

WORLD AGENDA

DECEMBER 2007

1 Dec 3, Bali: World governments launch discussions on finding a successor to the *Kyoto Protocol* on climate change which expires in 2012. The new deal on cutting carbon emissions will seek to include outsiders, such as the United States and Australia



5 Dec 10, Kosovo: UN deadline to reach a negotiated settlement on the future status of the breakaway Serbian province. New leader **Hashim Thaci** (above) vows to declare independence after this date

6 Mid-Dec, Iraq: British forces hand over security of the oil-rich province of Basra, making it the ninth of 18 provinces to revert to Iraqi control

2 Dec 2, Moscow: A resounding victory for **Vladimir Putin's United Russia Party** is expected in parliamentary elections. The President has said a convincing win will give him the "moral authority" to influence government after he is obliged to step down next spring

3 Dec 21, European Union: The border-free **Schengen zone** is extended to nine more states. Passport checks are scrapped in Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Malta

4 Dec 16, South Africa: The ruling ANC elects its party leader with President **Thabo Mbeki** and Deputy President **Jacob Zuma** (left) as frontrunners. Zuma currently faces corruption charges, allegations his supporters say are a conspiracy to prevent him winning the leadership

7 Dec 3, London: The world's oldest surviving **Rolls Royce** is due to be auctioned. The 10 horsepower two-seater, built in 1904, was the fourth Rolls Royce ever made

8 Dec 22, London: At 81 years and 241 days, **Queen Elizabeth** overtakes **Queen Victoria** as Britain's oldest ever reigning monarch

9 Dec 6, Cape Canaveral: Europe's **Columbus** laboratory launches to the International Space Station in the final NASA mission of 2007

