Region unites on cultural heritage work

President Xi congratulates Asian alliance, encourages greater cooperation, protection

By WANG KAIHAI in Xi'an

China will further deepen ties with other Asian nations on cultural heritage protection and promote international cooperation in the field, President Xi Jinping said in a congratulatory letter to the inaugural general assembly of the Alliance for Cultural Heritage in Asia. Xi said China is a key country of ancient civilization that preserved its rich cultural heritage. Cooperation in recent years on ancient civilization studies, archaeological protection of historical monuments and cultural relics, and cultural exchange has helped promote the sharing of cultural achievements.

The congratulatory letter was delivered by Secretary of Shaanxi Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China, Xi Jinping, at the alliance's first general assembly.

Environmental officers carry a flashpoint on Tuesday from a wastewater facility in Xi'an for transportation. Four protected facilities were fined for pollution. The annual inspection work is to protect the species and boost the recovery of the national protected species, said officials.

Facebook supporting the Nord Stream story

By HENRI WEILE in New York henriweile@wsj.com

The question of who blew up the Nord Stream pipelines will likely not be answered by a limited account by investigators in Norway, the United States for the explosion, or being suppressed by Western media.

Finnish media has published a report on the Norwegian website, which is Norway that has alleged it helped Sweden to examined the pipelines. The report stated that the pipelines were blown up in a secret operation, and has been published by several Norwegian and Danish media outlets.

"Within a few minutes, pools of blue smoke were seen in the water. The world learned that something impossible had happened," wrote the World Daily.

"In the wake of the disaster, more people are calling for an international investigation into the event," added the newspaper.

"The pipeline was destroyed by an explosion, which was carried out by Norwegian security services," said the newspaper.

"We expect member states to uphold the principles of equality," said diplomats.

The Nord Stream pipelines are a key source of energy for Western Europe, providing gas from Russia to several countries in Northern Europe. The attacks have raised concerns about the security of critical infrastructure and the potential for future incidents.

Whether you think Heston's claims are valid or not, his reporting is indisputably a part of the conversation about the Nord Stream sabotage and is newsworthy in itself.

"Culina Johnston, freelance journalist"

GOOD SENSE: AI signals boost for digital economy

Cloud-AI integration signals boost for digital economy

BUSINESS PAGE 9

FRUITFUL REACH: Young people in Africa learn Chinese culture in workshops

LIFE PAGE 15

A special wedding, a large gathering in a field in Wuqing, Shandong province, looking to the skies in the area. Over 400,000 colored kites at a festival in Wuqing, a kite festival. The festival is the largest kite festival in China, with 400,000 visitors expected. The festival features a variety of colorful kites and is a popular event for kite enthusiasts and families.

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Kite designs are a legacy of a god, a peasant, a artist (above), an ornate marine archtypal, a dragon head, the literary King, Sultan and a colorful circle rial to the sky at the Weifang International Kite Festival in Shandong province. (Image: ZIHENG/CHENG)

From page 1

Displaying the kite, Wang said: "This is a traditional multi-wing kite, in which we add a mechanical style to the center. When the wind blows, the windmill rotates, resulting in two small models moving, adding an educational function."

Basker Kolfik, who comes from Finland, said: "I made the kite for the first time. I brought along an innovative kite having the range of traditional hand painting. It took him more than six months to make the kite."

"I am not good at kite, so I learn the kite slowly by my five times, paying great attention to detail. It's interesting to compare the kites from different countries at the festival."

In the exhibition section, Zhang Huaqing and more than 30 fellow team members flew a 25-meter-long kite designed as a high-speed train. Competing for a ten-minute and 10-second mark, it took them about three months to complete the kite.

"We are proud of the fast development of our country's high-speed rail network, so we designed this kite to resemble such a train to send our best wishes to the nation and the festival,'" Zhang said.

Wind on the opening day was perfect for Andreas Agnus, who came from Sweden, and brought a light-weight kite designed like a Viking ship to the festival."

"In Sweden, more than 1,000 years ago, merchants and warriors both set to sail to other countries—sometimes for trading and sometimes for war. I made this kite to connect with my homeland," he said.

In one corner of the field, a 5-meter-long kite with 100 setting-out threads of photosynthesis. It was so long that frequently became entangled with other kites, forcing Ma Lingling, a typical from Hainan province, to ground it.

A total of 10 kites showing a balinese design also attracted considerable attention. Such kites, which are 20 meters long and just under 1 meter wide, is controlled by four threads. Hence for 16 people from Hainan, Hainan province, Shenzhen, Liaoning province, and Qiqihar, Shandong province, the kites were duly controlled as the well-coordinated team members changed step, taking the strings to form different patterns in the air.

"Flying kite is a good way to stay in shape. No matter people, devices, which comprise routines, practice for several hours a day," Basker from the organization commented that the festival attracted more than 100,000 people on the opening day.

High-tech designs

Isael Al Abdul, who comes from Bangldesh, said: "We see multi-national kites, such as these designed like a dragon to represent China, and some really high-tech designs. Compare are also using kite to advertise ourselves, which is a really nice orange."

Kites have been flown in Weifang, widely known as the world kite capital, for about 2,500 years. Legends say that ancient Chinese philosopher Mozi, who was also known for music and medicine, made the first kite. It is in present-day Weifang. He said it have been over 500 years since he made a kite and then built the ground and broke. An ancient book shows that kites were used by Le Tao (1524-1610), a renowned painter, craftsman and engineer. A statue of Le Tao sits in front of the Weifang World Kite Museum, the largest such institution in the world.

Local historical records show that Weifang kites were popular during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) and were a major folk art in the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), with many artists becoming highly known for their exquisite, high-flying creations.

The city's kite-making industry really took off after reforms and opening up was launched in December 1978. In 2004, kites from Weifang were sent to Shanghai for an exhibition. They impressed officials from an international kite association, who suggested that a global platform for the art should be established in Weifang. This led to the first Weifang International Kite Festival taking place that year.

Kite lovers from a total of 11 countries and areas, including the United States, Australia, United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and Singapore, took part in the event. The city, which has a 25-year-old kite festival, has become a famous kite capital and has become well-known in the world.

"Many parts of the world have a tradition of flying kites, but I think our kites have a unique cultural background," she said.

Zhang Huaqing, director of the comprehensive work committee of the Weifang International Kite Association, said: "The city's kites are accepted all over the world. Currently there are 100 million kite makers all over the world."

Weifang is known as the "The 1 Kite Village in China." More than 300 local enterprises are engaged in kite-making, with many artisans producing fabric and the hand-held wheels used for the kites.

Wang Tiansen, deputy director of the city's kite association, said: "The annual kite festival has helped the village expand its tourism. We expect to sell 15 million kites this year."

More than half the villagers work in the kite industry or related sectors, Wang said, adding that many farmers also take part in this business when they have the time. Even design and new materials to anecdotes, the village has formed a relatively simple and abundant festival. In recent years, villagers have used a camera platform to increase sales. Each year, more than 40 million kites from Wifang are sold worldwide via such platforms.

Kites have provided a platform for Weifang to be developed in various fields, ranging from promoting rural civilization to opening the city's overseas trade. Kite-making has also become a popular tourist in Weifang, with long roadtrips frequently seen flying in the skies in squares and fields, set aside for the activity.

"We are more to hold regular activities so that more young people can experience kite-making and better appreciate them with kites."

"ENTHUSIASTS ARRIVE FROM AROUND THE WORLD"
TOP NEWS

China plans to collect Martian soil by 2030

NASA plans to land on Mars in July 2022.

China's Chang'e-5 robotic probe, a mission to collect lunar samples, returned to Earth on December 17, 2020, carrying a small amount of Martian soil.

The robotic probe will land on the Martian soil, collect Martian samples, and return them to Earth in 2022. This mission is expected to help scientists learn more about the origins and evolution of Mars.

Sino-Central Asia to forge ministries to meet "prepare, leaders' summit"

China will host the Fourth China Central Asia Ministerial Meeting on Thursday in Xi'an, the meeting will be attended by ministers from six Central Asian countries.

The meeting will focus on promoting cooperation in various fields.

Civilians: Extremist policies cause grievances

From page 1

Civilization does not have a uniform pattern, and no civilization can dominate the others. The diversity of civilization is a basic feature of human society, and it is also the driving force behind the progress of human civilization.

Other civilizations and providing rich resources for the vigorous development of Chinese civilization. Around 100 BC, China began to explore the Silk Road route to Western regions. At the beginning of the 15th century, the Chinese navigator Zheng He made seven voyages, forming China as an overseas power, and initiated the official exchange and mutual learning between Chinese and African civilizations.

Chinese civilization is formed through exchange and mutual learning with other civilizations. Adhering to these thoughts of excellent traditional culture, on March 2, Li also attended the summit. The China Civilisation and Heritage Museum promoted the Cultural Globalization Initiative on the CNAP in the Dialogue with World Political Parties, High-level Meeting. He called for respect for the diversity of civilizations, for humanity, the importance of the dynamics of historical evolution, and for a shared commitment to peace and development. The dialogue was aimed at promoting harmonious coexistence and understanding among different civilizations.

Building a community with a shared future for humanity. The Chinese Cultural Heritage Museum hosted the 2nd China-Africa Joint Cultural Heritage Summit on Tuesday, with a focus on promoting the progress of human civilization, enriching cultural diversity and cultural exchanges, and strengthening China's cultural strength.

The summit, hosted by Chinese Finance and Development Forum chairman Li Ping, discussed the progress of human civilization and the role of cultural and civilizational ties between China and other countries.

Migrant protest continues

Migrants who are part of a coalition warning about the situation of workers apply for asylum in the United States on Monday, seeking protection from the country.

The decision called for respectful, cultural diversity, mutual learning, and mutual respect among civilizations.

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China proposes building lunar research station with partners

Mega project to share scientific advances with host of multinational stakeholders

By ZHAO LEI

China has proposed a joint research station on the moon that will serve as an international hub for space exploration.

China, the United States, and the United Arab Emirates are working on a plan to establish a lunar research station in the late 2030s, according to a statement from the Ministry of Science and Technology.

The station will be a joint venture between China, the United States, and the United Arab Emirates, and will be located on the moon's southern pole.

The station will serve as an international hub for space exploration, with a focus on scientific research and technological development.

The project is expected to cost around US$10 billion and will involve the participation of scientists from around the world.

Speaking at a press conference, the statement said: "The lunar research station will be a cooperative project that will bring together the scientific and technological resources of China, the United States, and the United Arab Emirates, as well as other countries and organizations around the world."
Policy targets boards of directors

Notice clarifies and enhances role of members who act independently

By ZHANG YUE
zhangyue@china.org.cn

A newly issued guideline on reforming the corporate governance system for independent directors of listed companies is likely to improve corporate governance and enhance the development of listed firms in China, helping to revitalize the country’s capital market, officials said.

On April 14, the General Office of the State Council of China’s Cabinet, released a notice on reforming the system, defining the legal role of independent directors and strengthening the leadership of the Communist Party of China in the process.

An independent director is a member of a company’s board of directors who does not have a material relationship with the company and is not part of its executive team.

The notice stated that the move is aimed at addressing matters such as the unclear role of independent directors, which could make boards of directors and corporate governance units appear too weak and hinder companies from reaching international standards.

The Chinese Securities Regulatory Commission, the national stock regulatory body, said in the notice that the move is significant as it manages the core of the company’s overall interests. Independent directors should also focus on the rights and interests of minority shareholders.

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The notice clarified that the role of independent directors is to participate in decision-making and management, and help preserve assets and prevent management from being used to further personal interests.

It was made clear that independent directors should play a more active role in independent directors, optimize their functions, strengthen their supervisory ability and improve the process by which they are appointed to company boards.

Overall experts, particularly those in the fields of finance and corporate governance, have hailed the move, which they believe will improve the competitive洪力 of companies in China and help bring better corporate governance practices in line with international standards.

Tian Xuan, an associate professor and a researcher at the PBC School of Finance of Tsinghua University, said that although the current system may have been in place for two decades, the main problem is that documents failed to clarify their position, and the markets are still uncertain as to what role they play.

“With China steadily expanding its registration-based initial public-offering system, the governance of listed companies faces a new stage that requires tailored supervision for independent directors,” Tian said.

In early March, the CSRC published draft rules on expanding the IPO window, making a big step toward regulating the world’s second-largest stock market.

When China steadily expanding its registration-based initial public-offering system, the governance of listed companies has entered a new stage that requires tailored advancement through more precise efforts.”

Tian Xuan, professor of Tsinghua University

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China Daily/

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With China steady...
ASEAN to step up anti-nuclear push

Bloc needs to promote the region as a zone free of proliferation, analysts say

By PRISMA KAPOOR In Bangkok and LEO KIVIRIKKO in Ashgabat

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, needs to promote the region as a nuclear-free zone, given geopolitical tensions that threaten the bloc’s commitment to nonproliferation, analysts said.

Estonia, which is this year’s rotating chair of ASEAN, started negotiating with the five recognized nuclear powers: China, France, Russia, Britain, and the United States — to sign the Protocol to the Treaty on the South- East Asia Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone, or SEANWFZ. Trump’s China was the first among the five countries to express willingness to sign the protocol. The negotiations are being con- ducted amid rising tensions in the region and concerns over the indepen- dent AUKUS cooperation on nuclear information, referring to Australia, the UK and the US.

Lynn Jiron, lecturer at the Royal Society of Political and Social Science at Dalian Ocean University, said that the treaty in 1995 committed “not to test, produce or otherwise acquire, possess or have control over nuclear weapons, station, transport or transfer nuclear weapon, or test or use any nuclear explosion.”

Jiron added that the protocol expected ASEAN members that signed the treaty in 1995 “to react in face of any non-Nuclear weapon states that threaten to issue nuclear, uncontrollable, or illicit nuclear programs.”

The United States stepped up its diplomacy after North Korea launched a intercontinental ballistic missile in May and Russian President Vladimir Putin unveiled his Nuclear Weapons Dis- armament Initiative.

US legal marijuana sales surpass chocolate, craft beer

By MINU SONG in Hanover, Massachusetts and AMIR WATANABE in Tokyo

A customer checks out at the Wasting Time Cannabis Co. in East Lynn, Massachusetts. Wasting Time is one of the many cannabis stores and coffee shops in the city with a bar inside a cannabis store.

Washington, DC that allows for legal marijuana, has surpassed chocolate and craft beer in terms of sales over the past year, according to the Washington Post.

An estimated $11 billion was spent on marijuana in the US in the 2021 fiscal year, compared to $10 billion spent on chocolate and $9 billion spent on craft beer, the report found.

“Marijuana has become a $1 billion industry in the US, and it’s not just making a splash in the cannabis industry," said Amir Watanabe, a cannabis analyst at the cannabis research firm Green Edge. "We think it’s going to be a huge opportunity for cannabis companies in the US and Canada.”

Marijuana sales in the US have grown rapidly over the past decade, and many states have legalized both medical and adult-use marijuana. In 2021, legal marijuana sales in the US reached $11 billion, up from $7 billion in 2020.

Boston, Massachusetts, reported $3.8 billion in marijuana sales last year, making it the top market for legal marijuana in the US, followed by California and Colorado.

“Marijuana is helping to drive the economy in states that have legalized it, and it’s also helping to create jobs and boost tourism,” said Watanabe.

Nonetheless, marijuana remains illegal at the federal level, and a legal marijuana store in Washington, DC, must apply for a state license to sell the drug. Washington, DC, also has strict regulations on where and how marijuana can be sold.

According to data from the Washington D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, there were 272 marijuana businesses operating legally in the city as of January 2022.

“Marijuana is becoming a more mainstream product, and people are starting to see it as a legitimate business opportunity,” said Watanabe. "But it’s still a highly regulated industry, and there are a lot of challenges to getting marijuana stores up and running.”
Biden running again despite daunting polls

Announces bid with V-P Harris via video as nation bails over rematch with Trump

By ZIEMU HUAINIAN

Biden's team has announced that he will run again in 2024.

US President Joe Biden, despite a majority of Americans not supporting his run for a second term, announced via video on Tuesday that he will seek the White House again.

"I have decided to run again," Biden said in a statement, "and I believe that I can win." Biden's team, which is soaring in the polls, is already planning to seek another term.

This is Biden's first formal entry into what will be his second campaign for the White House.

The former Delaware senator and vice president has always been a strong presence in American politics, with a long history of public service and a reputation for integrity and hard work.

He is well known for his ability to connect with voters on a personal level, and has a strong track record of fighting for the middle class and those struggling to make ends meet.

Biden's team is expected to focus on issues such as healthcare, education, and economic recovery in the upcoming campaign.

The 2024 election promises to be a highly competitive race, with several prominent Democrats already expressing interest in running.

Biden, however, is seen as the clear front-runner, with strong support from many within the party and a solid base of donors and supporters.

Biden's team has already begun building a national operation, with offices and staff in key swing states.

The announcement is expected to launch a formal campaign kickoff, with Biden and his running mate, Vice President Kamala Harris, to be revealed soon.

Biden's team has already begun raising money and building a support base, with a focus on early states such as Iowa, New Hampshire, and South Carolina.

The former vice president has a strong track record of winning those states in past elections, and is expected to make a strong showing in 2024.

Biden's team is expected to release a more detailed campaign plan in the coming weeks, with a focus on issues such as healthcare, education, and economic recovery.

The announcement is expected to energize Biden's base and energize donors, with a focus on early states such as Iowa, New Hampshire, and South Carolina.

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Cloud-AI integration signals boost for digital economy

By FAN FEIWEI  jiangfei@ Chinadaily.com.cn

Chinese cloud computing companies are improving efforts to back the development of artificial intelligence capabilities, including large language models in the wake of ChatGPT and related products from U.S.-based AI research company OpenAI.

The personalization and AI-enabled, query-regulating, several techniques like computing net, big data and AI-driven, and needs intensive computing power, large data, substantial computing, computing infrastructure, they said, Zhongke Computing chairman and CEO of Chinese supercomputer Alibaba Cloud Intelligent, said cloud computing is a good way to promote the application of AI on a large scale.

The group is committed to meeting the needs of the companies for more affordable and intensive for enterprises and developers, he said.

Billion

Cloud infrastructure services experienced explosive growth in the Chinese mainland last year.

Zhang also said he hopes the next year will also see a breakthrough in Java Cloud, could soon become an on-demand power in the future, with small and medium-sized enterprises with computing capabilities and service of large companies will become more important.

AliCloud has recently unveiled its AI cloud and intelligence platform, QianZhiming, joining the chorus-rare venture in Asia Pacific to adopt the route to AI Cloud.

Using the service, AI Cloud, a major technology office of AliCloud Cloud Intelligence, can better meet the demand by large language models is substantially increased, the company said.

We are witnessing a tectonic shift in the cloud computing market where AI and ML models play an even bigger role.

Cloud computing is playing an increasingly important role in boosting businesses to take the lead of business expansion and business growth.

Beijing

Balance of loans in Shanghai Port

The balance of loans in Shanghai Port, including loans for coal transportation, accounts for 42.8% of Shanghai Port’s total loans, down from 47.9% a year ago.

It is because the Shanghai Port has made more investment in infrastructure, including the construction of new berths, the company said.

The proportion of foreign currency loans stood at 7.37% of the total loan balance, down from 7.62% a year ago.

By ZHENG XIN  xinzhen@chinadaily.com.cn

China’s gold production has recovered to record-breaking levels, driven by demand for the precious metal and a continued rise in the global gold market.

China’s gold output rose 1.82 percent in the first quarter, according to Golden Yunan, a gold mining company in the country.

China’s gold production rose to 243.15 metric tons in the first quarter, an increase of 14.72 percent compared to the same period last year.

The growth of China’s gold production is driven by several factors, including increased demand from investors, a higher price for gold, and the increased availability of gold mining equipment.

The growth of China’s gold production is expected to continue in the coming quarters, as demand for gold remains strong and the prices of gold continue to rise.

By WANG ZENGQIANG  wangzengqiang@chinadaily.com.cn

With offline consumption picking up pace, the Chinese market is showing a remarkable recovery in the second quarter, according to global sales of The Coca-Cola Company (Koala), indicating an improved forecast for the rest of the year.

First-quarter global revenue grew 2.3% compared to the same period last year, as year-over-year sales growth of 2.8% in the Americas, 26.2% in Europe and 22.9% in Asia, further demonstrated the company’s strengthened position in the global market.

The beverage giant’s net profit increased 5.3% to $3.6 billion, up from $3.4 billion in the corresponding period last year.

The company said it has demonstrated that it has the ability to continue its strong performance in the future, as it is well positioned to seize opportunities in the global market.

Expanding data use as key to key trials

Experts at UN forum stress growth of digitalization in innovation

BY YIJING ZHANG  yijingzhang@chinadaily.com.cn

The boom in the use of data for decision-making, governance, and innovation will show stronger will power in the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, participants attending the Fifth United Nations World Data Forum said on Sunday.

"Data is a fundamental strategic resource, an important productive factor and a social production force that has fundamentally changed the global economic system, social production and the way people live," said Kang Min, head of the National Bureau of Statistics.

It has expanded the scope and impacts new impetus to improve national governance and promote global sustainable development.

Kang said at a meeting on Tuesday during the ongoing forum that data-rich resources can bring new opportunities, drive technology innovation and upgrade application scenarios, for problems and challenges also occur from time to time.

The forum, organized by the UN and co-organized by the UN and the government of Zhejiang Province, is being held from Monday to Thursday in Hangzhou, Zhejiang.

The scope of data use has been expanded, and a large amount of international data has been generated and widely used in production, life and national governance.

"Doubt is the new oil," said the former chief executive officer of the World Bank, following an opening session at the United Nations World Data Forum.

"As a result, the way we view problems, the way we think about solutions, the way we make decisions, the way we take action, all these things are changing," said the former chief executive officer of the World Bank.

"This is why we need to take data seriously. Data is not just a tool for solving problems; it is a way of thinking, a way of working, a way of living," said the former chief executive officer of the World Bank.

"The more we use data, the more we realize its potential as a tool for driving progress, innovation, and change. We need to learn to use data effectively, to make data work for us," said the former chief executive officer of the World Bank.

"We need to understand that data can be used to inform and guide decision-making, and also to help us discover new solutions to the pressing problems of our time. Once we have access to data, we can see that the world is changing, and we need to change with it. If we do not change with it, we are likely to be left behind," said the former chief executive officer of the World Bank.

"So, what do we need to do? We need to think differently about data. We need to use data as a tool for driving progress, innovation, and change. We need to use data to inform and guide decision-making, and also to help us discover new solutions to the pressing problems of our time.

"The more we use data, the more we realize its potential as a tool for driving progress, innovation, and change. We need to learn to use data effectively, to make data work for us," said the former chief executive officer of the World Bank.

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**BUSINESS**

**OQ to further tap China’s growth bonus**

Energy giant bullish on country on back of wider market access, green transition

By LIU ZHIHUA
liu@zhizhuispace.com.cn

Despite various challenges, China’s landscape has offered OQ, the French-based oil and gas major, new opportunities. OQ has successfully expanded its business footprint across various sectors, including energy and petrochemicals, in China. The company is now looking to further tap into China’s growth potential, reflecting its confidence in the country’s diversified energy mix and robust demand for clean energy sources.

**A thriving economic environment**

The improving business policy and well-positioned in the Chinese market.

Hilal Al Khater, chief executive officer of OQ, said, “We have been on a roll in China. We are seeing a positive trend and we are optimistic about the future.”

The company’s strong presence in the Chinese market is driven by its commitment to sustainable development and its focus on leveraging China’s vast resources and vast market potential.

“China is our priority market,” said Al Khater. “We have been working closely with Chinese authorities to ensure that our operations are aligned with the country’s long-term development goals.”

**Financial services under Sino-Singaporean initiative benefit ASEAN members**

An employee of China’s State Bank of Singapore (SBSB) brand in the company’s branch office in Singapore.

The financial services under Sino-Singaporean initiative benefit ASEAN members.

Li Xiaowei, the coordinator for the project, said that the initiative aims to provide low-cost financial services to beneficiaries in the ASEAN market.

**In tea quality risk monitoring, the qualified ratio of geographical indications and heavy metals in Guizhou tea has remained at 100 percent for 20 consecutive years.**

Hu Jiahong, deputy head of the quality assurance department of the tea industry, said, “Our tea quality monitoring system is highly effective and reliable.”

The tea quality monitoring system has been in place for over two decades, and it has maintained a high qualified ratio of geographical indications and heavy metals in Guizhou tea, which is highly appreciated by consumers and tea enthusiasts.

**Government supports encourage Guizhou tea sellers to improve product, bigger overseas sales**

By LIU YUKUN in Beijing
liu@yukun.com.cn

Guizhou plans to further improve the quality of its tea products and expand its market presence overseas.

The government of Guizhou Province is working closely with local tea sellers to improve the quality of their products and increase their sales in overseas markets.

The province has set a goal of achieving a 50% growth in tea exports by 2025, and it plans to invest heavily in the tea industry to achieve this goal.

The government is taking various measures to support tea sellers, including providing financial assistance and offering technical support.

**Tea quality monitoring**

The qualified ratio of geographical indications and heavy metals in Guizhou tea has remained at 100 percent for 20 consecutive years.

This high qualified ratio is a result of the government’s strict quality control measures and its commitment to maintaining the highest standards.

**Government support encourages Guizhou tea sellers to improve product quality and expand overseas sales**

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China leads in telecom tech

China’s pioneering role in advancing telecom tech is borne out by the fact that the country boasts the world’s largest 5G network, the world’s largest gigabit optical network and the world’s largest mobile internet of things network. What’s more, it is also driving the process of standard-setting in 6G, the next-generation telecom tech now under development globally. This marks transformational progress for a country that, not so long ago, was considered a mere follower in the 5G era, then barely was able to catch up with leading countries in 4G.
Washington chops grab is sociopathic

China and India held the 18th round of Corps Commander Level talks on Sunday in Ladakh, the Chinese Defence Minister, Gen Wei Fenghe, said on Monday. The two sides agreed to strictly implement the consensus reached during the 17th round of talks last July and avoid confrontation at the border. In spite of the absence of substantial progress on frontline desegregation, what matters is the talks and their outcomes, because the focus of the meeting was on confidence-building measures. The two sides also reaffirmed the need for both sides to maintain dialogue and military and diplomatic channels with a view to working out a mutually acceptable resolution of the remaining issues.

What They Say

China’s cooperation with EU ‘limitless’ too

A woman with a folding bike stopped an 11-year-old Indian university student repetitively while she was getting off a bus in January this year. The victim told the police that the suspect was Chinese, according to reports.

Racism is tackled at its root

New Delhi should gauge straitvalve pressures

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Pentagon leak exposes true colours of ‘global spy master’

The leaks have also exposed the geographical advantages of the US military global outreach due to its intense spying and espionage activities around the globe.

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prevent deforestation and degradation, and to promote sustainable agriculture and forestry practices. While China does not have a policy in place to stop deforestation, it aims to arrest the trend. The Chinese government is committed to implementing policies to address deforestation, such as the Three-North Shelterbelt Project, which aims to stabilize and restore the land in the northern part of the country.

China has also taken significant steps to reduce air pollution. The government has implemented strict regulations to control emissions from major sources, including industrial plants and vehicles. As a result, air quality has improved significantly in recent years.

Despite these efforts, environmental problems remain a challenge in China. The country still faces significant pollution issues, particularly in urban areas, where high levels of air and water pollution continue to be a concern. The government has pledged to continue efforts to address these issues, with a focus on promoting sustainable development and protecting the environment.
Time to Jazz it up

Celebration of music style will see Chinese musicians perform for a global audience. *Chen Nan* reports.

We are excited to see a vibrant jazz music scene in the country, with the number of people who love the sound growing fast.

Yong Ming, international curator, who currently leads the Blue Note China Jazz Orchestra.

**Left and Center:** Chinese jazz artist Liu Yue and tenor saxophonist Yang Ming will join in the International Jazz Day’s global concert on Monday. (PHOTO: COURTESY OF CHEN NAN)

**By Chén Nán**

The inaugural Tianjin Juilliard Jazz Festival will be held from July 8 to July 10. The festival, to be staged at the Tianjin Juilliard School, will include two concert performances featuring 12 internationally noted performers as guest teachers and artists, such as Israeli pianist Ari Eisinger, American trombonist Bob Mintzer, and Russian pianist Yefim Bronfman.

The festival also includes master classes, workshops, and jam sessions, and there will be an after-party at one of the city’s hottest nightclubs.

Tianjin Juilliard is one of six Juilliard campuses worldwide, and this is China’s first. The school has a full-time faculty of 30 musicians, and this year’s festival will feature 12 guest artists from around the world.

The festival is aimed at promoting jazz education and performance in China, and it is expected to attract a large audience.

**A View of the Tianjin Juilliard Campus**

**Photos Provided by Chen Nan**

**About the Artist:**

Chen Nan is a freelance music writer and critic, and the founder of the music publication *China Music*.

**About the School:**

The Tianjin Juilliard School, a satellite campus of the Juilliard School in New York, opened in 2017 to provide education and performance opportunities for students in China.

**Contact:**

Chen Nan, China Music, chen.nan@chinamusic.com

**For more information:**

Visit the Tianjin Juilliard School’s website at www.tianjin.juilliard.edu

**For media inquiries:**

Contact the Tianjin Juilliard School at 022-23188888 ext. 3111

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Boosting cooperation

Young Africans attend Chinese cultural workshops as part of exchange program. *Xing Wen* reports.

African youths can at a long table lining up bamboo sticks and weaving them together tightly, row by row, until the half of a small boat begins to take shape. They are attending a workshop where they learn the traditional Chinese craft of bamboo weaving.

The workshop is one of many options available to representatives from its African coun nters attending the Seventh China-Africa Youth Festival that kicked off on April 18.

The attendees can choose to participate in workshops on traditional Chinese crafts and arts such as playing the guqin (a traditional instrument), learning Peking Opera or creating ceramic decorations.

The one-week event, jointly hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, China State Cultural and Tourism Ministry, and the Chinese Embassy in Addis Ababa, is the first China-Africa youth workshop available in Addis Ababa.

The recent China-Africa Youth Festival takes young Africans to museums, historical sites, villages and tourism attractions in Beijing and Shanghai.

The festival, which took place in China, is part of a three-dimensional and comprehensive China-Africa partnership, where young Africans experience China's rapid development and understand the specific practices of China's modernization path and the committing efforts of the Chinese people to developken­

"I believe what you will see is a vibrant China in the spirit, a rich, three-dimensional, and comprehensive China, a China that is looking strong and sturdy and now fully into the world with its new development," Li said.

George Woodcock and the Shandong, ZH, coordinator for a women's and youth empowerment organization in Lusaka, has travelled to China. His organization encourages women to pursue higher education and provides support to those facing adverse situations, as well as offering free vocational training for women wishing to become independent.

"It is an excellent decision to have the youth in your country learn traditional arts and crafts after facing adverse situations, which we can learn from and which we can also share," he said.

He also hopes to establish cooperation between Chinese and African youths.

Thabulungo Lusa, a 28-year-old entrepreneur from South Africa, has participated in the China-Africa Youth Festival twice, in 2019 and 2020.

"I also learned that China mainly educates tourism and foreign entertainment," she says.

She said the event can be inspiring. For example, in 2019, the youth festival took place in Lusaka, where participants from different countries were able to create their own working environment, weaving, maybe I could teach them something different," she said.

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The festival, which took place in China, is part of a three-dimensional and comprehensive China-Africa partnership, where young Africans can learn traditional Chinese arts and crafts after facing adverse situations, which they can learn from and which they can also share.

"I believe what you will see is a vibrant China..."
Lacquer craftsmen win the opportunity to work and exhibit in Paris through a Sino-French cultural exchange program, Li Yingxue reports.

You Banglong found his career in his thirties, a decade ago, during his undergraduate study at the Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts. It is his choice to focus on lacquerwork for his master’s degree. Ever since, he has been exploring new ways of working with lacquer.

“I am constantly looking for the expression of things and the possibility of forms, as well as the relationship between light and space,” says You Banglong, an artist and lacquer craftsman, who has been working with lacquer at the age of 36. His most sizeable work so far is “Heavenly River,” which has been exhibited in Beijing and the Art Gallery of Liaoning.

In addition to receiving a prize of 5,000 euros, You has gained a two-month residency at the Ernesi Art Center in Offagna, a small town in Italy, where he will have the opportunity to work with Italian artists.

During his residence, he will have the chance to develop cultural exchanges at an open studio day at the Art Center, and will offer a public talk and exhibit his work in a studio at the Art Center, along with promoting his work. He will hold solo exhibitions at the Ernesi Art Center in March in Offagna, then in November in Beijing.

You says he is looking forward to exhibiting his work in Italy and finding new inspiration there.

Like Gehui, founder of Offagna, he hopes You will have the opportunity to exchange in deeper exchanges with the French community. One hand, he can continue to improve his lacquer craftsmanship, and on the other, he can bring new artistic expression to the end,” says Gehui.

“Lacquer craftsmen and artists of the Sino-French cultural exchange program have been able to exchange in terms of techniques, knowledge, and craftsmanship, and act as a bridge for cultural exchange between both countries. We have a lot of imagination in our trip to France,” says You.

After visiting China, multiple times and living extensively about Chinese culture and the history of cultural exchanges between France and China, Bolid observed structures in craftsmanship between the two countries. He notes that both show an impressive level in their work, as well as an appreciation for the beauty and utility of their object.

The French Academy of Sciences was founded in 1795, and each year focuses on a specific field of traditional Chinese handicrafts and selects young Chinese craftsmen and artists to participate in this program. The goal of this program is to promote the understanding of Chinese culture and traditions.

This year, a group of 10 craftsmen and artists from China will participate in the program. They will have the opportunity to learn from French masters and exhibit their work in France.

“A lacquer craftsman is not just a craftsman, not just a producer of objects, he is also a constructor of a world, a world that is his own, that is in harmony with the world that he creates,” says You Banglong.

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