

## Short Economic News

### Iran to become Middle East main petrochemicals producer

Iran plans to turn into the Middle East's first petrochemicals producer by the end of its 20 year development plan.

«Currently we supply 12 percent of the Middle East's petrochemical products and stand second in the production



rating chart. We plan to stand

first through producing 34 percent by the end of the 20 year development program,» said Iran's oil minister's deputy.

«Sanction has had no effect on our productions or demands, and we have pre-sold most of our products» Gholam Hussein Nejabat explained.

### Commerce minister:

#### Iran is on the verge of big economic development Dubai

Commerce minister said with participation of all Iranians, inside and outside of the country, Islamic Republic of Iran is on the verge of a big economic development.»

Masoud Mir-Kazemi told the monthly meeting of the «Iranian Commerce Council» in Dubai that with principled and logical interaction between government and private sector, economic development can be guaranteed in the country.

To accelerate such a development, government is to decrease its role in economics and leave more space for private sector, co-operatives and non-governmental bodies,

the minister added.

He went on, «We are trying to create a competitive atmosphere in the country, otherwise private sector cannot find any meaning.» Referring to Iran's strategic position, Mir-Kazemi said, «Such a position gives special importance to the country for transiting goods between Asian Central Countries and southern littoral countries of the Persian Gulf.

Commerce minister said, «President Ahmadinejad after his visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) told Iranian officials that the problems of Iranians residing in the UAE must be solved like

those Iranians who live in the country.»

Another speaker in the meeting was Iran's Ambassador to the UAE Hamid Reza Asefi who expressed hope that Iranian businessmen and traders can find an appropriate solution for their problems in such meetings with the officials.

Head of the ICC Hadi Moatameni presented a report of the council's activity and said there are 300 active companies in the council, now.

At the end of the meeting, Iran's commercial attache Qassem Mirzaei was hailed for his efforts and sincere works at the UAE.

## Iran Intends to Develop Shared Oil Fields with Iraq

Iran wants to develop previously untapped oil fields shared with neighboring Iraq, a move that will benefit both countries, an Iranian oil official said.

«We hope to start working together. Both countries stand to gain. We would strengthen investment and make the best use of our shared fields,» Gholamhossein Nozari, managing director of state-owned National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), told reporters according to Reuters.

Iran and Iraq have been strengthening ties since the US-led invasion in 2003, arousing

concern in the United States.

Washington accuses Iran of stirring up violence in Iraq. Tehran denies the US allegations vehemently and blames the presence of US troops for the unrest.

«There is a general agreement between us (on the fields),» Nozari said, adding that the two countries had already held two rounds of discussion on developing the fields.

«We want to use green' fields,» he said, referring to previously untapped fields.

«We have many joint fields like Naftshahr, Paidar-e Gharb,

Azar, Azadegan and so many others,» he said on the sidelines of a conference in Tehran organized by Iran's Ravand Institute for Economic and International Studies.

Iraq has already invited Iranian firms to bid for contracts to build at least four oil refineries in the country, Iraq's Oil Ministry said this month. Iraq needs to attract investment from foreign firms to develop fields and boost output.

Iran, OPEC's No. 2 oil producer is also keen to draw in new investors.

## Iran-Egypt chamber of commerce to be established

Iran's chamber of commerce announced its readiness to start commercial relations with Egypt and to establish a shared chamber of commerce with that country.

«The Egyptians have shown a lot of interest in initiating a new chapter of commercial and

economic relations with Iran, but this is still influenced by the political atmosphere,» said the Iran-Egypt shared commission deputy, Masoud Daneshmand.

«A full cooperation program is being carefully studied and reviewed in the Iran-Egypt shared commission, which when ready

will await the government's approval,» he added.

Tehran and Cairo have had no diplomatic ties since the 1979 due to Egypt's Camp David Accord with Israel in 1978, which led to a complete brake down of relations between the two Muslim countries.

## Iran, the biggest pistachio producer



With an annual production of 2 hundred and 50 thousand tons of pistachios, Iran is the greatest producing country of the item.

Following Iran, the U.S., Turkey, Syria, China, Greece, Italy and Tunis come next on the production line.

Rafsanjan in Kerman prov-

ince, southeast Iran is the main region of production of pistachio for Iran and the world.

After Iran, the U.S. is the second country to produce and export pistachios to other countries. U.S. Pistachios are chiefly shipped to Hong Kong, Germany, Russia, France and Canada.

## IKCO, Turkmenistan ink \$30m agreement

Iran Khodro Company (IKCO) on Saturday signed an agreement with Turkmenistan to export 340 buses worth dlr 30 million.

Visiting Turkmen President Gurbanguly Berdimuhammadov and IKCO Managing Director Manouchehr Manteqi have reached the agreement.

Manteqi said on the sidelines of the signing ceremony that according



to the agreement, IKCO is scheduled to export 30 and 310 buses to Turkmenistan next week and in a four-month period respectively.

on after-sale services for the buses, he said that IKCO representative office in Ashkhabad is in charge of such services.

IKCO is to attain a big share in the car market of Turkmenistan, he added.

## Iran Iron Market Stable, No Need for Imports

Iron market is currently stable and planners should adopt proper policies to prevent price fluctuations, advised the head of Iran Steel Producers' Association.

Taqi Bahrami Noshahr stated that psychological concerns about iron shortage in the market had recently led to price hikes for this essential construction material, Iran Daily reported.

As a result, a number of key producers and purchasers of iron hoarded the metal in the past two or three months, FNA reported.

Bahrami Noshahr said that the market has become stable thanks to continuous efforts by the association and the Ministry

of Industries and Mines.

Turning to the import of ironware, he noted that there is no need for import during the year to March 2008.

According to him, this year's iron demand will be supplied from consignments which were imported during the closing months of the year to March 2007 as well as in the past two months.

Bahrami Noshahr warned that continued import will inflict irreparable damage to domestic iron factories.

In April, head of Iron Sellers Union said that prices of the commodity have increased by 15% since March 21.

Mohammad Azad told ILNA,

«The union is against rising prices because if this continues, we would witness a sharp rise in prices in the next two or three



months and even up to March 2008.»

He regretted that plans by the government and the Commerce Ministry to regulate prices have not yet borne fruit and have failed to strike a balance between supply and demand.

## Iran's petrochemical exports with 131 percent rise

Iran's petrochemical exports experienced a 131 percent within 11 months.

The overall value of petro-

chemical substances exported from Iran amount to 5 billion and 345 million and 672 thousand dollars.

Over 38 percent of Iran's non oil exports overall value are dedicated to the petrochemical department.

## Iran's sea product exports increases

Iran's sea product exports had 18.6 percent rise this year.

The overall value of sea products exported from Iran amount to 43 million and 822 thousand dollars.

About 25 million and 31 dollars worth fresh, frozen and smoked fish, 9 million and 9 hundred thousand dollars caviar and 891 thousand dollars worth shrimps were exported in 12 months ago.



## Alan R J Attryde, The New First Secretary of Commercial Section of British Embassy

Mr. Alan R J Attryde assumed his duties as First Secretary, Head of Trade & Investment, at the British Embassy in Tehran on 25 February succeeding Nick Coppin. He is accompanied by his wife, Ana Maria Diaz Attryde, a native of Venezuela.

A career diplomat, Mr Attryde comes from his post as UK Deputy Director of Trade & Investment in New Delhi. He has previously served as Commercial Attache in Cairo,



Commercial Consul in Shanghai, Head of the British Trade Office in Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia, and

Head of Trade Promotion in the British Embassy in Washington DC. Other assignments include Rio de Janeiro, Jakarta, Caracas and a loan assignment to the UK Department of Trade and Industry.

Educated at Hardye's School, Dorchester, UK, he holds a Masters degree in International Politics and Diplomacy from the School of Oriental & African Studies, London University.

## Chamber News

### IBCCIM News

#### Holding the first Executive Board meeting in the new round of the Chamber's activities

The new Executive Board Members' meeting was held on 17 June 2007. The meeting was attended by the whole Members. After exchanging economic news according to the agenda the following members were appointed to their positions:

Mr. Eng. Alinaghi Khamoushi as the President

Mr. Dr. Amir Houshang Amini

as the First Vice President & Secretary General

Mr. Dr. Ali Sharghi as the Second Vice President

Mr. Eng. Ali Kolahdooz as the Treasurer

Mr. Saeed Khalili as the Board Member

Mr. Dr. Naser Homapour as the Board Member

Mrs. Eng. Zahra Naghavi as

the Secretary

Messers Jafar Zarrehbini and Ali Hamzehnejad as the Alternative

Meanwhile it was decided that the Board meetings to be held every 15 days and the ratified in this current year and the Chamber's expert Commissions to be discussed and decided in the next meeting.

## Holding specialized commissions of the IBCCIM



### 1- Investment Facilitation and Participate Commission:

The said commission held two sessions in this year spring.

The last session attended by Mr. Alen Attryde, the first secretary of the commercial section of the embassy and his colleagues, in the month of Ordibehesht.

In this session the welcoming and introductory speech was made by Dr. Homapour the President of the commission, he also commented on the economic relationship between two countries.

Then Mr. Attryde delivered the inclination of the UK based on expansion of the relation-

ship between the two countries. Afterward he answered to the questions raised by the members and exchanged his views with them.

### 2- Training and Communication Commission:

The said commission was held in this current year spring by presence of Misses Lilli Marzabadi, Fatemeh Abdollahian, Mahnaz Ma'soumi and Messrs Masood Shantiaee, Manouchehr Hamoun, Ramin Taati, Hossein Iranmanesh, Reza Jaberansari, Iraj Danesh, Abdolreza Panahi, Hamidreza Shahabian and Dr. Amini.

In this session, after conformation of the necessity of establishing the link between the members and the chamber secretariat, it was decided to establish and start the forum in the chamber website. Also the proposal for merging IT and Communication Commissions was made.

Finally it was agreed that making arrangement for dispatching missions to England for this current year to be discussed and examined in the next session.

### 3- IT Commission:

IT Commission attended by members Mrs. Lilli Marzabadi and Messrs Alireza Cheraghi, Masood Shantiaee, Mohammadreza Heydari, Naghavi, Manoucherhr Hamoun and Dr. Amini in this current spring in this session, the scheme of establishing and starting the forum in the chamber website was confirmed, and also merging the IT Commission and Training and Communication Commission was discussed due to their functions similarities.

## Setting up the Forum in the website

As it is decided in the «education and Communication» and also «Information Technology» committees, to set up the Forum in the Chamber website. Right now this Forum is ready to be chosen by the esteemed members experimentally.

The said Forum provides the possibility of exchanging views in different aspects among the

members of the Chamber. Also the members are able to submit blogs, notes, news, views and etc., in the website which belongs to them.

In order to access to this facilitation, the respected members of the Chamber may approach to the Chamber website at the add.: [www.ibchamber.org](http://www.ibchamber.org) and choose the Member Directory

link by entering username and password.

More over the esteemed members of the Chamber can express their views in regard to the establishment of this department, meanwhile the secretariat of the Chamber kindly request the members to approach the said site in order to make it fruitful.