

During the meeting, the officials stressed the need for promoting bilateral economic ties between private sectors of the two nations.

Discussing the bilateral relations and the problems facing the traders of the two countries, Khansari and Koltsov also explored the conditions for the development of trade relations between the two countries.

Khansari also praised the performance of the former Belarusian ambassador to Tehran, saying that there were good and deep relations between TCCIMA and the Belarusian embassy during his tenure which led to constructive cooperation.

He further expressed hope that during Koltsov's tenure these relations would deepen and the cooperation would become broader than before.



IRAN TO OPEN TRADE CENTER IN SULAYMANIYAH



Iran's Consul General in Sulaymaniyah Mehdi Shoushtari has said the Islamic Republic plans to open a trade center in the region for promoting Iranian products, IRNA reported.

According to Shoushtari, over 30 knowledge-based companies and representatives of 100 major Iranian commodity brands are going to be presented and promoted at the mentioned center.

Speaking with the representatives of Kermanshah Province's private sector on Saturday, the official underlined the development of trade with neighbors as one of the priorities of the 13th government.

"The Foreign Affairs Ministry pursues four major export policies, the first of which is to increase product quality and branding of exported goods," he said.

He also stressed the importance of standardization and continued: "The third policy is the diversification of products; currently, we have a good situation in construction materials, fruits, and fuel, but in the medical equipment, medicine, agricultural machinery, furniture, and clothes despite having the capacity to export to Iraq, unfortunately, we are far behind from our competitors, and our production units must work in these areas as well."

TEHRAN, BUENOS AIRES EYE EXPANSION OF ECONOMIC TIES

Argentina's Charge d'Affaires to Tehran Jorge Mariano Jordan and Head of Iran Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA) Gholam-Hossein Shafeie met on Monday and discussed ways of expanding economic cooperation between the two countries.

Speaking in this meeting, Jordan said his embassy will try to activate 20 companies between the chambers of commerce of Iran and Argentina and act as a linking bridge between producing sectors of the two countries.

The Argentinian diplomat said that his country has a population of 45 million while the country is capable of producing food for 500 million people, the ICCIMA portal reported.

Jordan said he would try to establish communications with different unions and associations active in various areas like foodstuff, auto parts, and home appliances to pave the way for further cooperation with Iran.

Shafeie for his part mentioned the great capacities of the two countries for expanding economic relations and noted that lack of direct transportation is one of the main hurdles on the way of trade between Iran and Argentina.

Mentioning the talks about an Argentinian shipping line being ready to operate between Iran and Argentina, Shafeie said that the launch of a direct shipping line can change the volume of bilateral trade drastically.



MALI'S FM CALLS IRAN ROLE MODEL FOR SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS



Malian Foreign Minister called Iran a role model for scientific progress amid pressure from global arrogance. Washington has always voiced its concerns over Iran's scientific progress.

In the latest development, following the launch of research devices into space by Tehran, which marked another major milestone in Iran's scientific progress, a US State Department spokesperson said: "The United States remains concerned with Iran's development of space launch vehicles."

During a meeting with the Iranian Minister of Science, Research, and Technology Mohammad Ali Zolfigol, Malian Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Diop said: "The Islamic Republic, with its scientific and technological advances, is a model for countries that want to stand up to global arrogance and their oppressive sanctions."

"Mali has been sanctioned by some American, European, and African countries, and we are interested in using Iran's experience to develop science and technology," Abdoulaye Diop said.

Iran's minister of science, research, and technology also said in the meeting: "Iran ranked 15th in science production in the world and first in the region, so it pays

special attention to transferring its experiences in science and technology to friendly and brotherly countries."

IRAN, UNESCO INK MOU ON COASTAL GEOLOGICAL HAZARDS

Iran and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) have signed a memorandum of understanding on coastal geological hazards.

The memorandum of understanding on coastal geological hazards was signed in Tehran by Behrouz Abtahi, director of the National Institute of Oceanography and Atmospheric Sciences of Iran, Raziéh Lak, director of the Earth Sciences Research Institute of the Geological Survey of Iran, and Hamid Nazari, UNESCO Chairholder in the Coastal Geo-Hazard Analysis.

The two sides agreed to cooperate in the fields of education, research and technology.

Sharing hardware and support facilities, exchanging faculty members and specialists for research and teaching, and exchanging professors for study opportunities, providing facilities for professors to attend seminars, and collaborating in holding joint scientific workshops and exhibitions, and research and technology are some of the provisions of this memorandum.

This memorandum of understanding has been concluded in 12 clauses in both English and Persian for four years.



IRAN CHOSEN TO HOST 2022 ASIAN MEN'S CLUB VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



Iran will host 22nd edition of the Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship.

The competition will most likely take place in Urmia, northwest of Iran.

The competition will be held from May 15 to 2 with participation of 11 teams.

Iran Super League champions and a team from the host city will represent Iran in the competition.

Iran have previously hosted the competition three times in 2002, 2004 and 2013.

The Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship, previously the AVC Cup Men's Club Tournament (between 1999–2002), is an annual continental club volleyball competition organized by the Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC), the sport's continental governing body. The competition was first contested in 1999 in China. It was not held in 2003 and 2020 due to 2002–2004 SARS outbreak and COVID-19 pandemic respectively.

The winners of the Asian Men's Club Volleyball Championship qualify for the FIVB Volleyball Men's Club World Championship.

IRAN STILL 21ST IN FIFA RANKING

Iran national football team remained unchanged in the FIFA World Ranking released on Thursday. (February 10, 2022)

The 'Persian Leopards' are 21st in the world and first in Asia, followed by Japan and Korea Republic.

Dragan Skocic's side booked their place in the 2022 FIFA World Cup as the first Asian team in late January.

Belgium remain top of the updated international football teams' ratings list, followed by Brazil, France, Argentina and England.

The next FIFA World Ranking will be published on March 31.





FOREIGN MISSIONS IN IRAN

Swiss embassy in Tehran fascinated by the likeliness of Iran and Switzerland's ski resorts



Switzerland? or Iran ? 🤔🤔
سوئیس ؟ یا ایران ؟



The Museum of @quai Branly honors the #Shâhnâme of the poet Ferdowsi



France en Iran @FranceenIran - Feb 10

ادای احترام موزه کیراندلی پاریس به #شاهنامه #فردوسی، این منظومه حماسی که در قرن دهم میلادی به رشته تحریر درآمد، به عنوان یکی از بزرگترین شاهکارهای ادبی دنیا از آن یاد می‌شود.

Le Musée du @quai Branly met à l'honneur le #Shâhnâme du poète Ferdowsi

★ musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac @quai Branly · Jan 26

#EnScène #Shâhnâmê Réservez vos places pour le spectacle "Shâhnâmê : les amours de Bijan et Manijeh", du 10 au 13 février !

Une plongée enchantée vous attend dans le Livre des Rois persan entre théâtre d'ombres, jeu réel et cinéma d'animation.

ow.ly/zkoxz50HCaWv



Italian musician performs at Fajr Music Festival



Italy in Iran Retweeted Giuseppe Perrone @Aasafir_Perrone

Delicate and inspiring performance on jazz notes by #Giovanni_Guidi and #LittleItalyOrchestra at #Vahdat Hall in #Tehran tonight on occasion of 37th #Fajr Music Festival.



Pakistan's ambassador to Iran reports Tehran-Lahore's chambers of commerce meeting



Rahim Hayat Qureshi @rahimhayat

Spoke at #Pakistan #Iran #business forum organised by #Tehran Chamber. 14 member @LahoreChamber delegation led by Pres @MianNaumanKabir visiting #Iran for mtgs with #Iranian cos & #Mashad & #Isfahan Chambers. 1st visit after #Corona for both Chambers #PakIrantrade @PakinIran 🇵🇰🇮🇷



Iran's Revolution at 43: In Photos

On February 11, Iran marked the 43rd anniversary of the Islamic Revolution with rallies in some 4,500 cities and towns, although most were outdoor parades of cars, motorcycles and bicycles, with few people participating on the streets.



DISCOVER IRAN IN PICTURES

“SARDABEH” FROZEN WATERFALL IN ARDABIL

ARDABIL, Feb. 19 (MNA) – "Sardabeh" Waterfall is located in a village of the same name, 28 km away from Ardabil province. The water of this waterfall is slightly sour, clear and colorless and has a temperature of 35 degrees Celsius. The volume of the waterfall is limited to a few springs and has a height of 16 to 20 meters. The rocks around the waterfall are covered with moss and other aquatic plants.

