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Turkey to reveal 'new economic model'

Treasury and Finance Minister Berat Albayrak to announce new set of economic steps

By Gokhan Ergocun and Tuba Sahin

ANKARA - Turkish Treasury and Finance Minister Berat Albayrak is set to announce on Friday a "framework for a new economic model", the ministry announced on Thursday.

The new set of economic steps are aimed at securing an economic growth of 3-4 percent in 2019 and decreasing the inflation rate to single-digits, the ministry said in a press release. "It is expected that current account deficit would be

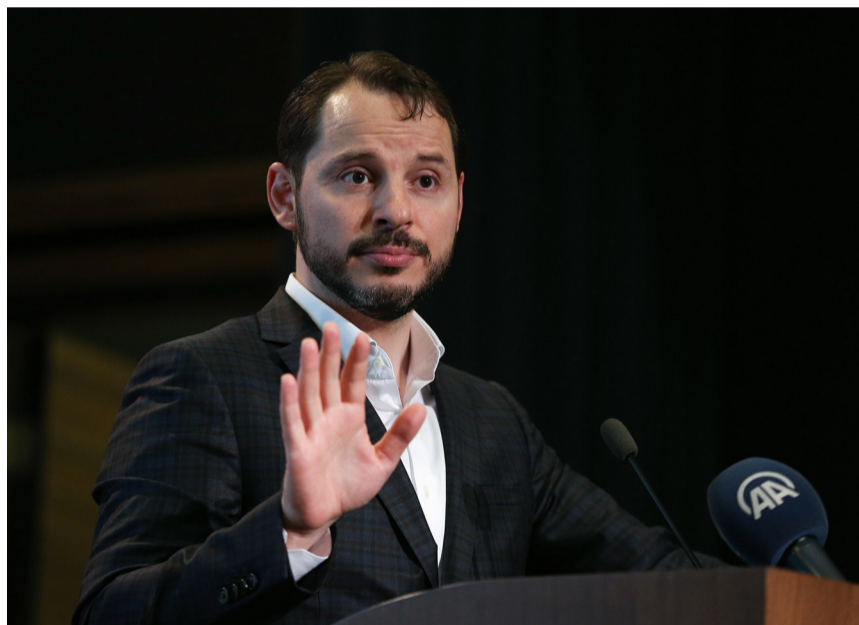
balanced around 4 percent," the ministry said.

The ministry added that it will continue to take steps to cut the budget deficit to around 1.5 percent of the country's GDP.

"The Treasury's debt rollover ratio to be reduced below 100 pct," the ministry said.

The statement also mentioned the ministry targeted a non-interest surplus of 5 billion Turkish liras (\$927.3 billion) by end of 2018 through savings and income-generating measures.

The Turkish banking... **MORE DETAILS**



Anadolu Agency Photo

Flash floods in Turkey damage houses, shops

ORDU - Flash floods caused by heavy rains that hit Turkey's northern Ordu province damaged 66 houses and 264 shops, the country's vice president said on Thursday.

Speaking to reporters in Ordu, Fuat Oktay said the rains also damaged 60

vehicles.

"At the moment, we don't have any casualties or citizens who are in need or whose needs have not been met," Oktay said. He added that Turkey needs to rebuild the houses and shops.

"The climate... **MORE DETAILS**



Anadolu Agency Photo

US marine in Syria 'shot' by YPG/PKK

By Kasim Ileri

WASHINGTON - An American news site reported Wednesday that a United States Marine Corps sergeant in Syria was wounded by a member of the YPG/PKK-led SDF in February and the Pentagon covered it up. The attack was carried out at a military base in Syria's Deir ez-Zor province, the Task &

Purpose news site reported, citing sources familiar with the incident.

Despite objections from the YPG/PKK, Sergeant Cameron Halkovich reportedly attempted to help wounded Arab civilians in a truck that had arrived outside the base, the report said. The wounded, mostly women and children, were eventually ushered in and... **MORE DETAILS**

Israeli airstrikes kill 3 Palestinians in Gaza Strip



Anadolu Agency Photo

By Mustafa Deveci

JERUSALEM - At least three Palestinians have been martyred in Israeli airstrikes on the Gaza Strip,

Gaza's Health Ministry said Thursday. They include a pregnant woman and her 18-month-old child, according to ministry spokesman Ashraf al-Qidra. Twelve others have been injured in the

strikes, including the woman's husband. The Palestinian government called on the international community to intervene urgently to stop the Israeli escalation in the blockaded Gaza Strip. **MORE DETAILS**

President Kiir grants amnesty to rebels

By Parach Mach

JUBA - South Sudan's President Salva Kiir has offered amnesty all rebels and armed opposition leader Riek Machar. The amnesty announcement was read out on state-run television late on Wednesday. It follows an agreement

signed by South Sudan's warring parties that grants the opposition power in a transitional government to end the young nation's five-year bloody civil war that claimed tens of thousands of lives.

The agreement states that Kiir stays president and Machar will return to the country as the... **MORE DETAILS**

43M passengers chose Turkish Airlines in Jan-July



ANKARA - Turkish Airlines carried 43.2 million passengers from January to July this year, the airline announced Thursday. According to a statement, the total number of passengers carried by the Turkey's national flag carrier saw a 15.2-percent hike on a yearly basis, up from 37.5 million passengers in the same period in 2017. "Increase in the number of passengers carried in domestic and

international lines are 17.0 percent and 13.8 percent, respectively," Turkish Airlines said. In the seven-month period, the airline's passenger load factor -- seat occupancy -- increased by 3.8 percentage points to 81.2 percent. "Number of landings (passenger aircraft) of 262,964 for the period of January-July 2017 increased by 8.9 percent to 286,360 in 2018," the company said. **MORE DETAILS**