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GENERAL

**Across Region**

**UN climate talks fracture over future of carbon markets**

The use of carbon markets to curb rising greenhouse gas emissions was dealt a blow on Sunday after two weeks of UN talks on designing and reforming the mechanisms ended in deadlock. The negotiations, held as part of UN climate negotiations in Bonn, Germany, made scant progress as envoys representing almost 200 nations tied reforms to progress under the wider discussions and remained entrenched in diverse positions.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140615230908-c96xj/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140615230908-c96xj/?source=search)

CEE/CIS

**Ukraine**

**Kiev says Russia has cut all off gas to Ukraine**

Ukraine's energy minister said Russia had cut off all gas supplies to Kiev on Monday but he guaranteed reliable gas flows would continue to Russia's European clients who get imports through pipelines via Ukraine. "We have an announcement to make today - that gas supplies to Ukraine have been reduced to zero," Energy Minister Yuri Prodan told a news briefing.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140616092623-4xv6r/?source=jtTheWire**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140616092623-4xv6r/?source=jtTheWire)

**Bomb found near Ukrainian president's office**Ukrainian presidential bodyguards have disposed of a powerful explosive device discovered near President Petro Poroshenko's headquarters, a security source said on 14 June. "The device was found during the night near the gate where presidential cars go in. It was a container with five grenades and a kilogram of metal nuts," said the source, who declined to be identified. "It was a really powerful device."

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140614105954-kme7d**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140614105954-kme7d)

**Military plane shot down in Luhansk, at least 49 people killed**

Pro-Russian rebels have shot down a military transport plane in eastern Ukraine, killing all 49 Ukrainian service personnel on board. Ukraine's defence ministry said the Il-76 transport plane crashed after coming under anti-aircraft fire over Luhansk. In a statement it said "terrorists" had "cynically and treacherously" fired on the aircraft. The plane was carrying troops and military equipment and was about to land at the city's airport. It is thought to be the biggest loss of life suffered by government forces in a single incident since Kiev began an operation to try to defeat the insurgency in east Ukraine.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-27845313**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-27845313)

**Protesters overturn cars rip up Russian flag at embassy**

Protesters pelted the Russian embassy in Kiev with eggs on 14 June and ripped up a Russian flag in protest at what they called Moscow's backing of separatist rebels in east Ukraine, witnesses said. The crowd of more than 100 mostly young people, many of them with their faces covered, held up banners with slogans such as "Russia go home". The demonstrators then overturned several cars, including some which appeared to belong to the embassy, and damaged the metal gate but police did not intervene.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140614180420-713v0/**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140614180420-713v0/)

**Ukraine fighting threatens water supply to 4 million – OSCE**

Fighting in eastern Ukraine threatens water supplies to the city of Donetsk and could have serious consequences for 4 million people, monitors for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said on Monday. The OSCE's Special Monitoring Mission in eastern Ukraine quoted local officials as saying a water pumping station and a section of pipeline near the town of Semyonovka, close to the bitterly contested city of Slaviansk, had been damaged in fighting between government forces and separatists. "This pumping station and pipeline constitute the main water supply for Donetsk city's population of 1 million, and a further 3 million inhabitants of the region," it said in a statement following talks with Donetsk mayor Alexander Lukyanchenko.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140616093426-mrlhy**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140616093426-mrlhy)

EAP

**China**

**China sentences three to death for Tiananmen Square attack**

China sentenced three people to death on Monday over a deadly attack at Beijing's Tiananmen Square last October, state television reported, an incident blamed by the government on Islamist militants. One attacker was given a life sentence, and four others received jail terms ranging from five to 20 years. Five people were killed and 40 hurt when a car plowed into a crowd at the northern edge of Tiananmen Square and burst into flames. Those killed included two bystanders and three people in the car.

**Reuters -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/china-sentences-three-death-attack-tiananmen-square-tv-041342555.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/china-sentences-three-death-attack-tiananmen-square-tv-041342555.html)

**Cambodia**

**More than 110,000 Cambodian migrants flee Thailand**

More than 110,000 Cambodians have fled Thailand to return home in the past week, an official said Sunday, amid fears of a crackdown on migrant workers after last month's military takeover. Labourers from Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar play a key role in Thai industries such as seafood, agriculture and construction, but they often lack official work permits. On Wednesday Thailand's military regime, which seized power in a coup on May 22, threatened to arrest and deport all illegal foreign workers.

**AFP -** [**http://www.ndtv.com/article/world/more-than-110-000-cambodian-migrants-flee-thailand-official-541792**](http://www.ndtv.com/article/world/more-than-110-000-cambodian-migrants-flee-thailand-official-541792)

**Philippines**

**Philippines calls for construction freeze in South China Sea**

The Philippines said on Monday that China's "expansion agenda" in the disputed South China Sea threatened security and stability in the region, calling on all claimant states to halt construction activities that may raise tensions. Albert del Rosario, foreign affairs secretary, said he supported US Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia Daniel Russel's proposal for China and Southeast Asian states to get together for dialogue. Southeast Asian states have been pressing China to conclude a Code of Conduct - a set of rules governing naval actions - for the South China Sea. Last year, the Philippines filed a case at the UN Arbitral Court in The Hague to clarify its rights to explore and exploit resources under the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea.

**Reuters -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/philippines-calls-construction-freeze-south-china-sea-065859452.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/philippines-calls-construction-freeze-south-china-sea-065859452.html)

ESA

**Kenya**

**Gunmen kill at least 48 in attack on Kenyan coast**

At least 48 people were killed and others wounded when more than two dozen unidentified gunmen attacked a coastal Kenyan town overnight, police and the Kenya Red Cross said on Monday. The attackers targeted two hotels, a bank and a police station with guns and at least one explosive device on Sunday night. There was no immediate claim of responsibility. Police said the gunmen could have been Islamist militants or criminals.

**Reuters -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/least-14-killed-gun-attack-kenyan-coastal-town-053133294.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/least-14-killed-gun-attack-kenyan-coastal-town-053133294.html)

**South Sudan**

**UN says 50,000 children face death as launches aid plan**

Tens of thousands of children in South Sudan could die this year without assistance from aid agencies, the UN said on 14 June, as it appealed for more than $1 billion to help those hit by six months of civil war. "Unless fighting ends and people can return to their homes and resume their livelihoods, the situation will continue to worsen," UN Humanitarian Coordinator in South Sudan said at the launch of a plan to support 3.8 million people. "The consequences could be dire: 50,000 children could die this year if they do not get assistance."

**Reuters -** [**http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/06/14/southsudan-aid-idUKL5N0OV0E220140614**](http://uk.reuters.com/article/2014/06/14/southsudan-aid-idUKL5N0OV0E220140614)

**S.Sudan crisis 'deteriorates' after six months of war**Aid agencies warned Sunday that starvation and diseases like malaria and cholera were set to intensify the crisis in South Sudan, which has been devastated by six months of conflict. War in the young nation has already killed thousands and forced more than 1.5 million people from their homes, and aid agencies warn of the risk of famine should fighting continue. "The conflict has taken thousands of lives and destroyed the livelihoods of millions," Oxfam's South Sudan chief Emma Jane Drew said Sunday. "The people of South Sudan have been exposed to a triple crisis - conflict, hunger and disease - and with the rains now in full swing, the situation only stands to deteriorate." On Saturday, the UN launched an appeal for funds, begging for over a billion dollars to support almost four million people hit by the fighting.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/sudan-crisis-deteriorates-six-months-war-161957844.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/sudan-crisis-deteriorates-six-months-war-161957844.html)

**Tanzania**

**One killed, several wounded in Zanzibar bombing**

One person was killed and several others were wounded in a bomb attack near a mosque in Zanzibar, police said. "We are investigating to find out the type of explosive, the criminals and motive. We ask people to help provide information," a senior police official reported. Police said the bomb went off in the Daranjani business district of Stone Town, at around 8:15 pm. Witnesses said the casualties included worshippers who were coming out of evening prayers from a nearby mosque.

**AFP-** [**http://news.yahoo.com/one-killed-several-wounded-zanzibar-bombing-222632702.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/one-killed-several-wounded-zanzibar-bombing-222632702.html)

LAC

**Brazil**

**At least 13 people dead in flooding in the south**

The National Secretariat of Civil Protection and Defense, and the Ministry of National Integration declared emergencies in 150 cities in Paraná affected by the heavy rains. At least 13 people have died; there are 117 injured, and two missing. In the state of Paraná approximately 565,000 people are affected. There are 28,701 people displaced and 4,824 have lost their homes.

**VOR -** [**http://voiceofrussia.com/news/2014\_06\_13/13-dead-in-flooding-in-Brazil-4625/**](http://voiceofrussia.com/news/2014_06_13/13-dead-in-flooding-in-Brazil-4625/)

**Colombia**

**Colombia's Santos re-elected, tells rebels it's time for peace**

President Juan Manuel Santos vowed to bring peace to Colombia after winning re-election on Sunday, telling Marxist rebels his victory shows that voters demand an end to five decades of war. Santos, a center-rightist who has staked his reputation on securing a peace deal with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), won almost 51 percent support in the runoff election on Sunday. His right-wing rival Oscar Ivan Zuluaga trailed with 45 percent.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140616052657-k7jal/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140616052657-k7jal/?source=search)

**Mexico**

**6,000 Mexican children repatriated after illegal border crossings**

More than 6,000 Mexican children and teens who crossed unaccompanied and illegally into the United States were repatriated in the first four months of this year, Mexican officials said on 14 June.

In nearly all cases, the children had already been arrested at least once, and some more than five times, in attempts to cross the US border. The children make the grueling journey of hundreds of miles (kilometers) through Mexico to escape dire economic conditions and violence in their home countries, and to join relatives in the United States.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/6-000-mexican-kids-repatriated-illegal-border-crossings-225045648.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/6-000-mexican-kids-repatriated-illegal-border-crossings-225045648.html)

MENA

**Across MENA**

**Netanyahu speaks to Abbas about three abducted Israeli teens**

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spoke with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas on Monday and said he expected him to help in efforts to find three Israeli teenagers abducted in the occupied West Bank. "I expect you to help in the return of the kidnapped youngsters and in catching the abductors," a statement issued by the prime minister's office quoted Netanyahu as telling Abbas in a telephone call. A statement on Monday by Abbas's office made no mention of the conversation with Netanyahu. But it said the "Palestinian presidency condemns ... the kidnapping of three Israeli boys and the series of Israeli violations" - a reference to Israeli military raids and arrests since they disappeared on Thursday.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140616085449-r9ewc**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140616085449-r9ewc)

**Egypt**

**Egypt jails killers of Coptic Christians**

A court in Egypt Sunday jailed three people for life and two to seven years for creating a "terrorist" group and killing four Copts in 2010, a judicial official said. Another was sentenced in absentia to 10 years in prison, while a further 19 defendants were acquitted, the same source said. They were accused of "forming an illegal group and using terrorist methods to target the police, foreign tourists and the Copts". The four Coptic Christians - who comprise up to 10 percent of Egypt's mainly Muslim population - were killed in January 2010 in an attack on a jewellery shop in an eastern suburb of Cairo. Several more people were injured in the attack.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/egypt-jails-killers-coptic-christians-201823181.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/egypt-jails-killers-coptic-christians-201823181.html)

**Iraq  
Iraq forces preparing for counter-offensive**

Iraqi security forces readied a counter-offensive against militants north of Baghdad on 14 June, an army colonel said, after the prime minister announced the cabinet granted him "unlimited powers." The colonel from the military command responsible for Samarra, a city 110 kilometres (70 miles) north of the capital, said reinforcements from the federal police and army arrived on Friday. Witnesses said on Friday that militants were gathering in the Samarra area for another attack on the city, after being repulsed earlier in the week.   
**AFP -** [**http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/business/iraq-forces-preparing-for-counter-offensive-officer/articleshow/36541613.cms**](http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/business/iraq-forces-preparing-for-counter-offensive-officer/articleshow/36541613.cms)

**Al-Maliki calls on Iraqis to unite in fighting militants**Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki called on Iraqis of different religious and ethnic sects to unite to defeat the Sunni-led insurgency. “We all belong to one country and one religion,” the Shia premier said in the central city of Samara. “Don’t listen to those talking about Sunnis and Shias ... From Samara, we will start the battle to vanquish terrorism,” he said.   
**AP -** [**http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/world/almaliki-calls-on-iraqis-to-unite-in-fighting-militants/article6114761.ece**](http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/world/almaliki-calls-on-iraqis-to-unite-in-fighting-militants/article6114761.ece)

**Libya**

**Renegade general launches offensive in Benghazi, up to 12 killed**  
A renegade Libyan general launched a fresh offensive on 15 June against militants in the eastern city of Benghazi, sparking some of the worst fighting in weeks, with up to 12 people killed and power supplies disrupted. Libyan authorities are struggling to restore order across the vast desert nation ahead of a June 25 parliamentary election. The situation remains especially chaotic in Benghazi, Libya's second-largest city and cradle of the NATO-backed uprising that toppled Muammar Gaddafi three years ago.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140615211258-k2tb5/**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140615211258-k2tb5/)

**State of Palestine**

**Israel arrests 80 Palestinians in search for teens**

Israel's military says it has arrested around 80 Palestinians in the West Bank, including members of the militant group Hamas, as part of efforts to locate three teenagers, including an American, believed abducted in the territory while hitchhiking home. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu holds the Palestinian Authority responsible for the Thursday night disappearance of the teens. Netanyahu said they were "kidnapped by a terror group." The Palestinians have rejected blame, saying the teens went missing in territory under full Israeli control.

**AP -** [**http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle\_east/israel-arrests-80-palestinians-in-search-for-teens/2014/06/15/596e67e6-f451-11e3-a4a8-8ac203a4c406\_story.html**](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/israel-arrests-80-palestinians-in-search-for-teens/2014/06/15/596e67e6-f451-11e3-a4a8-8ac203a4c406_story.html)

**Syria**

**Syrian regime forces retake Kasab, pound ISIS bases**

Government forces flushed opposition fighters from their last strongholds in northwestern Syria near the Turkish frontier Sunday, seizing the Armenian town of Kasab and restoring government control over a nearby border crossing, activists and state media said. The developments came as regime airstrikes pounded bases in eastern Syria belonging to the Al-Qaeda splinter group ISIS in coordination with the Baghdad government, according to the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. The military’s advances fully reversed the gains rebels had made during their three-month campaign in Latakia province, the rugged coastal region that is the ancestral heartland of President Bashar Assad.

**The Daily Star -** [**http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2014/Jun-16/260284-syrian-regime-forces-retake-kasab-pound-isis-bases.ashx#ixzz34n9LSU2J**](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Middle-East/2014/Jun-16/260284-syrian-regime-forces-retake-kasab-pound-isis-bases.ashx#ixzz34n9LSU2J)

**Tunisia**

**Tunisia eyes autumn elections to anchor democracy**

Tunisia's election authority has proposed a parliamentary vote on 26 October and the first round of presidential polls a month later, marking the final step towards full democracy in the cradle of the 2011 Arab Spring uprisings. unisia's often turbulent political transition began after the popular revolt that ousted autocrat Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali and inspired revolutions across the region. The North African state has been run of late by a caretaker government that saw through the adoption of a new constitution lauded as a model of democratic evolution in an unstable region.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140616103805-o86k3/**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140616103805-o86k3/)

**Yemen**

**Drone strikes kill five suspected militants**

A drone strike killed five suspected al Qaeda militants in Yemen late on 13 June, a local official and a tribal source reported on 14 June. The strike targeted a vehicle in the Mafraq al-Saeed area of the Shabwa province in southern Yemen, the sources said. Of the five men killed in the vehicle, two were Saudis, the tribal source said.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/14/us-yemen-drones-idUSKBN0EP0AY20140614**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/14/us-yemen-drones-idUSKBN0EP0AY20140614)

**Al-Qaeda suspect kills 8 Yemen military hospital staff**

A gunman shot dead eight members of staff from a military hospital in Yemen's main southern city of Aden on Sunday, an army official told AFP, accusing Al-Qaeda. The attacker opened fire with an assault rifle at an army minibus, "killing eight passengers, among them two women, and wounding 12 others," the source said, adding that "the bus was carrying doctors and nurses working for the military hospital in Aden."

**AFP -** [**https://news.yahoo.com/qaeda-suspect-kills-8-yemen-military-hospital-staff-100905477.html**](https://news.yahoo.com/qaeda-suspect-kills-8-yemen-military-hospital-staff-100905477.html)

ROSA

**Afghanistan**  
**Taliban cuts off fingers of 11 Afghan voters**

Taliban militants cut off the fingers of eleven Afghan male voters on Saturday to send out a chilling message to the rest of the populace that they should not have voted in the presidential elections that have been held in two phases on April 5 and June 14. The incident took place in Herat's Robat Singi District. Allegations of voter fraud abound as well. Preliminary results of the election will be announced July 2.

**Gawker-** [**http://gawker.com/the-taliban-cut-off-the-fingers-of-11-afghan-voters-1591236643**](http://gawker.com/the-taliban-cut-off-the-fingers-of-11-afghan-voters-1591236643)

**Afghan probe into Abdullah's election fraud claims**

Afghan officials opened an investigation Monday after presidential front-runner Abdullah Abdullah made fraud claims that could threaten a smooth transition of power during a pivotal year. Abdullah demanded the sacking of Zia-ul-Haq Amarkhail, head of the Independent Election Commission secretariat, over an alleged attempt by Amarkhail to remove unused ballots from the IEC headquarters on polling day. Abdullah also said the IEC's turnout figure of 7 million voters in Saturday's run-off election was probably false.

**AFP -** [**http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/International/2014/Jun-16/260309-afghan-probe-into-abdullahs-election-fraud-claims.ashx#ixzz34nRITY7W**](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/International/2014/Jun-16/260309-afghan-probe-into-abdullahs-election-fraud-claims.ashx#ixzz34nRITY7W)

**Five children killed in Afghanistan rocket attack**Five children were killed and six people were wounded in a rocket attack in eastern Afghanistan, a government official said. "A rocket fired by the enemies landed on a house in Alisher district this morning. Five children under the age of 13 were killed in the house and five people including a woman were wounded," said Abdul Wahed Pathan, deputy governor for Khost province. The attack took place after voting started, he said.   
**QNA-** [**http://www.fananews.com/en/?p=215224**](http://www.fananews.com/en/?p=215224)

**Afghan election workers among 11 killed by roadside bomb**

Eleven people, including election workers, were killed in Afghanistan when a roadside bomb blew up their bus, the governor of the northern province of Samangan said on Sunday. The blast came on Saturday evening, after polls closed in a second-round, run-off vote to elect a successor to President Hamid Karzai, in what is hoped will mark the country's first democratic transfer of power.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/15/us-afghanistan-election-idUSKBN0EQ09420140615**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/15/us-afghanistan-election-idUSKBN0EQ09420140615)

**More than 200 die on Afghan election day**

At least 227 people, 33 of them civilians, were killed during the second round of Afghanistan's presidential election, the Defense Ministry says. "Eighteen soldiers were killed and 74 injured yesterday. Also 63 civilians were wounded in different parts of the country," said ministry spokesman Zahir Azimi. He said 176 Taliban fighters were killed and 93 injured on Saturday, adding that the number of security threats were higher compared to the first round of voting on April 5.   
**SPA-** [**http://www.spa.gov.sa/english/viewphotonews.php?id=1243818&pic**](http://www.spa.gov.sa/english/viewphotonews.php?id=1243818&pic)**=**

**Bangladesh**

**Bangladesh reported its first case of the deadly MERS**

Bangladesh Sunday reported its first case of the deadly MERS virus after a Bangladesh-born US resident was admitted to hospital days after returning to his homeland via Abu Dhabi. The condition of the unidentified 53-year-old man had improved but he was still in intensive care in a Dhaka clinic, Mahmudur Rahman, the director of the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research, told AFP. After a series of tests it was confirmed that he was suffering from MERS coronavirus. It was the first known MERS case in Bangladesh.

**Reuters - http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/15/us-health-mers-bangladesh-idUSKBN0EQ0DY20140615**

**Pakistan**

**Airstrikes in NW Pakistan kill about 100 militants**

Pakistani military jets pounded militant hideouts in the northwestern tribal region bordering Afghanistan early Sunday morning, officials said, killing as many as 100 militants in the second strike on the region since a deadly attack on the Karachi airport a week ago. Government efforts that started months ago to negotiate with the militants appeared to be going nowhere. Pakistani air force jets targeted eight militant hideouts in the North Waziristan tribal area, two intelligence officials said. Many of the dead were believed to be Uzbeks and other foreign fighters, they said.   
**AP -** [**http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2014/06/14/airstrikes-kill-about-100-militants-in-pakistan/10540735/**](http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2014/06/14/airstrikes-kill-about-100-militants-in-pakistan/10540735/)

**Taliban warns foreign firms as Pakistan sends in the tanks**The Pakistani Taliban warned foreign firms Monday to leave the country and vowed retaliatory strikes against the government after tanks, ground troops and jets were deployed in a long-awaited offensive in a troubled tribal district. The warning came as Pakistan's major cities braced for revenge attacks by ramping up security at key installations and ordering soldiers to patrol the streets, while hospitals in the northwest prepared for incoming casualties. The offensive on North Waziristan, a stronghold of Taliban and Al-Qaeda militants, was launched a week after a brazen insurgent attack on Pakistan's main airport in Karachi which left dozens dead and marked the end of a troubled peace process.

**AFP -** [**http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/International/2014/Jun-16/260318-taliban-warns-foreign-firms-as-pakistan-sends-in-the-tanks.ashx#ixzz34njo3ZGq**](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/International/2014/Jun-16/260318-taliban-warns-foreign-firms-as-pakistan-sends-in-the-tanks.ashx#ixzz34njo3ZGq)

**Pakistan to appeal ruling allowing Musharraf to leave country**

Pakistan Saturday appealed to the country's Supreme Court to overturn a decision allowing Pervez Musharraf to leave the country, his lawyer said, prolonging the ex-military ruler's legal woes. The move came after a court in Karachi ordered the lifting of a travel ban imposed on the 70-year-old last year after he returned to Pakistan in a failed attempt to stand for election. Musharraf has said he wants the travel ban lifted so he can visit his sick mother in Dubai, but many in Pakistan see it as a ruse to flee the country and avoid a litany of criminal cases dating back to his 1999-2008 rule.

**AFP -** [**http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/International/2014/Jun-14/260124-pakistan-to-appeal-ruling-allowing-musharraf-to-leave-country.ashx#ixzz34nSK6uqA**](http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/International/2014/Jun-14/260124-pakistan-to-appeal-ruling-allowing-musharraf-to-leave-country.ashx#ixzz34nSK6uqA)

**Sri Lanka**

**Three killed, 75 injured, houses set ablaze in Sri Lanka ethnic clashes**

At least three Muslims were killed and 75 people seriously injured in violence between Buddhists and Muslims in southern Sri Lankan coastal towns best known as tourist draws, with Muslim homes set ablaze, officials and residents said on Monday. There has been increasing violence against Muslims in Sri Lanka since 2012, mirroring events in Myanmar, which has seen a surge of attacks by members of the majority Buddhist community against Muslims.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140616080743-eo049/?source=jtOtherNews1**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140616080743-eo049/?source=jtOtherNews1)

WCA

**Across WCA**

**West African leaders not taking drug problem seriously enough: Annan**

Governments in West Africa are not taking the challenge posed by drug trafficking seriously enough and inaction has allowed high-level criminals to escape, forcing foreign involvement, former UN chief Kofi Annan told Reuters. Over the past decade, West Africa's string of poor, weak nations have become a major transit zone for Latin American cocaine headed to Europe. The flow of Asian heroin is up and experts say there is evidence of amphetamine-type stimulants being made in and exported from the region.

**Reuters -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/west-african-leaders-not-taking-drug-problem-seriously-141813699.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/west-african-leaders-not-taking-drug-problem-seriously-141813699.html)

**Mali**

**Mali armed groups say they agree to peace talks**

Three armed groups from northern Mali announced in Algiers on Sunday that they have agreed to begin talks with the Bamako government aimed at resolving long-standing disputes.

The National Movement for the Liberation of Azawad (MNLA), the High Council for the Unity of Azawad (HCUA) and the Arab Movement of Azawad (MAA) had signed the "Algiers Declaration" late Monday, demanding "inclusive" peace and political talks in their troubled country. On Sunday, initial discussions were concluded with the three groups signing a preliminary accord that will now be presented to the Malian government.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/mali-armed-groups-agree-peace-talks-152501612.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/mali-armed-groups-agree-peace-talks-152501612.html)

**Niger**

**Opposition protest in Niger against President Issoufou**

Thousands of people marched in Niamey on Sunday to protest against the regime of President Mahamadou Issoufou over the detention of six opposition figures which includes a former government minister charged on June 4 with threatening state security in the poor west African country. Police said 3,500 took part in the protest, while the opposition said the figure was closer to 60,000. Wearing T-shirts and waving flags and umbrellas in the colours of their parties, protesters marched through the capital shouting "Down with the regime" and "No to dictatorship". Opposition leader and former premier Seini Oumarou, former president Mahamane Ousmane and Hama Amadou, the current speaker of parliament, took part in the protest.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/opposition-protest-niger-against-president-issoufou-172816721.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/opposition-protest-niger-against-president-issoufou-172816721.html)

**Nigeria**

**Nigeria's opposition slams ruling party on insecurity**

Nigeria's main opposition party has taken up the issue of insecurity, slamming President Goodluck Jonathan's party for failing to stem the rising violence, ahead of what it calls "watershed" elections next year. Africa's most populous country and biggest economy will go to the polls in February 2015 to elect a new president and parliament, overshadowed by a five-year insurgency by Boko Haram Islamists who have killed thousands and whose abduction of more than 200 schoolgirls two months ago sparked global outrage.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/nigerias-opposition-slams-ruling-party-insecurity-182602990.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/nigerias-opposition-slams-ruling-party-insecurity-182602990.html)

The Brief is produced by UNICEF's Emergency Operations Centre (OPSCEN) and is a daily compilation of the main humanitarian, political and security-related media stories from around the world. It aims to provide field offices and senior decision-makers with critical information related to humanitarian emergencies and staff security.

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