**UNICEF OPSCEN Brief -** **Monday, 29 July 2013**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| GENERAL | **Across Regions** | 31 drown after boat capsizes off Libya |
|  | **DRC/Rwanda** | DR Congo issues warrants for Rwanda-based rebels |
| EAPR | **Cambodia** | Opposition party rejects poll result, wants inquiry |
|  | **Indonesia** | 4 arrested in Indonesia boat sinking, 20 dead |
|  | **Philippines** | Blast in southern Philippine city kills 6, wounds 28 |
| ESAR | **Rwanda** | 2 people dead in grenade blast in Kigali |
|  | **Somalia** | UN envoy 'strongly condemns' suicide attack targeting Turkish staff |
|  | **South Sudan** | UN struggles to reach displaced |
|  |  | Riek Machar eyes Salva Kiir's job |
| MENA | **Across MENA** | Mideast talks to resume in Washington amid deep scepticism |
|  |  | Israel agrees to free 104 Palestinian prisoners |
|  | **Egypt** | At least 72 killed at pro-Morsi Cairo rallies |
|  |  | Mursi likely to go to same prison as Mubarak |
|  |  | Police arrest 2 more Islamist leaders as EU’s Ashton attempts to mediate |
|  |  | Pro-Morsi protesters call for mass demo Tuesday |
|  | **Iraq** | Bombs, clashes kill at least 54 in Iraq |
|  |  | Iraqi security forces re-capture 349 escaped prisoners |
|  | **Libya** | More than 1000 inmates escape from jail |
|  |  | Protesters ransack party offices after killings |
|  |  | Large explosion targets courthouses in east |
|  |  | PM says to reshuffle cabinet to face "urgent situation" after protests |
|  | **Saudi Arabia** | 1 more death from new virus |
|  | **Sudan** | 94 dead in tribal fight in Sudan's Darfur |
|  |  | Vaccination campaign in SPLM-N areas in October - UNICEF Mention |
|  | **Tunisia** | Bomb 'wounds policeman' in Tunis port |
|  |  | Tensions rise as rival protesters clash |
|  |  | Army seals off Tunis square after rival protesters clash |
|  | **Yemen** | 8 killed in US drone strike in southern Yemen |
| ROSA | **Across ROSA** | Sri Lankans protest India's alleged intervention |
|  | **Afghanistan** | Governor survives roadside bomb attack |
|  |  | Taliban bomb kills 9 in south |
|  |  | Bombing targeting Afghan local police kills 7 |
|  | **Pakistan** | Parent refusals cripple polio programme - UNICEF Mention |
|  |  | Twin blasts hit market in Parachinar |
| TACR | **Chile** | Santiago cathedral closed after Chile abortion protest |
|  | **Colombia** | FARC 'accountable' for violence as talks resume |
|  | **Cuba** | Raul Castro points to 'gradual power transfer' |
|  | **Mexico** | Navy vice admiral killed in ambush |
| WCAR | **Burkina Faso** | Thousands protest new Burkina Faso Senate |
|  | **CAR** | Burundi to send 500 peacekeepers to Central Africa |
|  | **DR Congo** | Rebels detain 100 people for opposition |
|  | **Mali** | Malians flock to vote in bid to rebuild broke nation |
|  | **Nigeria** | Vigilante-extremist clash kills 25 |

GENERAL

**Across Regions**

**31 drown after boat capsizes off Libya**

More than half the people aboard a rubber boat carrying 53 African migrants died when it capsized off Libya, Italy's Ansa news agency says. Thirty-one people drowned in the accident that occurred late Friday, and the rest were rescued by a freighter and brought on Sunday to the southern Italian island of Lampedusa, Ansa reported, citing the survivors. Most of the migrants came from Nigeria, Gambia, Benin and Senegal, and the survivors were suffering from shock and hypothermia. Italian authorities say more than 470 migrants have reached Italy in a 24-hour period.

**AAP -** [**http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/breaking-news/drown-after-boat-capsizes-off-libya/story-fn3dxix6-1226687222090**](http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/breaking-news/drown-after-boat-capsizes-off-libya/story-fn3dxix6-1226687222090)

**DRC/Rwanda**

**DR Congo issues warrants for Rwanda-based rebels Rwanda**

Kinshasa has issued international arrest warrants for four leaders of the Congolese rebel group M23 who have found shelter in Rwanda, the government spokesman said Friday. The Democratic Republic of Congo issued the warrants on Thursday against the four, who have also been slapped with sanctions by the United Nations, Lambert Mende said in a statement.  
**AFP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/26/dr-congo-issues-warrants-for-rwanda-based-rebels/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/26/dr-congo-issues-warrants-for-rwanda-based-rebels/)

EAPR

**Cambodia**

**Opposition party rejects poll result, wants inquiry**

Cambodia's main opposition party, the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), on Monday rejected results showing the party of long-time Prime Minister Hun Sen had won Sunday's general election and said it wanted an inquiry into irregularities. On Sunday, the government said Hun Sen's Cambodian People's Party (CPP) had won the election, taking 68 seats in the 123-seat parliament to the CNRP's 55. The CNRP, whose campaign was given a boost by the return from exile of leader Sam Rainsy, said in a statement it wanted a committee set up with members from the CNRP, the CPP, the United Nations, the National Election Committee and others to investigate the election process.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.thestar.com.my/News/World/2013/07/29/Cambodian-opposition-party-rejects-poll-result-wants-inquiry.aspx**](http://www.thestar.com.my/News/World/2013/07/29/Cambodian-opposition-party-rejects-poll-result-wants-inquiry.aspx)

**Indonesia**

**4 arrested in Indonesia boat sinking, 20 dead**

The death toll from the sinking last week of a boat carrying asylum seekers has reached 20, while four people have been arrested for people smuggling in connection with the incident off Indonesia, police said Monday. A tugboat carrying more than 200 people sank July 23 off the coast of West Java's district of Cianjur. Rescuers have so far found 189 survivors. The four Indonesians arrested were taken into custody last Wednesday in Cianjur, said National Police spokesman Col. Agus Rianto. He said police are investigating their roles, which allegedly included arranging the Australian-bound trip and helping the migrants board the boat.

**AP -** [**https://bigstory.ap.org/article/4-arrested-indonesia-boat-sinking-20-dead**](https://bigstory.ap.org/article/4-arrested-indonesia-boat-sinking-20-dead)

**Philippines**

**Blast in southern Philippine city kills 6, wounds 28**

A homemade bomb has ripped through a row of upscale bars and restaurants in a southern Philippine city, killing six people and wounding at least 28 more, police said Saturday. The victims of the blast late Friday were mostly medical representatives and guests of a pharmaceutical company who attended a medical conference in one of the restaurants, said Cagayan de Oro police chief Graciano Mijares. One of the fatalities was a provincial legislator, Roldan Lagbas, 44, who was at an open air bar when hit by shrapnel in the head, Mijares said.

**AP -** [**http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\_pacific/blast-in-southern-philippine-city-kills-6-wounds-28/2013/07/26/cad3c752-f662-11e2-81fa-8e83b3864c36\_story.html**](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/blast-in-southern-philippine-city-kills-6-wounds-28/2013/07/26/cad3c752-f662-11e2-81fa-8e83b3864c36_story.html)

ESAR

**Rwanda**

**2 people dead in grenade blast in Kigali**

Rwanda police say two people were killed and two others seriously wounded following a grenade attack in the capital. Rwandan police said that 30 other people received minor injuries after the grenade went off on Friday evening in Gitega Sector of Kigali's Nyarugenge District. Police say one person has been arrested in connection to the blast and urged residents to remain calm as investigations continue. Rwanda had been hit by series of grenade attacks surrounding the 2010 elections. President Paul Kagame won that election by a landslide, though the vote was criticized for banning opposition parties.

**AP -** [**http://www.huffingtonpost.com/huff-wires/20130727/af-rwanda-grenade-attack/?utm\_hp\_ref=arts&ir=arts**](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/huff-wires/20130727/af-rwanda-grenade-attack/?utm_hp_ref=arts&ir=arts)

**Somalia**

**UN envoy 'strongly condemns' suicide attack targeting Turkish staff**

The top United Nations envoy in Somalia strongly condemned a suicide attack against an office housing Turkish staff earlier today in Mogadishu which reportedly ended in deaths and injuries. “My deep sympathy and sincere condolences go to the Turkish government, the victims and those who have lost their loved ones,” said Nicholas Kay, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Somalia.   
**UN -** [**http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=45513&Cr=Africa&Cr1**](http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=45513&Cr=Africa&Cr1)**=**

**South Sudan**

**UN struggles to reach displaced**

Following fighting in the South Sudan state of Jonglei, the United Nations is trying to coordinate a humanitarian effort to help tens of thousands of people who have fled to the bush. WFP has launched an operation to provide food for those who have escaped the conflict. The agency is requesting $20m to fund emergency assistance for 60,000 people through December.  
**Radio Netherlands -** [**http://www.rnw.nl/africa/article/un-struggles-reach-displaced-south-sudan**](http://www.rnw.nl/africa/article/un-struggles-reach-displaced-south-sudan)

**Riek Machar eyes Salva Kiir's job**

South Sudan's sacked Vice-President Riek Machar says he will challenge President Salva Kiir for the leadership of the ruling party so that he can run for president in the 2015 election. Mr Kiir dismissed Mr Machar and the rest of the cabinet on Tuesday following an apparent power struggle. He accepted Mr Kiir's decision to sack him, Mr Machar said. On Thursday, the US raised concern that the sackings could threaten the stability of oil-rich South Sudan.   
**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-23470960**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-23470960)

MENA

**Across MENA**

**Mideast talks to resume in Washington amid deep scepticism**

Israeli and Palestinian teams flew to Washington on Monday to end five years of diplomatic stalemate and prepare for a new round of Mideast peace talks, though optimism was in short supply after two decades of failed attempts to reach a deal. The resumption of talks was made possible by a decision by Israel's Cabinet on Sunday to free 104 long-held Palestinian prisoners in four stages, linked to progress in talks.   
**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/mideast-talks-resume-amid-deep-skepticism-19800188**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/mideast-talks-resume-amid-deep-skepticism-19800188)

**Israel agrees to free 104 Palestinian prisoners**

The U.S. on Sunday announced the resumption of Israeli-Palestinian talks following years of stalemate, after Israel's Cabinet agreed to release 104 Palestinian prisoners convicted of deadly attacks. The return to direct contacts between the sides gave US Secretary of State John Kerry his first concrete achievement after months of shuttle diplomacy. The US said preliminary talks would begin Monday, but it remains unclear whether they will lead to a formal resumption of peace talks that broke down in 2008. Despite a return to the table, neither side appeared upbeat.

**AP -** [**http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/07/28/israel-to-free-palestinian-prisoners\_n\_3667091.html**](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/07/28/israel-to-free-palestinian-prisoners_n_3667091.html)

**Egypt**

**At least 72 killed at pro-Morsi Cairo rallies**

At least 72 people were killed during clashes in Cairo on Saturday, Egypt's health ministry said, after violence erupted at a demonstration in support of ousted president Mohamed Morsi. The ministry said nine others had died in violence in Egypt's second city, Alexandria, a day earlier, putting the toll in two days of unrest at 81. The Cairo bloodshed was the worst since Morsi's ouster in a military-led coup on July 3, prompting domestic and international condemnation, as protesters accused security forces of using live ammunition.

**AFP -** [**http://reliefweb.int/report/egypt/more-70-dead-clashes-morsi-rallies-egypt**](http://reliefweb.int/report/egypt/more-70-dead-clashes-morsi-rallies-egypt)

**Mursi likely to go to same prison as Mubarak**

Egypt's deposed Islamist President Mohamed Mursi, who has been accused of murder and other crimes, is likely to be transferred to the same Cairo prison where former leader Hosni Mubarak is now held, the interior minister said on Saturday. Mohamed Ibrahim also said pro-Mursi sit-ins would "God willing, soon … be dealt with" based on a decision by the prosecutor, who has been examining legal complaints by citizens about the protests that have blocked major

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/27/us-egypt-protests-prison-idUSBRE96Q05W20130727**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/27/us-egypt-protests-prison-idUSBRE96Q05W20130727)

**Police arrest 2 more Islamist leaders as EU’s Ashton attempts to mediate**

Egyptian police have arrested two leaders of an Islamist party, the latest to be swept up in a crackdown on the Muslim Brotherhood and its allies, while the European Union’s foreign policy chief was to meet with officials in Cairo on Monday in an attempt to mediate an end to the political deadlock. Catherine Ashton’s visit to the Egyptian capital is her second this month, a sign of the alarm felt in the West over the continuing bloodshed.  
**AP -** [**http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle\_east/new-clashes-kill-2-in-egypt-as-ousted-leaders-supporters-defiantly-hold-their-ground/2013/07/28/b2441fc0-f7e3-11e2-a954-358d90d5d72d\_story.html**](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/new-clashes-kill-2-in-egypt-as-ousted-leaders-supporters-defiantly-hold-their-ground/2013/07/28/b2441fc0-f7e3-11e2-a954-358d90d5d72d_story.html)

**Pro-Morsi protesters call for mass demo Tuesday**

Egyptian protesters loyal to deposed president Mohammad Morsi called for a "million person march" on Tuesday against his ouster. "We also call for a million person march under the banner of 'Martyrs of the Coup' on Tuesday," the Anti-Coup Alliance of Islamist groups that is organising the protests said in a statement on Monday.

**Daily Star -** [**http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2013/Jul-29/225424-egypt-pro-morsi-protesters-call-for-mass-demo-tuesday.ashx#axzz2aQ0QENmr**](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2013/Jul-29/225424-egypt-pro-morsi-protesters-call-for-mass-demo-tuesday.ashx#axzz2aQ0QENmr)

**Iraq**

**Bombs, clashes kill at least 54 in Iraq**

Insurgents unleashed a new wave of attacks on Tuesday in Iraq, killing at least 54 people, officials said, the latest in a surge in violence across the country that has raised concerns over a return to sectarian bloodshed. Also, seven militants were killed. There was no claim of responsibility for the attacks. Iraq is weathering its deadliest outburst of violence since 2008, with more than 2,000 people killed since the start of April. The bloodshed appears to be largely the work of resurgent Sunni militants such as al-Qaida, feeding off Sunni discontent with the Shiite-led government.

**AP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/officials-bombs-clashes-kill-least-54-iraq-174558850.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/officials-bombs-clashes-kill-least-54-iraq-174558850.html)

**Iraqi security forces re-capture 349 escaped prisoners**

Iraqi security forces re-captured 349 inmates escaped earlier from Baghdad's major prison during assault by Islamic militants, chief security of the Iraqi capital said on Sunday. "The security forces have re-captured 349 inmates who escaped from Abu Ghraib prison last week, while search operations are underway," Lieutenant General Abdul- Ameer al-Shimmary, Commander of Baghdad Operations Command, told a news conference without giving further details about how many prisoners exactly escaped from the prison. Al-Shimmary said that the militant assault and the prison break on Sunday last week resulted in the killing of 105 from both the prisoners and the militants.  
**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-07/29/c\_125078470.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-07/29/c_125078470.htm)

**Libya**

**More than 1000 inmates escape from jail**

About 1,200 inmates have escaped from a jail in the restive Libyan city of Benghazi. A security official told the AP news agency that most of the escapees were facing serious charges. Another report said a riot had taken place inside the al-Kwafiya prison. The jailbreak comes a day after the assassination of a prominent political activist triggered protests in the city, although it is not clear whether the two are connected.  
**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-23479913**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-23479913)

**Protesters ransack party offices after killings**

Thousands of Libyans protested on Saturday against parties including the Muslim Brotherhood blamed for a wave of violence a day after a series of deadly attacks in the east. Protesters ransacked offices of both the Brotherhood's political wing the Party of Justice and Construction (PJC) and its liberal rival the Alliance of National Forces (NFA). In Benghazi, youths stormed and ransacked the building housing the PJC, after hundreds took to the streets overnight to denounce the assassination of Abdessalem al-Mesmari, an anti-Islamist lawyer who campaigned for a civil state.

**AFP -** [**http://www.ipotnews.com/index.php?jdl=Libyans\_ransack\_party\_offices\_after\_killings&level2=newsandopinion&level3=&level4=marketoverview&id=2298367**](http://www.ipotnews.com/index.php?jdl=Libyans_ransack_party_offices_after_killings&level2=newsandopinion&level3=&level4=marketoverview&id=2298367)

**Large explosion targets courthouses in east**

Security official says two large explosions have struck the eastern city of Benghazi, targeting two court houses and setting a vehicle on fire. No injuries were reported. The security official says police are investigating if the explosions Sunday evening were a result of bombs. He spoke anonymously in line with regulations. One of the court buildings was the site of the first protests against dictator Moammar Gadhafi in early 2011 before his ouster.

**AP -** [**http://bigstory.ap.org/article/large-explosion-targets-courthouses-east**](http://bigstory.ap.org/article/large-explosion-targets-courthouses-east)

**PM says to reshuffle cabinet to face "urgent situation" after protests**

Libya's Prime Minister Ali Zeidan said on Saturday he would reshuffle his cabinet after protesters stormed the offices of the Muslim Brotherhood and a liberal political party to denounce the killing of a prominent critic of the Brotherhood."We are about to make a cabinet reshuffle and decrease the number of ministries to ensure a better performance to face the urgent situation," Zeidan told a news conference. Hundreds of Libyans took to the streets overnight to denounce the killing of political activist Abdelsalam al-Mosmary in Benghazi on Friday.

**Reuters** - [**http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/07/27/uk-libya-cabinet-reshuffle-idUKBRE96Q09H20130727**](http://uk.reuters.com/article/2013/07/27/uk-libya-cabinet-reshuffle-idUKBRE96Q09H20130727)

**Saudi Arabia**

**1 more death from new virus**

Saudi Arabia says one more man has died from a new respiratory virus related to SARS, bringing to 39 the number of deadly cases in the kingdom at the center of the growing outbreak. The Saudi Health Ministry said the man died Saturday, while tests of a new suspected case involving an 83-year-old Saudi man in the southwestern province of Asir proved positive. The new virus is related to SARS, which killed some 800 people in a global outbreak in 2003. It belongs to a family of viruses that most often cause the common cold.

**ABC** - [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/saudi-arabia-death-virus-19790188**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/saudi-arabia-death-virus-19790188)

**Sudan**

**94 dead in tribal fight in Sudan's Darfur**

Fighting in the past two days between rival tribes in Sudan's Darfur region has killed 94 people, despite a peace deal between them, a tribal leader said on Saturday. The African Union-UN peacekeeping mission in Darfur (UNAMID) says inter-ethnic fighting has been the major source of violence in the far-west region this year, leading to the displacement of an estimated 300,000 people in the first five months alone.

**AFP -** [**http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/2/8/77582/World/Region/-dead-in-tribal-fight-in-Sudans-Darfur-leader.aspx**](http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/2/8/77582/World/Region/-dead-in-tribal-fight-in-Sudans-Darfur-leader.aspx)

**Vaccination campaign in SPLM-N areas in October - UNICEF Mention**

The UN says it is ready to carry out a polio vaccination campaign in rebel-controlled areas in Sudan’s South Kordofan and Blue Nile states during a two-week period in late October or early November provided a moratorium on fighting is agreed between Sudanese government forces and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N). The United Nations and its agencies, as well as UNICEF and the World Health Organisation (WHO) have been negotiating with the warring parties since last April to allow the vaccination campaign to go ahead.

**Sudan Tribune** - [**http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article47432**](http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article47432)

**Tunisia**

**Bomb 'wounds policeman' in Tunis port**

A bomb wounded a policeman in a car park outside a police post in the port of Tunis on Saturday, a witness and two radio stations said. It occurred as a policeman approached a four-wheel drive vehicle parked in front of the post after garbage collectors spotted a suspicious object underneath it, the witness said. Residents said they were awoken by the sound of the blast, causing many of them to panic. The interior ministry could not be immediately reached to confirm the bombing, the the first known attack of its kind against a security vehicle in Tunisia.

**AFP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/27/bomb-wounds-policeman-in-tunis-port/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/27/bomb-wounds-policeman-in-tunis-port/)

**Tensions rise as rival protesters clash**

Angry opposition protesters tried to storm municipal offices in Sidi Bouzid and stop employees there from working, residents said, sparking clashes between them and supporters of the Islamist Ennahda party, which leads the transitional government. The army intervened to protect the offices and police fired tear gas, but residents said thousands of demonstrators were still gathering in the southern city, the cradle of the revolt that overthrew President Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali in 2011.

**Reuters -** [**http://dawn.com/news/1032746/tensions-rise-in-tunisia-as-rival-protesters-clash**](http://dawn.com/news/1032746/tensions-rise-in-tunisia-as-rival-protesters-clash)

**Army seals off Tunis square after rival protesters clash**

The Tunisian army blocked off a square where rival protesters had confronted each other in Tunis on Monday, declaring it a "closed military zone" to try to stave off rising unrest. After protesters clashed early on Monday in the capital's central Bardo square, where Tunisia's Constituent Assembly is located, the army sealed it off with barbed wire and fencing. In the southern city of Sidi Bouzid, angry protesters tried to storm municipal offices to stop employees from going to work, residents said, sparking clashes with supporters of the Islamist Ennahda party, which leads the transitional government.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/29/us-tunisia-protests-idUSBRE96S0C420130729**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/29/us-tunisia-protests-idUSBRE96S0C420130729)

**Yemen**

**8 killed in US drone strike in southern Yemen**

A US drone strike killed at least eight members of the Yemen-based al-Qaida offshoot in the southern province of Abyan on Saturday, a government official told Xinhua. The US unmanned aircraft fired three missiles at a convoy of the al-Qaida militants in the Mahfad region, in Abyan province, leaving at least eight terrorists killed and three others injured, the local government official said on condition of anonymity. Eight terrorist were killed and three others seriously injured," the government source said.   
**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-06/01/c\_132424484.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2013-06/01/c_132424484.htm)

ROSA

**Across ROSA**

**Sri Lankans protest India's alleged intervention**

Protesters in Sri Lanka have accused India of interfering in Sri Lanka's internal affairs by criticizing Colombo's plans to withdraw powers from provincial councils set up to share power with ethnic Tamils. About 100 protesters from the Federation of National Organizations, which is made up of nationalistic groups, staged a silent protest Monday in front of the Indian embassy and urged India not to interfere in Sri Lanka's internal affairs. The protest came after the Indian government objected to a Sri Lankan government's plan to withdraw key powers from the provincial councils set up after the end of a quarter century civil war

**AP -** [**http://www.mercurynews.com/nation-world/ci\_23752425/sri-lankans-protest-indias-alleged-intervention**](http://www.mercurynews.com/nation-world/ci_23752425/sri-lankans-protest-indias-alleged-intervention)

**Afghanistan**

**Governor survives roadside bomb attack**

The governor of a province in northern Afghanistan survived a roadside bomb attack on Saturday while he was headed to work, officials said. The attack came a day after a suicide bomber riding a motorcycle struck a busy marketplace in Afghanistan's insurgency-wracked province of Ghazni province that killed seven people including an anti-Taliban militia leader. The Taliban claimed responsibility for Saturday's attack.

**AFP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/27/afghan-governor-survives-roadside-bomb-attack/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/27/afghan-governor-survives-roadside-bomb-attack/)

**Taliban bomb kills 9 in south**

A roadside bomb blamed on the Taliban tore through a police vehicle in southern Afghanistan at the weekend, killing nine people and wounding 15, officials said on Monday. The bombing took place late Sunday in the Shahjoy district of Zabul province, on the main Kabul-Kandahar road which is a hotspot of the Taliban insurgency.  
**AFP -** [**http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/29/taliban-bomb-kills-nine-in-afghanistan/**](http://www.foxnews.com/world/2013/07/29/taliban-bomb-kills-nine-in-afghanistan/)

**Bombing targeting Afghan local police kills 7**

A suicide bomber targeting a village police commander blew himself up in a bazaar in a lawless part of eastern Afghanistan, killing seven people, an official said Saturday. Clashes and bombings around Afghanistan in the past two days have claimed the lives of 15 people, including 11 Afghan policemen and four civilians. Afghan forces have been in the lead for security around the country since mid-June, when foreign forces handed over control. The Taliban have stepped up attacks since then and also are seeking to take advantage of the withdrawal of foreign troops that will see all international combat forces leave Afghanistan by the end of 2014.

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/bombing-targeting-afghan-local-police-kills-19790179**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/bombing-targeting-afghan-local-police-kills-19790179)

**Pakistan**

**Parent refusals cripple polio programme – UNICEF Mention**

Inefficient awareness building strategies, coupled with targeted attacks on polio teams and distrust among the populace, have led to a sharp increase in the number of families that refuse the oral polio vaccine. According to official, unreleased documents prepared by UNICEF Pakistan, available with The Express Tribune, the all-time low conversion rate of parents refusing the polio vaccine has completely crippled the country’s largest public sector health initiative.

**Express Tribune -** [**http://tribune.com.pk/story/582117/debilitating-blow-parent-refusals-cripple-polio-programme/**](http://tribune.com.pk/story/582117/debilitating-blow-parent-refusals-cripple-polio-programme/)

**Twin blasts hit market in Pakistan**

At least 57 people have been killed and more than 150 injured after two suicide bombers on motorcycles hit a market in Parachinar, capital of the tribal Kurram area in northwest Pakistan, officials said. Police spokesman Fazal Naeem Khan said the bombs went off in two places in the market on Friday as people were doing their evening shopping, some grabbing last-minute items to break their Ramadan fast.  
**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia/2013/07/2013726141121959421.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia/2013/07/2013726141121959421.html)

TACR

**Chile**

**Santiago cathedral closed after Chile abortion protest**

The Catholic cathedral in the Chilean capital Santiago is to remain closed for five days after it was vandalised by pro-choice activists on Thursday. About 5,000 protesters marched through Santiago in support of an 11-year-old girl who was raped, fell pregnant and is not allowed to have an abortion. Some 100 demonstrators entered the cathedral, wrecking confessional booths and shouting insults at worshippers. Abortion, even for medical reasons or in cases of rape, is illegal in Chile.  
**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-23474638**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-23474638)

**Colombia**

**FARC 'accountable' for violence as talks resume**

Chief Colombian government peace negotiator Humberto de la Calle has said the leftist FARC rebel group will be held to account for all the acts of violence it has committed. His comments come as peace negotiations resume in Cuba aimed at ending more than five decades of conflict. Mr de la Calle reaffirmed that the army would continue fighting until the end.  
**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-23486145**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-23486145)

**Cuba**

**Raul Castro points to 'gradual power transfer'**

President Raul Castro has said power in Cuba is being gradually transferred, in a speech at celebrating 60 years since the start of the revolution. The revolutionaries were giving way to a new generation who would keep socialist ideals alive, Mr Castro said. Several Latin American leaders gathered in Santiago to mark the failed Moncada barracks assault, seen as the start of Mr Castro's brother Fidel's revolution.  
**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-23471372**](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-23471372)

**Mexico**

**Navy vice admiral killed in ambush**

Gunmen ambushed and killed one of Mexico's highest ranking navy officials and the officer escorting him Sunday in the rough western state of Michoacan, authorities said. Two other people were injured in the shooting in an area where a fight between rival drug cartels has caused a new outburst of violence.  
**AP -** [**http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2013/07/28/mexico-drug-war/2594953/**](http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2013/07/28/mexico-drug-war/2594953/)

WCAR

**Burkina Faso**

**Thousands protest new Burkina Faso Senate**

A protest leader says thousands marched through Burkina Faso's capital Sunday decrying a perceived attempt by the president to extend his hold on power through the creation of a new Senate. The protest came one week after thousands of workers joined demonstrations around the country against rising costs for basic goods like rice and sugar, underscoring the tense environment facing President Blaise Compaore as he weighs whether to run for re-election in 2015. Opposition leaders fear Compaore intends to use the Senate to amend Article 37 of the constitution limiting presidents to two five-year terms. The rule would bar Compaore from running again. **AP -** [**http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/world/Thousands-protest-new-Burkina-Faso-Senate\_60947016**](http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/world/Thousands-protest-new-Burkina-Faso-Senate_60947016)

**CAR**

**Burundi to send 500 peacekeepers to Central Africa**

Burundi has 500 peacekeepers ready to be deployed to the Central African Republic, which has remained unstable since a March coup, President Pierre Nkurunziza said Saturday. Burundi, already the second contributor to the African Union force in Somalia with 5,500 soldiers, had previously expressed its readiness to send peacekeepers to Mali but this was the first time it mentioned the Central African Republic.

**AFP -** [**http://english.ruvr.ru/news/2013\_07\_27/Burundi-to-send-500-peacekeepers-to-Central-Africa-7504/**](http://english.ruvr.ru/news/2013_07_27/Burundi-to-send-500-peacekeepers-to-Central-Africa-7504/)

**DR Congo**

**Rebels detain 100 people for opposition**

A spokesman for the M23 rebel group in eastern Congo says the group detained more than 100 people who claimed the rebels were responsible for thefts. Kabasha Amani said the 110 people, mostly young men, were detained during a pro-rebel rally Saturday in the town of Rutshuru to "prevent ethnic tensions degenerating." He said 80 people were quickly released and the rest would be released by the evening. Rutshuru resident Kahindo Lusenge told a local radio station the young men spoke out after being ordered by M23 to attend the pro-rebel rally.   
**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/congo-rebels-detain-100-people-opposition-19790706**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/congo-rebels-detain-100-people-opposition-19790706)

**Mali**

**Malians flock to vote in bid to rebuild broke nation**

Malians turned out in large numbers to vote on Sunday in a presidential election they hope will provide a fresh start for the West African nation after more than a year of turmoil, war and an army coup. Most of the front-runners are established political figures from the last 20 years of Malian politics so there is little likelihood of a radical overhaul despite calls for change after the unprecedented crisis in the former French colony. A second round is due to take place on August 11 if no candidate wins more than 50 percent of the vote.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/28/us-mali-election-idusbre96r03420130728**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/28/us-mali-election-idusbre96r03420130728)

**Nigeria**

**Vigilante-extremist clash kills 25**

A vigilante group says 25 people have been killed during an attack by the vigilantes and a reprisal by Boko Haram in Nigeria's northeast. These are the first major fatalities reported in the region since dozens of students were killed, some burned alive, earlier this month. Vigilante leader Aliko Musa said his group stormed villages over the weekend to hunt members of the banned Boko Haram terrorist organization. Haruna Muhammed Sani of Nigeria's military said 20 civilians and one vigilante were killed in the violence. The region is under a state of emergency, and it is difficult for journalists to independently confirm details of violence that occurs there.

**AP** - [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/25-people-killed-nigeria-19798013**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/25-people-killed-nigeria-19798013)

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