

[ASEAN chief warns FTA gov'ts against protectionism](#)

People's Daily, 1 January 2010

Governments in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) should resist temptation of protectionist measures by imposing non tariff barriers as the free trade area (FTA) between the region and China takes effect on Friday, the head of the association told Xinhua in an exclusive interview recently. "Avoid that, in every forum that I have attended on behalf of ASEAN, we talked about the problem of protectionism, protective measures and it was all agreed that it's not going to be good for economic recovery, not good for economic health of any country of any region. Therefore every government will have to resist temptation of protectionist measures," Secretary General of ASEAN Surin Pitsuwan said.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6857649.html>

[China-ASEAN FTA to boost intra-regional trade: business leader](#)

People's Daily, 1 January 2010

The establishment of China-ASEAN Free Trade Area (FTA), which will be effective on Jan. 1, 2010, is a win-win outcome and will no doubt boost intra-regional trade, a well-known Singapore business leader has said. In a recent interview with Xinhua, Phua Kok Khoo, president of Singapore-China business association, hailed the FTA between China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) as a good event for both sides, saying that after the launch of the FTA, which took eight years in the making, trade between the 10-member regional bloc and China will be more liberal and convenient.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6857527.html>

[Organizers highlight China's strong presence at UAE energy summit](#)

People's Daily, 4 January 2010

More than 40 world leading renewable energy companies from China have confirmed their participation in the upcoming World Future Energy Summit (WFES) in Abu Dhabi, organizers said Sunday. The Chinese pavilion at the meeting, which is now in its third year and will be held in the capital of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Jan. 18-21, has already grown to more than 1,000 square meters, ASDA'A Burson-Marsteller, a public relations consultancy, said in a press release.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6858108.html>

[BASIC to meet in Delhi, discuss targets under Copenhagen Accord](#)

The Hindu, 10 January 2010

With the Copenhagen Accord setting a January 31 deadline for the nations to specify 2020 emission targets and other steps, India will hold discussion with other BASIC group members comprising China, South Africa and Brazil in New Delhi on their climate strategy. "I have invited my counterparts in the BASIC group to attend a meeting in New Delhi in the third week of January before everyone finalises the entry into the appendix (Accord)," Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/article78407.ece>

[Israel pushing for trade pact with India](#)

The Hindu, 11 January 2010

Israel on Monday said, it wants to push for a free trade agreement with India with an objective of tripling bilateral commerce to USD 12 billion over the next four-five years. "I hope it (Free Trade Agreement) will happen very soon. It is one of the aims of my visit here to try and push it as much as possible...it is progressing quite well," Israeli Minister of Industry, Trade and Labour Benjamin (Fouad) Ben-Eliezer said at a FICCI function here. During April-December 2008-09, bilateral trade stood at USD 2.8 billion.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/business/article78919.ece>

[BSF foils infiltration attempt along Indo-Pak border](#)

The Hindu, 11 January 2010

In the fourth infiltration bid in a week, militants triggered a blast to cut into the border fencing but BSF troops foiled their attempt after a fierce gunbattle between the two sides in Akhnoor sector of Jammu district in the early hours on Monday. Taking advantage of the dense fog in the area, a group of militants triggered a blast near the border fencing in Alfa Machel border outpost in Akhnoor, 35 kms from here, a senior BSF official said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article78735.ece>

[Chinese FM says his African, Asian trip successful](#)

People's Daily, 14 January 2010

Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi said in Riyadh Wednesday that his visits to seven African and Asian countries reached the goal of promoting mutual trust, expanding cooperation, deepening understanding and developing friendship. In the past nine days, Yang have visited Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Algeria, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Maldives. The visits were his first in the new year.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6869016.html>

[N.Korea Pushes for Tourism Talks](#)

Chosun Ilbo, 15 January 2010

North Korea on Thursday proposed inter-Korean talks at Mt. Kumgang on Jan. 26-27 to resume package tours to the mountain resort and the city of Kaesong. The proposal came in a message to the Unification Ministry through the truce village of Panmunjom. North Korea's Asia-Pacific Peace Committee, which handles the tours, said in the message, "It is regrettable that Mt. Kumgang and Kaesong tours have been suspended for a year and six months." Seoul suspended the Mt. Kumgang tours in July 2008 after a North Korean soldier shot and killed a South Korean tourist there. The North suspended the Kaesong tours in December the same year.

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2010/01/15/2010011500484.html

[Chinese ministers' visits to Africa aimed at producing win-win results](#)

People's Daily, 16 January 2010

The visits to Africa by three Chinese ministers at the start of 2010 have underscored the importance that China has attached to the traditional China-Africa friendship, which is aimed at creating a win-win situation. Whether by coincidence or not, Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi visited Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Algeria and Morocco from Jan. 6 to Jan. 12, and Commerce Minister Chen Deming traveled to Ethiopia and Mozambique from Jan. 12 to Jan. 14.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6870536.html>

[Interview: China, Vietnam to embrace new developments in cooperation: Chinese ambassador](#)

People's Daily, 17 January 2010

China and Vietnam, two traditional friends, are going to see new developments in all-round cooperation in 2010, said Chinese Ambassador to Vietnam Sun Guoxiang in a recent interview with Xinhua. China and Vietnam are to embrace the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations on Jan. 18. The two countries have decided to hold various kinds of activities throughout the year to celebrate the six-decade diplomatic ties. Early in the middle of last century, China and Vietnam forged the close bond like "comrades and brothers", said Sun.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90883/6870771.html>