



# 'No ultimatums'

## Russia sets out security demands at Nato meeting

**REUTERS, Brussels**

Russia laid out its demands for security guarantees in Europe to Nato's 30 allies yesterday but insisted they were not ultimatums following intense talks with the United States in Geneva that failed to break the deadlock.

Nato Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg received Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Grushko at allied headquarters to try to defuse the worst East-West tensions since the Cold War over Russia massing troops near its border with Ukraine.

Moscow has dismissed concerns expressed by the United States that it may be planning to invade its neighbour and Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov said live-fire exercises on the Ukraine border on Tuesday were not linked to the Nato talks.

"We are not negotiating from a position of strength; there is not, and nor can there be, any place for ultimatums here," he said in Moscow as the talks were getting underway in Brussels.

But he said pan-European security was at a critical point and the West needed to respond to Russia's concerns about Nato activities in former communist countries it sees as its backyard.

Nato allies say the talks, the highest-profile

attempt at the alliance to turn a potential conflict over Ukraine into a political process, are taking place because of Russian aggression, not the other way around.

"Let's be clear: Russian actions have precipitated this crisis. We are committed to using diplomacy to de-escalate the situation," US envoy to Nato Julianne Smith told reporters on Tuesday evening.

"We want to see ... Russia pulling back its forces," she said of the 100,000 troops stationed near Ukraine.

Nato diplomats say the Western alliance would consider it a success if Russia agreed to hold further talks. Allies are ready to negotiate with Moscow on increasing openness around military drills and to avoid accidental clashes that could spark conflict, as well as arms control regarding missiles in Europe.

But the Nato allies say that many of Russia's demands, laid out in two draft treaties in December, are unacceptable, including calls to scale back the alliance's activities to 1990s era levels and promising not to take in new members.

Bridling at Nato's expansion eastward into its old Soviet sphere of influence, the Kremlin sees the US-led alliance's deterrents and military modernisation as a threat.

REUTERS, Seoul

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North Korean leader Kim Jong Un called for boosting the country's strategic military forces as he observed the test of a hypersonic missile, state media said yesterday, officially attending a missile launch for the first time in nearly two years.

On Tuesday authorities in South Korea and Japan detected the suspected launch, which drew condemnation by authorities around the world.

The second test of a "hypersonic missile" in less than a week underscored Kim's New Year's vow to bolster the military with cutting edge technology at a time when talks with South Korea and the United States have stalled.

After watching the test, Kim urged scientists to "further accelerate the efforts to steadily build up the country's strategic military muscle both in quality and quantity and further modernise the army," KCNA news agency reported.

**AFP, Rome**

Pope Francis, a lover of classical music, made a surprise visit to a Rome record store to bless the premises – and picked up some vinyl while he was there.

The 85-year-old pontiff slipped into StereoSound, located near the Pantheon, on Tuesday evening to bless the shop after its recent renovation, a Vatican source told AFP.

The owners of the store are longtime friends of the Argentine pontiff, who has previously spoken of the power of music. He left with a 33 RPM record of classical music, a gift presented by the owner's daughter, according to Vatican News.

A small crowd gathered outside the shop while he was inside, for around 10 minutes, but he made no public comments as he got into a white Fiat 500L and was driven away.

**REUTERS, New Delhi**

China has accelerated settlement building along its disputed border with Bhutan, with more than 200 structures, including two-storey buildings, under construction in six locations, according to satellite image analysis conducted for Reuters.

The images and analysis supplied to Reuters by US data analytics firm HawkEye 360 provide a detailed look into China's recent construction along its frontier with Bhutan.

Construction-related activity in some of the locations along Bhutan's western border has been under way since early 2020, with China initially building tracks and clearing out areas, based on material provided by satellite imagery firms Capella Space and Planet Labs.



**Strengthening of Hilsa Research in Riverine Station Chandpur Project**  
**Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute**  
**Riverine Station, Chandpur-3602**



Memo No, 33.04.0000.122.19.421.17-2528
Date: 12.01.2022

**Request for Expressions of Interest**

Ministry/Division	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock				
Agency	Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute				
Procuring entity	Director General, Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute				
Expression of interest for selection of	Local Hilsa Specialist (01 No)				
Duration	03 Months				
Eoi memo no	33.04.0000.122.19.421.17-2529				
Date	12-01-22				
Procurement sub-method	Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)				
Budget & source of fund	Development Budget, GoB				
Project/Program code	5-4405-5002 (224069100)				
Project/Program name	Strengthening of Hilsa Research in Riverine Station Chandpur Project				
Eoi closing date & time	26-01-2022 at 5:00 PM				
<b>Information for Applicant</b>					
Outline of the assignment and required qualifications & experience [Details provided in the Standard Request for Application (SRFA)]					
<b>Position</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 35%;"><b>Qualification &amp; Experience</b></th> <th><b>Duties &amp; Responsibilities</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <b>Local Hilsa Specialist</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Hilsa specialist must have PhD or equivalent degree in Fisheries/Marine science with minimum 10 years working experience in hilsa research &amp; management activities.</li> <li>Must have practical experience in hilsa fishery research planning and management and implementation of similar research project.</li> <li>Must have international publication on hilsa research.</li> </ul> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze existing status of Hilsa fisheries, including intimidation they are facing in their habitats of Bangladesh.</li> <li>Review and recommend practical application of knowledge learned from conventions, consensus, rule and regulations relating to fisheries and biodiversity conservation and their enforcement.</li> <li>Assist Project Director and Director General, BFRI for smooth implementation of the project.</li> <li>Development of research plan/project on hilsa fishery as per requirement for implementation by BFRI.</li> <li>Consider other sectoral activities which are making or are likely to make adverse impacts on hilsa resources in the coastal and marine ecosystem of Bangladesh.</li> <li>Preparation of detailed plan for development and management of hilsa resources in Bangladesh.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Qualification &amp; Experience</b>	<b>Duties &amp; Responsibilities</b>	<b>Local Hilsa Specialist</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Hilsa specialist must have PhD or equivalent degree in Fisheries/Marine science with minimum 10 years working experience in hilsa research &amp; management activities.</li> <li>Must have practical experience in hilsa fishery research planning and management and implementation of similar research project.</li> <li>Must have international publication on hilsa research.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze existing status of Hilsa fisheries, including intimidation they are facing in their habitats of Bangladesh.</li> <li>Review and recommend practical application of knowledge learned from conventions, consensus, rule and regulations relating to fisheries and biodiversity conservation and their enforcement.</li> <li>Assist Project Director and Director General, BFRI for smooth implementation of the project.</li> <li>Development of research plan/project on hilsa fishery as per requirement for implementation by BFRI.</li> <li>Consider other sectoral activities which are making or are likely to make adverse impacts on hilsa resources in the coastal and marine ecosystem of Bangladesh.</li> <li>Preparation of detailed plan for development and management of hilsa resources in Bangladesh.</li> </ul>
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<b>Other Details</b>					
Applicants are requested to provide information as per the format provided in Standard Request for Application (SRFA) indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (complete CV in prescribed form with other details as applicable). SRFA may be obtained from the address below either through email or in person from the office of the undersigned. The applicants shall submit supporting documents in favor of their experience and qualifications along with the SRFA.					
<b>Procuring Entity Details</b>					
Name of the official inviting Eoi	Md. Abul Bashar				
Designation of the official inviting Eoi	Project Director				
Address of the official inviting Eoi	Office of the Project Director, Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute, Riverine Station, Chandpur-3602				
Contract details of the official inviting Eoi	Md. Abul Bashar, Project Director, Strengthening of Hilsa Research in Riverine Station Chandpur Project, Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute, Riverine Station, Chandpur-3602. Phone: +880841-66111(Office), Mobile: +8801719818187 E-mail: mabashar.bfri@gmail.com				
<b>The Procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Eoi(s) without assigning any reason thereof.</b>					

  
 12.01.22  
**Md. Abul Bashar**  
 Project Director

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