

WORLD AGENDA

AUGUST 2008



1 Aug 8-24, Beijing: One of the most controversial *Olympic Games* in modern times takes place with an opening ceremony attended by U.S. President *George Bush* and French President *Nicolas Sarkozy* but not UN Secretary General *Ban Ki-Moon*, German Chancellor *Angela Merkel* or British Prime Minister *Gordon Brown*

2 Aug 25-28, Denver: *Barack Obama* moves one step closer to the White House when he accepts the Democratic presidential nomination at the party's national convention

3 Aug 1, Vienna: The *IAEA* considers India's plan for inspections of its civilian nuclear facilities, approval of which may lead to a deal under which India obtains access to U.S. nuclear fuel and technology

4 Aug, Geneva: The temperature of CERN's *Large Hadron Collider* – its new flagship research facility which will employ some 9,000 international scientists – will be reduced to just 1.9 Kelvin (-271°C), equal to that of deep space, ahead of its inauguration in October

7 Aug, Tehran: The U.S. is expected to announce plans to set up a diplomatic presence in the Iranian capital for the first time in 30 years

8 Aug 23, Cardiff: A week after turning 50, *Madonna*, the world's most successful female recording artist of all time, kicks off her three-month *Sticky and Sweet* tour of Europe and the Americas

5 Aug 5, Seoul: George Bush visits South Korea, site of violent protests over the reintroduction of U.S. beef. The country was the third-largest overseas market for American beef until it banned imports in 2003 because of mad cow disease

6 Aug 10, Bolivia: Left-wing president *Evo Morales* faces a recall vote following a power struggle with regional governors who want more autonomy and oppose Morales's land redistribution plan

