



Maldives asks India to withdraw military

President Mohamed Muizzu asked India to withdraw military from Maldives. This is a brave step forward for a more independent and equal diplomacy: experts **3**

UK bids farewell to its only pair of giant pandas

Panda lovers in the UK are rushing to say goodbye to the only giant pandas in the country as preparations has been made for them to return to China **4**

Docuseries reveals lesser-known sides of the Great Wall

In documentary series The Great Wall with Ash Dykes, the British adventurer and extreme athlete Ash Dykes revealed the lesser-known yet unparalleled intriguing sides of the world's great wonders **16**

www.globaltimes.cn

VOLUME 15 • NO. 4192 • MONDAY NOVEMBER 20, 2023 • PRICE 2 YUAN

人民日报社主管 环球时报社主办 · 出版

► Visit sets course on how to build the next 'golden 30 years' in Asia Pacific

Xi's trip adds stability to China-US ties, injects positivity to intl landscape

By GT staff reporters in San Francisco and Beijing

Chinese President Xi Jinping on Saturday evening returned to Beijing after holding a China-US summit meeting and attending the 30th APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting in San Francisco, with expectations from experts from both China and the US that the trip will serve to further stabilize the most important bilateral ties in the world, while they also cautioned about the possible uncertainties from the US side.



Chinese analysts said on Sunday that now China has pointed out the correct direction for how to develop the China-US relations, it is time to see how much the US can do and to what extent the uncertainties in Washington will impact the future. During the APEC meeting, the world has also seen China's confidence and openness to contribute to the global economic recovery, so that the

world, which faces uncertainties and even turbulence in some regions, can share more benefits brought by the Chinese market with the highest certainty, experts noted.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Saturday briefed the media on President Xi's talks with US President Joe Biden and his attendance at the APEC meeting in San Francisco, the Xinhua News Agency reported.

Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, said that

it is widely believed that President Xi's trip has attracted worldwide attention, which has added stability to China-US relations, brought new impetus to Asia-Pacific cooperation and injected positive energy into the international and regional landscape.

President Xi pointed out in San Francisco that China and the US should assume a new vision, noting that the two countries should jointly develop a right perception, jointly manage disagreements effectively and appreciate each other's

2 US'



A fuel truck on the Egyptian side of the Rafah border crossing drives toward the southern Gaza Strip on November 19, 2023. A first consignment of fuel entered the region in November after the international community's pressure on Israel, allowing communications to resume in the Palestinian territory. Photo: VCG

Arab-Islamic foreign ministers to visit China amid Gaza war

By Zhao Yusha and Du Qiongfang

The possibility of a ceasefire between Hamas and Israel has been brought to spotlight after a US media claimed that the two sides are close to agreement on a US-brokered deal to pause conflict and release hostages, which was later denied by the White House. Chinese experts believe there's a pressing need for both Hamas and Israel to reach a ceasefire deal, as the conflict has entered a critical juncture. However, the hope for long-term pause is still remote because divergences between the two remain large and Israel is in a bind of both international and domestic pressure.

As countries concerned continue conciliating the

2 Long



US' sincerity needed for nice vision to be realized: analyst

►Xi's, from Page 1

principles and red lines, jointly advance mutually beneficial cooperation, jointly shoulder responsibilities as major countries and jointly promote people-to-people exchanges, said Wang in the media briefing.

Jin Canrong, associate dean of the School of International Studies at the Renmin University of China, told the Global Times on Sunday that there is a clear difference between the two countries which was on display at both the summit in Bali in 2022 and in San Francisco this time. "China hopes the summit can set the tone for bilateral ties from a strategic, overarching and directional perspective," he said, adding that the US has given its answer about competition and it only hopes a crisis can be managed after it breaks out.

Lü Xiang, a US studies expert and research fellow from the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said that "By outlining the 'five pillars,' President Xi told the US side how to correctly develop bilateral ties, and this is the guideline that is able to not only ensure peaceful coexistence but also make win-win cooperation serve the most fundamental interests of the two peoples. But the nice vision can only be realized when the US thinks and acts in the same way."

Challenges remain

If the US provocations and military activities in regions like the Taiwan Straits and South China Sea continue, it is inevitable that tensions and crises will emerge again and again, Lü said. "China and the US still think differently, as China wants to fundamentally rule out the possibility of crisis by asking the US to change its policy of containing China, while the

US cares more about how to manage the situation after a crisis breaks out as it wants to remain its containment against China," he noted.

Joseph Nye, former dean of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, told the Global Times that "I hope the meeting will lead both countries to a more realist picture of the relationship. America cannot decouple its trade and investment completely from China without causing enormous damage to itself and the global economy."

Hopes on the peoples

President Xi's meeting with President Biden has greatly recovered the atmosphere between the two countries. This is the foundation for the two major powers to manage their ties in an appropriate way, to rebuild mutual trust and also to seek possibilities for cooperation, Jin said.

During the trip, Chinese leader sent a signal that China's policy toward the US is becoming more multi-dimensional, as China is being more friendly, sincere, patient and pragmatic when dealing with American people, business and industrial circles, youth, as well as local governments and officials, like Governor of California Gavin Newsom, experts said, noting China is determined to ensure China-US relations can withstand the uncertainties caused by the impacts in the fields of geopolitics and security, experts said.

During his speech on Wednesday at the welcome dinner by friendly organizations in the US in San Francisco, Xi confidently introduced the ideas of the CPC and China-proposed initiatives to the US people and elites, to let them understand that China and the US share similar values in how to build a better world for the

next generation and how to satisfy the people's demands, experts said. In the future, China will act more confidently to break the ideological barrier that blocks people-to-people exchange between the two countries.

Economic confidence

Xi made an in-depth review of the inspiration from the course of Asia-Pacific cooperation, pointing out that openness and inclusiveness are the defining feature of Asia-Pacific cooperation, development for all is the overarching goal of Asia-Pacific cooperation, and seeking common ground while shelving differences is the best practice of Asia-Pacific cooperation. On how to build the next "golden 30 years" in Asia Pacific, President Xi called for innovation-driven, open, green development, and inclusive development that delivers benefits to all. He also called for high-quality growth to promote the building of an Asia-Pacific community with a shared future so that the fruits of modernization are widely shared.

At the APEC meeting, Xi pointed out that China's economy has been steadily recovering and turning for the better, and its growth rate is among the highest among major economies of the world, Wang told media, adding that China remains the most powerful engine of global growth. Xi stressed that China's resolve to foster a market-oriented, law-based and world-class business environment will not change, and China's policy of providing equal and quality services to foreign investors will not change, Wang told the media. The Chinese foreign minister said that the attitude sends a strong signal of China's high-level opening-up and boosts the confidence of all parties in continuing cooperation with China.

Long-term ceasefire deal hard to reach; China's role recognized by visit: expert

►Arab, from Page 1

ongoing conflicts, ministers from Arab and Muslim countries seek to visit China for solutions of ending the crisis. Their visit is both an acknowledgement of China's ability and its unique, impartial role in mediating Middle East issues, said experts.

Israel and Hamas are close to an agreement on a US-brokered deal that would free dozens of women and children held hostage in Gaza in exchange for a five-day pause in fighting, The Washington Post reported on Saturday, quoting people familiar with the emerging terms.

However, the beam of peace was soon dashed after Adrienne Watson, spokesperson for the White House's National Security Council, denied the report, saying Israel and Hamas have not yet reached a deal on a temporary ceasefire. The US is continuing to work to get a deal between the two sides, the spokesperson said, per Reuters report. As the conflict entered its seventh week, authorities in the Gaza Strip raised their death toll to 12,300, including 5,000 children, according to Reuters. Israel said it was preparing to expand its offensive against Hamas militants to southern Gaza after air strikes killed dozens of Palestinians, including civilians reported to be sheltering at two schools, media reported.

For both Hamas and Israel, the need to reach a ceasefire deal is more pressing as the conflict is dragging on without an obvious winner, said Liu Zhongmin, a professor at the Middle East Studies Institute of Shanghai International Studies University. Liu believes Hamas and Israel are negotiating on this matter but there are severe divergences between the two that stand in the way of reaching a deal. Hamas wants a complete ceasefire. Yet Israel wants a temporary ceasefire to release hostages but still is prone to take more actions to fulfill "mighty vengeance" to consolidate its political future, said Liu.

A delegation consisting of Arab and Islamic foreign ministers will visit China from November 20 to 21. Members of the delegation include Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud, Jordanian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi, Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry, Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi, Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad Al-Maliki and Secretary General of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation Hissein Brahim Taha. During the visit, China will have in-depth communication and coordination with the delegation on ways to deescalate the ongoing Palestinian-Israeli conflict, protect civilians and seek a just settlement of the Palestinian question, Mao Ning, spokesperson from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced on Sunday.

The tour will be the first step in carrying out decisions reached at a joint Arab and Islamic summit held in Riyadh this month, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan said on the sidelines of a conference in Bahrain in comments posted by his ministry on the social media platform X on Saturday.

Chinese experts hailed the visit as regional countries' recognition of China's influence in mediating Middle Eastern issues, as well as China's unique and impartial role. Choosing China as the first stop revealed those countries' trust in China on conciliating the ongoing conflicts between Palestine and Israel, said experts. Moreover, those countries have witnessed that China is playing a more constructive role in the Middle East in recent years, they noted.

►Exhibition of achievements



Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei (2nd from the right) visits the exhibition showcasing the achievements of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Aerospace Force on November 19, 2023 in Tehran.

Photo: VCG