

## Bolivia criticizes UN climate draft

AFP, Cancun

Bolivia late Friday criticized a draft UN agreement on climate change as too weak and accused other nations of trying to isolate the leftist-led nation at a crunch conference in Mexico.

"This document doesn't take into account Bolivia's proposals," climate negotiator Pablo Solon told a first meeting to discuss the text.

"Bolivia isn't ready to sign up to a document which means a rise in temperature which will put more humans in a near-death situation," Solon added, charging it could allow a rise of more than four degrees Celsius.

Since decisions of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change need to be made by consensus, Bolivia's stance raised the prospect of a second straight lengthy night.

But Venezuela, an ally of Bolivia that led opposition at last year's summit in Copenhagen, hinted it would not campaign against the draft.

# Key points in Cancun climate agreement

AFP, Cancun

UN-led climate negotiations in Mexico yesterday approved a deal after two weeks of talks and a final two days of virtually non-stop diplomacy.

Major powers including the United States, European Union, China, Japan and India all endorsed the deal. Bolivia was the only major holdout, but host Mexico overruled its objections.

Here are some key points in the agreement:

### ACTIONS TO CURB CLIMATE CHANGE:

Urges "deep cuts" in carbon emissions blamed for global warming to keep temperatures from rising no more than two degrees Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial levels. Calls for a study on strengthening the goal to 1.5 degrees.

Requires wealthy countries to cut emissions by 25 to 40 percent by 2020 compared with 1990 levels. This section is under a working group on the Kyoto Protocol so it does not involve the United States, which rejected the treaty.

Agrees to study new market mechanisms to help developing nations curb carbon emissions and to discuss the proposals at the next major climate meeting at the end of 2011 in South Africa.

### ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES:

Sets up a new international body, the Green



Activists of Environment Greenpeace perform next to a giant life ring, during talks on climate change, in Cancun beach on Friday.

Climate Fund, to administer money from wealthy nations for worst-affected countries. The European Union, Japan and the

United States have led pledges of 100 billion dollars a year starting in 2020, along with 30 billion dollars in rapid assistance.

Invites the World Bank to serve as the interim trustee of the Green Climate Fund for three years.

Sets up a 24-member board to lead the Green Climate Fund, with equal representation by developed and developing nations along with representatives from small island states which are most worried about climate change.

Sets up a Climate Technology Center and Network to help distribute the technical know-how to developing nations to contain emissions and adapt to climate change.

### REDUCING DEFORESTATION:

Voices broad support for efforts to reduce the destruction of forests, a leading cause of climate change as lush vegetation counteracts industrial pollution. Asks developing nations to draft anti-deforestation plans. However, the text does not include calls for a market role in such efforts.

Urges all nations to respect the rights of indigenous people.

### FUTURE OF KYOTO PROTOCOL:

Calls for wealthy nations to discuss a new round of emission cuts under the Kyoto Protocol -- whose requirements expire at the end of 2012 -- "to ensure that there is no gap."

It does not require nations for now to inscribe their post-2012 commitments under the Kyoto Protocol. Japan has led opposition to extending the treaty, saying it is unfair by not including China and the United States.

## Mexican broker 'a goddess': Ramesh

AFP, Cancun

India's environment minister late Friday likened Mexican Foreign Secretary Patricia Espinosa to a "goddess" as she won rave reviews for brokering a deal on climate change.

At a late-night session of the talks in Cancun, Indian Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh urged all nations to support the "balanced" compromise which he said took account of the points of view of all sides.

"The great Mexican revolutionary leader Porfirio Diaz had said the big challenge for Mexico is it is very close to its northern neighbour but very far away from God," Ramesh said. "But tonight, God has been very close to Mexico."

"If I may say so," he said, "since I come from a country which has more goddesses than gods, not only has God been present, but a goddess has been present today."

## UPDATES ON WIKILEAKS

# Latest WikiLeaks revelations

AFP, REUTERS, Paris/Singapore

Key points in the latest secret US diplomatic cables released by WikiLeaks: **43 MILITANT CAMPS IN PAKISTAN** India has told the United States there were 43 militant camps in Pakistan, including 22 in Pakistan-administered Kashmir, and that little had been done to permanently shut them down, the latest set of leaked US diplomatic cables showed.

The allegation was made by during a conversation in June last year between then US National Security Adviser General Jim Jones and Indian Defence Minister AK Antony, according to the cables released by WikiLeaks and published by Britain's Guardian newspaper.

Indian army chief General Deepak Kapoor, who attended the meeting, said that Pakistan had raided the camps following the Mumbai attacks in 2008 but some of them had since resumed operations.

Kapoor also told the US delegation that militants continued to infiltrate into Indian-administered Kashmir across the Line of Control and that it would not be possible without "some

kind of assistance, and or/degree of support that is institutional", the cable said.

### VATICAN'S REFUSAL ON CHILD SEX ABUSE

The Vatican hit back yesterday after cables released by WikiLeaks indicated it had refused to cooperate with an Irish probe into child sex abuse by Catholic priests in Dublin.

The Vatican press office expressed scepticism at the reliability of the reports in a statement that referred to "the extreme seriousness of publishing such a large amount of secret and confidential material, and its possible consequences".

"Naturally these reports reflect the perceptions and opinions of the people who wrote them and cannot be considered as expressions of the Holy See itself, nor as exact quotations of the words of its officials," it said.

"Their reliability must, then, be evaluated carefully and with great prudence, bearing this circumstance in mind."

A cable from the US embassy in Rome, carried by The Guardian, had said requests for information by Ireland's Murphy Commission "of-

fended many in the Vatican... because they saw them as an affront to Vatican sovereignty".

The Murphy commission's findings, published in November 2009, caused shock across Ireland and the worldwide Catholic community by detailing how Church authorities covered up for paedophile priests in Dublin for three decades.

Dated February 26 this year, the cable quoted US diplomat in Rome Julieta Noyes as saying, "While Vatican contacts immediately expressed deep sympathy for the victims and insisted that the first priority was preventing a recurrence, they also were angered by how the situation played out politically".

Apart from the "affront to Vatican sovereignty", the cable said Vatican officials were annoyed that Dublin "did not step in to direct the Murphy Commission to follow standard procedures in communications with Vatican City."

**CHINA FADE-UP ON MYANMAR** China is fed up with the "foot-dragging" of the military junta in Myanmar on reform and fears the ruling generals can no longer protect

its interests in the country.

"The Chinese clearly are fed up with the foot-dragging by the Than Shwe regime," the top US diplomat in Yangon, Shari Villarosa, wrote in a January 2008 memo summarising a meeting with the Chinese ambassador at the time.

"The Chinese can no longer rely on the generals to protect their interests here, and recognise the need to broker some solution that keeps the peace," she wrote, following mass street rallies in 2007 that ended in bloody violence.

The cable added that after Chinese efforts to push for reform had ended "without much observable result", Beijing was willing to work with the United States to get the generals back to the negotiating table.

### RUDD SCARED OF AFGHAN CONFLICT

Australia's former prime minister Kevin Rudd confessed that the bloody conflict in Afghanistan "scares the hell out of" him.

Rudd, currently foreign minister, was revealed to have confided his pessimism over the likely outcome of the conflict, in which 1,550 Australian troops are engaged.

# Pakistan hoaxed by bogus anti-India cables

BBC ONLINE

Pakistani newspapers have admitted they were hoaxed after publishing reports based on fake Wikileaks cables containing anti-Indian propaganda.

US diplomatic cables were reported on Thursday as confirming many right-wing Pakistani views and conspiracy theories about their regional arch-foe.

They claimed US envoys thought one Indian general was "rather a geek", and accused India of genocide in Kashmir.

The fake cables are believed to have been planted by Pakistani intelligence.

The Guardian, a British newspaper which has all of the 250,000 leaked Wikileaks cables, said that an extensive search of the database had found nothing to match any of the claims in the Pakistani media.

### 'Deep regret'

A spokesman for the Indian High Commission in Islamabad said they were "appalled" such a baseless story had attracted such wide exposure.

According to the fake cables, Indian spies were said to be supporting Islamist militants in Pakistan's north-western tribal region of Waziristan and the south-western province of Baluchistan.

US diplomats were also said to believe the Indian Army was faction-ridden; a "Bosnia-like genocide" was happening in Indian-administered Kashmir; and the Indian military was supporting "Hindu fanatic groups".

The bogus messages also referred to the confession of Ajmal Qasab, the only surviving gunman of the 2008 Mumbai attacks, calling it funny and "shockingly immature".

US diplomats were said to have referred to former Indian Army chief General Deepak Kapoor as "an incompetent combat leader and rather a geek".

"His war doctrine, suggesting eliminating China and Pakistan in a simultaneous war front, was termed as 'much far from reality'," reported the News, a daily newspaper.

Another army chief had apparently been described as "an egotist, self-obsessed, petulant and idiosyncratic general, a braggadocio and a show-off, who has been disliked (and barely tolerated) by all his subordinates".

### 'Without verification'

The report also said that US diplomats had compared yet another Indian general in Indian-administered Kashmir to "General Milosevic of Bosnia with regard to butchering Muslims through war crimes".

# US likely to charge Assange on espionage soon

REUTERS, Washington

A lawyer for Julian Assange, the founder of the WikiLeaks website, said on Friday she expects US prosecutors will indict her client soon for espionage.

The lawyer, Jennifer Robinson, told ABC News in London that a US indictment of Assange was imminent but the report offered no further details or comment by Robinson about why she believed charges were likely to be filed soon.

The US Justice Department has been looking into a range of criminal charges, including violations of the 1917 Espionage Act, that could be filed in the WikiLeaks case involving the release of hundreds of confidential and classified US diplomatic cables.

A Justice Department spokeswoman declined to comment on Robinson's prediction of an indictment.

US Attorney General Eric Holder earlier this week said that prosecutors were looking beyond the espionage law for possible charges.

"That is certainly something that might play a role, but there are other statutes, other tools at our disposal," Holder told reporters on Monday. "I authorized just last week a number of things to be done so that we can get to the bottom of this and hold people accountable."



Demonstrators wearing mask of Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi (R) get ready prior a march to protest against the government called by the Democratic Party (PD) yesterday in Rome. Berlusconi faces a knife-edge confidence vote in both houses of parliament on December 13 that could trigger his downfall.

# UK Student protests Radio failure claims rejected in royal attack

BBC ONLINE

Police have rejected suggestions that a communication breakdown led to the Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall being caught up in student protests.

It has been reported that police guarding the couple were using a different radio frequency to those policing the London demonstrations.

Scotland Yard insisted the two teams were in contact and may have used mobile phones or e-mail.

A major inquiry into the student disorder of recent weeks has begun.

'Intent on violence' The prince's and the Duchess of Cornwall's car was daubed with paint and had a window smashed during tuition fee protests on Thursday.

The royal couple were being escorted by outriders and Royalty Protection Officers to a theatre in central London when their car was attacked.

A police spokesman said the route along Regent Street had been checked minutes before the incident and was deemed to be safe.

# Teacher killed

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Station, said they recovered the body around 1:00am yesterday. They had to break open the door to get inside.

"We found a piece of cloth tightly wrapped around her neck," said the OC adding that Aklima might have been strangled.

Lima Begum, who lives in the adjacent room, told The Daily Star she heard a sound while she was watching TV at the house owner's room at 10:45pm on Friday night. As she went to check from where the sound was coming, she saw a youth rushing out of Aklima's room barefooted.

House owner Mizanur Rahman's wife Lipi Begum said they found the flat where Aklima's room is locked from outside at about 11:30pm.

With the help of the neighbours, they unlocked the main door and found Aklima's room locked as well. As one of them looked through a hole in the door, he saw her lying

motionless on the floor.

Alarmed, they soon called the police.

Lipi added that when she saw a youth at Aklima's room at about 8:00pm that night, she introduced him to her as cousin.

She saw the youth entering Aklima's room around the same time the previous night.

At that time, Aklima's sister Suma, a university student, was in their village home at Ashulia, she added.

Aklima's father Saidur Rahman said a youth had been stalking her daughter over the phone for several months.

He suspects that he might have killed Aklima.

Salauddin Robin, a governing body member of the school, said Aklima's father had informed the school's headmaster about the stalker 10 days ago.

In reply, the headmaster had advised that Aklima change the SIM of her mobile and file a GD.

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