

HISTORIC MIDDLE EAST PEACE DEALS

Today (September 11), nations across the region and throughout the world are joining together, united in their determination to build a better future.

- President Donald J. Trump



Foreign Minister Abdullatif Al Zayani, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, President Donald Trump, and United Arab Emirates Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Zayed participate in the signing of the Abraham Accords on the South Lawn of the White House, September 15, 2020. (White House photo)

SECURING HISTORIC AGREEMENTS:

President Donald J. Trump hosted the official signing ceremony for the historic peace agreements between Israel and Arab nations.

- On September 11, President Trump presided over the signing ceremony at the White House to establish the foundation of the peace agreement between Israel and the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.).

- Bahrain also accepted the President's invitation to participate in the ceremony, following their agreement with Israel last week.
- In August, the President secured an agreement to normalize relations between the U.A.E. and Israel — the first such agreement between Israel and a major Arab country since 1994.

- The countries have committed to the exchange of embassies and ambassadors, and to begin cooperation across a broad range of fields including education, healthcare, trade, and security.

PROMOTING PEACE AND SECURITY:

These agreements are leading to peace between Israel and the Middle East, as well as increased security in the region.

- The deal between Israel and the U.A.E. will strengthen peace in the region by giving Muslims increased access to the Al Aqsa Mosque for peaceful prayer.

- This will counter the extremists who use the false narrative that the Al Aqsa Mosque is

under attack and that Muslims cannot pray at this holy site.

- The Israel-Bahrain agreement further enhances the security of both nations while creating opportunities for them to deepen their economic ties.

- Both agreements are a result of President Trump's efforts to rebuild trust with our regional partners and move them away from conflicts of the past.

FACILITATING A REGIONAL TRANSFORMATION: President Trump's policies are leading to the most rapid geopolitical transformation of the Arab world in more than a generation.

- President Trump has fully rejected the failed foreign policy approaches of the past that helped stoke division and did nothing to prevent conflict in the Middle East.

- Thanks to President Trump's leadership, the nations across the Middle East and Africa are increasingly working together to build a more peaceful and prosperous future.

- Normalized relations will accelerate growth and economic opportunity across the region by expanding business and financial ties.

- The agreements with Bahrain and the U.A.E. will help to advance President Trump's vision for finding a fair and lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

- The United States will continue to stand with the people of the region as they work to build a brighter, more hopeful future.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg dies at 87

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg died at her home in Washington, DC last September 18, Friday, surrounded by family. She was 87. The Supreme Court announced her death, saying the cause was complications from metastatic cancer of the pancreas.

Chief Justice John Roberts statement: "We at the Supreme Court have lost a cherished colleague. Today we mourn but with confidence that future generations will remember Ruth Bader Ginsburg as we knew her, a tireless and resolute champion of justice."

Ginsburg was the first Jewish woman and the second woman to serve on the Court, after Sandra Day O'Connor.

Ginsburg was born and grew up in Brooklyn, New York. She earned her bachelor's degree at Cornell University and married Martin D. Ginsburg, becoming a mother before starting law school at Harvard, where she was one of the few women in her class. Ginsburg transferred to Columbia Law School, where she graduated joint first in her class. She became a professor at Rutgers Law



School and Columbia Law School, teaching civil procedure as one of the few women in her field.

Ginsburg spent much of her legal career as an advocate for gender equality and women's rights, winning many arguments before the Supreme Court.

PRESIDENT TRUMP SIGNS EXECUTIVE ORDER PROTECTING INFANTS BORN ALIVE

On September 25, President Trump signed an Executive Order directing the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that American hospitals comply with their obligations under federal law to provide appropriate screening and medical treatment or transfer for infants, especially those born prematurely and/or with disabilities, and otherwise promote efforts to improve the survival of such infants.

"HHS's mission is to protect the health and well-being of all Americans, and that means all Americans—including infants born prematurely and infants with disabilities," said HHS Secretary Alex Azar.

The Born-Alive Infants Protection Act makes clear that all infants born alive at any stage of development are considered persons for purposes of these and other federal laws and are, therefore, afforded the same legal protections as any other person.

Over 300 people face federal charges for crimes committed during nationwide demonstrations

The Department of Justice announced that more than 300 individuals in 29 states and Washington, D.C., have been charged for crimes committed adjacent to or under the guise of peaceful demonstrations since the end of May.

To date, of the 94 U.S. Attorneys' Offices (USAOs), more than 40 USAOs have filed federal charges alleging crimes ranging from attempted murder, assaulting a law enforcement officer, arson, burglary of a federally-licensed firearms dealer, damaging federal property, malicious destruction of property using fire or explosives, felon in possession of a firearm and ammunition, unlawful possession of a destructive device, inciting a riot, felony civil disorder, and others.

Violent opportunists have exploited these demonstrations in various ways.

Approximately 80 individuals have been charged with offenses relating to arson and explosives.



Terrorism, weapons of mass destruction threaten world security — President Duterte

MANILA -- Terrorism remains a major threat to global security despite the current coronavirus pandemic and the Philippines will work with its partners to boost security, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte said.

"As I said at the Aqaba Process, the Philippines will do everything and partner with anyone who would sincerely desire to protect the innocent from terrorism in all its manifestations," President Duterte said in a speech during the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly.

"The Marawi siege, where foreign terrorist fighters took part, taught us that an effective legal framework is crucial. Our 2020 Anti-Terrorism Act shores up the legal framework by focusing on both terrorism and the usual reckless response to it."

The enactment of the law, the President said, was done pursuant to the country's commitment, and the strict adherence to the UN's Security Council resolutions and the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Most importantly, the Philippines remains committed to rebuild stricken communities and address the root causes of terrorism and violent extremism, he added. - PND

DHS provides \$10 million to local communities to prevent targeted violence and terrorism

WASHINGTON — The Department of Homeland Security has awarded \$10 million to 29 select projects to support the development of a nationwide Terrorism and Targeted Violence Prevention (TVTP) Framework. These awards were made through a competitive process under the Fiscal Year 2020 Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention Grant Program.

"With these grants, DHS has prioritized programs aimed at improving communities' ability to prevent individuals from mobilizing or radicalizing to violence. These programs will create or enhance locally-based prevention

frameworks to address these emerging threats," said Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Chad F. Wolf. "DHS stands in absolute opposition to violent extremism, no matter its motivation or form. We will continue our constant efforts to combat all forms of domestic terror."

These projects address the wide range of violent ideologies and mobilization factors that lead to targeted violence.

This Fiscal Year's program prioritized countering domestic terrorism. The TVTP Grant Program builds on the promising practices in the field of prevention.

• special in this issue •

3 AWEE ABAYARI INTERVIEWS DR. ROS PAEZ & MRS. EVELYN PAEZ. They had a very successful dental clinic in the United States and served the community with love and dedication for many years. Very much loved by everyone, they are inspiring role models of faith and service. Now happily retired in the Philippines, they send their message to all their family and friends in the United States.

4 UNWTO AND GOOGLE HOST FIRST TOURISM ACCELERATION PROGRAM IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA. The Covid-19 crisis has disproportionately affected tourism, a sector that accounts for millions of jobs around the globe. This is why UNWTO and Google have partnered for an online Acceleration Program for UNWTO Member States' tourism ministers, top travel associations and tourism boards to further develop innovation and digital transformation skills.

6 WILDFIRE SMOKE AND COVID-19. Wildfire smoke can irritate your lungs, cause inflammation, affect your immune system, and make you more prone to lung infections, including SARS-CoV-2, the virus that cause COVID-19. Take actions to protect yourself from wildfire smoke during the COVID-19 pandemic.

7 DOT'S PHIDEX 2020 GOES DIGITAL. The Philippine International Dive Expo (PHIDEX) is back for its 2nd edition through a digital platform from October 9 to 11, 2020, which aims to bring more dive enthusiasts, industry professionals, and renowned experts in a single online platform.

Despite Covid-19 risks, cases of migrants crammed in tractor-trailers dangerously increase

WASHINGTON—Despite the COVID-19 pandemic and implementation of several travel restrictions to prevent the spread of the disease, human smugglers continue to place migrants in harm's way. Commercial tractor-trailers are the conveyance of choice to smuggle large numbers of people into the United States. Migrants are exposed to these dangers by smugglers who know the life-threatening journey will be in vain given increased border enforcement and partnerships with affected governments.

In the midst of COVID-19 spread, ruthless human smugglers continue to expose migrants to the deadly virus by forcing them to travel inside crowded trailers, with no ventilation, no water and no food for hours, even days. The tractor-trailer is the final trap of their 1,600 mile treacherous journey from Central America to the United States.

The Border Patrol's Rio Grande Valley (RGV) and Laredo (LRT) sectors in Texas have traditionally been the hot spot for tractor-trailers loaded with migrants. In fiscal year 2020 through August, these two sectors have seen more than 226 tractor-trailer cases, with 3,740 individuals discovered concealed in these

dangerous and life threatening conditions. Just for LRT this represents a 37 percent increase from the same period in fiscal year 2019.

"Smugglers are unscrupulous criminals and will stop at nothing to enrich their pockets, even if it involves locking human beings in trailers intended for animals," said Acting Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Mark A. Morgan. "They treat illegal aliens as a commodity, inhumanely holding them captive in overcrowded stash houses with limited access to food and water."

In a video testimonial previously released, a young Central American mother, whose identity is protected, describes her frightening experience, "you suffer a lot, and you encounter people that try to sexually abuse you. Sometimes you travel in tractor-trailer boxes unable to breathe. At the end of it all, nothing was like they say it would be."

She is an anonymous voice of thousands of Central American migrants, including unaccompanied children, who in recent years have endured a myriad of atrocities, sexual abuse, extortion, assault, kidnapping and exploitation in the hands of coyotes or human smugglers.



On June 29, Laredo Sector Border Patrol agents discovered 66 individuals inside the trailer and cabin of a tractor-trailer at the Interstate (I-35) checkpoint. The individuals were nationals of Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Brazil, all illegally present in the United States.

Smugglers may demand from \$6,000 to upwards of \$12,000 per person to smuggle individuals into the United States via tractor-trailers. Beyond the financial losses that migrants will never recover, entrusting a smuggler comes with the potential cost of their

lives. Never has that been truer than during the global pandemic. These smugglers often pack their human cargo into dangerously hot, crowded trailers and typically with no means of escape. Border Patrol agents often find human remains or encounter lost migrants who are ill,




On July 24, Laredo Sector Border Patrol agents found 37 individuals locked inside the livestock trailer with no means of escape. The apprehended individuals were found to be illegally present in the United States from the countries of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. injured, or abandoned by smugglers who are backed by cartels and other criminal enterprises. The message is clear, do not trust human smugglers, and do not endanger your lives and the lives of your loved ones by embarking on the dangerous journey to the United States in vain.


Appeal for Donations

HOSPICIO DE SAN JOSE

Since its foundation in 1810, Hospicio de San Jose has stood as a beacon of hope and succor for persons in poverty situations. It is the first charitable institution in the Philippines, a forerunner of social work and have been an exemplar of compassion and charity, demonstrating the Filipino people's boundless capacity for extending a helping hand to those in need.



Sr. Maria Socorro Pilar G. Evidente, DC



It has been managed by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul since 1865. In 2017, Hospicio has launched to better the lives of the people under their care and to achieve financial and food sustainability:

- Sponsorship of a child or an elderly: A donation of \$100. on a monthly basis can already provide education, food, etc. to a child and medicines and food to a special child or elderly, psycho-therapy and healing sessions for the abused children. The sponsor may choose a particular category he/she wishes to provide for.
- Sponsor a house for a homeless family. Hospicio has finished 10 housing units which have been occupied and have 24 units more waiting for sponsors.

Sr. Maria Socorro Pilar G. Evidente, DC
Administrator
Hospicio de San Jose
Ayala Bridge, Manila
Philippines

- Food Sustainability: through organic hog-raising, organic vegetable gardening, chickens, ducks, turkeys, goats (all in Bulacan property).
- A Multi-purpose pavilion for the Street People – to provide a place for the feeding, formation sessions and emergency "night shelter" for the homeless.
- A Livelihood and Skills Training Center which will provide short courses in Baking, Cooking, Housekeeping and other skills to equip the unemployed heads of families, especially women, with skills for income generation activities.

For the readers whose hearts have been touched by our appeal and desires to sponsor a particular project, you may contact us through this email address: mssp.g.evidente@gmail.com or call (063-2-7342366)

Managing the COVID-19 infodemic: Promoting healthy behaviours and mitigating the harm from misinformation and disinformation

The Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is the first pandemic in history in which technology and social media are being used on a massive scale to keep people safe, informed, productive and connected. At the same time, the technology we rely on to keep connected and informed is enabling and amplifying an infodemic that continues to undermine the global response and jeopardizes measures to control the pandemic.

An infodemic is an overabundance of information, both online and offline. It includes deliberate attempts to disseminate wrong information to undermine the public health response and advance alternative agendas of groups or individuals.

Mis- and disinformation can be harmful to people's physical and mental health; increase stigmatization; threaten precious health gains; and lead to poor observance of public health measures, thus reduc-

ing their effectiveness and endangering countries' ability to stop the pandemic.

Misinformation costs lives. Without the appropriate trust and correct information, diagnostic tests go unused, immunization campaigns (or campaigns to promote effective vaccines) will not meet their targets, and the virus will continue to thrive.

Furthermore, disinformation is polarizing public debate on topics related to COVID-19; amplifying hate speech; heightening the risk of conflict, violence and human rights violations; and threatening long-term prospects for advancing democracy, human rights and social cohesion.

In this context, the UN Secretary-General launched the United Nations Communications Response initiative to combat the spread of mis- and disinformation in April 2020. - WHO

SECRETARY DEVOS ANNOUNCES STUDENT-CENTERED GRANT AWARDS TO EXPAND PERSONALIZED LEARNING

WASHINGTON – U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced new funding for two grant programs focused on meeting students' unique learning needs and improving student outcomes.

The Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants Program supports school districts' efforts to develop distance-learning opportunities, expand their course offerings, and ensure students have access to a broad range of advanced, career or technical, and other courses. The Well-Rounded Education Through Student-Centered Funding Demonstration Grants Program allows funding to follow individual students so that school districts can allocate resources in a way that provides a customized approach to education that considers individual needs in order to improve academic achievement.

The Expanding Access to Well-Rounded Courses Demonstration Grants Program provides \$9.6 million this year to six state educational agencies to develop or expand and implement models for providing well-rounded educational opportunities through increased course access for all students, including rural, disadvantaged, or those with disabilities.

U.S. Donates Animal Biosecurity Laboratory to the Department of Agriculture

MANILA – The United States, through the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) continues to support the government and people of the Philippines through a donation of a newly constructed Regional Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (RADDL) in the city of Tarlac.

The laboratory will conduct surveillance and testing on local agricultural samples from in and around Region III. By maintaining a proactive approach of disease diagnosis, the Philippines increases its capacity to monitor and stop the spread of harmful viruses which have devastated the country in the past.


This RADDL will benefit the province of Tarlac by leading to the ability for rapid submission of samples and a much quicker diagnosis of potential animal diseases. This lab will also help the province diminish their human rabies cases by means of early diagnosis and post prophylaxis treatment," said Dr. Joely T. Ongtango, Chief of RADDL III.

Dr. Ada Bacetty, Chief of DTRA's Biological Threat Reduction Program (BTRP), said, "BTRP is proud that our partnership with the Department of Agriculture has resulted in the completion of a new Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratory. We are confident that this partnership will strengthen the Republic of the Philippines' ability to detect, diagnose, and report dangerous pathogens affecting the agriculture sector to include priority diseases such as African Swine Fever and Avian Influenza. Since 2016, BTRP has invested approximately \$25,000,000 in our robust partnership with the Philippines. Our program has funded the construction of new laboratories across the nation, supported trainings, and provided biorisk management subject matter expertise."

IMMIGRATION UPDATE



HOSTED BY AWEE ABAYARI



JACK GOLAN


50 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW

Send your questions to: radiotvanchor1@gmail.com
www.youtube.com/AweeAbayari



INTERNATIONAL NEWS MEDIA

Constance's Story



Constance is a hard working, independent mother who has been providing for herself and her family since the age of seventeen. She never expected she would one day need help from The Salvation Army...

She had been welding automotive parts for fourteen year when her employer filed for bankruptcy. Thinking it was a temporary setback, one year turned to two; she quickly depleted her saving and didn't know where to turn. As a single mother her biggest concern was providing stability for her family. That's when she found The Salvation Army Bed and Bread program.

"No mother wants to see her kids go to bed hungry. No mother wants to have to tell her child that see can't provide the basic necessities."

The Salvation Army's Bed and Bread Trucks deliver warm meals to communities on a regular basis.

"I just looked for the big red shield on the side of the road"

Since then, Constance as started her own business and has been working hard to provide for her family, regaining the financial independence and stability that she provides for her family.

Constance reflects back on the time when The Salvation Army provide basic needs for her family, "They were the world to me at a time where my world was caving in."

High honor for Arnold Schwarzenegger



Austrian Federal President Alexander Van der Bellen bestowed the former Governor of California with one of Austria's highest decorations, the "Grand Decoration of Honor in Gold with Star for Services to the Republic of Austria".

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the presentation took place via live stream on September 17, 2020, during the Austrian World Summit 2020, a joint initiative of the Austrian government and Schwarzenegger's Climate Action.

The Austrian President lauded Arnold Schwarzenegger's services to Austrian-American relations and his outstanding international commitment to one of the most pressing challenges of our times - overcoming the global climate crisis.

Taking Flight : The Nadine Ramsey Story

"Taking Flight : The Nadine Ramsey Story is more than the tale of her days as a WASP ferrying high-priority army aircraft across the skies of World War II America . It is the heartfelt account of her family and its collective grit , patriotism , and raw courage . A good read with a ton of great research on woman pioneers in aviation ."

Sarah Byrn Rickman , Author of The Originals : The Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron Of World War II and

WASP of the Ferry Command : Women Pilots , Uncommon Deeds .

"What better way to penetrate a glass ceiling than by piloting an aircraft ! Nadine Ramsey's story is both enlightening and inspirational ; Taking Flight is a must -read."

Thomas J. Cutler , Gordon England Chair of Professional Naval Literature, US Naval Institute

Available
320 pages , 89 photographs , 6 x 9
Cloth ISBN 978-0-7006-2980-0, \$29.95(t)
Ebook ISBN 978-0-7006-2981-7, \$29.95



Dr. Raquel Ramsey is photographed with copies of the books "Taking Flight: The Nadine Ramsey Story" and "Never Surrender."

AG Reyes Joins Relaunch of Anti-trafficking Program -OnWatch



Attorney General Sean D. Reyes relaunch of anti-trafficking program - OnWatch

On September 18, Utah Attorney General Sean D. Reyes joined the Malouf Foundation and the Safe House Project for the relaunch of OnWatch, an anti-trafficking program that will train people on how to recognize, report and prevent human trafficking in our communities.

The human trafficking industry is estimated to be a \$150 billion industry each year with an estimated hundreds of thousands of victims. Unfortunately, there has been a 40% increase in human trafficking during the COVID-19 pandemic.

OnWatch was relaunched in an effort to help people better understand trafficking in America and learn how to recognize and report human trafficking.

OnWatch was first launched in 2018 and has trained tens of thousands of people on human trafficking. In a press release, Malouf Foundation Executive Director Jake Neeley said, "We've created an engaged community with OnWatch, and we want to keep that momentum with this new training. More people are ready to fight against trafficking, and OnWatch is the perfect place to start."



An Exclusive Interview by AWE E ABAYARI with DR. ROS PAEZ and MRS. EVELYN PAEZ

For more of the interview: www.youtube.com/AweeAbayari

They had a very successful dental clinic in the United States and served the community with love and dedication for many years.

Very much loved by everyone, they are inspiring role models of faith and service.

Now happily retired in the Philippines, they send their message to all their family and friends in the United States. - AA



DR. ROS PAEZ

Awee Abayari: How was your experience as a dental practitioner in the United States?

Dr. Ros Paez: Fulfilling...I believe I had accomplished my professional goal.

Awee Abayari: How different is dental practice in the United States compared to the Philippines?

Dr. Ros Paez: Very much different....with regards to application & financial issues.

Awee Abayari: What are the current advances in dentistry?

Dr. Ros Paez: I have retired since January 2016....no more continuing education.

Awee Abayari: What is your advice to students of dentistry?

Dr. Ros Paez: Love your profession so you would be able to treat each patient with compassion and utmost quality, and this will be satisfying and no stress.

Awee Abayari: What is your advice to foreign dentists planning to practice in the United States?

Dr. Ros Paez: Be competitive and love your profession.

Awee Abayari: What did you learn about your profession while practicing in the United States?

Dr. Ros Paez: Dollar is not everything...the satisfaction of a patient leaving my office with all smiles and gratitude is all that matters and gives me great joy.

Awee Abayari: What made you decide to retire? What do you miss most about the United States? Describe retirement life in the Philippines?

Dr. Ros Paez: Early retirement was our decision so as to enjoy more of our remaining life years...we miss our family & friends in the U.S....we also miss steak, lobster & oyster...(LOL)...retirement life in the Philippines....I describe in one phrase....more fun in the Philippines.

"The most important essence in life is...
Time spent with family & friends
Time spent for the good of human race
Time spent for one self &
Time to live your life in harmony."
DR. ROS PAEZ and MRS. EVELYN PAEZ



Dr. Ros Paez received the Tri-Media Special Recognition Award for his professionalism and outstanding community service during the Exposition held at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

EVELYN PAEZ

Awee Abayari: How did you decide where to retire in the Philippines? Why?

Evelyn Paez: Our hometown where our family and friends are.

Awee Abayari: Tell us about Talavera, Nueva Ecija? What is special about it?

Evelyn Paez: Province Pinoy way of life....simple living.

Awee Abayari: What do you miss most about the United States?

Evelyn Paez: Family and friends....and foods.

Awee Abayari: Describe your daily routine and how is it different from what you had in the United States

Evelyn Paez: Wake up without any stress or worries...enjoy life to the fullest.

Awee Abayari: What is your advice to people planning to immigrate to the United States?

Evelyn Paez: Life in the US is truly a way of opportunity but you have to really work for it....be ready to all stress.

Awee Abayari: What have you learned from your life in the United States?

Evelyn Paez: Life in the US is like the saying...time is gold...and you have to be competitive.

Awee Abayari: What is your advice to people planning to retire?

Evelyn Paez: Make plans and like us retire early so you could enjoy life to the fullest (before any geriatric problems occur),

Message

The most important essence in life is...

Time spent with family & friends

Time spent for the good of human race

Time spent for one self &

Time to live your life in harmony

Awee Abayari: Thank you very much. I wish you all the best!

South Africans celebrate Heritage Month

On 24 September, South Africans celebrate the rich heritage, diversity and history of the many cultures that make up the population of South Africa. The whole of September is commemorated as Heritage Month and South Africans across the country and diaspora commemorate this occasion through partaking in various recreational activities highlighting cultural tradition, oral history, performance, art, and indigenous knowledge systems.



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TESLA

SPACEX

RETURNING
HUMAN SPACE
TO THE
UNITED STATES

UNWTO and Google host first tourism acceleration program in Sub-Saharan Africa

Advancing digitalization will be key to adapting to the new tourism environment.

The Covid-19 crisis has disproportionately affected tourism, a sector that accounts for millions of jobs around the globe. While no one can say with certainty when tourism will recover, people are starting to dream again of getaways whether closer to home or to remote destinations.

As more and more people go online to search where and when they can travel, accelerating the digitalization of the tourism sector will be key to adapting to the new tourism reality.

That is why the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and Google have partnered for an online Acceleration Program for UNWTO Member States' tourism ministers, top travel associations and tourism boards to further develop innovation and digital



transformation skills.

Today, ahead of World Tourism Day, we hosted our first UNWTO & Google Tourism Acceleration Program focused on insights from South Africa, Kenya and Nigeria. Tourism is the backbone of many economies around the world. As data from UNWTO shows, tourism represents 9% of global trade for Africa and 1 in 10 jobs directly and indirectly. Moreover, the sector drives inclusive growth, as women make 54% of

the workforce.

"UNWTO is committed to helping Africa grow back stronger," said Natalia Bayona, UNWTO Director of Innovation, Digital Transformation and Investments. "With the right policies, training and management in place, innovation and technology have the potential to foster new and better jobs and business opportunities for tourism in Africa while improving the overall wellbeing and prosperity of the region."

Siemens Energy to provide boil-off gas compression train to Nigeria LNG

Nigeria LNG (NLNG) has awarded Siemens Energy a contract to provide a boil-off gas compression train at Bonny Island. Delivery will occur in the 4Q2021. NLNG secured financing for its Train 7 project in May. A group of banks and ECAs agreed to provide USD 3 billion for the work.

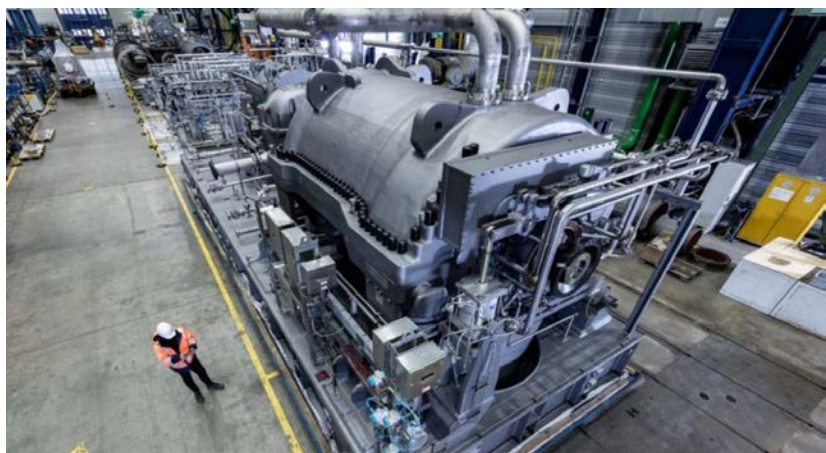
With the support of UniCredit and the SACE SIMEST hub, Italy's Mino won a contract of over EUR 20 million for the installation of a cold rolling mill for aluminum in Greece.

The 330 MW Khulna power plant in Bangladesh is likely to be delayed further, as the implementing authority has added three gas booster compressors to the scope of work. Harbin Electric International Co Ltd and Jiangsu Etern Co Ltd are the EPC contractors. China Eximbank will fund the project.

UKEF has recently more than tripled its capacity for Bangladesh to GBP 2.5 billion. The additional support will help UK exporters and Bangladeshi buyers access finance for projects in the country.

The TAPI project continues to make news. Turkmenistan announced that it intends to begin construction on a gas pipeline from the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan border to the Herat offtake point in Afghanistan. Pakistan hopes to have a groundbreaking for the project in 2021.

The World Bank has approved a USD 450 million loan consisting of commercial and concessional financing to support Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Hydropower and Renewable Energy Development project.



Philippines hopeful to achieve its development goals

MANILA-- The Philippines remains committed to the Sustainable Development Goals despite the downward pressure created by the coronavirus disease on the country's growth, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte said on Tuesday, Sept. 23.

Speaking during the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly, President Duterte said that with the Philippines' poverty

rate reduced at 16.6 percent; and a sustained economic growth rate of 6.4 percent between 2010 and 2019, the country was on track to becoming an upper-middle income country by the end of 2020.

But the pandemic has placed the Philippine economy in recession. Despite the drawback, the President said his country remains committed to achieve its goals.

Also during his speech, the President thanked countries that assisted Filipino migrants as the Philippines embarks on an unprecedented repatriation program.

"We thank the countries that have provided Filipino migrants with residence permits, access to testing, treatment and related health services in this pandemic, he said.

"We brought back most of our seafarers who were stranded because of COVID19 restrictions. We pioneered with the IMO the Green Lane for safe changes of seafaring crews."

In this time of crisis, nations need stronger cooperation in protecting the rights of migrants, regardless of their migrant status, he said adding everyone must adhere to the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

The pandemic has devastated Filipino migrant workers with many losing not only their livelihood, but also their health and lives as well.

More than 345,000 overseas Filipino workers need to come home under the government's repatriation program and the government has so far brought back half that number.

BLUE CAMPAIGN TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Blue Campaign is a national public awareness campaign, designed to educate the public, law enforcement and other industry partners to recognize the indicators of human trafficking, and how to appropriately respond to possible cases. Blue Campaign works closely with DHS Components to create general awareness training and materials for law enforcement and others to increase detection of human trafficking, and to identify victims.

Located within the Office of Partnership and Engagement, Blue Campaign leverages partnerships with the private sector, Non-Governmental Organizations



(NGO), law enforcement and state/local authorities to maximize national public engagement on anti-human trafficking efforts. Blue Campaign's educational awareness objectives consists of two foundational elements, prevention of human trafficking and protection of exploited persons.

U.S. DONATES HURRICANE SHELTER EQUIPMENT TO SAINT LUCIA

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados – The United States Embassy recently donated \$30,000 USD worth of hurricane shelter equipment to Saint Lucia's National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) to aid in preparation efforts for future hurricane seasons.

"This U.S. funded project will support the local purchase of 230 foam covered mattresses that will be pre-positioned at the various community satellite warehouses throughout Saint Lucia," said Dorine Gustave, director of Saint Lucia's NEMO. "The mattresses will be used primarily to equip emergency shelters within vulnerable communities."

The donation of the mattresses, made possible through U.S. Southern Command's Humanitarian Assistance Program, are intended to help equip NEMO to provide shelter to vulnerable populations throughout St. Lucia, in the event of a hurricane, while also ensuring sheltering procedures are in compliance with COVID-19 physical distancing protocols.

"Under the new Ministry of Health COVID-19 Shelter Management Protocols, to enforce social distancing, a number of new shelters have been identified that must be retrofitted with bedding resources to be fully functional," said Gustave.

The humanitarian donation is one of many U.S.-funded initiatives designed to increase the public security, well-being and prosperity of St. Lucians and other Eastern Caribbean partners.

News Briefs

Int'l tourist numbers down 65% in first half of 2020

International tourist arrivals plunged 93% in June when compared to 2019, with the latest data from the World Tourism Organization showing the severe impact COVID-19 has had on the sector. According to the new issue of the World Tourism Barometer from the United Nations specialized agency, international tourist arrivals dropped by 65% during the first half of the year. This represents an unprecedented decrease, as countries around the world closed their borders and introduced travel restrictions in response to the pandemic.

WTO members to discuss proposals to enhance special treatment for developing countries

On 23 September 2020, at a formal meeting of the Special Session of the Committee on Trade and Development (CTD), WTO members discussed proposals on enhancing the special and differential treatment for developing countries contained in WTO legal texts.

Members discussed the latest version of 10 agreement-specific proposals on special and differential treatment (S&D) tabled by the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States, the African Group and the WTO's group of least-developed countries (LDCs), which together comprise the G90. The proposals relate to S&D provisions contained in several WTO agreements and decisions on topics including transfer of technology, trade-related investment measures (TRIMS), technical barriers to trade, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, customs valuation, subsidies and countervailing measures and the accession of LDCs to the WTO.- EU

U.S. Exchange Alumni's COVID-19 Info Campaign Releases Materials in Filipino, Cebuano, and Hiligaynon

MANILA — As part of the ongoing AdaptPH campaign, alumni of the U.S. State Department Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) produced informational materials on COVID-19 in Filipino, Hiligaynon, and Cebuano languages. AdaptPH is a U.S. Embassy in the Philippines-funded nationwide information campaign that encourages Filipinos to observe public safety protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The free downloadable information kits are now available on its website (www.adapt.ph).

These contextualized materials can be used to help implement proper social distancing, sanitation, and good hygiene practices. AdaptPH offers learning toolkits and guides for school administrators, teachers, parents, and students on effective strategies for maximizing online learning.



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Wildfire smoke and COVID-19

Wildfire smoke can irritate your lungs, cause inflammation, affect your immune system, and make you more prone to lung infections, including SARS-CoV-2, the virus that cause COVID-19. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, preparing for wildfires might be a little different this year.

Take actions to protect yourself from wildfire smoke during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The best way to protect against the potentially harmful effects of wildfire smoke is to reduce your exposure to wildfire smoke, for example, by seeking cleaner air shelters and cleaner air spaces.
- Limit your outdoor exercise when it is smoky outside or choose lower-intensity activities to reduce your smoke exposure.

Keep in mind that while social distancing guidelines are in place, finding cleaner air might be harder if public facilities such as libraries, community centers, and shopping malls are closed or have limited their capacity.

Create a cleaner air space at home to protect yourself from wildfire

smoke during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Use a portable air cleaner in one or more rooms. Portable air cleaners work best when run continuously with doors and windows closed.
- If you use a do-it-yourself box fan filtration unit, never leave it unattended.
- During periods of extreme heat, pay attention to temperature forecastexternal iconand know how to stay safe in the heat.
- Whenever you can, use air conditioners, heat pumps, fans, and window shades to keep your cleaner air space comfortably cool on hot days.
- If you have a forced air system in your home, you may need to speak with a qualified heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) professional about different filters (HEPA or MERV-13 or higher) and settings ("Recirculate" and "On" rather than "Auto") you can use to reduce indoor smoke.
- Avoid activities that create more indoor and outdoor air pollution, such as frying foods, sweeping, vacuuming, and using gas-powered appliances. - CDC

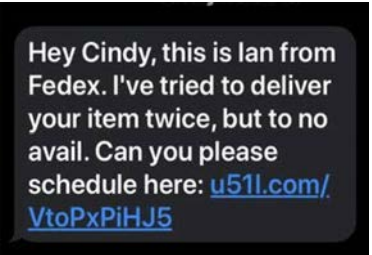
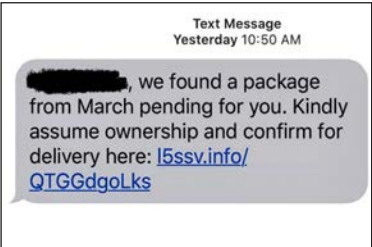
Heard about the “waiting package” phishing scam?

By **ARI LAZARUS**
Consumer Education Specialist, FTC

Phishing scams can be hard to spot. For example, we’ve been hearing about one where people get a text message saying that there’s a package waiting for them, and asking them to click a link to learn more. Sounds innocent enough, right? Unfortunately not. The messages are coming from scammers. In some cases, they’re targeted at college students. In that version, scammers text returning students to say there’s a package waiting for them — sometimes claiming it’s been waiting since last spring, when many students had to go home from campus quickly.

Whatever the message is, this rule stays the same: If you get an unexpected text message about a package, don’t click on any links. If you think the message could be legit, contact the company using a website or phone number you know is real. But don’t use the information in the text message.

Why do you want to avoid clicking the link? Once you click, they can trick you



into giving personal information — letting scammers steal your passwords, account numbers, or Social Security numbers. Clicking these links could also let scammers download malware onto your device.

FREE CREDIT REPORTS

The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) requires each of the nationwide credit reporting companies — Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion — to provide you with a free copy of your credit report, at your request, once every 12 months.

The FCRA promotes the accuracy and privacy of information in the files of the nation's credit reporting companies. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the nation's consumer protection agency, enforces the FCRA with respect to credit reporting companies.

Q: How do I order my free report?

To order, visit annualcreditreport.com, call 1-877-322-8228. Or complete the Annual Credit Report Request Form and mail it to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281. Do not contact the three nationwide credit reporting companies individually. They are providing free annual credit reports only through annualcreditreport.com, 1-877-322-8228 or mailing to Annual Credit Report Request Service.

You may order your reports from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies at the same time, or you can order your report from each of the companies one at a time.

UPDATE:

Starting in 2020, everyone in the U.S. can get 6 free credit reports per year through 2026 by visiting the Equifax website or by calling 1-866-349-5191. That's in addition to the one free Equifax report (plus your Experian and TransUnion reports) you can get at AnnualCreditReport.com.

Health update

New CDC data finds adult obesity is increasing due to Covid-19

New data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) show that adult obesity prevalence is increasing and racial and ethnic disparities persist. Notably, adults with obesity are at heightened risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19.

The 2019 Adult Obesity Prevalence Maps show that twelve states now have an adult obesity prevalence at or above 35%: Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia. This is up from nine states in 2018 and six states in 2017.

Highlights from this summary statement:

- Obesity worsens outcomes from COVID-19, increasing the risk of severe illness, hospitalization, and death.
- Obesity disproportionately impacts some racial and ethnic minority groups who are also at increased risk of COVID-19.
- These disparities underscore the need to remove barriers to healthy living and ensure that communities support a healthy, active lifestyle for all.
- While system and environment changes can take time, we can take small steps now to maintain or improve our health and protect ourselves during this pandemic.
- Being active and eating a healthy diet can support optimal immune function and help prevent or manage chronic diseases that worsen outcomes from COVID-19.
- These actions, as well as getting enough sleep and finding healthy ways to cope with stress can help with weight maintenance and improve overall health.

Common scams and safety

- **CHARITY AND DISASTER FRAUD**
Charity fraud schemes seek donations for organizations that do little or no work— instead, the money goes to the fake charity's creator.
While these scams can happen at any time, they are especially prevalent after high-profile disasters. Criminals often use tragedies to exploit you and others who want to help.
Charity fraud scams can come to you in many forms: emails, social media posts, crowdfunding platforms, cold calls, etc. Always use caution and do your research when you're looking to donate to charitable causes.
After a natural disaster or other emergency, unethical contractors and other scammers may commit insurance fraud, re-victimizing people whose homes or businesses have been damaged. Sometimes these fraudsters even pretend to be affiliated with the government, when they are not. If you need any post-disaster repairs, do your research before hiring any contractor.
- **Protect Yourself**
The following tips can help you avoid these schemes:
- Give to established charities or groups whose work you know and trust.
- Be aware of organizations with copycat names or names similar to reputable organizations.
- Be wary of new organizations that claim to aid victims of recent high-profile disasters.
- Do your research. Use the FTC's resources to examine the track record of a charity.
- Give using a check or credit card. If a charity or organization asks you to donate through cash, gift card, virtual currency, or wire transfer, it's probably a scam.
- Practice good cyber hygiene:
- Don't click links or open email attachments from someone you don't know.
- Manually type out links instead of clicking on them.
- Don't provide any personal information in response to an email, robocall, or robotext.
- Check the website's address—most legitimate charity organization websites use .org, not .com.
- After a natural disaster or other emergency, carefully vet any contractors before hiring them to work on your home or business.

Public Affairs with AWEE ABAYARI



- TOPICS :**
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For questions:
radiotvanchor1@gmail.com • www.youtube.com/AweeAbayari



INTERNATIONAL NEWS MEDIA

Appeal for help from worldsurgicalfoundation.org

The Surgical Outreach Project of WSF Philippines for 2020 has been suspended because of the COVID 19 Pandemic. The supplies of PPE in our warehouse in the Philippines has been distributed throughout during this Pandemic.

We need to replenish the supplies for surgical missions in 2021. We need funding for shipping supplies and equipments like 5 Laparoscopic Towers, Defibrillator and a Head light.50 Balikbayan boxes of supplies and medications will be sent. We hope to resume our monthly surgical missions to different areas of the Philippines.

Send your tax deductible donation to : WSF, P.O. Box 1006, Camp Hill, Pa. 17001 or to our website worldsurgicalfoundation.org/donate.



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A smile. A meal.
A handshake ...

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Spiritual Corner




Resorts World Las Vegas unveils ultra-luxury guestrooms and suites by Crockfords Las Vegas, LXR Hotels & Resorts



One of the first LXR Hotels & Resorts locations in the U.S. to bring legendary luxury and unsurpassed service to the newest US\$4.3 billion integrated resort in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS - Resorts World Las Vegas, the Strip's newest integrated resort, will offer Vegas travelers a world-class resort within a resort experience when the property opens its doors in summer 2021. The introduction of Crockfords Las Vegas, LXR Hotels & Resorts will present guests with approximately 230 lavish guestrooms and suites, upscale amenities and highly personalized service, providing a distinct experience that is poised to be the most coveted destination on the Strip.

Crockfords Las Vegas will mark one of the first LXR locations in the United States. LXR Hotels & Resorts, Hilton's newest luxury brand with an expanding global portfolio, is a collection of independent properties in the world's most alluring destinations that represent their unique design and deliver unrivaled travel experiences. LXR is one of three premier Hilton brands integrated into the Resorts World Las Vegas campus as part of a deal announced in February, marking Hilton's largest multi-brand deal in company history. The resort will also include Hilton Hotels & Resorts and Conrad.

Academy reveals winning Nicholl Screenwriters

Scripts to be presented at virtual table read in December

LOS ANGELES, CA – Five individuals have been selected as winners of the 2020 Academy Nicholl Fellowships in Screenwriting competition. The fellows will each receive a \$35,000 prize and be highlighted at the Academy Nicholl Fellowships in Screenwriting Awards and Virtual Table Read on Thursday, December 3, where an ensemble of actors will read selected scenes from the winning scripts.

The 2020 winners are (listed alphabetically by author):

- James Acker, "SadBoi"
- Beth Curry, "Lemon"
- Vanar Jaddou, "Goodbye, Iraq"
- Kate Marks, "The Cow of Queens"
- Jane Therese, "Sins of My Father"

A total of 7,831 scripts were submitted for this year's competition. Ten individual screenwriters were selected as finalists. Their scripts were then read and judged by the Academy Nicholl Fellowships Committee, who ultimately voted the winners.

The 2020 finalists are (listed alphabetically by author):

- Kris A. Holmes, "The Seeds of Truth"
- Fred Martenson, "Demons in America"
- Robin Rose Singer, "The Lions of Mesopotamia"
- David Harrison Turner, "Safe Haven"
- Andrew Wankier, "Three Heavens"

Fellowships are awarded with the understanding that the recipients will each complete a feature-length screenplay during their fellowship year. The Academy acquires no rights to the works of Nicholl fellows and does not involve itself commercially in any way with their completed scripts.

The Academy Nicholl Fellowships Committee is chaired by Academy Short Films and

Feature Animation Branch governor Jennifer Yuh Nelson. The members of the committee are John Bailey and Steven Poster (Cinematographers Branch); William Mechanic (Executives Branch); James Plannette and Stephen Ujlaki (Members-at-Large); Julie Lynn, Peter Samuelson and Robert W. Shapiro (Producers Branch); Bobbi Banks (Sound Branch); and Eric Heisserer, Larry Karaszewski, Dan Petrie Jr., Misan Sagay, Dana Stevens and Tyger Williams (Writers Branch).

The global competition, which aims to identify and encourage talented new screenwriters, has awarded 166 fellowships since it began in 1986.

Los Angeles Convention Center earns LEED Gold Recertification

LOS ANGELES, CA -- The Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC), owned by the City of Los Angeles and managed by ASM Global, is pleased to announce that the facility has been awarded LEED certification at the Gold level for Existing Buildings Operations & Maintenance (LEED-EB: O&M) for the third time. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), is the most widely used green building rating system in the world and an international symbol of excellence.

Through design, construction and operations practices that improve environmental and human health, LEED-certified buildings are helping to make the world more sustainable.

DOT's PHIDEX 2020 goes digital

It's official—the Philippine International Dive Expo (PHIDEX) is back for its 2nd edition through a digital platform from October 9 to 11, 2020.

Department of Tourism (DOT) Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat shared that the PHIDEX aims to bring more dive enthusiasts, industry professionals, and renowned experts in a single online platform.

"This year, all components of the online version of PHIDEX are free, as a way of support to the diving community during this period," Secretary Puyat said.

The Virtual Marketplace and Dive TRAVEX will be free of charge for all DOT and Philippine Commission on Sports Scuba Diving (PCSSD) accredited establishments, while the Dive Conference and Panel Discussions will be live-streamed through social media networking sites.

The Marketplace is a virtual exhibition floor that can accommodate over 100 exhibitors offering the latest deals, dive holiday packages, and promos from different dive resorts, dive operators, dive shops, dive centers, dive equipment and underwater photography gear dealers, and dive training agencies.

Dive Travel Exchange (TRAVEX) is a Business-to-Business (B2B) networking program via online video conferencing to be attended by at least 100 dive agents, dive operators, and dive club leaders from established key and opportunity markets such as the United States, Canada, Germany, France, Spain, Italy, Australia, New Zealand, UAE, South Korea, Japan, China, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, and Indonesia through algorithm-based matchmaking for business leads generation.

Dive Conference and Panel Discussions are webinars and online forums



featuring international and local experts on sustainable dive tourism, underwater photography and videography, marine conservation, and dive tourism recovery.

"As part of the DOT's initiative to move tourism events to a safer digital space, the virtual PHIDEX will also eliminate geographical barriers, reduce travel expenses, and continue to establish the Philippines as the region's dive travel business hub," Puyat added.

The Philippines was recently named as the Best Overseas Diving Area (Overseas Category) at the Marine Diving Awards 2020 in Tokyo, Japan following the World's Leading Dive Destination citation in 2019 by the World Travel Awards.

MGM RESORTS INT'L ANNOUNCES HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN FOR MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS

LAS VEGAS-- MGM Resorts International on Sept. 29 announced a comprehensive plan designed to facilitate the safe return of meetings and conventions at the company's properties in Las Vegas and throughout the United States, subject to local regulations and restrictions.

MGM Resorts' "Convene with Confidence" plan is the result of months of work with experts and builds on the company's Seven-Point Safety Plan to provide a comprehensive approach to health and safety. This includes the option for a multi-layered health screening process using CLEAR's Health Pass and utilizing on-site rapid, molecular COVID-19 testing that can deliver results within approximately 20 minutes.

"The health and safety of all who pass through our doors is our highest priority. Convene with Confidence represents the culmination of everything we've learned, cutting-edge technology and months of consultation with experts," said MGM Resorts CEO and President Bill Hornbuckle. "With this program, we are taking another step forward in safely providing a level of entertainment, amenities and service."

"We are excited to provide our healthcare services to this groundbreaking initiative," said Impact Health CEO J. Michael McNamara.

IOC and Tokyo 2020 agree on measures to deliver games fit for a post-corona world



The IOC Coordination Commission and the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee on September 25 agreed on a series of measures to make the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 fit for a post-corona world.

Developed in response to the postponement of this year's Games due to the coronavirus pandemic, over 50 measures have been designed to maximise cost savings and increase efficiencies in Games delivery.


In his opening remarks to the meeting participants, IOC President Thomas Bach acknowledged the outstanding progress being made by Tokyo 2020, reinforcing his belief that next year's Olympic Games will be the best prepared ever. He also emphasised that the coming months will require flexibility and creativity from everyone involved as the Tokyo organisers deliver Games fit for a post-corona world. In doing so, the IOC President offered his gratitude

to all stakeholders, who are fully aligned with the measures being envisaged.

Examples of the initial measures include the reduction of stakeholder personnel attending the Games, streamlining transport services, adjusting spectator activities at competition venues and hosting a number of pre-Games meetings online.

The measures were developed with support from the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), Tokyo 2020, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) and the Government of Japan. Important input was also obtained from key Olympic stakeholder groups, including National Olympic and Paralympic Committees, International Federations, Rights-Holding Broadcasters, media and TOP Partners.

With these measures now agreed, Tokyo 2020 will start estimating the provisional cost-savings that can be achieved. -IOC



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NATIONAL AWARENESS DAY



If you **see** something, **say** something®

NATIONAL AWARENESS DAY | SEPT 25

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has designated September 25 as national **“If You See Something, Say Something®”** Awareness Day.

The **“If You See Something, Say Something®”** campaign works with partners year-round to inspire, empower and educate the public on suspicious activity reporting. By designating a day to the campaign, the Department hopes to highlight the importance of suspicious activity reporting.

Informed, alert communities play a critical role in keeping our nation safe. We can all help keep our communities safe by learning the indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime, paying attention to our surroundings, and reporting suspicious activity to local law enforcement.

The campaign is calling on citizens and its public and private sector partners around the country to lead conversations and activities, leading up to, and on September 25.

Join us in spreading the word!