



### APPEALS TO SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION

The International Environmental Co-operation Forum & Exhibition kicked off yesterday

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### FORUM MACAU, 'A MAJOR BONUS'

Interview with São Tomé and Príncipe president Patrice Trovoada, following the nations' entry to Forum Macau

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### XI TO MEET TRUMP ON APRIL 6-7

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"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

### WORLD BRIEFS



**JAPAN'S** ruling party urged the government yesterday to consider arming the country with more advanced and offensive military capabilities, such as striking enemy targets with cruise missiles, further loosening the self-defense-only posture Japan has maintained since the end of World War II. More on p13

**PHILIPPINES** President Rodrigo Duterte unleashed an expletive-laden tirade yesterday against the country's leading newspaper and TV network and threatened to humiliate them and their owners, whom he accused of distorting news of his anti-drug crackdown.

**SINGAPORE** A teenage blogger from Singapore who was granted U.S. asylum remains detained in a Wisconsin facility with few clues of when he'll be released. Attorney Sandra Grossman initially said Yee could be released Monday. Her office said Wednesday it appears Yee will stay detained while federal authorities consider appealing. Some immigration experts say that's unusual.



**AUSTRALIA** The Australian government said yesterday it had found no evidence that any of its donations to the Christian charity World Vision had been siphoned to Islamic militant group Hamas. But Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade said its World Vision funding in Gaza would remain suspended while Israeli charges against the global aid agency remain unresolved.

More on backpage

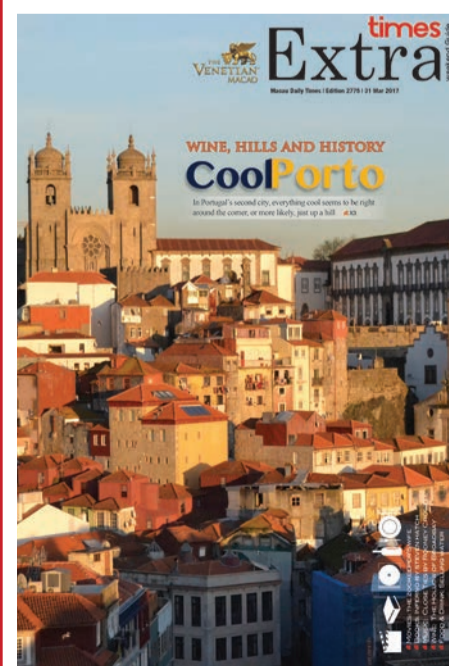
# Kim Jong Nam's body released to North Korea



A van believed to be carrying the body of Kim Jong Nam comes out from the forensic department at Kuala Lumpur Hospital. Police yesterday stopped guarding the morgue that held the body of Kim Jong Un's murdered half-brother. Following "very sensitive" negotiations, Prime Minister Najib Razak said Malaysia agreed to release the body in exchange for the return of nine Malaysians held in North Korea's capital. P3

## Pearl Horizon, Land Law spur heated debate

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# Extra

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## Cinematheque opens under CUT management

The Cinematheque Passion was inaugurated yesterday in a ceremony attended by several government officials, including the President of the Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC), Leung Hio Ming. After the opening ceremony, three short films produced by Macau directors (Tracy Choi, Chao Koi Wang and António Faria), based on the Cinematheque theme, were presented to guests. An opening activity specially organized for Macau filmmakers was also held. Association CUT will be responsible for the programming and operation of the Cinematheque. Every month, the facility will hold different thematic film festivals or programs, such as the "Director-in-Focus" program. According to a statement issued by the IC, "every month, two to three films from around the world will also be premiered in Macau."



## Roadhouse awards Ducati for St. Patrick's Day

As part of a joint promotion between Broadway at Galaxy Macau and Ducati Motorcycles, The Roadhouse Macau gave away a Ducati Scrambler Icon as part of their St. Patrick's Day celebrations on March 17. According to the organizer, the winner was Sean Walsh, a long-term resident of Macau and regular guest at The Roadhouse Macau. "This has been our first major promotion at The Roadhouse Macau and we have been thrilled to work with such an iconic brand as Ducati," said Tess Carruthers, owner and managing director at The Roadhouse Macau.

## GEG and SBM suggest Japan collaboration

Galaxy Entertainment Group (GEG) and Monte Carlo's Société des Bains de Mer (SBM) announced the formal establishment of a strategic partnership between both businesses. The announcement follows a strategic investment made by GEG in SBM in July 2015. The partnership includes a mutual commitment to enhance the respective businesses and brands of each company, and to cooperate in the development and operation of entertainment businesses in the Asia-Pacific region. Suggesting that a joint development project in Japan may be on the table for the new partnership, a statement released by GEG stressed that they "look forward to the possibility of collaborative efforts to design, develop and operate an [integrated resort] in Japan." Yesterday's statement comes 15 weeks after the Upper House of Diet in Japan approved the "Integrated Resorts Promotion Bill".

## MACAO WATER FINANCIAL RESULTS

# Annual water consumption rises

MACAO Water recorded an after-tax profit of MOP64.66 million, with MOP52.37 million coming from the major business of supplying water. According to the company's financial results announced yesterday, the region's water supplier made a total investment of MOP65.43 million in 2016.

The financial results indicate that the annual water consumption was 86.7 million cubic meters in 2016, a slight increase of 2.1 percent compared with 2015. The average daily water consumption was 237,000 cubic meters. Commercial and industrial water use accounted for 50.9 percent of the total water consumption, while residential water use represented 42.7 percent, and government and municipal water use 6.4 percent.

Macau Water's major investment projects included the laying and replacement of the water supply pipeline network. According to the

company, 1.8 km of old water pipelines were replaced in 2016. Other investment projects included upgrading and improving water supply equipment, replacing water meters, applying the smart pipeline network system, as well as daily maintenance of fixed assets.

According to Macau Water, the demand for water has been increasing in the outlying islands (including Taipa, Coloane, Cotai and the Hengqin campus of the University of Macau) in recent years. Statistics show that in 2016, water consumption in the Macau Peninsula represented 64 percent of total water consumption, while water consumption in the outlying islands accounted for 36 percent of total consumption, an increase of 6.2 percent year-on-year. Among these islands, Cotai saw the highest water consumption growth of 13.2 percent. With the new reclamation area, Pac On Ferry Terminal, the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau bridge and



large-scale residential and entertainment facilities coming into place in coming years, demand for water in these islands is expected to continue increasing. Macau Water has expressed the need to build a new water treatment plant there.

Macau Water is preparing for the construction of a water treatment plant which can supply 130,000 cubic meters of water per day in Seac Pai Van in Coloane. With construction expected

to begin in the third quarter of this year, the water treatment plant is projected to become operative in 2019. After that, Macau's daily water supply will increase from the current 390,000 cubic meters to 520,000 cubic meters.

The company claims that this heightened capacity will be able to meet the city's demand for water in the next 10 to 15 years, and ensures water supply stability in the islands.

## 'Lusophone Journalism Award' launched



Dinis de Abreu (left) and Rocha Diniz

### Paulo Barbosa

A local newspaper joined with the Portuguese Press Club (CPI) to launch a journalism award targeting Portuguese-speaking countries and regions. The EUR10,000 (around MOP86,000) "Lusophone Journalism Award" was presented this week in Macau.

The award aims to recognize works

about Macau published by lusophone print and digital media. It is seen by its promoters as a way to "highlight the singular positioning of Macau and its role as a platform connecting Portuguese-speaking countries."

"It is an annual award with very substantial value," José Rocha Diniz, administrator of Jornal Tribuna de Macau (JTM),

told the Times, explaining that the prize has no governmental support and is being financed by the promoting organizations. "We think that the socioeconomic changes that occurred in Macau are still unknown to most of the people who speak Portuguese. The novelty of this prize is its enlargement of the lusophone space. To do that, we needed to have an attractive prize," the veteran journalist said.

Rocha Diniz recognized that it is unusual to have a newspaper promoting a journalism award, but added that the independence of the prize should not be called into question. "The award will have a jury composed

by members of the CPI, the newspaper [JTM] and a major figure of the Portuguese literary [sector]. [...] It is unusual, but it is also unusual that a Portuguese language newspaper lasted for almost 35 years in Macau. That has never happened," he said.

CPI president Dinis de Abreu, former editor-in-chief of Diário de Notícias, was in Macau to give a lecture at the Military Club about the challenges faced by media worldwide. Acknowledging that there is a crisis in the generalist press, de Abreu said that it is not all bad news. "Conversely, the local and community press - the category in which I consider the

press here in Macau to belong - is being strengthened," he said. "Internet is global, but people lack information about the neighborhood, about what is happening around them. That is what the local press does."

Speaking to journalists on the sidelines of his presentation, the CPI president said that "there is a resurgent interest in Macau" in Portugal. "China is increasingly investing in Portugal in sectors such as the banking, insurance and electricity industries. So it is only natural that there is more interest in Portugal regarding Macau affairs, which has always been a bridge between East and West."

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# Kim Jong Nam's body released to North Korea

**T**HE body of Kim Jong Nam, the estranged half brother of North Korea's leader, was released to the North yesterday, more than a month after his murder at Kuala Lumpur's airport unleashed a fierce diplomatic battle between the two countries.

Following negotiations that he described as "very sensitive," Prime Minister Najib Razak said Malaysia agreed to release the body in exchange for the return of nine Malaysians held in North Korea's capital. There were no details on what led to the breakthrough, but North Korea appeared to win some important concessions: custody of the body and the release of at least two suspects who had been holed up in its embassy in Kuala Lumpur.

Oh Ei Sun, an adjunct senior fellow with Singapore's Rajaratnam School of International Studies, said it was not a surprise that North Korea came out well in the negotiations.

"North Korea has been performing despicable deeds around the world such as kidnapping and



assassinations throughout the decades with impunity," Oh said.

The public poisoning of Kim, which took place amid crowds of travelers in the budget terminal at Kuala Lumpur's airport on Feb. 13, has prompted speculation that North Korea dispatched a hit squad to assassinate its leader's estranged older brother. Although Kim was not an obvious political threat, he may have been seen as a potential rival in the country's dynastic dictatorship.

Malaysia has never directly

accused North Korea of being behind the murder, but many say the weapon — VX nerve agent, a banned chemical weapon — suggests the North must have orchestrated it. Experts say the VX was almost certainly produced in a sophisticated state weapons laboratory, and North Korea is widely believed to possess large quantities of chemical weapons.

Malaysia's investigation has enraged North Korea. It has denied any role in the killing and denounced the investigation as flawed

and politically motivated. North Korea does not even acknowledge the victim is Kim Jong Nam, referring to him instead as Kim Chol, the name on the passport he was carrying when he died.

But North Korea has always demanded custody of the body, arguing that the victim was a citizen.

As tensions escalated in recent weeks, both countries withdrew their ambassadors and North Korea blocked nine Malaysians who were in the country at the time from leaving. Malaysia responded in kind, barring North Koreans from exiting its soil, including three North Korean suspects believed to be hiding in the North Korean Embassy.

Yesterday, both sides appeared to emphasize that ties were on the mend.

"Both countries agreed to lift the travel ban imposed on citizens of the other country and guarantee their safety and security," said a statement from North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency.

The two countries did not say whether that included the three suspects. However, Japanese media released a video reportedly showing two of the suspects — an embassy employee and a worker for the North Korean state airline, Air Koryo — on an airplane, and of cargo identified as Kim's casket.

Four other North Korean sus-

pects left the country on the day Kim was killed.

Custody of the body has been a flashpoint in the case since the start. Until now, Malaysia refused to hand it over. Malaysia said it held on to the body in order to formally identify the corpse, which it now says it has done, using DNA from Kim's son.

**■ The two sides agreed to transfer the body 'to the family of the deceased'**

The KCNA statement said Malaysia had agreed to transfer the body "to the family of the deceased" in North Korea. Kim, however, is believed to have children with women living in Macau and Beijing, not in North Korea.

While it isn't one of North Korea's key diplomatic partners, Malaysia had been one of the few places in the world where North Koreans could travel without a visa. Although that visa arrangement was scrapped after the killing, it meant that Malaysia had been a quiet destination for Northerners looking for jobs, schools and business deals. **AP**

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AL PLENARY

# Pearl Horizon, Land Law spur heated debate

THE “Pearl Horizon” case and the Land Law were the two centerpiece of yesterday’s heated discussion in a quite uncommon plenary meeting of the Legislative Assembly (AL).

The meeting, initially called to hear lawmakers’ questions and government answers on 16 spoken enquiries, eventually become centered on the topic of the Land Law and, more specifically on the case of the Pearl Horizon buyers, some of them in attendance.

Uncommonly, nominated to reply to those questions was not the Secretary for Transport and Public Works, Raimundo do Rosário, but instead Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture Alexis Tam and Secretary for Administration and Justice Sonia Chan.

Lawmaker Mak Soi Kun was the first to address the issue. He said that problems regarding the Land Law had already alerted the government several times to the need to “adopt measures to prevent social chaos.”

In the lawmaker’s opinion, there are a series of “tragedies” occurring in society due to the lack of action from the government on the matter.

Mak urged the government to take immediate action to solve the case, before “something even more serious happens,” he warned.

In reply, Secretary Tam noted that, “while the government strictly follows the law,” in order to promote changes in the Land Law it is necessary to gather a “consensus in society,” reaffirming that “there isn’t, for the time being, an intention to change it.”

Tam noted that, due to the ongoing judicial process regarding the Pearl Horizon case, the government “needs to wait for the result first in order to take any action.”

However, Mak was not satisfied with the Secretary’s reply. “How can the government save the residents from the ‘deep waters and the burning fire?’” he asked.

A representative of the Legal Affairs Bureau (DSAJ) was nominated to reply to the follow-up question.

DSAJ noted that the bureau



Lawmaker Zheng Anting (right)

has already followed-up with the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT) and that they are maintaining an open dialogue with the buyers association and also with the developer

**I believe that we made a mistake. I voted wrongly; I admit that like many others here.**

CHEUNG LUP KWAN

The representative reaffirmed once more the need to wait for a decision from the courts in order to “have a concrete and clear solution for the case based on such an outcome.”

“In order to review the [Land] Law, we need social consensus as well as the orientation and object of this review,” he concluded.

Lawmaker Zheng Anting con-

tributed to the discussion by stating that he had alerted the secretary back in December to the problems regarding the Pearl Horizon case and urged the government to consider how the matter could be solved.

Zheng disagrees with the idea that the government should wait for the outcome of the judicial process, and instead argues it should take action.

Au Kam San noted the impossibility of Tam to reply on matters that are “not a responsibility of his secretariat,” remarking that the only thing Tam can do is “to try to put down the fire, but the fire is already burning high.”

Au questioned how people who bought a residential unit according to the law could suddenly become unlawful. He then claimed that the government’s promises to protect the interests of these buyers are just slogans.

Another of the unusual events at the AL plenary yesterday was the applause of the audience – composed of some Pearl Horizon apartment buyers and other parties with interest in the Land Law – during or right after the interven-

tions of lawmakers.

Ella Lei, Ng Kuok Cheong, Si Ka Lon, Leonel Alves, Song Pek Kei, Pereira Coutinho, Kwan Tsui Hang, Fong Chi Keong, Ho Ion Sang and Cheung Lup Kwan were among the other lawmakers who expressed similar positions on the topic.

Specifically, Ng noted that: “Even if the government wins in court, it should continue with the project and finish it by doing it on its own or giving it to another developer. [...] That is the only way to give the houses to the rightful owners.”

Leonel Alves remarked on the supposed “need of a consensus,” claiming that “apparently we do have a consensus.”

“I can’t see any voice against this solution,” said Alves. “What are we waiting for? Are we waiting for people to throw themselves from buildings?”

As for lawmaker Song Pek Kei, she noted that representatives from other Secretariats were siding with Tam at AL. Commenting on this, she said: “I am happy to see several representatives from different department from the government here together. I hope

this means that the government is acting together to solve this problem.”

Meanwhile, Pereira Coutinho said he had already proposed some solutions to the government. “The government can write the clauses to guarantee that the buyers are safeguarded,” he said, noting that this would be a valid guarantee whatever the courts decide.

Cheung Lup Kwan, in a rare moment of addressing the plenary, acknowledged that it was a mistake to approve the changes to the Land Law. “I believe that we made a mistake. I voted wrongly; I admit that like many others here,” he said. “We have to think how to solve this. We can’t summarize this to a business between the developer and the owners.”

However, in his concluding statements, Tam said he was “optimistic for a resolution on this case,” adding that he suspects the buyers “will have a solution soon and it can be disclosed to the public.”

When Secretary Sonia Chan weighed in on the issue it was to note that an interdepartmental group has been working on the matter, “not just for Pearl Horizon, but for the land problems in general.”

Leonel Alves asked whether the secretary needed to hear the recording of previous discussions on the matter to recall lawmakers’ intentions in changing the Land Law.

The same lawmaker noted that in the Pearl Horizon case, the government issued a license for the construction and collected stamp duty on the properties and that is why the buyers were approved loans from the banks.

“Our regime is sick! How can we fix this sickness?” he said.

In her final reply to the comments of the lawmakers, Chan said: “The idea of retrieving [the land] and holding a new tender has considered the idea of protecting the interests of the people [buyers]. We are working to protect their interests.”

Chan reaffirmed that a solution for the case will be settled, but warned that there will not be a review of the Land Law revision, which “the government has no intention of doing for the time being.”

## Package tour visitors from S. Korea up 55pct

THE number of visitors on package tours totaled 559,000 in February 2017, according to information from the Statistics and Census Service published yesterday, down by 1.5 percent year-on-year and up by 4.7 percent month-to-month.

Package tour visitors from mainland China (414,000) and Taiwan (36,000) dropped by 5.4 percent and 9.3 percent respectively year-on-year, while those from South Korea (49,000)

surged by 54.4 percent.

For the same month, outbound residents using travel agency services increased by 9.3 percent year-on-year to 114,000. Residents on package tours increased by 12.1 percent to 48,000, with those going to mainland China (34,000) rising by 13.7 percent and those to South Korea soaring 76.9 percent.

The total number of hotels and guesthouses operating at the end of February 2017 increased to

108. The number of guest rooms totaled 36,000, up by 13.2 percent year-on-year, with 5-star hotel rooms rising by 7 percent to 22,000, comprising about 60 percent of the total.

A total of 949,000 guests stayed in hotels and guesthouses in February 2017, up by 8.1 percent year-on-year. Guests from mainland China (625,000), South Korea (36,000) and Taiwan (40,000) also recorded increases, while

guests from Hong Kong (121,000) decreased by 7.7 percent.

In the first two months of 2017, visitors on package tours totaled 1,092,000, down by four percent year-on-year. Meanwhile, outbound residents using the services of travel agencies totaled 227,000, up by 10.4 percent year-on-year.

In this period, the number of guests at hotels and guesthouses totaled 1,991,000, up by 11.9 percent year-on-year.



# FINE DINING MADE ACCESSIBLE AT ROSSIO'S BUFFETS

Although best known for its fresh seasonal seafood and live aquarium, Rossio at the MGM offers a lavish buffet spread featuring a range of international cuisines.

Upon stepping into Rossio – with the organic granite interior and dining tables along MGM's Grande Praça reminiscent of a European café – you are treated to an array of grilled Mediterranean fare, as well as the Portuguese and South-east Asian favorites typical of Macau cuisine. Hand-crafted scones, pastries and sweets line the dessert counters.

As you stroll around Rossio, you can experience chefs' professional skills in the open kitchen, preparing international dishes with imported ingredients of the highest quality. Live cooking stations are also available at various points around the restaurant.

Aside from its famous seafood, Rossio's regular promotions include the Sunday Brunch Buffet, which runs for just two hours every week. You can enjoy a free flow of fruit and vegetable juice, sangria and mojitos, as well as customise Your own blends at the juice bar. The Sunday Brunch menu also offers unlimited Champagne Billecart-Salmon and Brut Réserve - as well as standard beers and wines - from around the world.

Rossio is open from 7am to 11pm and offers buffets for breakfast, afternoon tea and dinner daily. The Lunch Buffet is available from Monday to Saturday, while Sunday Brunch is between 11:30am and 3pm. Prices start at MOP190 per person.

## MEAT LOVERS, REJOICE: ROSSIO LAUNCHES KOBE BEEF BUFFET

Rossio will launch a weekend dinner buffet dedicated to Japanese Kobe beef, which is renowned for its rich flavor and melt-in-your-mouth texture. The all-beef buffet, which is scheduled for a late April launch, includes interactive cooking stations, a mix of Western and Eastern main courses, and an array of salads.

Rossio's chefs will demonstrate their culinary talents at the traditional and fusion cooking stations, where they will serve torched Kobe beef nigari and gyro grilled Kobe beef with naan bread, respectively. The main courses feature Kobe beef cooked in three different ways: braised brisket in soy sauce, sukiyaki, and salt-crusted roast. The salad bar includes a Kobe beef and cereal rice and cheese salad, salad udon with bulgogi Kobe beef and ginseng, and traditional Kobe beef salad.

The buffet is priced at MOP458 per person. It will run from April 21 to 23, and from April 28 to 30.



# 2017 MIECF

Macao International Environmental Co-operation Forum & Exhibition  
2017年澳門國際環保合作發展論壇及展覽



創新綠色發展—可持續的未來  
Innovative Green Development  
for Sustainable Future

Host:



## Highlights of the Official Events

1/4/2017 (Saturday)

Venue: Expo Hall A

09:00 - 17:00	Green Showcase, Green Matching & Eco Market Macao
10:00 - 17:00	Green Public Day

\*FREE ADMISSION TO THE EXHIBITION. ALL ARE WELCOME.\*

## Programme of Concurrent Events

1/4/2017 (Saturday)

10:00 - 13:00	The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Macau Maritime Forum: Ocean, the Origin of Green Innovation	Sicily Room (2401-2502)
11:00 - 13:00	Latin American Forum - Investment in the World's Hottest New Energy Source: Lithium	Florence Room (2201-2302)
14:00 - 18:00	Green Facilities and Utilities Forum	Sicily Room (2401-2502)

Hotline: 8798 9675

Remarks: Please refer to the program of the above activities at [www.macaomiecf.com](http://www.macaomiecf.com) for more updated details.

Complimentary parking is available at Expo Hall D (Parking period: 08:30 - 18:00, parking spaces are subjected to availability and on a first-come-first-served basis.)



## Green Public Day

Let's Create a Green Environment - Cherish Food and Waste Less!

- Green Showcase – General public can learn about environmental protection in different countries and regions as well as the latest environmental and technology information.
- Environmental Workshop – Participate DIY workshop to turn waste into various green items!
- Family Games – Learn the environmental protection knowledge through a variety of stage games, booth games, and magic shows. (Chance to win amazing environmental friendly gifts while stocks last.)
- "Eco Fun" – Support environmental protection by registering as a member of "Eco Fun". Both new applicants and existing members can earn 50 bonus points at MIECF. (Note: Limited to Macao residents and bonus points may be claimed once only.)

Venue: The Venetian Macao-Resort-Hotel

Green Public Day Free Shuttle Bus Service

To reduce carbon footprints and advocate green mobility, we sincerely invite you to visit MIECF by taking our free shuttle buses.



Location	Time	Frequency
Depart: Rua do Dr. Pedro José Lobo (The Macau Square) Return: Venue (The Venetian Macao West Entrance)	Depart: 09:00 – 15:45 Return: 11:15 – 18:45	Every 45 Minutes
Depart: Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida (Opposite to Pak Wai Car Park) Return: Venue (The Venetian Macao West Entrance)		
Depart: Rua do Mercado de Iao Hon (Opposite to Jardim de Iao Hon, near the iSQUARE Computer Plaza) Return: Venue (The Venetian Macao West Entrance)		
Depart: Avenida de Guimarães (Parque Central da Taipa, opposite to Nova Park) Return: Venue (The Venetian Macao West Entrance)		

Host Co-ordinators:

Government Agencies of the Macao Special Administrative Region



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## ENVIRONMENT

# MIECF talks highlight need for conscious consumption

**T**HE 2017 Macau International Environmental Co-operation Forum & Exhibition (MIECF), is commemorating its 10th edition with a focus on "green innovation".

Chief Executive Chui Sai On, attended yesterday's opening ceremony, and said that the region has attempted to foster regional cooperation in environmental protection affairs since its first edition in 2008.

The 2017 MIECF, which will be held until tomorrow, will facilitate eight meetings and a special session under the "Green Forum".

This year's organizers have collaborated with Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office of the Ministry of Environmental Protection to organize a session titled "The Blueprint for Innovative Green Development."

The session will discuss the latest issues relating to innovative green development in mainland China, which includes the ecological improvement and environmental protection issues outlined in China's 13th Five-Year Plan.

Speakers at the opening ceremony stressed that 2017 is a significant year for implementing the 13th Five-Year Plan and deepening the supply-side of structural reform.

Yang Tiesheng, deputy head of Energy Conservation and Resources Utilization Department of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of Chi-

na noted that the construction of an ecological civilization requires the advancement of green development, circular development and low-carbon development.

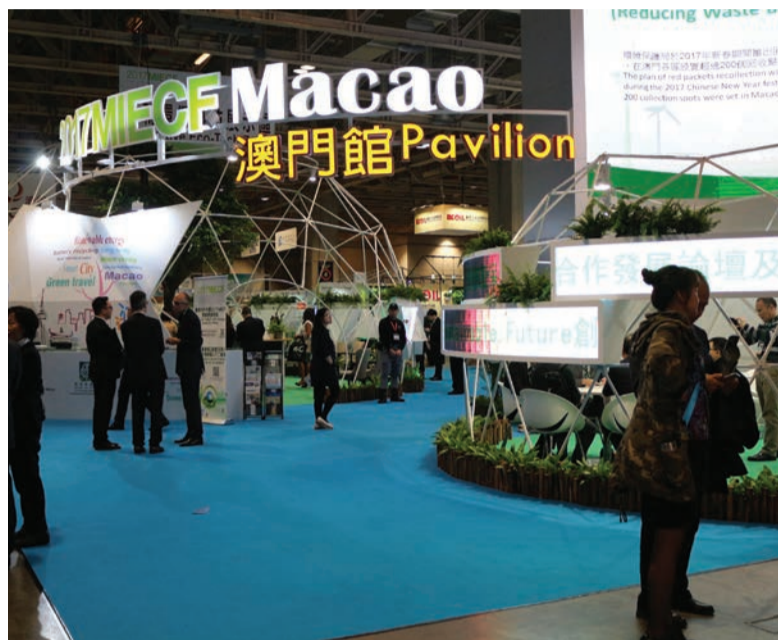
"We [green industries] must be determined to change the traditional model of economic growth which over-relies on resource energy consumption and low-cost factor inputs," the deputy head remarked.

As the 2017 MIECF is themed "Innovative Green Development for a Sustainable Future," the speakers highlighted the need for society to move towards conscious consumption of resources.

Meanwhile, Portugal's secretary of the State of Environment, Carlos Martins, noted that this year's theme is on the agenda of the European Union and global institutions, as well as on the strategies and major options of governments.

Martins recalled that the United Nations has already defined its strategy for sustainable development in the "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

The secretary also emphasized that the EU has approved sev-



eral measures with the intention of stimulating Europe's transition from a linear economy to a more sustainable one.

"It is necessary to mobilize society towards conscious consumption to help transition towards a sustainable lifestyle in an innovative, caring society, with sustainable production and consumption models, to build a green economy," he said.

The Beijing Pavilion also debuted yesterday with the theme "Green Beijing."

The pavilion aims to showcase its products and technologies from its green enterprises.

The U.S. Pavilion and European Pavilion also held its opening ceremony.

Commenting on the 10th edition of MIECF, Jim Cunningham, Chief Commercial Consul of the Consulate General of

the United States in Hong Kong and Macau briefly said that such events provide opportunities for U.S. companies to collaborate with companies from the territory and its neighboring regions.

"What's more important are the lasting relationships that come out of it," he noted.

The European Pavilion showcases 30 green technology companies.

According to the head of Trade Section of the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macau, Alessandro Paolicchi, environmental challenges require the "right regulatory frameworks and right mindset."

"It's significant because we have good technologies and companies. We want them to go out not just to Macau but to the entire Pearl River Delta Region," said Paolicchi.

The Macau Trade and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) will organize a delegation from the EU, Portuguese-speaking countries and Macau to visit Zhongshan city in Guangdong Province tomorrow.

## CESL Asia collaborates with aerospace firm in a bid to advance technology



António Trindade

**L**OCAL firm CESL Asia is again participating in the MIECF, this time showcasing "Spin.Works", a Portuguese technology company that applies proprietary space technology to unmanned craft equipment.

Explaining to the Times its collaboration with the Portuguese firm, which has come to the region for the first time, CESL Asia's CEO and president António Trindade stressed that there is a potential market

for such innovation to be set up in Macau.

The president explained that the firm tries to use innovative technologies at a reasonable cost. That is what CESL is seeking in the collaboration with "Spin.Works," whose fixed wing drone flies with several sensors such as infrared camera and visible white camera. It is capable of flying over areas of interest to capture images from above – which are then converted into a com-

plete 3D map.

The results can be used to process information with various applications, such as calculating volume for mining purposes and estimating the amount of biomass for forest inventory.

Its infrared features could also enable it to assess the health conditions of trees and crops to detect early signs and predictors of diseases, such as lack of nutrients in soil and other geographical factors that inhibits plant growth.

The two kilogram drone uses intelligent technology that is similar to that which is used to identify foreign objects in outer space.

Regarding how the product could be integrated in the region, Trindade indicated that CESL Asia is collaborating with the firm to create similar technology products.

"We're not limiting our-

selves to [producing only one] application. We can see a future to develop new applications continuously for new uses, with the same core application," said Trindade.

When asked about the role of business and innovation in contributing towards the creation of a more sustainable economy, the entrepreneur reiterated that innovation should also be recognized as creating new uses for existing technology by reducing the use of resources.

"Innovation is not only creating new technology and new products. It's creating new usage, new ways of doing things, [...] producing better value [but] reducing the use of resources and energy," he explained.

According to Trindade, Macau has the potential to

add more value to the technology industry, which would also lead to creating more opportunities for job seekers.

Regarding the role of public policy in promoting an eco-friendly economy and industry, Trindade expressed the view that the region needs to acquire government leaders who have concrete plans for the territory in order to allocate its resources effectively.

Trindade recalled that the region already has a vision to execute pro-green initiatives, and that the region is currently working toward the continuous promotion of these efforts.

"For instance, the promotion of human resources in Small and Medium Enterprises [SMEs] instead of going to big constructions," he clarified.

"It's a shift away from the gaming industry but it also

supports the industry. So there's a balance here that requires creativity and innovation, as well public policy."

According to the president, Macau is in need of a better public interest represented in the leadership of the green industry's development, adding that leaders in the industry should seek stronger commitment for the region's advancement.

"The role of the government is to ensure that the infrastructure and capabilities are there to make sure that [the industry] can grow step-by-step in a proper, sustainable way," he concluded.

The chief executive officer of "Spin.Works," Vasco Pimenta, is hopeful that local buyers would be interested to look at its technology and see its potential to further improve the quality of their products.

CESL Asia is currently in discussion with relevant authorities to invest in its third and fourth Concentration Photovoltaic Power Plants in Southern Portugal. LV

REAL ESTATE MATTERS

One question on everyone's mind; Are we in a property 'bubble'?

Juliet Risdon is a Director of JML Property and a property investor.

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JULIET RISDON

The last ten years have seen explosive growth in the Macau property market.

Many people believe that property is the safest investment you can make. However, in a property 'bubble', that is no longer true.

The growth of Macau property has been fuelled by a huge change in the demand for rental apartments, whilst the level of supply in the market has not kept pace.

In addition, low interest rates have meant that buyers can enjoy some of the cheapest funding in history.

The psychology of any bubble market, whether we are talking about the stock market or the real estate market is known as 'herd mentality', where everyone follows the actions of the larger group.

The bubble continues to rise as long as there is a "greater fool" to buy at a higher price.

As there are less and less "greater fools" available or willing to buy property, the mania disappears.

During the upsurge in prices, there is usually a huge increase in supply as a direct response to the demand.

When the hysteria passes, the excessive inventory that was built during the boom time causes prices to plummet.

This is true for all of the property bubbles and there are many historical examples. Another reason that real estate bubbles 'burst' is that new homebuyers are no longer able to buy homes due to high prices and higher interest rates.

In a 'bubble' market, as prices rise the 'bottom end' of the market becomes increasingly expensive and first time homebuyers are priced out of the market.

A third reason that bubbles are created and then burst is that the psychology of investing changes, going from one of 'greed' to one of 'fear'. The positive return for so many investors over the last eight years fueled the market, and as more people saw this they decided to invest in real estate before they 'missed out'.

So how does Macau stand today?

Well, demand remains high and growing, whilst supply remains relatively short.

Even with the impending occupation of the Windsor

Arch and One Oasis developments there is no 'over-supply' of new property on the market, and with government policy on approving new projects, it does not look as though this will change anytime soon.

As for interest rates, these are being kept low globally in order to create growth. Once again, it does not look as though there is a major change on the horizon in this respect.

Finally, demand. As Macau grows, so does its need for people to fill the jobs being created. And these people have to live somewhere, and whether they buy or rent it has an effect on the market in the long term.

In conclusion, if you consider the pure growth numbers, it would be easy to deduce that there was a property bubble.

However, all the time there is a demand for housing, the supply of that housing is short, and interest rates are low, that trend may continue regardless of current high prices.

Only if one or more of the factors above change, then there may be a market slowdown or 'correction'.

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## McDonald's to start using fresh beef in 'watershed moment'



**MCDONALD'S** Corp. will begin offering quarter-pound burgers with fresh beef at the majority of its restaurants next year, breaking with decades of frozen-patty tradition in a bid to improve food quality.

The move follows a test in 325 locations in Texas and Oklahoma, where the feedback was "overwhelmingly positive," the company said yesterday. When the nationwide plan is rolled out by mid-2018, the fresh-beef burgers will be cooked when they're ordered, McDonald's said.

The world's largest restaurant chain has embarked on several initiatives aimed at improving its culinary reputation. The company removed artificial preservatives from Chicken McNuggets last year and stopped using high-

fructose corn syrup in its sandwich buns. It also plans to switch to cage-free eggs by 2025.

Chief Executive Officer Steve Easterbrook has sought other ways to spur growth, including all-day breakfast. The Oak Brook, Illinois-based company also said earlier this month that it would offer more delivery in the U.S., eyeing what it sees as a USD100 billion market.

The quarter-pound change won't affect other burgers, such as the Big Mac. But it represents a "watershed moment for McDonald's," said Joe Jasper, a franchisee who worked on the test in the Dallas area.

It also steps up competition with Wendy's Co., which has built its reputation on offering fresh beef. But the shift may not be easy for McDonald's 14,000 U.S. locations. Easterbrook warned last year that contamination was a potential risk.

"If you bring in fresh beef, you've got to be careful on the storage and the kitchen equipment, so you can't have cross contamination," he said at the time. "We've got to work out whether we have the chillers or refrigerators with the necessary capacity." **Bloomberg**

## Japan looks to curb USD200b spent on pachinko gambling

**AS** Japan prepares for its first Las Vegas-style casino resorts, the government is considering restrictions on existing gambling establishments, including pachinko parlors and race tracks, in a bid to tackle addiction.

The legalization of casinos in December divided Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Buddhist-backed coalition partner Komeito amid concerns about compulsive gambling. Both ruling parties have prepared reports calling for research into dependency and consideration of regulation, including on casinos.

Although the market is shrinking, Japan's gamblers spent 23.3 trillion yen (USD209 billion) at pachinko parlors in 2015, about four percent of gross domestic product. Betting is also allowed on horse, boat, bicycle and motorcycle racing, but relatively little has been done to combat the associated problems.

Among the ideas to be considered are allowing an individual's access to pachinko to be restricted on the request of relatives, according to a government document obtained by



Customers play pachinko machines in a pachinko parlor in Tokyo

Bloomberg. Such visit limits are offered by Singapore's casino regulatory authority. The way the pinball-like machines operate could also be regulated in a bid to make the game less addictive. Pachinko operators may be obliged to take measures to combat addiction, and an independent body could be set up to oversee progress.

Regulations to be considered for other gambling venues include banning credit-card machines that offer instant cash loans from race tracks, according to the document. A panel of government ministers is set to approve the document by the end of the week.

"Companies in any sector prefer to regulate themselves - being

bound by legislation is bad for business," said Kazuaki Sasaki, associate professor in the department of international tourism at Toyo University, when asked about the potential effect on pachinko operators. "Although the increase in costs will hurt the industry in the short term, they're necessary to ensure its long-term survival."

One reason why gambling addiction hasn't been taken seriously in Japan in the past is that pachinko is legally classified as an amusement similar to a fair-ground attraction, Sasaki said. To avoid any direct breach of the law, winners are offered prizes, which can be exchanged for cash at counters close to the pachinko parlors. **Bloomberg**

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INTERVIEW | PATRICE TROVOADA

# 'We see Forum Macau as a major bonus'



Paulo Figueiredo, Sao Tome

**PATRICE** Emery Trovoada is already well-known beyond the borders of São Tomé and Príncipe, well into the region of Central Africa. In just a few weeks, his notoriety will significantly increase the world over as he arrives in Beijing to sign a historical co-operation agreement between the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe and the People's Republic of China.

The agreement will mark the return of São Tomé and Príncipe back into the fold of the Sino-Lusophone family as well as the nation's formal entry to Forum Macau.

**- Prime Minister, what are the main unexplored potentials of São Tomé and Príncipe today?**

**Patrice Trovoada (PT)** - I think among the most unexplored is the fishing sector, which until today, even at a national level, has been limited to small-scale fishing, even though we control an immense maritime territory bigger than that of many countries, including Cameroon. There is the possibility of advancing our industrial fishing, especially by establishing a fish processing industry. This is something that has not been explored much but could be a great boom to our domestic

economy that would not require much initial investment. We already own the maritime territory and resources; what we need is a port infrastructure capable of receiving and servicing modern fishing boats as well as a land infrastructure capable of handling product exports. Then there are other sectors with great potential that are already in place but require some support in terms of infrastructure in order to expand. For example, tourism: an airport that could service direct flights from Asia, the Americas and even Northern Europe – markets with tourists looking to take vacations abroad – would really help the tourism sector grow exponentially. Aerial connectivity is fundamental; it could catapult regional weekend tourism growth into the double digits. There's Accra in Ghana, Lagos in Nigeria – a city with 20 million inhabitants, one of only five cities in all of Africa to have over a million residents – Luanda in Angola, Cairo in Egypt and Cape Town and Johannesburg in South Africa.

These are just a few of the nearby major urban hubs: two of them, Luanda and Lagos, are less than two hours away by flight. At the sub-regional level, the major concern is air traffic safety, and when it comes to intercontinental tourism, the major obstacle is

having a modern and capable airport. We could potentially have very strong growth in the tourism sector, which would substantially improve the sustainability of São Tomé's economy. Our geographical position is very conducive to supporting both airport and port logistics and creating moderate-sized infrastructures for service and transport. What we have to be careful of, with industrial growth, is maintaining the nature of the islands and our beautiful beaches. We also need to ensure safe transport of people and goods.

There may also be a wealth of untapped potential, although to date this has been mainly speculation, in natural oil and gas reserves. The African continent is rich in oil and gas – from Senegal to Angola, it seems there is no spot without one or the other – so it would seem anomalous if there was not a bit here! [laughs] It is still speculative, but I believe that we could be producing oil within the next five or six years.

**- What are some of the difficulties and challenges that must be overcome?**

**PT** - There are several types of difficulties. Lack of infrastructure is first and foremost, but I am convinced that our advocacy has helped our partners realize that financing

infrastructure is a priority. It is simply a question of the appropriate business model: the interest rate, payback capability, etc., but we are on the right track.

Another difficulty is available human resources. We are an extremely young country. Our education system is good overall, but it needs to be polished. We need specialized labor; more specifically, we need to adapt training programs to the labor market as well as to regional economic reality. Currently, our jurists all speak Portuguese; none speak English or French. We own maritime territory, but nobody specializes in maritime economics or maritime law. We are an island, yet we have few sailors, sea captains, naval repair engineers, etc. So it is necessary to consider the market when guiding human resources training. This is a major challenge that could be compensated with foreign labor, but that would have to be accompanied by policies preserving the interests of our nationals and maintaining the identity of São Tomé.

**Among the international community, there is a growing sense that there is only one China**

PATRICE TROVOADA

**- How does the decision to resume the relationship with the People's Republic of China factor into these challenges?**

**PT** - One cannot play a role in the provision of services and logistics or participate in the global economy and international trade while excluding the largest bilateral partner on the African continent. Thus, the development vision of São Tomé and Príncipe and the well being of our people necessitate resuming economic, political, cultural and diplomatic relations with China. Another important point is that long-term policies and political and societal stability must have a legal basis. After 20 years, we recognize that, in terms of international law and among the international community, there is a growing sense that

there is only one China, which is represented by the government of the People's Republic of China.

Our ambition for our country and for our people is exercised alongside the humility and self-awareness of our size and our potential, and above all, we must correctly align with what is commonly recognized as international law. We accept, in general, universally accepted values regarding environmental preservation and fundamental rights and freedoms and adopt a policy of non-intervention when it comes to the internal affairs of other countries. We recognize that the Taiwan issue is an internal matter of the People's Republic of China and support solutions of harmony rather than encourage situations of friction and rupture. We continue our friendship with the people of Taiwan without question. We also understand that under a one-China policy, the values of all native residents of China are preserved.

Our shift in allegiance is a matter of political domain: twenty years ago, the reality was very different. Today, the world is different, the options are different. Taiwan has failed to gain official recognition in the eyes of international law, while China has made great progress in all areas – its economy, its understanding of human rights – including ratification of the Paris Treaty. All this has factored into our decision. We are pro-globalization because a country such as ours relies on trade to flourish. China will help open us up to many opportunities.

**- What can you tell us about the content of the agreement to be signed between the two countries?**

**PT** - Obviously we want this to be a relationship of mutual advantage, with both governments cooperating for respective economic growth. China does not throw money out the window: it invests in its interests, and there definitely are many projects of mutual interest. We need time to assess our capacity to take on debt as well as our capacity to supply and support these projects – the materials, workers, infrastructure and equipment required. There is also detailed technical-financial cross-analysis that needs to be done. We have nearly completed this step, after which we will be able to detail our infrastructural collaborations.

Given China's access to fun-

LOURENÇO DA SILVA



ding, it will be Chinese companies carrying out the work, but we also have to repay China, so we need to discuss how to do that while still optimizing our domestic economy to benefit our people. But I want to emphasize that neither government wants to gift white elephants. These investments will generate revenue, which will in term pay for themselves. They are well-studied, well-financed and well-prepared. Their internal rate of return is on par to that used by private investors to ensure that these investments are repaid as the economy simultaneously grows. This partnership will provide political, diplomatic and geo-strategic advantages for both parties, but I think most importantly, there is great potential for mutual profit. That is the only way to ensure that the flow of investment and credit continues. We have a very clear idea of what funding is needed over the next 30 years, but for that to happen, there needs to be mutual confidence that the projects are sound and that they have financial backing. Hopefully they will inspire our other partners to take the plunge [laughs] and invest more in this country. We are

banking on simultaneously diversifying both our economy as well as our foreign policy.

**- What kind of partnership do you expect with China?**

**PT** - I am convinced that this new partnership will bring many positive outcomes; however, our co-operation may not be the "classic" model that China has with many other African nations. Today, there are roads, hospitals, schools, public buildings, water and energy infrastructure all over the African continent built by Chinese companies. But predominantly, this has been in countries with vast

**Our shift in allegiance is a matter of political domain: twenty years ago, the reality was very different.**

PATRICE TROVOADA

oil, gas and mineral reserves, which is not the case with São Tomé.

We are a small but well-situated nation with many appealing factors in our favor: we are streamlining our visa application process for visitors, lowering taxes, pro-reform, pro-business, pro-trade, just to name a few. We are not interested in what has become the standard model for Sino-African co-operation. We envision a truly long-term intellectual partnership upon which to build a platform of understanding. I am convinced that there is much to do together.

As I see it, there are two African continents: the first is dominated by capitalistic international mega-companies like Total S.A., Shell Oil Company, Sinopec Limited and other Chinese companies. But there is also a continent, which in 30 years will have 2 billion eager consumers. Hopefully the standard of living will have increased and poverty decreased and a growing labour force will entice China to relocate some of its major industries, as in the case of Ethiopia, which has been transformed into a hub for the production of footwear. It is with this perspective that we seek this long-

term partnership.

I am quite confident that this co-operation will transform São Tomé and Príncipe. But it's a matter of expectations. There are people who may be waiting for castles, but we will not build castles or palaces [laughs], nor will we offer cars to every government official. We will, with China's help, build up our infrastructure, thus creating employment and a good business climate, which will attract more companies here, which will again create more jobs. As household income rises, people will be able to send their children to school. It will be a process but will provide a basis for a more independent, sustainable, tranquil and optimistic future.

**- Are you going to China in April to sign the agreement?**

**PT** - We have established a timeframe to finalize the agreement before the end of April, and probably at that time I will visit China with great pleasure, but we will see.

**- When you talk about the port and the airport, you underline the issue of profitability. Does that mean Chinese groups could use São Tomé as a platform for distribution of goods and services to the region?**

**PT** - Yes. The port and the airport are six kilometers apart. We want to connect them via a highway and build warehouses and offices, etc., along this corridor. It would be the ideal place for Chinese companies to facilitate re-export activities, as long as some value is added locally.

This would be set up in phases. In the first phase, we need to see how things evolve at the port and analyse business growth. Given São Tomé and Príncipe's geographic situation, the port ought to be highly competitive with others on the continent. The port allows a draft of less than 14.5 meters, which is unusual for most African ports. So this first phase, in which risk is controlled, allows for the establishment of an industrial fishing operation as well as a transshipment operation, where arriving goods are re-exported regionally. Additionally, should the country enter oil-related industries, it is ideal to have the airport and port in close proximity. Having the two infrastructures side by side would facilitate efficiency in exporting relevant goods by sea, by cargo plane, by speed boat to the oil rigs, etc.

**- These kinds of agreements with China tend to include a training component, given the capacity of Chinese universities. Has a training or education**

**exchange been established?**

**PT** - This year, we have already sent about 90 university students to China. We also want to promote short-term but in-depth training in various fields: media, public and private management in different sectors, building and factory maintenance, defense, security, traffic policing, non-profit agencies – these are areas in which we particularly need qualified workers. Collaborating with a small country like ours, the opportunity costs to China are minimal. When, for example, China invests USD200 million in a massive road project in the middle of the forest, no one sees that road. But invest USD200 million in São Tomé and Príncipe, and you could see the changes it brings even if you were on the moon! We must prove that this partnership can indeed be a success story with regards to transparency and maximum impact for the people of our country and the businesses of theirs. I am convinced we're going to make it happen.

**- Entrance to the Forum Macau will open the door to China's investment funds, right?**

**PT** - Exactly. We have expressed to the Chinese government that we wish to utilize all existing mechanisms available for economic and human development. So it is true that we see Forum Macau as a major bonus and means by which we may mobilize financial investment to aid in our country's growth. Forum Macau is unique in that it allows us to interact with others in the Portuguese-speaking world, to share knowledge and learn from each other's experiences. I do not believe that failures perpetuate themselves. It's the success stories that repeat themselves. Business ventures can only create potential opportunity; how they turn out – good or bad – depends entirely on the effort and dedication put forth. In São Tomé and Príncipe, a million-dollar business or investment could be a great thing.

It is not enough to dream big, nor is it enough just to have an abundance of resources. Sometimes it is better to leave something well enough alone than take a chance and ruin it. Success takes partnerships and collaboration, working together with people who have the know-how and skills. This is our attitude, how we want to approach our future: partnerships, partnerships, partnerships, openness, openness, openness, so that we can build a sustainable economy. Ultimately, the end goal is not growth but happy citizens and higher standards of living for all. **Exclusive MDT/Macauhub**

# Scholars urge Beijing to let academic return to Australia



Xi and Li were the recipients of an open letter signed by scholars worldwide

Louise Watt, Beijing

**D**OZENS of scholars in Australia, the U.S., Britain and Hong Kong are urging Beijing to let a Sydney-based academic return home, warning that continued barring of his departure is raising concerns about the risks of conducting research in China.

Organizers of an open letter to President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang say more than 80 scholars have signed it

so far, and it will be sent next week after the number of signatories is expected to exceed 100.

It calls for authorities to allow Feng Chongyi, an associate professor at the University of Technology Sydney, to return to Australia after he was prevented from doing so last week on suspicion of endangering national security.

Feng is a Chinese citizen and permanent resident of Australia, according to his lawyer.

His case was cited earlier this week by politicians in Australia whose opposition over human rights concerns prompted the government to abandon efforts to seek ratification of an extradition treaty with China.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang said yesterday that Chinese law enforcement authorities "while performing duties of safeguarding national security" prevented Feng going abroad.

"Feng Chongyi, as a Chinese

citizen, is obliged to cooperate with the relevant investigation by Chinese authorities," Lu told reporters.

Feng had been wrapping up a three-week trip researching human rights lawyers. Since July 2015, authorities have questioned or detained hundreds of activists and independent legal professionals as part of a crackdown on civil society under President Xi. Some of the lawyers have been labeled threats to national security.

Rights groups and Western governments, including the U.S., have urged China to release the activists and lawyers. Activists say the crackdown is aimed at silencing critics of the ruling Communist Party in violation of the Chinese Constitution.

The open letter to China's top two leaders states that the signatories are "disturbed that a fellow researcher, who has dedicated himself to promote the understanding of and interest in China, has been prevented from returning to his home and workplace for no reason other than his conscientious work as a China Studies scholar.

"Such actions make it difficult for the rest of us to be confident in the research environment in China today, and do not contribute positively to the continued construction of open and productive higher education collaboration between China and the rest of the world."

Organizers plan to deliver

it to the Chinese Embassy in Canberra next week.

One of them, Kevin Carrico, said the academics were worried about the safety of Feng, who has been a "kind, very welcoming" member of the Australian academic community who organized talks and debates on issues in Chinese society and China-Australia relations.

Carrico, a lecturer in Chinese studies at Macquarie University in Sydney, said the scholars wanted to make a "clear statement that this is a matter of real concern for anybody who does research in China, anybody who works in academic exchange with China.

"This type of a development of course doesn't contribute positively to the goal of mutual exchange between China and the outside world, which I know Professor Feng is an advocate of and that we all advocate."

While detentions of overseas-based academics such as Feng are rare, scores of foreign scholars in the China field have been denied visas to conduct research within China, apparently due to political considerations.

Border officials at an airport in the southern city of Guangzhou refused to let Feng catch flights home on Friday and Saturday last week, as Premier Li was making an official visit to Australia.

Feng's lawyer said state security agents had interviewed his client on suspicion of endangering state security. "He is free to move around, but can't leave China," Chen Jinxue said. He said Feng was staying in the Grand International Hotel in Guangzhou with his wife.

Calls to Feng's room via the hotel operator were not answered. **AP**

CHINA-US

## Xi to meet Trump in Mar-a-Lago on April 6-7

**U**.S. President Donald Trump will meet with his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping for the first time on April 6-7 at Trump's Florida resort, China's Foreign Ministry announced yesterday, amid a range of pressing issues including trade, North Korea and territorial disputes in the South China Sea.

The relationship between the world's No. 1 and No. 2 economies has been uncertain following the election of Trump, who accused China during his campaign of unfair trade practices and threatened to raise import taxes on Chinese goods and declare Beijing a currency manipulator.

It is unclear whether Trump will follow through

with either threat. He is now seeking Beijing's help in pressuring North Korea over its nuclear weapons and missiles programs. China is North Korea's most important source of diplomatic support and economic assistance.

In February, Trump reaffirmed Washington's longstanding "one China" policy in a call with Xi, in an apparent move to ease concerns in China that he might use Taiwan as leverage in negotiations over trade, security and other sensitive issues. The policy in place since 1979 requires Washington to maintain only unofficial ties with Taiwan, which China claims as its own territory.

A statement from the

White House said the two leaders will discuss global, regional and bilateral issues of mutual concern. President Trump and first lady Melania Trump will host Xi and his wife Peng Liyuan at a dinner on Thursday evening [today, Macau time], it added.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Lu Kang told reporters that Xi would meet with Trump at Mar-a-Lago, without providing any more details.

It is the same Florida resort where Trump hosted and played golf with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in February. Xi, a fan of soccer and other sports, is not known to play golf.

Before arriving in the

U.S., Xi will pay a state visit to Finland on April 4-6, Lu said.

Relations between China and the U.S. under former President Barack Obama were strained by issues including China's island-building in waters surrounding international shipping lanes in the South China Sea, allegations of cyberhacking and a U.S. policy rebalance to Asia.

Despite that, cooperation between their militaries expanded tentatively, and China's defense ministry yesterday hailed further growth, while warning of potential frictions ahead.

"We are willing to make joint efforts with the U.S. side [...] so as to maintain a stable military-to-military



relationship while striving to make new gains," spokesman Col. Wu Qian said.

However, Wu also reiterated China's opposition to the deployment of a sophisticated missile defense system in South Korea, known as THAAD, which Beijing says threatens its own security with its ability to monitor flights and missile launches deep inside northeastern China.

"The deployment of the THAAD system will definitely not make [South Korea] any safer. And secondly, the Chinese military's opposition to the THAAD system will definitely not be confined to just words," Wu said.

Asked what specific measures the People's Liberation Army was willing to take, Wu replied, "You will know when the time comes." **AP**

Mari Yamaguchi, Tokyo

## JAPAN

# Ruling party urges strike ability amid North Korea threat

**J**APAN'S ruling party urged the government yesterday to consider arming the country with more advanced and offensive military capabilities, such as striking enemy targets with cruise missiles, further loosening the self-defense-only posture Japan has maintained since the end of World War II.

The Liberal Democratic Party's council on defense policy urged the government to immediately start studying ways to bolster Japan's capability to intercept missiles with a system such as the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, or THAAD, that the U.S. and Seoul have agreed to install in South Korea.

The panel cited a "new level of threat" from North Korea, which fired four missiles this month, three of them landing inside Japan-claimed exclusive economic waters.

"North Korea's provocative acts have reached a level that Japan absolutely cannot overlook," the party's security panel said in the proposal given to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. "We should not waste any time to strengthen our ballistic missile defense."

The panel noted that North Korea's recent missile launches have shown advancing technology, including the capability to launch from mobile facilities or submarines, the use of solid fuel, and high-altitude trajectories, which make them harder to trace and respond.

With higher levels of threat coming from North Korea, Japan should consider possessing "our



Abe (right) speaks to Hiroshi Imazu (center) Chairman of Research Commission on Security of the LDP, and Itsunori Onodera, head of LDP panel on security policy

own capability of striking back at an enemy base, with cruise missiles for instance, to further improve deterrence and response as part of the Japan-U.S. alliance," the proposal said.

The panel said the government should consider introducing THAAD and a shore-based Aegis missile defense system, among other equipment, while pursuing upgrades to two existing missile defense systems — ship-to-air SM-3 interceptors and the ground-based PAC-3.

China, which was occupied by Japanese troops during World War II, quickly criticized the proposal. Beijing views any Japanese

plan to boost its military capabilities with suspicion.

"China is opposed to any actions by other countries to take the [North Korean] nuclear issue as an excuse to compromise the security of other countries," defense ministry spokesman Wu Qian told a monthly briefing yesterday.

Beijing has strongly protested the THAAD deployment in South Korea, saying its powerful radar would allow the U.S. to monitor flights and rockets deep inside northeastern China.

Japan has maintained that its right to strike a foreign base in case of an imminent attack is not

banned under its pacifist constitution.

Former defense minister Itsunori Onodera, who headed the defense policy council, told Abe that Japan needs to be prepared for being targeted by multiple missiles.

"Our proposal is about how we can fight back and stop the other party from firing a second missile, instead of making a pre-emptive strike," he said.

Abe said he takes the report seriously and will cooperate with the party to improve Japan's ballistic missile response.

The proposal does not call for a first-strike capability. Japan sin-

ce its World War II defeat has limited its military to self-defense, while relying on the U.S. "nuclear umbrella" and the 50,000 American troops stationed in Japan under a bilateral security alliance as deterrence.

Abe has stretched those restrictions by easing a self-imposed ban on weapon exports and reinterpreting the war-renouncing constitution to allow Japan's military to defend allies under attack. Japan and the U.S. have also revised their defense guidelines, giving Japanese Self Defense Force a greater role.

Concerns in Japan about the level of U.S. commitment to the region under President Donald Trump have also prompted calls for Japan to take greater responsibility for its own security.

Critics say changing policies to allow Japan to fight back against a foreign base would only escalate tension and signal a weakening of the U.S. regional commitment, and that the consequences should be carefully studied.

Japan's defense budget has steadily risen over the past five years under Abe, who ended a decade of defense budget cuts. The annual increase is currently just over 2 percent, and Abe says he is ignoring a customary cap of 1 percent of GDP. AP

## SOUTH CHINA SEA

# Philippines says China wants to survey waters to its east

**T**HE Philippines said yesterday that China wants to survey potentially resource-rich seas off the country's northeast coast but Manila will agree only if a Filipino scientist is allowed to observe.

Acting Foreign Secretary Enrique Manalo told ABS-CBN News Channel that a number of Chinese requests to survey Benham Rise have been denied because China rejected that condition. Some requests are still pending.

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana has said that Chinese survey ships were spotted crisscrossing the Benham Rise area from July to December last year.

It was not clear what the ships were doing. Chinese officials have said their ships have the right of innocent passage through

the area.

Benham Rise is on the opposite side of the Philippines from where the countries are locked in a dispute over ownership of islands and shoals in the South China Sea.

The U.N. Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf confirmed in 2012 that Benham Rise is part of the extended continental shelf of the Philippines, where it has sovereign rights to explore and exploit oil, gas and other mineral resources, including sedentary species.

**■ The status of Benham Rise was raised in an affidavit submitted to supplement an impeachment complaint against Duterte**

Manalo said after the Chinese ships' presence in Benham Rise was reported the Department of Foreign Affairs sent a diplomatic note to China to inquire what they were doing there.

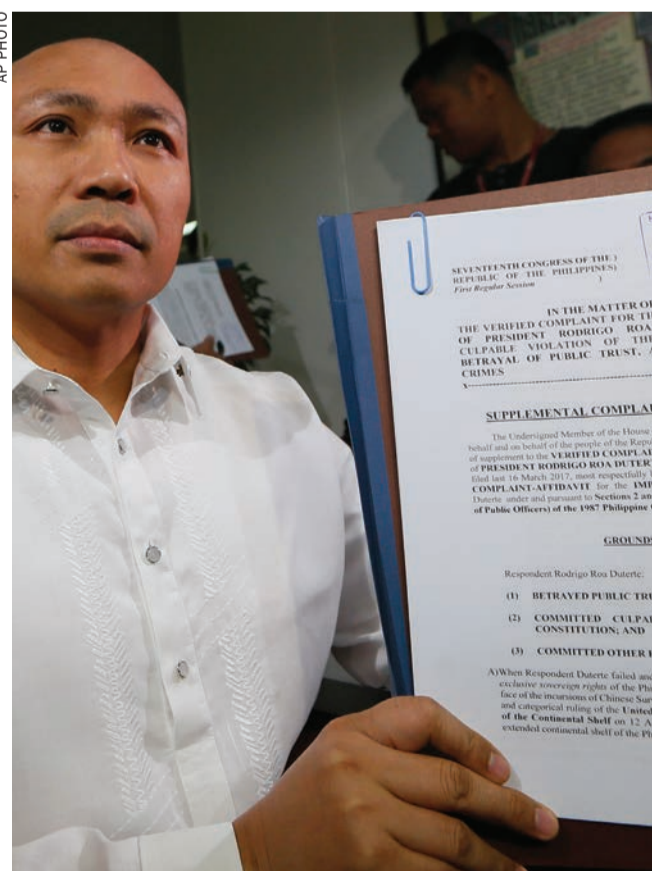
"China replied that number one, they fully respect and recognize sovereign rights of the Philippines on Benham Rise and secondly, it is not an area under dispute," he said, adding they were satisfied with their explanation.

"This was confirmed two or three times so the

implication is they will follow the rules laid out by UNCLOS and that's how we are going to deal with this issue," he added, referring to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

On Wednesday, National Security Adviser Hermogenes Esperon told a Senate hearing that a Chinese ship seen in the area conducted research but the Philippines has no indication as of now that it surveyed what's on the seabed. It also could not be established if the research was done inside or outside the country's exclusive economic zone, he added.

The status of Benham Rise was raised in an affidavit submitted yesterday to supplement an impeachment complaint filed against President Rodrigo Duterte. AP



Congressman Gary Alejano shows to the media the supplemental impeachment complaint he filed against President Duterte yesterday



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BREXIT

# Negotiator denies UK is blackmailing EU on security

Danica Kirka & Jill Lawless, London

**B**RTAIN'S chief negotiator in the country's divorce from the European Union yesterday rejected suggestions the U.K. has threatened to end security cooperation unless it gets a good trade deal, as the U.K. announced plans for the huge task of replacing thousands of EU laws and regulations with domestic law.

Brexit Secretary David Davis said Prime Minister Theresa May's letter triggering talks on Britain's departure made clear Britain wants to continue to work with the EU on a range of issues, including security, for both sides.

"We want a deal, and she was making the point that it's bad for both of us if we don't have a deal," Davis told the BBC. "Now that, I think, is a perfectly reasonable point to make and not in any sense a threat."

May's six-page letter triggering two years of divorce negotiations makes 11 references to security, and said that without a good deal, "our cooperation in the fight against crime and terrorism would be weakened."

The Sun tabloid was in no doubt about what May meant: "Your money or your lives," was its front-page headline yesterday, along with the words "PM's Brexit threat to EU."

Britain is a European security powerhouse — one of only two nuclear powers in the bloc and with some of the world's most capable intelligence services.

**The Sun tabloid was in no doubt about what May meant: 'Your money or your lives'**

May said Wednesday that Britain will probably have to leave EU police agency Europol after Brexit, but wants to "maintain the degree of cooperation on these matters that we have currently."

Home Secretary Amber Rudd, whose responsibilities include intelligence and security, also denied there was a threat, but told Sky News: "If we left Europol, then we would take our information [...] with us. The fact is, the European partners want to keep our information."

Senior European leaders responded positively to the warm overall tone of May's letter — but they could not miss the steely undertone.

"I find the letter of Mrs. May very constructive generally, but there is also one threat in it," said European Parliament Brexit coordinator Guy Verhofstadt, saying May seemed to be demanding a good trade deal in exchange for continued security cooperation.

"It doesn't work like that," he told Sky News. "You cannot abuse the security of citizens to have then a good deal on something else."

A day after triggering its EU exit process, the British government began outlining yesterday how it intends to convert thousands of EU rules into British law when it leaves the bloc in 2019.

The government published plans for a Great Repeal Bill that will transform more than 12,000 EU laws in force in Britain into U.K. statute so that "the same rules will apply after exit day" as before. The bill is designed to prevent Britain plunging into a legislative black hole once it extricates itself from the EU.

"It will also ensure we deliver on our promise to end the supremacy of European Union law in the UK as we exit," Davis said. "Our laws will then be made in London, Edinburgh, Cardiff and

Belfast — and interpreted not by judges in Luxembourg, but by judges across the United Kingdom."

To accomplish the transition, lawmakers will need to delegate authority to the government to change some laws by executive order, using so-called Henry VIII clauses.

While the government says it will only use such powers to clean up technical issues, opposition lawmakers are unhappy at plans to give government ministers power to change some laws without votes in Parliament.

They fear the Conservative government will use it as a chance to water down workers' rights and environmental protections introduced in Britain during four decades of EU membership.

Labour Party Brexit spokesman Keir Starmer said the proposed bill "gives sweeping powers to the executive" and lacks "rigorous safeguards" on their abuse.

The government insists executive powers will be time-limited and will only be used to make "mechanical changes" so laws can be applied smoothly. It says it is trying to balance "the need for scrutiny and the need for speed."

Simon James, a partner at the international law firm Clifford Chance, says the reality is that Parliament doesn't have the capacity to review all EU law and make necessary changes over the next two years and any attempt to do so "would be doomed to failure."

"The task involves more than the application of a blue pencil to minor elements of EU legislation in order to excise a few words here and there or to substitute U.K. institutions for EU ones," he wrote in a briefing paper. "It will entail immediate policy choices as to what EU law should continue to apply in post-Brexit Britain and, if it should, how



it needs to be changed in order to work effectively."

All of this means the government faces a "unique challenge" that is complicated by the "scale and complexity of the task," as well as the fact that some decisions will be dependent on the result of Britain's negotiations with the EU, the House of Lords said in

a report published earlier this month.

Even so, the Lords argued that Parliament should limit the scope of any delegated powers so that the government can't use the process to decide which laws it wants to keep and which ones it wants to discard.

"There is a question of

who is going to get the power," said Sunwinder Mann, a partner at the firm of Baker McKenzie.

"This moment is going to bring about the most fundamental constitutional change since the European Communities Act in 1972. [...] There is a lot of uncertainty to what this means." **AP**

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Prof. Arch. Eng. **Andrea Vanossi Ph.D.**  
Professor of the Politecnico di Milano

Date & Time  
**19:00, April 3rd, 2017 (Monday)**

Language  
**English**

Venue  
**Hall D1 - Albergue SCM**

CPD Hours  
**3 Hours**

Payment Method & Registration Fee  
**Albergue SCM: Non-Members MOP500.00**  
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## FRIDAY

13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	RTPi Live
17:00	Criminal Minds S.9
17:40	Castle S6 (Repeated)
18:20	Now Generation (Repeated)
19:10	TDM Talk Show (Repeated)
19:40	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	Miscellaneous
22:10	Now Generation
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Captain America - Winter Soldier
01:45	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
02:35	RTPi Live

## SATURDAY

10:30	Comedy
11:00	Blaze Riders
11:25	Documentary Serie
12:00	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	Soap Opera
18:40	Documentary Series
19:15	Miscellaneous
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
21:10	Drama
22:00	Revenge S.4
22:45	Miscellaneous
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:15	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
00:50	RTPi Live

## SUNDAY

10:05	Young Adult
11:00	Sunday Mass (Live)
12:00	Miscellaneous
12:30	Miscellaneous
13:00	TDM News (Repeat)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:50	Zig Zag
16:25	Documentary Serie
17:00	Miscellaneous
18:20	Documentary Serie
18:50	Miscellaneous
19:20	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
19:30	Comedy
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	Non-Daily Portuguese News
22:00	Frat Boys: Inside America's Fraternities
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Non-Daily Portuguese News (Repeated)
23:50	Europa League Magazine
00:45	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeat)
01:20	RTPi Live

## Offbeat

INDONESIA MAN SWALLOWED BY PYTHON,  
VILLAGERS AND REPORTS SAY

A 25-year-old Indonesian man has been swallowed whole by a python on the island of Sulawesi, villagers and news reports said.

A six-minute video on the website of the Tribun Timur publication shows villagers slicing open the python's carcass to reveal the legs and torso of the dead victim, named Akbar.

Junaedi, the secretary of Salubiro village in West Sulawesi province, told The Associated Press that villagers began searching for Akbar on Monday night after realizing he hadn't returned from working on his palm oil crops the previous day.

Junaedi said Wednesday that the search party found scattered palm oil fruit, a picking tool and a boot, and then spotted the engorged 7-meter (23-foot) - long reticulated python.



## cinema



## CINETEATRO

30 MAR - 4 APR

## GHOST IN THE SHELL

ROOM 1  
2:30, 4:30, 9:30pm  
Director: Rupert Sanders  
Starring: Scarlett Johansson, Takeshi Kitano  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 106min

## GHOST IN THE SHELL (3D)

ROOM 1  
7:30pm  
Director: Rupert Sanders  
Starring: Scarlett Johansson, Takeshi Kitano  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 106min



## SWORD ART ONLINE

ROOM 2  
4:45, 9:45pm  
Director: Tomohiko Ito  
Starring: Yoshitsugu Matsuoka, Haruka Tomatsu  
Language: Japanese (Chinese)  
Duration: 119min



## IN THIS CORNER OF THE WORLD

ROOM 2  
2:15, 7:15pm  
Director: Sunao Katabuchi  
Starring: Megumi Han, Yoshimasa Hosoya  
Language: Japanese (Chinese)  
Duration: 128min



## POWER RANGERS

ROOM 3  
2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30pm  
Director: Dean Israelite  
Starring: Brian Cranston, Elizabeth Banks, Naomi Scott  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 124min

## MACAU TOWER

30 MAR - 12 APR



## GHOST IN THE SHELL (3D)

2:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:30pm  
Director: Rupert Sanders  
Starring: Scarlett Johansson, Takeshi Kitano  
Language: English (Chinese)  
Duration: 106min

## this day in history

1986 GREATER LONDON COUNCIL  
ABOLISHED

Thousands of people have taken part in festivities to mark the historic final hours of 97 years of local rule in London.

A throng of 250,000 people have gathered on the South Bank in London, home to the Greater London Council, which will not exist from midnight tonight.

Festivities will end with the largest display of fireworks ever seen in the city after a week of events costing £250,000.

Six other Labour-led metropolitan county councils will come to an end today ending 12 years of the strategic administration of the metropolitan county councils.

These are the West Midlands, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Tyne and Wear, West Yorkshire and South Yorkshire councils.

The disbanding of seven of the largest councils in Europe was ordered by the government to cut bureaucracy and increase efficiency, amid a swathe of criticism across the political spectrum.

The government insisted transferring their powers to local councils and quangos would create greater electoral accountability.

But hopes of achieving 7,000 job cuts in London, with a corresponding saving of £50 million, have proved an overestimate as most have moved to jobs within the new organisations.

In the metropolitan districts some 32,000 staff and 600 councillors are affected by the changes, with the same number of councillors and 20,000 staff affected in London.

Despite job cuts staff are out supporting the festivities around the country and in London there are giant screens bearing farewell messages from celebrities.

The last GLC concert to be staged at the festival hall will include Haydn's Farewell Symphony, by the Philharmonic Orchestra, lit with candles until the final one is blown out by its leader Ken Livingstone.

Many people are wearing badges bearing the message "we'll meet again", mirroring a banner on the GLC's building County Hall, where flags are flying at half-mast, opposite the Houses of Parliament.

Despite the taunts from the GLC to Mrs Thatcher's government over its forced closure, the building will become the property of the London Residuary Body.

It is one of the quangos charged with completing the dismantling of the councils as more power passes to Whitehall.

Courtesy of BBC

## IN CONTEXT

Once Labour regained control of the GLC from the Tories in May 1981 the Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was determined to abolish the council.

There began a four year political battle to remove the council, run by the Labour politician Ken Livingstone, whose far-left policies earned him the title Red Ken.

An initial attempt was defeated, but a Bill published in 1984 precipitated the end of the GLC.

In May 1997 Labour was elected to power with a manifesto commitment to allow Londoners a referendum on whether they wanted a new mayor and a Greater London Authority. They overwhelmingly voted for a council which came into existence in July 2000 with Ken Livingstone as mayor.

He won the mayoral election as an independent after Labour expelled him for not supporting the party's official candidate. He was re-admitted into the party in January 2004 after Prime Minister Tony Blair admitted he was wrong about his prediction that Mr Livingstone would be a "disaster" for London.



YOUR STARS

Aries Mar. 21-Apr. 19 Self-distraction is a technique that people often use to avoid dealing with real problems in their lives -- and that's not necessarily a bad thing. From time to time, it's perfectly fine to keep yourself busy shopping

Taurus April 20-May 20 Futuristic thinking is all around you today, and your friends and coworkers seem to think only about what is going to happen, not about what is happening now.

Gemini May 21-Jun. 21 Right now, simple misunderstandings may create some complicated situations -- that make waves in your professional life. That's why it's more important than ever to be extra careful about what you say.

Cancer Jun. 22-Jul. 22 You will be full of good, positive energy today, and you should be prepared to use it! From cheering up friends who are down in the dumps to pumping up your team for a competition

Leo Jul. 23-Aug. 22 Of course, you can't live your entire life without taking any risks, but you can certainly choose when to take them. For example, the stars say that today is not a good time to take part in any aggressive financial dealings

Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Unreasonable deadlines and heightened expectations are a tough combination for anyone to grapple with -- even a superstar like you! So, take it slow for a while and you'll succeed.

Libra Sep.23-Oct. 22 People are willing to be much more flexible than you have been giving them credit for. Are you expecting the worst from a few people? Well, do not hesitate to ask others to cooperate with you today

Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21 If you haven't been able to get that certain person's attention, start using your imagination! There are no rules about how to engage with someone who makes you feel this way

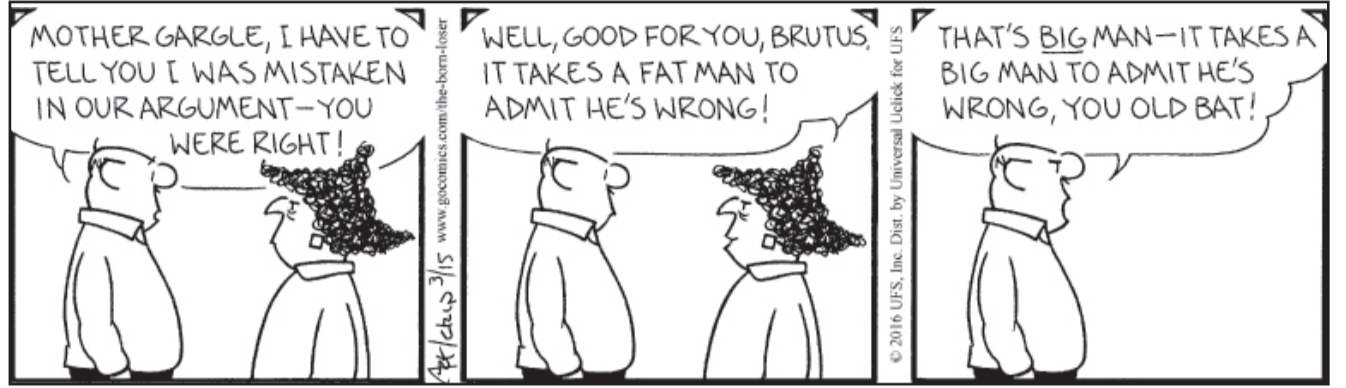
Sagittarius Nov. 22-Dec. 21 A magazine article or a book you've recently read has left a lasting impression on you -- today, you should try to apply some of the ideas it explored to your life.

Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Your mind is going to come up with all sorts of interesting ideas today. While not each and every one of them will be a winner, the sheer quantity of innovative thoughts will be impressive enough to get you noticed.

Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Your generous nature is coming out in full force today, and it will earn you many appreciative smiles from all the people whose lives you make just a little bit better with your thoughtfulness.

Pisces Feb.19-Mar. 20 Getting settled into a regular routine might bring comfortable predictability to your life, but it's hardly a great way to encourage yourself to grow or experience new things. It's time to mix things up.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

5x5 grid for Easy Sudoku puzzle with numbers 2, 7, 6, 5, 9, 4, 3, 8, 1, 7, 4, 3, 8.

Easy+

5x5 grid for Easy+ Sudoku puzzle with numbers 8, 7, 6, 5, 9, 4, 2, 1, 4, 5, 7, 1, 3, 8.

Medium

5x5 grid for Medium Sudoku puzzle with numbers 3, 6, 7, 8, 1, 9, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 3, 5, 1, 2, 3, 9, 2, 6, 7, 8.

Hard

5x5 grid for Hard Sudoku puzzle with numbers 1, 4, 3, 9, 1, 7, 5, 6, 1, 3, 2, 7, 8.

WEATHER

Table with columns: MIN, MAX, CONDITION

CHINA

Table listing weather conditions for various Chinese cities: Beijing, Harbin, Tianjin, Urumqi, Xi'an, Lhasa, Chengdu, Chongqing, Kunming, Nanjing, Shanghai, Wuhan, Hangzhou, Taipei, Guangzhou, Hong Kong.

WORLD

Table listing weather conditions for various world cities: Moscow, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York.

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- And here it is!; 5- Singer Stefani; 9- Struck, old-style; 13- Future oak; 15- Appraise, charge per unit; 16- Vintner's prefix; 17- Hazardous; 18- One of the Baldwins; 19- Impulse; 20- Praiseful poem; 21- \_\_\_ we forget; 23- Like Saturn; 25- \_\_\_ d'oeuvre; 26- Marvel; 27- Stonework; 30- Spring mo.; 31- "Farewell!"; 32- Estimator; 37- Skating area; 38- Having big hips; 40- Prolonged unconsciousness; 41- Largest moon of Jupiter; 43- Physician to Marcus Aurelius; 44- Abu Dhabi's fed.; 45- Lasting all day; 47- Plant pests; 50- Thick cord; 51- North African desert; 52- Congers; 53- Environmental prefix; 56- Cupid, to the Greeks; 57- Mrs. Dithers, in "Blondie"; 59- Wait \_\_\_ Dark; 61- Dorothy's dog; 62- Steering wheel; 63- Dull surface; 64- Auth. unknown; 65- "\_\_\_ Tu" ('70s hit); 66- Fellas;

DOWN: 1- Poi source; 2- Not base; 3- Prescribed amount; 4- Biblical beast boat; 5- Like an infamous knoll?; 6- Mickey's creator; 7- Summer on the Seine; 8- Autopsy; 9- Noise; 10- Unite; 11- Actress Stevens; 12- Nailed obliquely; 14- Hose; 22- Go astray; 24- About, in memos; 25- What you play when you cut class.; 26- Flying stinger; 27- Actress Helgenberger; 28- 1998 Sarah McLachlan hit; 29- \_\_\_ Fein; 32- Goon; 33- Climb; 34- Go it alone; 35- Sign of things to come; 36- Pealed; 38- Migraine; 39- March time; 42- The Ghost and Mrs. \_\_\_; 43- Hydrous calcium sulfate; 45- Visions; 46- Netscape buyer; 47- Brother of Moses; 48- Pic; 49- Is wearing; 51- \_\_\_ precedent; 52- Author \_\_\_ Stanley Gardner; 53- Caesar's accusation; 54- Metropolis; 55- Corrida cheers; 58- \_\_\_ the ramparts...; 60- Badger;



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Fire department 28 572 222
Water Supply - Report 2822 0088
PJ (Open line) 993
Telephone - Report 1000
PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
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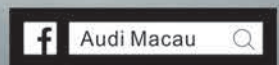
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**T**HE NHL will play its first games in China this fall when the Los Angeles Kings and Vancouver Canucks meet in Beijing and Shanghai.

The preseason games will take place Sept. 21 in Shanghai and Sept. 23 in Beijing. Commissioner Gary Bettman announced the launch of the NHL China Games at a news conference yesterday at Le Sports Center.

China is expected to be a large focus of the league's international ventures. Next season, the NHL is playing two regular-season games in Sweden between the Colorado Avalanche and Ottawa Senators.

Bettman called it a historic moment for the league and said the NHL's commitment to China goes beyond the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing. He and other league officials have said it's a long-term arrangement with China that also includes contributions to growing grassroots hockey in the country.

"While we fully understand the priority the government has placed on high-level performance by the sports teams representing China at the 2022 Olympic Winter Games here in Beijing, our commitment to the growth of hockey in China involves partnerships that will extend well

ICE HOCKEY

# NHL staging preseason games in China between Kings, Canucks

beyond the few weeks of the 2022 Olympic Winter Games themselves," Bettman said. "This is the beginning of what we believe will be a very long-term relationship, and the two NHL clubs participating in this inaugural effort are perfectly suited for their roles."

NHL Players' Association special assistant to the executive director Mathieu Schneider said players have reached out to him to express interest in going to China and helping teach the game there. The Canucks, Kings, Boston Bruins, Montreal Canadiens, New York Islanders, Toronto Maple Leafs and Washington Capitals have already conducted camps for young Chinese players.

"Right here in China, the NHLPA and the NHL have an amazing opportunity to grow the game of hockey," Schneider said. "It is clear from our meetings with various officials in China that they share the same passion to grow the game

of hockey as we do."

The NHL has not committed to sending players to the 2018 Olympics in neighboring Pyeongchang, South Korea. International Ice Hockey Federation president Rene Fasel has said the NHL can't pick and choose which Olympics to go to and that discussions about Beijing can wait until the situation in South Korea is settled.

China is a focus for the league with help from the Chinese government and the private sector, led by Zhou Yunjie, the goaltender-turned-billionaire chairman of metal can manufacturing company ORG Packaging.

"We'll play our best part in unlocking the potential of ice hockey and pushing on the arrival of the golden era of ice hockey in China, thus realizing the vision of 300 million people on ice as reality and making China a new and uprising ice hockey power," Zhou said. AP



NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman

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opinion

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Leanda Lee



LEADERSHIP DOWN

The pivotal role of leadership is in question. Have you been in leadership courses at university, learnt about it in management studies at school, or sat in professional development seminars at work and asked yourself why?

If it is being taught and talked about with so much evidence supporting its role in outcomes from medicine and sport to business and government, then who are we to question?

Leadership has been a long-time focus of HR management systems, and leadership roles have been aspirational for students and workers. Business schools have been advising us to show our bosses "the management tail" (the upper end of the normal distribution curve of job performance) for career progression. High-schools had been in the habit of promoting leadership opportunities (i.e. head student, sports captains, prefects) and the successes of high-flyers.

The idea of its primacy is built into almost everything we do in management. What if we have it wrong? What if - as Nestlé once famously imagined a scenario where chocolate disappeared from the face of the earth - leadership is a dud concept?

Initially, researchers believed leaders to be born with traits; sophisticated companies would seek evidence of leadership skills from previous roles and/or test for those traits during recruitment. It then became understood that those behaviours could be taught and perfected. This field of academia and consulting practice grew into a huge industry, continuing to reinforce our views of the importance of leadership and what it looks like.

We should then expect Macau's universities to be keen to promote student outcomes in terms of leadership development because 'leadership potential' is a highly sought attribute.

In fact, what we find in vision and mission statements across UMAC, IFT, MPI, MUST, USJ and City U is that only UMAC and IFT make any reference to leadership as a student outcome: UMAC's mission is in "Cultivating responsible citizens and leaders of high caliber who possess sound moral judgment and the ability of independent thinking necessary to meet the needs of development of Macao and the region", and IFT's mission - somewhat understandably narrower given the institution's vocational focus - says "it will equip students with professional knowledge and technical competence in preparation for their future leadership responsibilities in the industry". Of the total verbiage of their mission/vision statements, UMAC dedicates 32% to student outcomes, and IFT 17%.

MPI (31%), City U (44%) and MUST (27%) all dedicate a similar amount of space to how they see their students develop. MPI and City U are more focused on the students' abilities to serve the community, talking of "nurturing talent", "lofty ideals, noble character", and "willingness to serve". MUST is more prosaic in its aims to cultivate various talents. USJ, the one institution that says it adheres to "humanitarian and humanistic values", spends just 5% of its mission statement directed at student outcomes: they seek "the development of autonomous and creative thinkers".

So, what has happened to leadership? Could all the hype about leadership be a western, or even a singularly American, value imposed upon cultures, global communities and even upon segments of western societies that we have swallowed without due introspection? We may be seeing the concept of an extroverted, highly competitive saviour - however outdated that conceptualisation of a leader may be - is being pushed aside for a quieter sort of valuable human capital: of people who serve their communities and organisations in ways more instinctive and preferred by the more introverted, quieter thinkers and doers.

Soon we will be learning the art of the follower; someone who is committed to "purpose, principle or person outside themselves". By valuing followers, what we are more likely to see emerge are the real leaders; those committed to a cause, rather than power or stature.

THE US FISHING MAGNATE DUBBED 'THE BUZZ CODFATHER' SET TO CHANGE PLEA

A leading U.S. fishing magnate known as "The Codfather" is scheduled to plead guilty to federal charges of evading fishing quotas and smuggling money to Portugal.

The U.S. attorney's office says Carlos Rafael has a change of plea hearing scheduled for today [Macau time].

Rafael is the owner of one of the nation's largest commercial fishing operations. It includes a fleet

of more than 30 vessels, 44 commercial fishing permits and the Carlos Seafood business in New Bedford.

Federal authorities say Rafael falsely claimed his vessels caught haddock or pollock, when they had actually caught other species subject to stricter quotas. He then sold the fish for cash, some of which was smuggled overseas. He was indicted on 27 counts last May and is free on USD2 million bond.

From poor eyesight to bad teeth, pandas' needs grow with age

Helene Franchineau, Dujiangyan

**F**AILING eyesight, poor digestion, bad teeth, limbs no longer so limber: With captive giant pandas living longer than ever, the list of their physical and even emotional needs is growing.

China, the pandas' native home, is seeking to cater to those requirements with a special home for the old timers along with customized diets, exercise and other care aimed at improving their quality of life.

"Of course we spend more energy taking care of old pandas," said Xu Yalin, a panda keeper for 19 years at the China Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda Dujiangyan Base in the southwestern province of Sichuan.

"Every day we need to interact with them closely and check their mental state," Xu said. "We also examine their feces, the shape of it and so on. We worry more about the old pandas than the juveniles."

Pandas are considered old after they turn 20. The current longevity champion, Basi, recently turned 37 and lives in Fujian province in southeast China.

Of the roughly 30 pandas at the base, Xu is responsi-



le for three, all of them over 20 and starting to develop health issues from failing eyesight to poor digestion and teeth worn down by a lifetime of chomping bamboo.

Those who can no longer handle coarse bamboo shoots get the more tender leaves instead. They eat, sleep and do little else, to the delight of the visitors.

One of Xu's charges, a 24-year-old female named Qiao Yuan, gets fruits and smooth corn porridge rather than the wowotou bread made of corn and sorghum that younger pandas receive.

"Another panda, who was rescued from the wild, does not eat bamboo because of his bad teeth, so every day we chop bamboo leaves and mix them with pieces of the

corn and sorghum bread, with carrots and apples," Xu said. "It's like a bamboo-flavored salad."

Xu visits Qiao Yuan first thing each morning to ensure she spent a good night. While feeding her a snack of carrots and apples, she performs several exercises aimed at checking Qiao Yuan's eyesight and teeth. She also has her stand up, to make her stretch her limbs.

Dinner is at 4 p.m. - more bamboo and porridge, which Qiao Yuan eagerly slurps up. "Looking at Qiao Yuan's behavior at her age, you can't help but think about an old human being that has difficulty eating and walking," said Xu. "Taking care of an old panda is just like taking care of an old person." AP

Station	Air quality	
Roadside	45-75 Moderate	☹️
High Density Residential Area	55-75 Moderate	☹️
Ambient	60-80 Moderate	☹️

WORLD BRIEFS



**RUSSIA-AFGHANISTAN** As America's 16-year war in Afghanistan drags on, Russia is resurrecting its own interest in the "graveyard of empires." The jockeying includes engaging the Taliban and leading a new diplomatic effort to tackle Afghanistan's future, all while Washington leaves the world guessing on its strategy for ending the conflict.



**SYRIA** The U.N. humanitarian chief says hundreds of thousands of Syrians trapped in besieged areas are facing "severe and horrific threats" and the last months have been some of the worst for civilians. Stephen O'Brien told the Security Council yesterday: "For Syria, that is saying something."

**NIGERIA-INDIA** Nigeria's foreign ministry has called in India's top diplomat to protest attacks on African students and demand arrests and prosecutions of perpetrators, Nigeria's official news agency said yesterday.

**BRITAIN**'s ambassador to the U.N. says the United Kingdom may be leaving the European Union but it isn't leaving Europe and will remain a major player on the world stage including at the United Nations.

**CHILE**'s president criticized isolationist foreign policies and protectionism in trade yesterday, saying during a state visit to Portugal that multilateralism is "crucial" to address global challenges.

**VENEZUELA**'s Supreme Court seized the powers of the opposition-controlled congress, sparking allegations of a "coup" by lawmakers, who called on the international community for help. The Supreme Court's Constitutional Chamber declared the National Assembly was operating "outside the rule of law" after long standing claims that the legislature was in contempt of previous legal statements.

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