

# WORLD AGENDA

JUNE 2010

**1 Jun 11, Johannesburg:** The world's biggest sporting event, the month-long Soccer World Cup, kicks off with half a million fans in South Africa – and many more millions around the world – watching 32 teams playing 63 matches in nine cities. Tournament favourites are Spain and Brazil

**2 Jun, Kandahar:** More than 23,000 NATO and Afghan troops launch their biggest military offensive of the war in an effort to drive the Taliban from their stronghold.

After growing insurgency, violence in Afghanistan is at its highest level in four years



**G20 TORONTO**  
CANADA 2010

**3 Jun 26, Toronto:** Proposals to introduce a global bank tax, to pay for future bailouts, will dominate a G20 summit. The U.S. and Britain are leading calls in favour while hosts Canada, along with Japan and Australia, are against

**4 Jun 15-19, Jakarta:** American president **Barack Obama** visits Indonesia as a film about his childhood there opens on June 17. "Obama, A Menteng Kid" tells the story of the four years (1967-71) he spent living in the capital

**5 Jun 9, Netherlands:** A general election takes place following the government's collapse in February over disagreements on the deployment of Dutch troops in Afghanistan. With the economy dominating the campaign, analysts believe the vote is likely to see a lurch to the right

**6 Jun 12-20, Havana:** The Vatican's foreign minister visits Cuba amid growing concerns over the island's human rights record. Archbishop **Dominique Mamberti** is expected to press authorities to release political prisoners, branded as subversives in the pay of the U.S.

**7 Jun 25, United Kingdom:** **Glastonbury**, the largest greenfield festival in the world, held in south west England, celebrates its 40th anniversary. The 137,500 tickets for the event – as famous for rain and mud as for music – sold out within 24 hours of release

**8 Jun 21-25, Agadir:** The **International Whaling Commission** meets in Morocco to consider a controversial "peace plan" to legitimize but reduce whaling. The proposal, under which Japan, Iceland and Norway would cut their whale kills over the next decade, has been strongly criticized by environmentalists

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