

# SHANGHAI NOW

Friday, June 10, 2022



Passengers cross the Huangpu River on a ferry in Shanghai following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in the city after a two-month lockdown. — AFP

## Center set up to promote Belt and Road development

Huang Yixuan

SHANGHAI has established an integrated service center for the development of the Belt and Road Initiative.

The center was launched on Wednesday under the Shanghai Council for the Promotion of International Trade, and will serve as a functional platform to support the high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative, in line with the strategy of Chinese President Xi Jinping.

The center will strengthen the coordination of resources from enterprises, universities, professional service institutions and other market players. Under the framework of this integrated service platform, the combined power of existing resources for enterprise-related services will be brought into play.

The center will offer services including promoting the two-way connection between investment and trade, sharing market information, helping enterprises reach financial and professional services, and supporting companies to expand their business in overseas markets.

It is to serve as a communication platform for businesses at home and abroad, expecting to help them achieve win-win cooperation in trade and investment, and to push ahead the Belt and Road development.

## City film festival put off to next year

Xu Wei

THIS year's Shanghai International Film Festival has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic resurgence.

The SIFF's organizing committee announced this week that the 25th edition of the festival, originally scheduled to be held this month, will be rescheduled to next year.

The organizers expressed

their heartfelt thanks and sincere apologies to people from all walks of life who support the festival. If possible, they said, they will hold film exhibitions and themed events in the second half of this year to share the joy brought by cinematic art and film activities.

Last year's film festival screened 405 films from 62

countries and regions over 10 days, while guaranteeing strict COVID-19 prevention and control measures and a 75 percent cap on cinema hall occupancy.

A total of 459 online and offline exhibitors from 45 countries and regions took part, with overseas exhibitors accounting for nearly 60 percent.

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