

## Xi returns to global stage at G20 after Covid isolation

AFP, Beijing

China's Xi Jinping was the leader everyone wanted to meet at this week's G20 summit, where he took centre stage in a carefully choreographed appearance after three years of self-imposed pandemic isolation.

President Xi strode into yesterday's G20 summit the morning after a three-hour meeting with his US counterpart Joe Biden in which they promised to dial down the rhetoric and work to close the yawning gap between the two powers.

With smiles and handshakes — as well as promises of fresh talks on climate change and trade — Xi appeared keen to paint himself as a magnanimous diplomat ready to confront global challenges and build bridges.

"Xi Jinping is certainly working to make up for lost time on the international stage," said Danny Russel, Vice President at the Asia Society Policy Institute in New York, adding that Xi's burst of diplomacy resembled a "charm offensive".

"The Biden-Xi summit raised hopes that the two powers might now be willing to separate their global responsibilities from their bilateral differences."

Also on Xi's checklist of world leaders to schmooze were Indonesia's President



Joko Widodo — the G20 summit host — Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, France's Emmanuel Macron, and South Korea's Yoon Suk-yeol.

He is also expected to meet Japanese premier Fumio Kishida on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Bangkok later this week.

And the conspicuous absence of Russia's President Vladimir Putin — isolated on the world stage because of his brutal war in Ukraine — solidifies Xi's place as the prime global counterweight to the US-led international order.

Xi and Biden both entered their tete-a-tete in Bali from a position of strength — the former secured a historic third term as China's top leader at the Communist Party Congress last month, and the latter's Democratic Party exceeded expectations in the US midterm elections.

Flanked by foreign policy and political figures from his reshuffled party top brass, Xi did not waver on Beijing's headline position on Taiwan and told Biden it was the "core of China's core interests" and an "insurmountable red line in US-China relations".

Nor did he appear to make any clear concessions on the Ukraine war or North Korea's weapons tests.



US President Joe Biden (R) gestures with India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi before the Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment meeting at the G20 Summit in Nusa Dua on the Indonesian resort island of Bali yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

## COP27 leaders urged to fight climate disinfo

AFP, Sharm el Sheikh

Campaigners yesterday urged leaders at the COP27 summit and big tech companies to formally crack down on climate disinformation that undermines efforts to limit the deadly impacts of global warming.

In an open letter, they called on COP27 delegates to adopt a common definition of climate disinformation and misinformation and work to prevent it.

They called on the bosses of seven digital giants, including Facebook, Google and Twitter, to implement tough policies to stop false climate information spreading on their platforms as they did for Covid-19.

"We cannot beat climate change without tackling climate misinformation and disinformation," they wrote.

"While emissions continue to rise, humanity faces climate catastrophe, yet vested economic and political interests continue to organise and finance climate misinformation and disinformation to hold back action."

## EU vows more emissions cuts at UN climate talks

AFP, Sharm el Sheikh

The EU vowed to step up its emissions cuts at UN climate talks yesterday as developing nations admonished rich polluters for falling short on efforts to help them cope with global warming.

The COP27 conference in Egypt has been dominated by calls for wealthy nations to fulfil pledges to fund the green transitions of poorer countries least responsible for global emissions, build their resilience and compensate them for climate-linked losses.

The meeting comes as global emissions are slated to reach an all-time high this year, making the aspirational goal of limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to preindustrial levels ever more elusive.

European Commission Vice President Frans Timmermans told delegates that the European Union will update its climate commitment as it will be able to exceed its original plan to cut emissions by 55 percent by 2030.

The 27-nation bloc will now be able to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 57

percent from 1990 levels, he said.

"The European Union is here to move forwards, not backwards," Timmermans told COP27 delegates.

The invasion of Ukraine by fossil fuel exporter Russia has cast a shadow over the talks in Egypt, with activists accusing Europeans of seeking to tap Africa for natural gas following Russian supply cuts.

But Timmermans denied that the

The 27-nation bloc will now be able to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 57 pc from 1990 levels

27-nation bloc was in a "dash for gas" in the wake of the Ukraine conflict.

"So don't let anybody tell you here or outside that the EU is backtracking," he said.

Campaigners said the EU announcement did not go far enough.

"This small increase announced today at COP27 doesn't do justice to the calls from the most vulnerable countries at

the front lines," said Chiara Martinelli, of Climate Action Network Europe.

"If the EU, with a heavy history of emitting greenhouse gases, doesn't lead on mitigating climate change, who will?"

COP27 has exposed deep divisions between wealthy polluters and nations vulnerable to the most ferocious climate impacts.

"The lack of leadership and ambition on mitigating greenhouse gas emissions is worrisome," said Senegalese Environment Minister Alioune Ndiaye, speaking on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group.

Belize Climate Change Minister Orlando Habet called for more action from the G20 group of the world's wealthiest nations, which are responsible for 80 percent of global emissions and are meeting at summit in Indonesia.

"In how many COPs have we been arguing for urgent climate action? And how many more do we need, how many lives do we need to sacrifice," Habet said.

UN climate talks often go into overtime and this year's meeting, due to end on Friday, could be no different.

## Trump to launch new W House bid

AFP, Washington



Former US president Donald Trump was expected to launch another White House bid yesterday, even as another one of his fellow election deniers lost a key race in last week's midterms. The 76-year-old billionaire, whose 2016 win shocked

America and the world, has summoned the press to his Florida mansion for a "very big announcement" at 9:00 pm yesterday (0200 GMT Wednesday). Known for his unpredictability, Trump could still change his mind at the last minute, but for months he has barely hidden his desire to vie for the presidency again in 2024. And delaying the announcement now, as some of his advisers have reportedly suggested to him, would be awkward considering Trump's repeated boast about the momentousness of his yesterday's address. "Hopefully TODAY will turn out to be one of the most important days in the history of our Country!" Trump posted overnight on his Truth Social platform. But in a new sign that Trump and his hardcore followers do not lead the electoral juggernaut they once did, one of Trump's staunchest supporters, the election denier and establishment skeptic Kari Lake, was projected to lose her race to be governor of Arizona.



Firefighters work to put out a fire in a residential building hit by a Russian missile, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Kyiv yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

## SURVIVAL OF SMALL, PRETERM BABIES

### WHO advises skin to skin care

AFP, Geneva

Skin-to-skin contact is key to improving survival of premature and small babies, the WHO said yesterday in a major overhaul of policy that previously called for the use of incubators.

The new guidelines mark a major turnaround in the way the UN health agency recommends neonatal intensive care be provided to tiny babies.

Allowing mothers or other caregivers and preterm babies to remain close from the start, without

separation, boosts the chances of survival, Karen Edmond, a World Health Organization medical officer and paediatrician, told reporters in Geneva.

"The first embrace with a parent is not only emotionally important, but also absolutely critical for improving chances of survival and health outcomes for small and premature babies," she said.

The new guidelines for how to treat babies born before 37 weeks of pregnancy or under 2.5 kilogrammes (5.5 pounds) applies in all settings, WHO said.

Immediate skin-to-skin contact should be provided "even for babies who are unwell with breathing difficulties," it said, insisting: "they too need the close contact with their mother from birth."

Previously, the WHO had said that "unstable" newborns weighing less than two kilos at birth should be placed in incubators.

The WHO describes prematurity as an "urgent public health issue," with an estimated 15 million babies born preterm each year — accounting for one in 10 births.

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[www.bjri.gov.bd](http://www.bjri.gov.bd)  
Ref. No. 12.23.0000.077.11.010.22.1401  
Date: 15/11/2022

### Invitation for Tenders (IFT)

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Agriculture
2	Agency	Bangladesh Jute Research Institute (BJRI)
3	Procuring entity name	Programme Director and CSO, BJRI, Manik Mia Avenue, Dhaka-1207
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka
6	Invitation for	Supply of manpower (Efficient Worker-06 Nos. and Lab Attendant-04 Nos.) through Outsourcing services
7	Invitation Ref No.	12.23.0000.077.11.010.22.
8	Date	15/11/2022
9	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)
10	Budget and source of funds	Revenue Budget (GOB)
11	Development partners (if applicable)	N/A
12	Program code	123040201
13	Program name	Development of Innovation Technology by the Application of Reactive dye and various types of prints (Pigment, Rubber, Foil) on jute and jute-cotton blended fabrics
14	Tender Package No.	SR-02
15	Tender package name	Supply of manpower through Outsourcing services
16	Tender publication date	15/11/2022
17	Tender last selling date	28/11/2022
18	Tender closing date and time	29/11/2022 12:00pm
19	Tender opening date and time	29/11/2022 12:30pm
20	Name & address of the office(s) selling tender document (principal)	Programme Director & CSO, Dyeing and Printing Division, Bangladesh Jute Research Institute (BJRI), Manik Mia Avenue, Dhaka-1207
21	Receiving tender document	Office of Programme Director & CSO, BJRI, Manik Mia Avenue, Dhaka-1207
22	Opening tender document	Office of Director General, BJRI, Manik Mia Avenue, Dhaka-1207
23	Eligibility of tenderer	Attested copies of updated trade license, income tax and VAT registration certificate, bank solvency certificate, work completion certificate of similar works (i.e., supplying manpower at govt./semi-govt or autonomous organization), and all other relevant documents as per TDS, tender security in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order (original copy) should be submitted with tender.
24	Brief description of services	As stated in tender documents
25	Price of tender document (Tk)	Tk. 1000/- (one thousand Taka) non-refundable
26	Amount of tender security (Tk)	Tk. 30,000/- (thirty thousand Taka)
27	Name of official inviting tender	Dr. M M Alamgir Sayeed
28	Designation of official inviting tender	Programme Director and CSO, Dyeing and Printing Division
29	Address of official inviting tender	BJRI, Manik Mia Avenue, Dhaka-1207.
30	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel. No. 02-48118528, Mobile No. 01913089225

N.B.: The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all the tenders or annul the tender proceedings.

15/11/2022  
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