

# WORLD AGENDA

DECEMBER 2010

**1** Dec 10, Cancun: The latest efforts to agree new global greenhouse gas targets come to a close in Mexico. Environment ministers from almost 200 countries gather will attempt to toughen the world's response to climate change

**2** Late December, Washington: **Barack Obama's** review of his Afghan war strategy will be closely watched by allies keen for an exit strategy from the intensifying 9-year conflict. U.S. officials have warned there will be no major changes

**3** Dec 7, Dublin: The government of Prime Minister **Brian Cowen** announces its 2011 budget, including an EU/IMF bailout, amid uproar across Ireland that the package represents a loss of sovereignty

**4** December, Caracas: Venezuela opens a state-run stock and bond exchange, a move designed to finance public companies and woo middle class voters. President **Hugo Chavez** says the new "socialist exchange" will be a blow to "vampire" capitalism

**5** Dec 14, Rome: The future of Italian prime minister **Silvio Berlusconi** hangs in the balance on the day he faces two confidence votes and a court ruling. The 74-year-old leader's credibility has plummeted following a series of sexual and financial scandals

**6** Dec 6, Pontoise: A French court gives its verdict over the **Concorde** crash that killed 113 people in Paris in 2000. The ruling could mean a hefty fine for U.S. carrier **Continental Airlines** and a suspended sentence for **Henri Perrier**, former head engineer of the French Concorde programme



**7** Dec 5, Iran: Tehran says it will attend talks with six world powers on its nuclear programme for the first time in over a year

**8** Dec 2, Zurich: **FIFA** announces the soccer World Cup host nations for 2018 and 2022. Belgium with the Netherlands, England, Russia, and Spain with Portugal are in the running for 2018, while Australia, Japan, South Korea, Qatar and the U.S. hope to host 2022



Pictures: Getty Images, Associated Press