

WORLD AGENDA

MAY 2007

1 May 6, France: Run-off elections between Socialist Segolene Royal and Conservative rival Nicolas Sarkozy will decide the country's new president. The election marks a generational shift for France, with the winner becoming the first French president born after World War II

2 May 3, Egypt: A multinational conference on Iraq which aims to build regional coordination to stem the violence will bring together delegates from Turkey, Syria, the U.S., Britain, France, Russia and China

3 May 2-3, UK: Embattled Prime Minister **Tony Blair** marks 10 years in office but is expected to stand down within weeks. Poor election results for Labour in Wales and Scotland – where Nationalists are expected to do well – could hasten his departure

4 May 13, Brazil: **Pope Benedict** visits amid calls by the health minister for a debate on abortion. **Jose Gomes Temporao** has highlighted the dangers to women terminating pregnancies in illegal clinics

5 May 16-27, France: The prestigious **Cannes Film Festival** marks its 60th anniversary, with 22 films competing for the coveted **Palme d'Or**

6 May 16, Turkey: Foreign Minister **Abdullah Gul** of the ruling AK party is almost certain to be chosen by parliament as the country's next President

7 May 14, United States: America celebrates the 400 anniversary of the first permanent English settlement at Jamestown, Virginia. **President Bush** and **Queen Elizabeth II** are among dignitaries attending the celebrations

8 May 30-31, Las Vegas: Handwritten lyrics by **Michael Jackson** and the gold record for his

Thriller album are among 2,000 Jackson family items up for auction in a bankruptcy sale. The pop star is considering legal action to stop the sale

