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Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Hong Lei's Regular Press Conference on December 17, 2015

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Q: On December 16, the US Congress included in the government spending bill contents that would give emerging economies greater say in the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The bill is expected to pass Congress on December 18 and officially become law. What is your comment?

A: We have noted the relevant report. In 2010, G20 leaders reached consensus on the reform package of IMF quotas and governance. Now five years have passed. The international community has been waiting for the IMF reform package to get off the ground. It is hoped that relevant countries can approve the reform package as soon as possible, as it bears on the effectiveness and authority of the IMF and the stability of the international economic and financial system. We also hope that reform of the international financial system can move even further beyond that.

Q: What does China think of the international counter-terrorism military coalition set up by Saudi Arabia? Will this coalition play a positive role in fighting terrorism?

A: China supports the efforts made by Saudi Arabia and other countries in combating terrorism, and hopes that the international community can enhance communication and coordination to join hands in fighting terrorism and jointly maintain international and regional peace and stability.

Q: Regarding the US arms sale to Taiwan, China has decided to impose sanctions on Raytheon and Lockheed Martin, two involved companies. Can you provide more details on the sanction measures?

A: The involvement of US enterprises in the arms sale to Taiwan severely undermines China's sovereignty and security interests. The Chinese government and enterprises will not conduct cooperation or business with such enterprises.



Q: On December 16, Argentina adjusted its monetary policy and decided to convert a large amount of Chinese yuan into US dollars. What is your comment?

A: Central banks in China and Argentina have been in communication with each other recently on implementing bilateral currency swap agreement. The RMB is a freely usable currency. If the Argentine side prefers to convert part of its RMB reserves into US dollars or other reserve currencies, that is their decision to make. The Chinese side welcomes the market-oriented reforms the Argentine side conducts in exchange rate and other financial sectors. We will stay in communication with the central bank of Argentina to ensure a steady procession of the market-oriented financial reform.

Q: Today marks the 4-year anniversary of the passing of former DPRK leader Kim Jong Il. What is China's response?

A: The Chinese side speaks highly of the important contributions Comrade Kim Jong Il made in developing China-DPRK ties and promoting the cause of socialism in the DPRK. We would like to offer our condolences on this occasion.

Q: How will the US announcement of arms sale to Taiwan impact China-US ties?

A: No one can shake the firm will of the Chinese government and people to defend their national sovereignty and territorial integrity, and to oppose foreign interference. China urges the US to live up to the clear commitment it has made in the three joint communiques, revoke the arms sale plan, stop military contact with Taiwan, and do more to advance the overall interests of China-US ties and peaceful development of cross-Straits relations.



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