

WORLD AGENDA

AUGUST 2009

was ousted in 2001. The poll is seen as a crucial test of the new democracy for both Washington and Kabul

1 August 20, Kabul: Presidential elections take place in Afghanistan amid the country's worst violence since the Taliban

2 Aug 30,

Tokyo: Japan's embattled Prime Minister **Taro Aso** faces an historic defeat in general elections which look set to end half a century of nearly unbroken rule for the **Liberal Democrat Party**

4

Aug 7, Colombo: The resettlement of 3,000 people living in the welfare villages of the **Vanni** region begins in northern Sri Lanka. The area holds 250,000 displaced persons

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Aug 9-10, Guadalajara: U.S. President Obama meets his Mexican and Canadian counterparts at the **North American Leaders' Summit** where issues to be discussed range from economic recovery to combatting the swine flu pandemic

5

Aug 4, Niamey: A referendum to allow President **Mamadou Tandja** to extend his mandate threatens to fuel growing instability in the West African state of Niger

7

Aug 15-23, Berlin: Double Olympic sprint champion **Usain Bolt** aims to lower his 100m world record at the **World Championships** in Germany. The Jamaican ran 9.69s at the Beijing Olympics last year

6

Aug 11, Los Angeles: **Alana Stewart** (above), ex-wife of rocker **Rod Stewart** and close friend of **Farrah Fawcett**, who died in June, publishes her diary about the **Charlie's Angels** star's struggle with cancer

8

Aug 27, London: An exhibition in **Winston Churchill's** underground HQ will show how vulnerable it was. The British wartime leader continued to work from the bunker despite knowing it was not bomb-proof