

# Winds of change sweep across the Arab world

## 1. EGYPT

After nine days of protests, President **Hosni Mubarak** announces he will not stand for re-election in September. **Move sparks clashes between supporters of Mubarak and demonstrators calling on him to step down immediately**

Population:	80.5m	Median age:	24
Jobless:	9.7%	Below poverty line:	20%

## 2. JORDAN

After thousands protest in major cities, **King Abdullah II** fires government and orders new prime minister to carry out political reforms. **Islamist opposition – which says it is not seeking to oust king – dismisses move as insufficient**

Population:	6.4m	Median age:	21.8
Jobless:	13.4%	Below poverty line:	14.2%

## 3. YEMEN

President **Ali Abdullah Saleh**, in power for three decades, says he will stand down when current term expires in 2013 and pledges not to pass on power to his son. **Saleh appeals to opposition to call off protest planned for February 3**

Population:	23.5m
Jobless:	35%
Median age:	17.9
BPL:	45.2%



## 4. SYRIA

President **Bashar al-Assad** – who inherited power from his father in 2000 – claims country is undergoing process of political reform. **But opposition groups have called for “day of rage” on February 4**

Population:	22.2m	Median age:	21.5
Jobless:	8.3%	Below poverty line:	11.9%

## 5. WEST BANK AND GAZA

Palestinian President **Mahmoud Abbas** promises to hold local elections, delayed since last June, “as soon as possible”. **Surprise move seen as reflecting fears that Egyptian protests could inspire similar unrest among Palestinians**

Population:	2.5m	Median age:	20.9
Jobless:	35%	Below poverty line:	45.2



*Region rocked by wave of protests following uprising in Tunisia that ousted President Ben Ali*

	ALGERIA	TUNISIA	LIBYA	LEBANON	MOROCCO	SAUDI ARABIA
Pop:	34.6m	10.6m	6.4m	4.1m	31.6m	25.7m
Jobless:	9.9%	14%	30%	N/A	9.8%	10.8%
Med. age:	27.1	29.7	24.2	29.4	26.5	24.9
BPL:	23%	3.8%	33%	28%	14%	N/A