

President Obama has announced his support for India's bid for a permanent place on the United Nations Security Council. He was addressing the Indian parliament.

"The just and sustainable international order that America seeks includes a United Nations that is efficient, effective, credible and legitimate. That is why I can say today in the years ahead, I look forward to a reformed United Nations Security Council that includes India as a permanent member."

The proposal has been strongly criticised by Pakistan which said India's conduct towards its neighbours and its actions concerning the disputed region of Kashmir discredited the bid. Correspondents say the US gesture of support will delight India which has been lobbying for a permanent seat for years.

Doctors in the Haitian capital Port-au-Prince say an outbreak of cholera has reached the city although there has been no official confirmation. The Haitian government says more than 540 people have died of cholera, and around 8,000 people have been treated in hospital. This report from our correspondent in Haiti, Laura Trevelyan.