

WORLD AGENDA

MARCH 2007

2 Mar 24-25, Berlin: European Union heads of state will mark the 50th anniversary of the founding *Treaty of Rome* with the signing of the so-called *Berlin Declaration* aimed at reviving the floundering EU Constitution

1 Mar 20, Baghdad: The fourth anniversary of the invasion of Iraq will be marked with a multi-nation security summit in the capital. Officials from regional states including Iran, Syria, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Turkey will join U.S. and British envoys to seek ways to stabilize Iraq



5 Mar 25, London: A "statement of regret" may be issued by the UK government on the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade. Britain was a principal player in the transatlantic trade and one of the first to outlaw it

6 Mar 7, Tokyo: Japanese doomsday cult leader **Shoko Asahara** is slated for execution by hanging for masterminding the 1995 sarin nerve gas attack on Tokyo's subway system

7 Late March, Chennai: In a mark of India's growing affluence, the world's biggest luxury car maker, **BMW**, opens an assembly plant in the southern city, expecting to produce 1,000 vehicles in its first year



3 Mar 7, Belfast: Pro-Irish Catholics and pro-British Protestants vote to re-establish a power-sharing assembly in Northern Ireland with self-rule expected to be restored on March 26

4 Mar 19, Sydney: Australians will celebrate the 75th birthday of Sydney's **Harbour Bridge**. Known as the **Coathanger**, it carries eight traffic lanes and two rail lines, one in each direction



8 Mar 13: Islamabad: Two days of talks aimed at resolving the dispute between India and Pakistan over Kashmir open in Pakistan. India and Pakistan have fought two wars over Kashmir since 1947

9 Mar 13, Jamaica: Australia will be defending its 2003 win over India when the 16-nation **ICC World Cricket Cup** opens in the West Indies

