

# Timetable set for Iran nuke talks

AFP, Vienna

Iran and world powers yesterday agreed a timetable and framework for the ambitious and arduous process of hammering out a lasting nuclear accord by July 20 that satisfies all sides.

Such a deal, if reached, should resolve the decade-old standoff over Iran's nuclear drive, silence talk of war for good and help normalise Tehran's strained international relations.

After chairing "very productive" days of talks in Vienna, EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton said experts would meet in early March before political directors return to Vienna on March 17.

"There is a lot to do, it won't be easy but we have made a good start," Ashton told reporters, saying negotiators had "identified all the issues we need to address".

Iran and the United States, China, Russia, Britain, France and Germany aim to transform a landmark but only interim deal struck in Geneva in November into a long-term agreement.

Diplomats said they aimed to nail down the final accord by the time a six-month freeze of certain activities agreed in Geneva expires on July 20, although this period can be extended.

Meanwhile, the IAEA atomic agency said in a monthly update that after one month, Iran was still sticking to its commitments to limit uranium enrichment to low purities and not to install any new equipment.



Protesters clash behind burning barricades during the face off against heavily-armed police in Kiev, yesterday. Inset, a protester catches fire while hurling a home-made bomb towards cops and a cop is being "detained" by protestors from the battle ground.

PHOTO: AFP



# Mortar attack in Iraq kills 17; 70 hurt

AFP, Hilla

Five mortar rounds struck the Mussayib area south of Baghdad yesterday, killing 17 people, police and a doctor said.

The shelling, which hit an area of shops and restaurants that draws crowds at night, also wounded 70 people, the sources said.

A car bomb killed one person in Mussayib on Tuesday, one of 10 such blasts to hit central Iraq that day.

Iraqi authorities are struggling to contain the worst violence to hit the country since 2008, when it was just emerging from a brutal period of sectarian killings in which tens of thousands of people died.

But despite measures including wide-ranging operations against militants, the violence has continued unabated.

More than 1,500 people have been killed in attacks and clashes so far this year, after upwards of 6,800 died in violence in 2013, according to AFP figures based on security and medical sources.

# 'Overclassification' is danger to democracy

AFP, London

Former US security contractor Edward Snowden on Wednesday spoke out about the use of state secrecy privileges as he presented an Oxford University award to fellow intelligence leaker Chelsea Manning.

Snowden, who is in hiding in Russia, presented the prestigious British university's Sam Adams awards for integrity and intelligence to the jailed former US Army intelligence analyst via YouTube.

Snowden recorded a four-minute message, in which he warned of the dangers of "overclassification".

He said the term described governments' use of state secrecy privileges "to withhold information from the public that's not related to national security", adding it had become a "serious problem".

"The White House told us that 95 million records have been created and classified in the year 2012, more than any year on record," he continued.

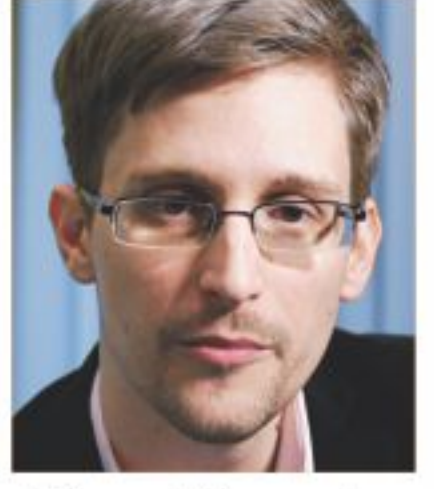
"Many other western governments are on the same trajectory."

Ex-private Manning, who was prosecuted as a man called Bradley but later asked to be recognised as a woman, is serving a 35-year jail sentence for leaking hundreds of thousands of diplomatic cables to the WikiLeaks website.

Snowden argued that his leaked documents were "unambiguously necessary for public ends" and that their classification as secret threatened democracy.

"The decline of democracy begins when the domain of the government expands beyond the borders of its public's knowledge," he insisted.

"It can no longer hold the most senior members of its society to necessary account for serious wrongdoing



Edward Snowden

# Scores die as Ukraine braces for catastrophe

AGENCIES

A short-lived truce crumbled yesterday as gunfire erupted at Independence Square, the center of anti-government protests and an increasingly violent crisis that threatens catastrophe for this divided nation.

As protesters fortified barricades and some tried to dodge apparent sniper bullets, Western leaders denounced the violence.

Russia's United Nations ambassador accused the opposition of trying to stage a coup.

The head of the protesters' medical service told CNN that 100 people died and 500 were injured in clashes yesterday, just hours after the government declared a truce in fighting that had shocked world leaders with the deaths of 28 people two days before.

Meanwhile, the European Union agreed to impose a travel ban and asset freeze on Ukrainians with "blood on their hands".

An EU diplomat said the number of people on the list however "will depend on developments on the ground".

The United States also was preparing an order to freeze assets of Ukrainians who are believed to be involved in the crackdown, a senior administration official said Thursday. It's likely President Barack

Obama will sign the order later in the day.

The Ukrainian government has not released its own casualty figures, but Interior Minister Vitali Zakharchenko said 25 police officers had been wounded and an unspecified number of them had died. Some 70 others had been taken hostage, he said.

If the death toll is confirmed, it would make it the deadliest day in Ukraine since protests began.

The violence inflames a crisis that started in November, when President Viktor Yanukovich reversed a decision to sign a trade deal with the European Union and instead turned toward Russia. Ukraine has long been divided between historic loyalties to Europe and its eastern neighbor.

Meanwhile, Russia said it will send a mediator there to negotiate with the opposition.

Russian ambassador to the UN, Vitaly Churkin, said his government doesn't believe the opposition wants a dialogue.

"We think that this attempt to execute a violent coup should stop," he said.

It's unclear what prompted yesterday's clashes. CNN crews at the scene reported that as security forces were moving away from the area, a group of protesters pursued them throwing rocks and Molotov cocktails.

**DEADLY CLASHES**

More than **100** killed

EU slaps sanctions

# US issues shoe-bomb warning to airlines

CNN ONLINE

The US government has warned airlines to pay particular attention to the possibility of terrorists attempting to hide explosives in shoes, a result of new intelligence, according to two people familiar with the situation.

The officials stressed there is no specific threat or known plot.

Intelligence collected by the United States and other countries has indicated terror groups have been working on new shoe-bomb designs, the sources said Wednesday.

That knowledge prompted the Department of Homeland Security to warn airlines to be on the lookout for explosives hidden in shoes on flights from overseas to the United States, they said.

Terrorism experts say airlines continue to be a target of terrorists wishing to make a spectacular impact with an attack. The focus on security since 2001 has shifted from hijackings to bombs, especially those that

# Jazeera journos go on trial in Egypt

AFP, Cairo

An Egyptian court yesterday opened the trial of Al-Jazeera journalists that has sparked an international outcry.

The Cairo court adjourned the trial to March 5 to provide a translator for the Australian correspondent Peter Grete and to hear prosecution witnesses.

Al-Jazeera expressed disappointment that the journalists were not freed and called for a "day of action" on February 27 in support of them.

"What is going on in Egypt right now is a trial of journalism itself, so it is critical that we remain resolute in calling for freedom of speech, for the right for people to know, and for the immediate release of all of Al-Jazeera's journalists," it said.

The trial of journalists with the Qatar-based channel comes against the backdrop of strained ties between Cairo and Doha, which backed deposed Islamist president Mohamed Morsi, ousted by the army in July, and his now-banned Muslim Brotherhood.

The journalists are accused of supporting the Brotherhood and broadcasting false reports, after police shut down Al Jazeera's Cairo offices following Morsi's overthrow.

Eight out of 20 defendants are in custody, with the rest on the run or abroad. Grete, a former BBC correspondent, is the only arrested foreign journalist. The other foreigners listed in the indictment are abroad and being tried in absentia.

Prosecutors charge the defendants falsely portrayed Egypt as being in a state of "civil war", possibly a reference to the broadcaster's coverage of a crackdown in which more than 1,000 Morsi supporters have been killed in street clashes.

The government has designated the Brotherhood a "terrorist organisation", although the group denies involvement in a spate of bombings since Morsi's overthrow.

Al-Jazeera, which says only nine of the defendants are on its staff, has denied the charges.



A motorcyclist carries Venezuelan model Genensis Carmona, injured during an anti-government protest in Valencia on Tuesday. The 21-year-old model died Wednesday. Venezuelan police fired tear gas and buckshot to disperse hundreds of anti-government protesters late Wednesday as the death toll from two weeks of unrest rose to four.

# Boko Haram attack kills 60 in Nigeria

AFP, Kano

An attack by scores of Boko Haram Islamists in the northeast Nigeria town of Bama has killed 60 people and caused massive destruction to public buildings, police told AFP yesterday.

Residents said gunmen stormed the town at roughly 4:00 am (0300 GMT) on Wednesday, armed with heavy weapons and tossed explosives into various buildings, forcing residents to flee into the surrounding bush. The toll is likely to rise.

The latest unrest in Nigeria's embattled northeast came as Boko Haram's leader Abubakar Shekau threatened to widen his rebellion to the oil-producing Niger Delta region.

Boko Haram has killed thousands in the north and centre of the country since 2009 in its rebellion aimed at creating a strict Islamic

**ঢাকা উত্তর সিটি কর্পোরেশন, ঢাকা**

সময়মত পৌর কর পরিশোধ করুন  
আধুনিক সুযোগ সুবিধা সম্পন্ন নগর উন্নয়নে সহায়তা করুন

**হোল্ডিং কর পরিশোধ সংক্রান্ত জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

ঢাকা উত্তর সিটি কর্পোরেশনের আওতাধীন সকল সম্মানিত হোল্ডিং করদাতাগণের জ্ঞাতার্থে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, মহানগরীর উন্নয়ন কার্যক্রমসহ সকল প্রকার নাগরিক সেবার মান বৃদ্ধির স্বার্থে বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ হোল্ডিং কর পরিশোধের জন্য ইতোমধ্যে বার বার অনুরোধ করা হয়েছে। তা সত্ত্বেও হোল্ডিং কর পরিশোধে বহুল সংখ্যক করদাতার অনীহা পরিলক্ষিত হচ্ছে। বকেয়া হোল্ডিং কর আদায় কার্যক্রম জোরদার করার স্বার্থে একযোগে ৫টি আঞ্চলিক কার্যালয়ের মাধ্যমে ত্র্যাশ প্রোগ্রামের উদ্যোগ নেয়া হয়েছে। ২০/২/২০১৪খ্রিঃ তারিখ থেকে ২০/৩/২০১৪খ্রিঃ তারিখ পর্যন্ত মাস ব্যাপি একযোগে ৫টি অঞ্চলে এ ত্র্যাশ প্রোগ্রামের আওতায় কর আদায় কার্যক্রম পরিচালিত হবে। কর আদায়ের এ ত্র্যাশ প্রোগ্রাম সফল করতে সম্মানিত সকল বকেয়া করদাতাগণের আন্তরিক সহযোগিতা একান্তভাবে কাম্য।

নগর উন্নয়নে সার্বিক সহযোগিতা কামনা করে সম্মানিত সকল বকেয়া করদাতাগণকে বকেয়াসহ হালনাগাদ হোল্ডিং কর পরিশোধ করার জন্য বিশেষভাবে অনুরোধ করা হলো।

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প্রশাসক  
ঢাকা উত্তর সিটি কর্পোরেশন

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