

[How neglect of health and hygiene issues deepens gender inequality in Middle East displacement camps](#)

LONDON: Every month, women and girls living in camps for displaced people face a common challenge – one that, despite being a natural occurrence, disrupts their daily lives in everything from queuing for meals to participating in social life.

Long a relatively neglected health issue, aid agencies say that poor access to menstrual hygiene management products impacts the lives of millions in the world's crisis-hit regions, deepening gender inequality.

[Lebanese party seeks Damascus's approval after rejecting Hezbollah presidential candidate](#)

BEIRUT: Lebanon's former president Michel Aoun has traveled to Syria to shore up relations with Damascus after his party rejected Hezbollah's preferred presidential candidate.

The Free Patriotic Movement said Aoun, its leader, "traveled on Tuesday to Damascus on a visit during which he will meet with Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad."

It came days after the FPM announced it backed opposition candidate Jihad Azour for the Lebanese presidency and rejected Hezbollah's preference Suleiman Frangieh, who is a close friend of Assad.

[Yemeni government boycotts talks with Houthis over denial of access to detained politician](#)

AL-MUKALLA: Yemeni government negotiators said they will boycott any further UN-mediated negotiations with the Houthis over prisoner exchanges until the militia reveals the whereabouts of detained politician Mohammed Qahtan and

allows his family and government officials to visit him.

In a message posted on Twitter, Hadi Haig, head of the government delegation involved in the talks, said: "Our position is clear: We will not participate until this visit takes place. We hope that the (UN) envoy's office will exert pressure in this regard to advance this file."

US slaps sanctions on Iranian, Chinese targets in action over Tehran's missile, military programs

WASHINGTON: The United States on Tuesday imposed sanctions on over a dozen people and entities in Iran, China and Hong Kong, accusing the procurement network of supporting Iran's missile and military programs as Washington ramps up pressure on Tehran.

The US Treasury Department in a statement said the network conducted transactions and facilitated the procurement of sensitive and critical parts and technology for key actors in Iran's ballistic missile development, including Iran's Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics, which is under US sanctions.

Tunisian president praises Italian PM for forthright nature

ROME: Tunisian President Kais Saied praised Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni for speaking her mind as he welcomed her to the presidential palace in Tunis on Tuesday for talks during her official visit to the North African country.

"I'm very happy to speak to you about our problems; I say it out loud, today, you are a woman who says out loud what others think in silence," Saied told Meloni at the beginning of a meeting that lasted nearly two hours.