

WORLD AGENDA

APRIL 2009

1 Strasbourg, Apr 3-4: France marks its return to NATO's military command by co-hosting with Germany the organisation's 60th anniversary summit. President **Nicolas Sarkozy** won parliamentary backing for full participation four decades after the country's self-imposed exile

2 Johannesburg, Apr 22: The ANC's corruption-dogged leader, **Jacob Zuma**, is likely to become president if, as expected, the ruling party is re-elected in what will nevertheless be South Africa's most closely fought election since the end of apartheid in 1994

3 London, Apr 2: Anarchists threaten chaos at the **G20** summit where U.S. president **Barack Obama** makes his debut on the world stage. Meanwhile, leaders tackling the global economic crisis will be urged to honour aid, trade and climate change pledges

4 Trinidad and Tobago, Apr 17-19: President Obama faces intense challenges at the **Summit of the Americas**. Pressure to drop a trade embargo against Cuba and an encounter with Venezuela's anti-U.S. leader **Hugo Chavez** are likely

5 Pyongyang, Apr 4-8: Pacific Rim stability may be jeopardized if North Korea goes ahead with plans to launch a long-range rocket it says is for communications purposes. The U.S. claims it is to test a weapon that can reach its territory

6 New Delhi, Apr 16: The world's largest democracy kicks off a month-long general election in which 714 million people will be able to cast their vote

7 Russia, Apr 26: **Andrei Lugovoi**, prime suspect in the murder of former KGB spy **Alexander Litvinenko** in London in 2006, is set to run for mayor in the southern city of Sochi

8 Beijing, Apr 15: China pays for a group wedding for 20 couples who lost their spouses in the Sichuan earthquake last May. Each couple can invite eight guests to the ceremony and will be given a free trip to Hainan island

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