

WORLD AGENDA

AUGUST 2014



U.S. AFRICA

2 Aug 5-6, Washington DC: An unprecedented meeting between U.S. President **Barack Obama** and 50 African heads of state takes place amid a diplomacy debate. Leaders from Zimbabwe, Sudan and Eritrea have not been invited

4 August, Beijing: Democracy in Hong Kong comes under the spotlight when China rules on the need to reform the territory's voting system to elect a leader in 2017. Chief Executive **Leung Chun-ying** says the community wants universal suffrage



6 August, Indian Ocean: A new phase begins in the undersea search for Malaysia Airlines **Flight MH370**, which disappeared on March 8 with 239 passengers and crew. The next stage in the most expensive search in aviation history takes place 2,000km west of Perth

7 Aug 15, Panama: Centenary celebrations for the **Panama Canal** bring regional leaders and thousands of official guests to what has been called the greatest engineering feat ever attempted. The canal is undergoing major expansion works but faces competition from a planned new canal through Nicaragua

1 Aug 10, Ankara: Prime Minister **Recep Tayyip Erdogan**, who has dominated Turkish politics for more than a decade, is expected to win the first direct presidential elections. Erdogan says he wants to see the powers of the presidency boosted, but critics fear he may use the role to tighten his grip on political power



3 Aug 7, Shanghai: The trial of British investigator **Peter Humphrey** and his American wife **Yu Yingzeng** begins. The couple are accused of buying and selling private information following work for drugmaker **GlaxoSmithKline**

5 Aug 14-18, Seoul: **Pope Francis** visits South Korea on his first trip to Asia as pontiff, where he will bring a message of peace to the war-divided peninsula. It is the first visit by a Pope to Korea in 25 years



Aug 6, Space: After a decade-long journey, ESA's **Rosetta** spacecraft is to enter the orbit of the comet **67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko** and begin manoeuvres in preparation for the first ever landing by a spacecraft on a comet. Sensational new images show that 67P is not one but two objects joined together in what scientists call a "contact binary"

