

# Iran, Venezuela urge for new world order



Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (R) greets Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez during a welcoming ceremony in Iran's presidential mansion in Tehran, capital of Iran, Oct. 19, 2010.

**TEHRAN,** — Iran and Venezuela urged for new global order whereby changes could be brought about to the world, the official IRNA news agency reported Thursday.

During a meeting with his Venezuelan counterpart Hugo Chavez on Wednesday, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said that both Iran and Venezuela are “determined for overthrowing the

unjust ruling system of the world and for the establishment of a new world order based on the rules of justice”, the report said.

“The two countries’ relations have always been important and brotherly, but now after our last rounds of talks in Tehran and the reached agreements they have been improved to a strategic level,” Ahmadinejad was quoted as saying.

Ahmadinejad said that Tehran and Caracas share proximity of stands on international issues.

Chavez, for his part, said that eleven years ago with the victory of the Bolivarian Revolution in Venezuela, Iran and Venezuela began a campaign which was aimed at establishing a new world order, according to IRNA. The agreements reached are of great importance for the

two nations, Chavez said, “through such cooperation we are expanding the dimensions of our unified will towards the establishment of a new world order based on justice and equality of all nations.”

On Wednesday, Iran and Venezuela signed eleven memorandums of understanding (MoU) in diverse areas of oil, natural gas, textiles, trade and public housing projects.

Chavez reiterated his country’s support for Tehran in face of West’s imposed sanction pressures and military threats against Iran over its controversial nuclear program.

Heading a delegation of economists and politicians, Venezuelan President arrived in Tehran late Monday night for talks on diverse areas, especially of energy cooperation, with Iran.

Ahmadinejad thanking Chavez for his stance on denouncing anti-Iran sanctions by the Western countries, Ahmadinejad said, for his part, that Iran is in a good condition and the its influence is growing in the region.

Criticizing the Western policies, Ahmadinejad said that the global imperialism and the hegemonic powers have mobilized their facilities against independent nations, according to IRNA. The independent nations by developing solidarity and strength can change the current global situation to their own advantages, he was quoted as saying. **(Xinhua)**

## Hezbollah says UN report “interferes Lebanon’s domestic affairs”

**BEIRUT,** — Lebanese Shiite armed group Hezbollah issued a statement on Wednesday criticizing UN Secretary- General Ban Ki-moon’s report on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1559 which calls for free and fair elections and end to foreign interference in the country, saying it interferes in Lebanon’s domestic affairs.

“It seems that Ban did not realize that Hezbollah has been at the core of Lebanese politics, through its representation in the parliament and cabinet,” the statement said.

The UN chief said in his report that Lebanon has been hit by a new climate of uncertainty

that could cause instability across the region, adding that Hezbollah’s military strength “creates an atmosphere of intimidation and poses a key challenge to the safety of Lebanese civilians and to the government.”

Ban has forgotten what Lebanese President Michel Suleiman addressed at the United Nations last month, the statement added.

Suleiman told the UN Security Council that “Lebanon has the right to use all means to liberate its territory” during his visit in New York to attend the 65th session of the UN General Assembly. **(Xinhua)**

## U.S. announces 60-billion-dollar arms sale to Saudi Arabia

**WASHINGTON,** — The United States announced on Wednesday a major arms sale deal to Saudi Arabia worth around 60 billion dollars. Officials say the deal is not expected to draw objections from Israel.

The deal, posted on the website of Defense Security Cooperation Agency, is comprised of 84 F-15SA fighter jets, 70 AH-64D APACHE Longbow Helicopters, 72 UH-60M BLACKHAWK Helicopters, 36 AH-6i Light Attack Helicopters, 12 MD-530F Light Turbine Helicopters, and hundreds of units of engines, weapons and navigation systems.

The package also includes the upgrade of 70 existing F-15S fighter jets in the Saudi Air Force. It is expected to be completed within 15 to 20 years. The Pentagon has notified the Congress of the deal earlier in the day. If approved, it would be the single largest military sale

in U.S. history.

The Pentagon told Congress the sale could enhance U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives by strengthening the “on-going strategically important relationship with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.” It touted F-15 fighters as the cornerstone of the relationship between the two countries’ Air Force, as the new F-15SA would “ help deter potential aggressors” by increasing Saudi Arabia’s tactical air force capability to defend the country against “ regional threats.”

Andrew Shapiro, the State Department’s assistant secretary for political-military affairs, told reporters the U.S. government does not anticipate any objections from Israel. Israel, a close U.S. ally, traditionally opposes U.S. arms sales to Arab countries in the region. The Pentagon said the sale “will not alter the basic military balance in the region.” **(Xinhua)**

## Palestinian youths call for lifting Israeli blockade on Gaza Strip



Palestinian youths throw paper boats into Gaza sea during a rally calling for lifting the Israeli blockade on the Gaza Strip, Oct. 17, 2010. **(Xinhua Photo)**

## Afghan Peace Council outlines plan for talks with Taliban

**KABUL,** — The spokesman of newly formed Afghan High Council for Peace Qiyamuddin Kashaf on Thursday said that the body had made its plan to begin talks with the Taliban militants.

“The High Council for Peace, is calling upon government and unhappy brothers (Taliban) to pave the way for negotiations and support the peace process,” he told reporters in his first press conference

here. He said the peace council is calling on armed opponents to denounce the violence and joint the peace process to ensure lasting peace in the war-torn country.

“We would listen to all of their legitimate demands and preconditions,” he stated.

He also called on international community and NATO-led troops based in Afghanistan to stand on their promises and support the peace process initiated by Afghan government.

“We want the international community and international forces to do as they promised to Afghans for bringing lasting

peace to this country,” he emphasized.

According to Kashaf the peace council has also called on the neighboring countries, United Nations and King of Saudi Arabia to help Afghans in this process.

He also confirmed that there has been some unofficial personal contacts with the Taliban militants, but did not give more details.

The 70-member High Council for Peace, is consisted of former Jihadi leaders including two ex-presidents - Burhanudin Rabbani and Sibghatullah Mujadadi, former Taliban commanders, parliamentarians, government officials and some women.

However, analysts familiar with the Taliban insurgents’

leaders are on the view that contacts with the Taliban are nothing new and would fail to achieve the goal set for as the Taliban insurgents like the past once again rejected the offer for talks on the beginning day of formation of the peace council, saying there will be no talks in the presence of foreign troops in Afghanistan. **(Xinhua)**

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