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GENERAL

**Across Regions**

**UN chief urges preventive action on emerging crises**

UNSG Ban Ki- moon on Thursday called on the world leaders to address emerging crises before they become bigger and costlier for all. He made the call at the UN headquarters in New York during the Security Council's open debate on conflict prevention. "We know that if we do not address emerging crises, they risk becoming bigger and costlier for all," Ban told the 15-member Council. He stressed that, with the surge of violent crises around the world, the United Nations needs to re-examine and refine its approach to preventing conflicts.

**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c\_133574668.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c_133574668.htm)

**South Sudan/Sudan**

**S. Sudan raises concerns over “unusual” movement of Sudanese army**

The South Sudanese army expressed concerns today over what it described as the “unusual” movement of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) within its territory amid signs of brewing tension between the two countries. “There have been repeated security reports from our forces and the command on ground since May of increased unusual movement of the Sudan Armed Forces. The reports we have been receiving and which we have also verified shows an expansive movement of tanks as well as armoured vehicles towards the areas which are truly, deep inside the territory of the republic of South Sudan,” a high-level intelligence officer told Sudan Tribune Thursday..

**Sudan Tribune -** [**http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article52125**](http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article52125)

CEE/CIS

**Across CEE/CIS**

**Ukraine says Russian truck movement represents "direct invasion" by Russia**

Ukrainian authorities said on Friday that 90 trucks from a Russian aid convoy had crossed into Ukraine without permission and Ukraine's state security chief said this amounted to a "direct invasion" by Russia. "They passed into Ukraine without clearance or participation of the International Red Cross or (Ukrainian) border guards," military spokesman Andriy Lysenko told journalists. "We consider this a direct invasion by Russia of Ukraine," Ukrainian state security chief Valentyn Nalivaychenko said in a separate statement to journalists.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140822102124-06b7o**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140822102124-06b7o)

**AFP -** [**http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/kiev-accuses-russia-of/1325602.html**](http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/kiev-accuses-russia-of/1325602.html)

**Ukraine will not attack Russian aid convoy - security chief**

Ukraine will not attack the convoy of Russian aid trucks that has crossed into Ukrainian territory and wants to avoid any "provocations", Ukrainian state security Chief Valentyn Nalivaychenko said on Friday. "Ukraine will liaise with the International Committee of the Red Cross so that we, Ukraine, are not involved in (accusations of) provocations that we have been holding up or using force against the vehicles of so-called aid," he told journalists.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/ukraine-crisis-trucks-security-idUSL5N0QS1SW20140822**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/ukraine-crisis-trucks-security-idUSL5N0QS1SW20140822)

**Turkey**

**Turkish foreign minister set to be Erdogan's new PM**

Turkish president-elect Tayyip Erdogan named Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu as his future prime minister on Thursday and said a power struggle with a US-based cleric, a Kurdish peace process and a new constitution would be his top priorities. Erdogan said the ruling AK Party's executive board had agreed to nominate Davutoglu as its next leader and, by default, his future premier. The decision must now be endorsed in a party vote next Wednesday, but is unlikely to be opposed.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/us-turkey-government-idUSKBN0GL1NX20140822**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/us-turkey-government-idUSKBN0GL1NX20140822)

**2 Turkish soldiers wounded in Kurdish rebels' attack**

Two Turkish soldiers were wounded in an attack by rebels of the banned Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) in eastern Turkey late on Thursday, private Dogan news agency said on Friday. A group of PKK militants attacked a gendarmerie station in Diyadin town of Agri province, the report said, adding that two Turkish soldiers were wounded when exchanging fire with the PKK rebels, one in serious condition. The incident came just three days after a group of protesters tried to prevent security forces from enforcing a court ruling to remove the statue of PKK founder Mahsum Korkmaz in southeastern Diyarbakir province.

**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c\_133576499.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c_133576499.htm)

**Ukraine**

**Urgent need for aid in Lugansk**

Staff from the ICRC visited Lugansk to find water and electricity supplies cut off because of damage to essential infrastructure. People hardly leave their homes for fear of being caught in the middle of ongoing fighting, with intermittent shelling into residential areas placing civilians at risk. Hundreds of thousands of people have fled the fighting and little aid has reached areas affected by recent hostilities. With phone lines and the internet down, many people are also thought to have lost touch with family members.

**ICRC -** [**http://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents/news-release/2014/08-21-ukraine-lugansk-urgent-needs-aid.htm**](http://www.icrc.org/eng/resources/documents/news-release/2014/08-21-ukraine-lugansk-urgent-needs-aid.htm)

**UN Humanitarian Chief to visit Ukraine**

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Valerie Amos, will travel to Ukraine between 21 and 24 August 2014. In Kyiv, USG Amos is scheduled to meet senior Government officials, members of the diplomatic community, civil society representatives and UN colleagues. Ms. Amos is also expected to visit Eastern Ukraine to see firsthand the humanitarian situation for people in the areas affected by fighting.

**OCHA -** [**http://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/un-humanitarian-chief-valerie-amos-visit-ukraine**](http://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/un-humanitarian-chief-valerie-amos-visit-ukraine)

EAP

**Cambodia**

**Flood death toll rises to 45 people, 11,500 displaced**

Flooding in Cambodia has killed at least 45 people since last month, officials said on 21 August. About 11,500 people have also been forced from their homes by the flash floods along the Mekong River since July, the National Committee for Disaster Management said in a report. The deaths and displacements were caused by heavy rains which have affected 12 provinces in the north and northeast.

**AP -** [**http://www.ctvnews.ca/world/45-dead-11-500-displaced-by-flooding-in-cambodia-since-july-1.1969212**](http://www.ctvnews.ca/world/45-dead-11-500-displaced-by-flooding-in-cambodia-since-july-1.1969212)

**Indonesia**

**Indonesia backs president-elect amid protests**

Indonesia's highest court has unanimously upheld last month's presidential election result, paving the way for Joko Widodo to take over as leader. The constitutional court on Thursday rejected the last-ditch attempt by losing presidential candidate Prabowo Subianto to overturn the result he says was tainted by widespread cheating. The verdict, passed down in Jakarta, cannot be appealed against. "The court rejects ... all applications from the applicant by all nine judges," said court chief Hamdan Zoelva said. Widodo, the current governor of Jakarta, is due to take over on October 20.

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia-pacific/2014/08/indonesia-upholds-presidential-poll-result-201482114431312552.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia-pacific/2014/08/indonesia-upholds-presidential-poll-result-201482114431312552.html)

**Philippines**

**7.4 million Filipinos at risk of poverty**

More than 7.4 million Filipinos are vulnerable to joining the ranks of the poor due to food insecurity and natural and economic shocks, according to a report published by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Friday. In its report titled "Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific 2014," ADB said more Filipinos could become poor after typhoon Haiyan wreaked havoc on the country last November. The report proposed an "Asia-specific poverty line" which would factor in food insecurity and economic vulnerability. The Manila- based lender noted that the 1.25 US dollars a day poverty threshold currently in use is not sufficient to capture the extent of poverty in the region.

**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c\_133576014.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c_133576014.htm)

ESA

**Across ESA**

**South Sudan rebels accept presence of Ugandan troops to keep peace**

South Sudan rebels have agreed to let Uganda maintain its forces on South Sudanese soil until a regional body deploys a peace keeping force, a spokesman for the Ugandan government told Reuters on Friday. The new stance by the rebels, which is a 180-degree turn from their earlier position of demanding withdrawal of the troops from South Sudan, could open a way to mend ties between the insurgents and Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/us-southsudan-unrest-uganda-idUSKBN0GM0EE20140822**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/us-southsudan-unrest-uganda-idUSKBN0GM0EE20140822)

**South Sudan**

**South Sudan army denies recruiting children**

South Sudan army on Thursday dismissed as “untrue” a Human Rights Watch report alleging it recruited children in Unity state. “Let them come to our military bases and see for themselves officers that deal with demobilization of children,” Col. Joseph Mariel Samuel, the acting SPLA spokesperson told Sudan Tribune. “This thing [recruitment of children] is a practice of rebels. When we [SPLA] were fighting Sudan government, we had children who voluntarily joined our ranks, but they were taken off military duties starting in 2005,” he added. The report, released on Wednesday, faults both the government and rebels forces of using child soldiers in the country’s ongoing conflict.

**Sudan Tribune -** [**http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article52123**](http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article52123)

LAC

**Chile**

**Thousands of Chilean students resume protests to demand concrete education reform**

Some 60,000 students and supporters marched through the streets of downtown Santiago Thursday to press the government into legislating education reform. President Michelle Bachelet was recently reelected to a second term on a campaign platform promising reforms in education, but they have yet to be legislated. In a repeat of earlier marches, crowds marched along several blocks of the city's central Alameda Avenue, demanding free, quality public education.

**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c\_133574667.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c_133574667.htm)

**Colombia**

**Government names general to head ceasefire committee**

The Colombian President named its top general on 21 August to lead a committee tasked with hammering out a ceasefire proposal as peace negotiations with the FARC rebel group entered a crucial phase. The President ordered the chairman of the joint Chiefs of Staff, to lead the committee of five military officers charged with finding a workable deal to halt the conflict. The rebel FARC has not yet announced its delegates for the disarmament talks. In Havana, the two sides meanwhile set up a "historical commission" of 12 experts tasked with tracing the origins and impact of the conflict. The peace talks have so far produced deals on three points: land reform, political participation for the rebels and fighting the drug trafficking that has fueled the conflict. The other points left to resolve are reparations for victims and the mechanism by which the final peace agreement will be adopted.

**AFP -** [**http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/140821/colombia-names-general-head-ceasefire-committee**](http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/140821/colombia-names-general-head-ceasefire-committee)

**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c\_133575664.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c_133575664.htm)

**Guatemala**

**Seasonal drought could endanger food security**

The Guatemalan Vice Minister for food security warned that the food security of at over 168,000 families could be endangered due to the impact of drought on subsistence crops in the region known as the "dry corridor", which includes ten departments in the Eastern part of the country. According to the latest official estimates, at least 50% of the crops in the dry corridor could be lost due to the impact of drought. The current drought is set to worsen by the end of the year, as a result of the El Niño.

**EIU -** [**http://country.eiu.com/article.aspx?articleid=1492200733&Country=Guatemala&topic=Economy&subtopic=Forecast**](http://country.eiu.com/article.aspx?articleid=1492200733&Country=Guatemala&topic=Economy&subtopic=Forecast)

**Mexico**

**Mexico captures mobsters related to C. American gang**

Mexican immigration authorities said Thursday they captured members of a criminal gang related to the Central American Mara Salvatrucha Gang. Mexico's National Institute of Immigration (INM) said in a statement it arrested 13 suspects in the southeastern state of Chiapas with help from the State Attorney General's Office (PGJE), the Federal Police, navy and army, among other security institutions. Arrests were made after the INM received an anonymous complaint about the suspects, who should respond to charges of extortion, kidnapping, robbery and homicide, according to the statement.

**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c\_133575735.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c_133575735.htm)

**Mexico says 22,322 people now 'disappeared'**

The Mexican government has increased its calculation of the number of people who have disappeared since the start of the country's drug war in 2006 and now lists 22,322 as missing, officials said. It had said in May that 8,000 people were missing. Assistant Attorney General, Mariana Benitez, said 12,532 people went missing during the 2006-12 administration of President Felipe Calderon, who declared war on drug traffickers. An additional 9,790 have disappeared since President Enrique Pena Nieto took office on December 1, 2012. Benitez said that the list of people reported missing during Calderon's government had gone up to 29,707, but that authorities arrived at the figure of 12,532 still missing after finding the rest alive or confirming their deaths.

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/americas/2014/08/mexico-ups-number-missing-people-22322-201482222627872519.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/americas/2014/08/mexico-ups-number-missing-people-22322-201482222627872519.html)

**Venezuela**

**Venezuela plans to introduce supermarket fingerprinting**

President Nicolas Maduro of Venezuela has announced a mandatory fingerprinting system in supermarkets to combat food shortages and smuggling. He said the system would stop people from buying too much of a single item. But the opposition in Venezuela rejected the plan, saying the policy treated all Venezuelans as thieves. Critics said fingerprinting consumers of staple products was tantamount to rationing and constituted a breach of privacy.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-28891292**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-28891292)

MENA

**Across MENA**

**Tunisia, Cairo airport cancel Libya flights over security fears**

Tunisia and Egypt’s Cairo airport cancelled most flights to and from Libya on Thursday, officials said, days after the Libyan government said unidentified war planes had attacked positions of armed groups in Tripoli. A spokesman for Tunisian Aviation Authority gave no explanation for the measures but Libyan news agency LANA and Egyptian officials said Cairo airport authorities had cancelled flights for security reasons.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/foreign/22-Aug-2014/tunisia-cairo-airport-cancel-libya-flights-over-security-fears**](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/foreign/22-Aug-2014/tunisia-cairo-airport-cancel-libya-flights-over-security-fears)

**Egypt**

**At least 33 dead in bus crash in Egypt's Sinai**

At least 33 people died and dozens were injured when two buses collided before dawn on Friday in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, the state news agency and security sources reported. The Middle East News Agency (MENA) quoted local health ministry official Mohamed Lashin as saying that Russian, Yemeni and Saudi Arabian citizens were among the more than 40 people injured but did not give further details. Lashin said that the injured were being transferred to two hospitals in the area. He said bodies were still being lifted from the wreckage so the death toll could rise.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/us-egypt-crash-idUSKBN0GM05Q20140822**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/us-egypt-crash-idUSKBN0GM05Q20140822)

**Iraq**

**UN launches ‘biggest aid operation in 30 years’ in Iraq**

The United Nations has launched what it describes as one of the biggest aid operations in 30 years in northern Iraq, as hundreds of thousands of refugees flee the extremist Sunni rebel group Islamic State. As Kurdish and Iraqi forces battle the Sunni insurgents, the fighting has forced more people to flee their homes. Kurdish authorities say the international community must act now to avert a humanitarian catastrophe. In the space of just a few weeks, an estimated 1.2 million Iraqis have been forced to flee their homes. The United Nations began an operation Wednesday to supply basic needs to about half a million of the refugees.

**VoA -** [**http://www.voanews.com/content/un-launches-biggest-aid-operation-in-30-years-in-iraq/2423553.html**](http://www.voanews.com/content/un-launches-biggest-aid-operation-in-30-years-in-iraq/2423553.html)

**Libya**

**Fresh fighting erupts near Tripoli's airport road**

Heavy fighting has once again broken out between rival militants around the international airport in the Libyan capital of Tripoli, forcing locals to flee their homes. The heavy gun battle involved members of the two warring militia groups from the cities of Misrata and Zintan, who have been fighting for control of the airport. Thursday’s clashes took place outside a General Staff camp building, which remains under the control of the Misrata Brigade. Several buildings were damaged during the fighting, resulting in local residents leaving their houses.

**Press TV -** [**http://www.albawaba.com/news/fighting-tripoli-libya-airport--598348**](http://www.albawaba.com/news/fighting-tripoli-libya-airport--598348)

**State of Palestine/Israel**

**Hamas kills 18 suspected collaborators in Gaza**

Hamas militants killed seven Palestinians suspected of collaborating with Israel in a public execution in a central Gaza square on Friday, witnesses and a Hamas website said. The victims, their heads covered and hands tied, were shot dead by masked gunmen dressed in black in front of a crowd of worshippers outside a mosque after prayers, witnesses and al-Majd, a pro-Hamas website, said.

Another 11 people suspected of collaborating with Israel were killed by gunmen at an abandoned police station in Gaza earlier on Friday, Hamas security officials said.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/us-mideast-gaza-executions-idUSKBN0GM0VW20140822**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/us-mideast-gaza-executions-idUSKBN0GM0VW20140822)

**Syria**

**Syrian army ambushes 140 IS fighters in al-Raqqa**

As many as 140 fighters of the so- called Islamic State (IS) were killed on Thursday in an ambush by the Syrian army in the vicinity of the al-Tabaqqa airbase in northern al-Raqqa province, the pan-Arab Al-Mayadeen TV reported. The Syrian army killed the 140 IS fighters which has unleashed an attack since the beginning of this week to strip the government troops of the al-Tabaqa airbase, the last stronghold of the government troops in al-Raqqa. Clashes have raged over the past 24 hours as the IS fighters staged a twin suicide car bombings in the vicinity of the airbase before dawn on Thursday in a bid to storm the facility, according to the UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c\_133574648.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c_133574648.htm)

**AFP -** [**http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/70-is-jihadists-killed-in/1325532.html**](http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/70-is-jihadists-killed-in/1325532.html)

**UN chief calls for international efforts to end Syrian bloodshed**

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon Thursday called for international efforts to end the Syrian crisis at the first anniversary of the chemical weapons attack on Syria. Ban called on the international community to help end the Syrian conflict which threatens "regional and international peace and security." He also conveyed his deepest condolences to the families who lost their loved ones.

**Xinhua -** [**http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c\_133576146.htm**](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/22/c_133576146.htm)

**Documented death toll in Syria war at least 191,369 through April 2014 – UN**

At least 191,369 people have been killed in Syria's conflict through April, more than double the figure documented a year ago and probably still an under-estimate, the United Nations human rights office said on Friday. The UN report, based on data from four groups and the government that were cross-checked, reflects a reality of killing and torture while the civil war has "dropped off the international radar", UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay said.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140822082154-7zvim**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140822082154-7zvim)

**Yemen**

**Backers of Yemen rebels gather in Sanaa amid crisis talks**

Thousands of supporters of Shiite rebels pressing the government to step down gathered in the Yemeni capital Friday as a presidential team was in the northern Huthi stronghold for crisis talks. The rally came on the final day of an ultimatum set by the Shiite Zaidi rebel commander, Abdulmalik al-Huthi. He urged supporters to gather for weekly Muslim prayers on the road leading to Sanaa International Airport in the north of the capital. The protest marks the start of the "second phase of the peaceful revolutionary escalation" through "legitimate means", according to Huthi.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/144368-backers-of-yemen-rebels-gather-in-sanaa-amid-crisis-talks**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/144368-backers-of-yemen-rebels-gather-in-sanaa-amid-crisis-talks)

SA

**India**

**Army called in after deadly India violence**

Army troops have enforced a curfew in border districts of India's northeastern Assam state following violence that has left dozen dead and more than 10,000 people displaced. Shops and businesses were closed in Golaghat town, where three people were killed after police opened fire to quell protests over attacks by tribespeople from neighbouring Nagaland state, Assam's Home Secretary GD Tripathy said on Thursday. Tripathy said the Naga tribespeople had killed nine Assamese villagers last week in a flare-up of a long-running dispute over poorly defined state borders. More than 10,000 people living on the Assam side of the border have fled their homes and are living in relief camps, he said.

**Al Jazeera -** [**http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia/2014/08/army-called-after-deadly-india-violence-2014821112929893844.html**](http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia/2014/08/army-called-after-deadly-india-violence-2014821112929893844.html)

**India minister stirs anger by making light of Delhi rape case**

Indian Finance Minister Arun Jaitley faced criticism on Friday for making light of the gang rape of a Delhi woman in 2012 and her subsequent death by saying it was a small incident that had cost India billions of dollars in tourism. Jaitley, who is also defence minister and a key lieutenant of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, denied he was trying to lessen the magnitude of the crime which shook the country and turned the spotlight on women's safety.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140822114506-u1jgr/**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140822114506-u1jgr/)

**Pakistan**

**Eight killed, 43 injured in rain related incidents in KP, Fata**

The capital city of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Pakistan’s tribal areas bordering Afghanistan are again hit by severe rain and hailstorms, inundating the low-lying areas and killing at least eight people, 43 people have also been injured. At least 18 people had been killed and more than 80 others injured in Peshawar last week in different rain related incidents. According to Deputy Commissioner Zahirul Islam, five members of a family died and 12 others injured as roof of their house collapsed in Regi on the outskirts of Jamrud, Khyber Agency. The officials also confirmed that two people have died and 13 others injured on Thursday evening due to rain related incidents in Peshawar.

**Dawn -** [**http://www.dawn.com/news/1126806/eight-killed-43-injured-in-rain-related-incidents-in-kp-fata**](http://www.dawn.com/news/1126806/eight-killed-43-injured-in-rain-related-incidents-in-kp-fata)

**Sri Lanka**

**Record harvest loss, food shortages hit**

Sri Lanka's government is scrambling to ease the impact of record harvest losses on millions of farmers as the country enters its tenth month of an acute dry spell. According to OCHA, more than 1.8 million people (9% of the island’s population of around 20 million) have been affected by the drought which is still ravaging 16 of the country’s 25 districts. The secretary to the Sri Lanka President and other government officials said they had already put relief measures in place, including a $10 million plan for cash-for-work programmes for drought-affected families.

**IRIN -** [**http://www.irinnews.org/report/100523/record-harvest-loss-food-shortages-hit-dry-sri-lanka**](http://www.irinnews.org/report/100523/record-harvest-loss-food-shortages-hit-dry-sri-lanka)

WCA

**Across WCA**

**WHO says drawing up 6-9 month strategy to combat Ebola**

WHO said on Friday that it had drawn up a draft strategy plan to combat Ebola in West Africa over the next six to nine months, implying that it does not expect to halt the epidemic this year. "WHO is working on an Ebola road map document, it's really an operational document how to fight Ebola," WHO spokeswoman Fadela Chaib told a news briefing in Geneva. "It details the strategy for WHO and partners for six to nine months to come." Asked whether the timeline meant that the United Nations health agency expected the epidemic now raging in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone to continue until 2015, she said: "Frankly no one knows when this outbreak of Ebola will end."

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140822095620-gdnk1**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140822095620-gdnk1)

**CAR**

**Clashes kill five, wound dozens**

Five people have been killed in fighting this week between armed militants and French peacekeepers in Bangui, a hospital source said on 21 August. The clashes came after several weeks of calm in the city, where peacekeeping forces have frequently been involved in deadly firefights with rival militias and taken steps to to disarm them. The fighting between unidentified gunmen and French troops from the European Union's Eufor mission, erupted on at the beginning of the week. Nearly 40 people were also wounded in the clashes, a staff member at Bangui's community hospital reported.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/c-africa-clashes-kill-five-wound-dozens-131353412.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/c-africa-clashes-kill-five-wound-dozens-131353412.html)

**Mine collapse in Central African Republic kills 25**

At least 25 people have died in a collapse at a gold mine 60 km (40 miles) north of the Central African Republic town of Bambari, a spokesman for the mainly Muslim Seleka rebels said on Friday. The mine at Ndassima is carved deep into a forested hilltop north of Seleka's military headquarters in Bambari. It is owned by Canada's Axmin (AXM.V) but was overrun by rebels more than year ago and now forms part of an illicit economy driving sectarian conflict in the country.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/us-centralafrica-mine-idUSKBN0GM0Q420140822**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/22/us-centralafrica-mine-idUSKBN0GM0Q420140822)

**DR Congo**

**WHO says 70 people die from illness, denies Ebola link**

At least 70 people have died in northern DR Congo from an outbreak of hemorrhagic gastroenteritis, the WHO said on 21 August, denying that the illness was Ebola. A WHO report dated 21 August said that 592 people had contracted the disease, of whom 70 died. Five health care workers, including one doctor, are among the dead. The outbreak began in the province of Equateur where the first case of Ebola was reported in 1976, prompting speculation that it was the same illness.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/haemorrhagic-fever-killed-13-dr-congo-10-days-002046206.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/haemorrhagic-fever-killed-13-dr-congo-10-days-002046206.html)

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140821172317-m1alz/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140821172317-m1alz/?source=search)

**Nigeria**

**Thousands receiving aid after Boko Haram siege**

Nearly 11,500 people from one town in northeast Nigeria are receiving emergency aid after fleeing Boko Haram militants, the country's main relief agency said on 21 August. The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) said 11,442 men, women and children from Gwoza in Borno state had been registered at two facilities for displaced people in Adamawa state. The militants took over Gwoza, on 7 August and NEMA said the town was "still under siege". Some locals hid on a nearby mountain without food or water for more than a week, while others trekked four days to Maiduguri. NEMA had said the insecurity had prevented teams from getting to the displaced.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/thousands-receiving-aid-boko-haram-siege-relief-agency-224323696.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/thousands-receiving-aid-boko-haram-siege-relief-agency-224323696.html)

**Boko Haram takes over another town**

Boko Haram has seized control of a town in northeastern Nigeria, the latest to fall into militants hands in the crisis-hit region and an indication of the group's increasing territorial ambitions. The insurgents have tended to use hit-and-run attacks in the past but the recent seizure of towns suggests a significant shift in strategy. Residents who fled the assault on the fallen town of Buni Yadi in Yobe state said attacks began late last month and the insurgents have since taken over the main government building. The militants have reportedly raised their flag and carried out summary executions, including of two people who were caught smoking cigarettes.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/boko-haram-takes-over-another-nigeria-town-witnesses-142352168.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/boko-haram-takes-over-another-nigeria-town-witnesses-142352168.html)

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