



PHOTO: AFP

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Mairead Maguire (C) is hugged by her husband Jack as she addresses media at Dublin Airport, in Dublin, Ireland yesterday. Maguire, who Monday arrived back in Dublin, after being deported from Israel along with other Irish activists, was on the aid ship the MV Rachel Corrie, which was intercepted and seized by Israeli troops off the coast of Gaza on Saturday.

Turkey calls on Israel to accept probe into raid

AP, AFP, Istanbul/ Jerusalem/ Tehran/ Sharm El-Sheikh

Turkey's foreign minister yesterday called on Israel to accept an international probe into the raid on a Gaza-bound aid flotilla that killed nine Turks. Ahmet Davutoglu said Israel should declare it agrees to the probe proposed by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. He said: "Otherwise, it means that they have something to hide." Israel's ambassador to the US has said Israel rejects the idea. "The international community is facing a serious test. Does a country have the right to intercept a ship in international waters or not?" Davutoglu said at a news conference with the foreign ministers of Afghanistan and Pakistan. They spoke on the sidelines of a summit of a 20-nation security group.

Turkey, which had a solid alliance with Israel until the three-week Gaza war that ended in early 2009, said it would reduce military and trade ties and shelve discussions of energy projects, including natural gas and fresh water shipments. It threatened to break ties unless Israel apologizes for the raid last week.

Turkey prime minister: "We object to those who force the people of Gaza to live in an open-air prison... We will stand firm until the blockade on Gaza is lifted".

"We are evaluating everything. It is up to Israel how our ties will continue," Davutoglu said. "Israel has to accept the consequences of its actions and be held accountable." Davutoglu said, "normalization of Turkish-Israeli relations was out of the question," unless Israel conforms to international law. He said Turkey would pursue accountability in the killing of its nine citizens until the end. Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi condemned the Israeli raid and Afghan Foreign Minister

Zalmay Rassoul expressed solidarity with Turkey. The ministers met on the opening day of a summit on security in Asia. Nine heads of state, including leaders of Iran and Syria, and Russia's prime minister are scheduled to attend the two-day Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, or CICA. Turkey said Israel, also a member, was invited but not expected to attend. **FOUR GAZAN SHOT** Before dawn Monday, the Israeli navy fired on Palestinian divers off Gaza, and Palestinian medics said they retrieved four bodies. The Israeli military said its forces prevented an attack on Israeli targets, but did not explain further. **ALL ACTIVISTS, CREW DEPORTED** All 19 people on board the Rachel Corrie aid ship which tried to run the Israeli blockade of Gaza, have been deported, an Israeli immigration official told AFP yesterday.

Japan's ruling party names new leaders

AP, AFP, Tokyo

Japan's ruling party selected a fresh leadership line-up yesterday, clearing the way for Prime Minister-elect Naoto Kan to name a new Cabinet and begin tackling a host of delicate issues left over after the abrupt resignation of his predecessor.

Kan, who was elected deputy prime minister in a parliamentary vote last week, will begin his tenure with a roster of new faces in the top party positions. But he was expected to retain most of the Cabinet of outgoing leader Yukio Hatoyama. Kan, riding high on opinion poll ratings above 60 percent, pledged a fresh start yesterday on the eve of the formal inauguration of his centre-left government.

Kan -- who was voted in by parliament Friday and formally takes power Tuesday after his cabinet's inauguration by Emperor Akihito -- reshuffled the leadership of his Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) on Monday.

Arab League chief to visit Gaza

AFP, Cairo

Arab League chief Amr Mussa will make a groundbreaking "solidarity" visit to the Israeli-blockaded Gaza Strip next week, top aide Hisham Youssef told AFP yesterday.

The head of the 22-member pan-Arab organisation "will visit the Gaza Strip next week -- the first trip of its kind by an Arab League secretary general," Youssef said.

The trip is aimed at "showing solidarity with the Palestinian people in the face of the blockade and (express) the need to step up inter-Palestinian reconciliation," he added.

Youssef did not specify when the visit would take place but Arab League sources said it could happen on June 14 or 15. The Islamist Hamas movement that runs the impoverished Gaza said on Sunday that Mussa would visit the Palestinian territory "in the coming days."

Gaza has been under a crippling blockade since militants based in the territory captured a soldier in a deadly cross-border raid in 2006 and Israel tightened its grip after Hamas seized control of the enclave in June 2007. Egypt, where the Arab League is based, has also usually kept its Rafah crossing with Gaza shut but it reopened it last week after a deadly Israeli raid on an international aid flotilla killed nine Turkish activists.

N Korea sacks PM; Kim Jong-il consolidates power

REUTERS, AFP, Seoul

North Korea named a brother-in-law of leader Kim Jong-il to a powerful military post yesterday and sacked its premier in moves seen as consolidating Kim's grip on power and paving the way for his youngest son to succeed him.

Kim attended a rare session of the rubberstamp parliament, the Supreme People's Assembly, to personally name Jang Song-Il as vice chairman of the National Defence Commission, the North's KCNA news agency said.

The commission, headed by the "Dear Leader" himself, represents the pinnacle of power in the hermit state.

The second assembly session in two months came amid growing momentum in the international community to punish Pyongyang for the sinking of a South Korean navy corvette in March that killed 46 sailors.

Jang, who had once fallen out of Kim's favour but has since returned to his inner circle, is the husband of the leader's sister, and is viewed as the key figure for ensuring a smooth transfer of power from Kim to one of his sons.

"Jang would be the most trustworthy person to Kim who can establish the foundation for succession to Jong-un," said Park Young-ho of the Korea Institute for National Analysis.

"This is a signal that they will be moving on existing power structures, no innovation or openness or reform."

The parliament also sacked the country's premier, who is considered the top economic official, and replaced him with Choe Yong-rim, a member of the old guard and another confidant of Kim's family who has been in key economic posts.

The dismissal of premier Kim Yong-il is likely linked to a currency revaluation late last year that, according to some media reports, incited widespread public discontent.

Kim, who suffered a stroke in 2008, missed the previous session of the Supreme People's Assembly in April, which amended the country's constitution to strengthen his power.



Kim Jong-il

POLAND AIR CRASH Russian police looted Kaczynski's plane

INDO ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Moscow

Poland has accused three Russian police officers of looting the Polish presidential plane after it crashed in Russian territory in April, but Russia has strongly denied the accusation.

A Soviet-made Tu-154 crashed near Smolensk city April 10, killing all 96 people on board including President Lech Kaczynski, his wife and senior government officials. The deceased were on their way to attend a memorial ceremony for the victims of the 1940 Katyn massacre, in which Soviet secret police killed thousands of Polish military officers.

Polish government spokesman Pawel Gras Sunday said three Russian special purpose police unit (OMON) officers illegally used the bank card of top Polish official Andrzej Przewoznik who also died in the crash.

"The three OMON officers who did this shameful deed were promptly detained thanks to cooperation between Poland's domestic security agency and Russian special services," he said.

Russia, meanwhile, called the spokesperson's statements 'sacrilegious and cynical'.

Come up with budget proposals

FROM PAGE 1

If not they will reject it," remarked Hasina speaking at a discussion on the historic 7th June at Osmani Memorial Hall yesterday afternoon.

Referring to main opposition BNP's decision to announce alternative budget proposal, Hasina said, "The government will accept your proposal on the upcoming national budget in the parliament if it is in the interest of the nation."

The main opposition must sit in the parliament for giving their suggestion on the budget that scheduled to be placed in the house on June 10, she said.

Brushing aside the BNP's hartal programme, she said the BNP-Jamaat led four party alliance government had harboured terrorism and militancy when it was in power.

"They became champion in corruption. Now they want to save their money earned through corruption by launching movement against the government," she said.

Expressing her government's firm stand against

terrorism and militancy, Hasina said the ongoing drive against terrorists and militants would be continued to ensure peace and stability in society.

She said her government is working relentlessly to ensure five basic needs of the people, including ensuring food security and bringing health services to the doorsteps of the people.

Hasina said her government has also taken various steps to increase the country's power production to give relief to the countrymen from the existing power crisis.

She said BNP is obstructing the government in implementing development programmes being zealous of the success of the present government.

"Even, they are threatening the government officers not to sign files of different development projects," the PM added.

Hasina, the eldest daughter of Bangabandhu, said the greatest Bangali of all time Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur

Rahman announced the historic 6-point demand to achieve the real freedom of the neglected people of the then East Pakistan.

"The 6-point demand of Bangabandhu is the culmination of the country's War of Independence," she said adding that a great leader like Bangabandhu knew how to turn the 6-point demand into one point demand and to achieve independence.

The premier also expressed her deep shock at the loss of lives in the devastating fire in the city's Nimtoli area and said her government will do everything possible for the welfare of the distressed humanity.

"We must stand besides the fire victims and do whatever necessary for their well-being," she added.

Deputy Leader of the House Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury presided over the meeting while Suranjit Sen Gupta and Agriculture Minister Begum Matia Chowdhury, among others, took part in the discussion.

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, Bangladesh (Component A)

Invitation for Procurement of Live Animals

Credit No. 4507 - BD, Project ID No. UTF/BGD/040/BGD, Bid Package No. 1G15.L

The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the Procurement of Cows, Goats, and Sheep. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of 2500 Nos. of Goats, 900 Nos. of Sheep and 200 Nos. of Cows under Lot 1, Lot 2, and Lot 3 respectively of Package No. 1G15.L to be received by FAO Representation, House No. 37, Road No. 8, Dhanmondi, Dhaka. Bidders having a minimum Level of experience in the supply of the tendered items are only encouraged to participate. The delivery period is 8 (eight) weeks to 20 (twenty) weeks from the date of the Notification of the Award.

Bidding will be conducted through the national competitive bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, (current edition), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the guidelines.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents from the office of FAO Representation in Bangladesh at the address below during office hours i.e. 08:00 to 16:30 hours. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Tk.1500.00. The method of payment for the tender documents will be in cash against a written receipt.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security for an amount described below:

Package No.	Lot No.	Item	Bid Security Amount
1G15.L	Lot No.1	Goats	Tk. 250,000.00
	Lot No.2	Sheep	Tk. 80,000.00
	Lot No.3	Cows	Tk.200,000.00

Bids shall be delivered to the address below by 2:00 pm. on 05 July 2010. They will be opened immediately thereafter, in the presence of bidders' representatives, who choose to attend, at the address below. Late bids will be rejected.

FAO Representation in Bangladesh
House # 37, Road # 8
Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205
Tel: 880-2-8118015/126
Fax: 8802-2-811 3446

The publishing of this notice and the receipt of bids does not commit FAO in any way to any party.