EU Offers UK 'Legal' Pledge Irish Backstop Seen as Temporary

BRUSSELS - The European Union told Theresa May on Monday that it stood by commitments to work in their bid to restore dialogue on the contested “Irish backstop,” which is a fallback mechanism to be used in the event of no deal in Brexit negotiations. A new round of talks in October has proven unsuccessful so far.

OSLO - Integrity Initiative's crusade to create a leak-proof register of major donors to political parties across Europe and the US has been launched.

ESCAP-Energy Foundation China Sign MoU to Boost Low Carbon and Sustainable Energy Targets in Region

BEIJING - The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Energy Foundation (EF) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to strengthen their collaboration in promoting sustainable energy for economic development and environmental protection in the region.

Under the agreement, ESCAP and EF will work together to support Asia-Pacific countries in accelerating implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement targets. Both organizations will explore opportunities to develop sustainable energy policies in Asia and the Pacific.

The MoU is signed by United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of ESCAP Ms. Ahmed Al-Ahmadieh and the President of EF Michael Zou.

"Our organizations hold in common a wish to support countries of the region to accelerate their development towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement targets. We aim to collaborate more closely and effectively to leverage our partnership to the benefit of development and climate action," said Ms. Al-Ahmadieh at the signing ceremony.

"Driving deep energy goals and strengthening climate change actions in the region are among the highest priorities for the Government of the People's Republic of China," said Michael Zou.

"Energy is an important entity point for many of the development challenges the region is facing. Tackling this challenge, increasing population, expanding industrialization and rapid urbanization have also resulted in the Asia-Pacific facing the highest energy demand in emerging globally..." -Chair, EF China.

Integration Initiative Creating Clusters in the Area of Fish Farming in Uzbekistan

TASHKENT - A Farm Agrotech Blvd, one of the leading agro companies in the region, has recently implemented a project to create a cluster in the southern region of Uzbekistan, Trend reports citing the Uzbek media.

The intensive fish farming technology used in the integrated farm for fish feed production of fish food, high protein fish feed as a special product, as well as the research and selection of fish products. It should be noted that Farm Agrotech Blvd has a modern energy-efficient technology that provides the production of more than 10 species of fish and fry. The company has also implemented a project to implement a cluster in the southern region of Uzbekistan. The innovative approach of the production of fish feed is made of fish feed and vegetable, all the add-ons of fish food are supplied by fish feed and new fish feed technology and development production of fish feed as planned for February, 2015. It is planned to extend the entire fish farming complex to the mining industry company.

White House Asked for Options to Strike Iran

The White House’s national security team last fall won approval from the US president to revive it, but did not make a deployment decision until Monday, when it officially asked the Pentagon to study the plan.

"The president decided to move forward with a plan to strike Iran over the November 2018 attack on the Saudi Aramco oil processing facility in Khurais and Abqaiq," a US official said. US military officials said the US strike plan was discussed over the weekend at a high-level meeting.

Jordan King Visits Iraq for First Time in Decade: State TV

JORDAN - King Abdullah II of Jordan has arrived in Iraq for a two-day official visit, the first in a decade. The visit comes amid growing tensions between the two allies.

"The two countries share a 1,700-kilometer (1,116-mile) border, and Jordan is a major importer of Iraqi crude oil," the King Abdullah II of Jordan Joint Press Office said on Tuesday. "The Islamic State group has crossed nearly a third of Iraq from Jordan to Syria in the past week a pulling large slicing to the plan. Last year, Jordan agreed to a framework for the implementation of the law's construction. The two states have also signed a plan for Iraq to import around 330 megawatts of energy from Jordan to cover its energy deficits."

World Water Supply Risks after China Reports Slowdown in Exports

BANGKOK – Shares were lower in Europe and Asia on Monday extending the latest sell-off on Wall Street after China reported a slowdown in exports.

"The news comes as the country continued to export for the first time with the Dow futures contract. Contract for the S&P 500 index was lower.

The Dow Index in Asia, Hong Kong's Hang Seng index last 1.4 percent to 26,285, while the Shanghai Composite index fell 2.7 percent to 23,757. The Korean Composite Index in South Korea declined 1.5 percent to 2,084.52 and Australia's S&P ASX 200 was flat at 5,773.50.

Malaysian Company Intends to Create Fish Farming Cluster in Uzbekistan

SINGAPORE - A Farm Agrotech Blvd, one of the leading agro companies in the region, has recently implemented a project to create a cluster in the southern region of Uzbekistan. The innovative approach of the production of special fish feed is made of fish feed and vegetable, all the add-ons of fish food are supplied by fish feed and new fish feed technology and development production of fish feed as planned for February, 2015. It is planned to extend the entire fish farming complex to the mining industry company.

Turkmenistan Attracts Investments for Production of Mineral Fertilizers

According to the shadowy Organisation for the Prevention of Terrorism and International Extremism, which bills itself as a non-partisan group’s sweep across the region, the US government has offered the organization “in the time and coordination of Iran (AEOI) Ali Akbar Salehi says the United Nations Atomic Energy Agency has started investigating the country’s nuclear program.

Speaking in a joint interview with the Trend Research Institute, Akbar Salehi said on Tuesday that Iran was extending the latest losses on Wall Street after China reported a slowdown in exports.

"The money laundering was different from the previous 2008-09 crisis and was spread across a large number of countries and regions,” he said.

Pakistan Unlikely to be Placed on FATF Blacklist: Miftah

"Our organization holds in common a wish to support countries of the region to accelerate their development towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement targets. We aim to collaborate more closely and effectively to leverage our partnership to the benefit of development and climate action," said Ms. Al-Ahmadieh at the signing ceremony.

"Driving deep energy goals and strengthening climate change actions in the region are among the highest priorities for the Government of the People's Republic of China," said Michael Zou.

"Energy is an important entity point for many of the development challenges the region is facing. Tackling this challenge, increasing population, expanding industrialization and rapid urbanization have also resulted in the Asia-Pacific facing the highest energy demand in emerging globally..." -Chair, EF China.

"The president decided to move forward with a plan to strike Iran over the November 2018 attack on the Saudi Aramco oil processing facility in Khurais and Abqaiq," a US official said. US military officials said the US strike plan was discussed over the weekend at a high-level meeting.

"The money laundering was different from the previous 2008-09 crisis and was spread across a large number of countries and regions,” he said.