**UN Ocean Conference Opens with Call for Global Action to Save Planet**

UNITED NATIONS – The United Nations on Monday opened a major conference in Berlin aimed at galvanizing global action to protect the oceans, whose health is crucial for the survival of life on Earth. The conference, which will run from 18 to 22 May, is part of a series of international efforts to address the urgent need to preserve and sustainably manage the world’s oceans.

**UN Chief Calls for Greater Attention to Healthy Environment to End Poverty**

UNITED NATIONS - Under-Secretary-General Christian Berger, the EU ambassador to New Zealand after a trip to the small island nation marking the end of his tenure, said Monday that the European Union is seeking to downplay the importance of the rekindled crisis in the region, accusations of which are leveled by Qatar.

**Trump’s ‘Clear to Me’ to Try to Rebuild Russia Ties: Tillerson**

WASHINGTON - U.S. President Donald Trump on Monday ordered his team to try to rekindle a relationship with Russia that has been cooled by disagreements over Syria, Iran and North Korea, administration officials said.

**U.S. Committed to De-Escalating Tensions After Gulf Rice: White House**

WASHINGTON - The White House said Monday that the United States was committed to de-escalating tensions in the gulf after some Arab countries decided to cut diplomatic relations with Qatar. The President is committed to continuing to work with all of the people in the region, in all of these countries, and with our great marine protected areas and reducing plastic pollution, (Xinhua)

**Pakistan Committed to Protecting Environment: PM**

ISLAMABAD - Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said Monday that Pakistan knows it’s duties to the environment and would keep on working with the world in this regard.

**President Xi Eyes Bigger Regional Security, Political Balance**

BEIJING - Chinese President Xi Jinping stressed Monday that China and the region must work together to promote global connectivity and development, and improve the gravity of the region and the world. China pursues a path of peaceful development, he said, and would work with others to enhance communications and cooperation to push forward the region’s peaceful development of bilateral ties.

**Iran, China Increasing Trade Turnover: Ambassador**

TEHRAN - The trade turnover between Iran and China reached $51 billion, of which the value of Iranian exports to China’s market, the export of products, promote the development of our trade, and best practices and improve the exports from Iran, said the Iranian ambassador to the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

**Turkey bachelories over the crisis between Turkey and Qatar**

Turkey - The US $1 billion package to help migrants in Turkey will have been fully deployed by the end of the year, said the White House on Tuesday. Trump was speaking during a visit to the Turkish city of Cankaya, near the border with Syria.

**EU Reassures Turkey over its €3bn Migrants Package**

EUROPE - The European Union on Tuesday reassured Turkey of its support of its €3 billion package to help migrants in Turkey. The package includes €3 billion in cash and €1 billion in trade and is expected to cover three-and-a-half years.

**U.S. State Department: Upgrading Expands to 13 Members**

WASHINGTON - The US State Department on Monday said that the United States was upgrading its ties with 10 countries, including Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Azerbaijan, which have been upgraded to the same level as the United States.

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**UN Security Council opens its 35th session in Geneva**

GENEVA - The UN Human Rights Council on Tuesday opened its 35th session in Geneva, with a number of countries expressing concerns about the ICJ's ruling on the Palestinian territories.

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