

BID TO FIGHT  
TROPICAL DISEASE

COP28 focus  
on health  
draws \$777m

REUTERS, Dubai

The United Arab Emirates and several charities at the UN climate summit yesterday offered \$777 million in financing for eradicating neglected tropical diseases that are expected to worsen as temperatures climb.

Climate-related factors “have become one of the greatest threats to human health in the 21st century”, COP28 President Sultan Ahmed Al-Jaber said in a statement.

The pledges, made as the COP28 summit yesterday focused on climate-related health risks, included \$100 million from the UAE and another \$100 million from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Others to announce funds for climate-related health issues included Belgium, Germany and the US Agency for International Development.

WB launches new Climate and Health programme to explore possible public health solutions for developing countries.

The World Bank launched a program to explore possible support measures for public health in developing countries, where climate-related health risks are especially high.

The burden of tropical diseases will worsen as the world warms, along with other climate-driven health threats including malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoea and heat stress.

Many tropical diseases are already easy to treat. River blindness and sleeping sickness, for example, are both endemic to Africa and spread through parasitic worms and flies that are likely to proliferate in a warming world.

More than 120 countries have signed a COP28 declaration acknowledging their responsibility to keep people safe amid global warming. The declaration made no mention of fossil fuels.



Palestinian civilians flee Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip yesterday after the Israeli army called on people to leave certain areas in the city, as battles between Israel and Hamas continue.

PHOTO: AFP

‘Unimaginable’

WHO chief issues stark warning about Gaza health sector  
as Israel continues bombing

AGENCIES

The head of the World Health Organization (WHO), Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, has issued a stark warning about the health sector in Gaza, describing the situation as “unimaginable.”

He expressed deep concern over the reports of ongoing hostilities and heavy bombardment in the region.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus recounted a recent visit by the WHO team to Nassar Medical Hospital in the south of Gaza, revealing that the facility was overcrowded, with 1,000 patients—three times over its capacity.

He highlighted the distressing

conditions, stating that patients were receiving care on the floor, and the facility was filled to every corner with people seeking shelter.

“The conditions are beyond inadequate - unimaginable for the provision of health care. I cannot find words strong enough to express our concern over what we’re witnessing,” Tedros said yesterday on X, formerly Twitter, demanding a “Ceasefire. NOW.”

The Israeli army had resumed bombing the Gaza Strip after a week-long humanitarian pause, leading to a resurgence of hostilities with the Palestinian group Hamas.

The toll of the Israeli aggression on

Gaza is devastating, with more than 15,200 Palestinians, predominantly children and women, reported killed since October 7.

The WHO chief’s plea for a ceasefire underscores the pressing need for international intervention to mitigate the unfolding humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza.

In a new estimate, the UN humanitarian agency OCHA said around 1.8 million people in Gaza, roughly 75 percent of the population, had been displaced, many to overcrowded and unsanitary shelters.

Nasser hospital in the southern Gaza city of Khan Yunis overflowed with both the wounded and the dead, reports AFP.

Russian forces  
hit air defence  
HQ in Dnipro

REUTERS, Moscow

Russian forces hit a fortified commander post of Ukraine’s “East” air defence and alerting centre in the central city of Dnipro, the Russian defence ministry said yesterday. It said that it inflicted combined strikes by operational-tactical and army aviation, unmanned aerial vehicles, missile forces and artillery.

Earlier yesterday, Ukraine’s air force said Russia launched 12 drones and a cruise missile at Ukraine overnight, with air defence systems destroying 10 drones before they reached their targets.

The Iranian-made Shahed drones were headed towards Ukraine’s northwest, the air force said. Most were downed in the Mykolaiv region in Ukraine’s south. Regional officials confirmed the attack but said they had no information on casualties or damage.

Russia’s defence ministry also said it its daily dispatch that it hit fuel depots in the areas of Myrhorod, Poltava region and the city of Khmelnytskyi, an ammunition arsenal in the Mykolaiv region as well as manpower and equipment in 107 various districts.

In a separate incident, an elderly man was killed during Russian shelling of Ukraine’s southern region of Kherson yesterday, regional officials said. “The occupants attacked the (Sadove) village... A man died on the spot from the explosive injury,” they said.

CATHOLIC MASS

Four killed in bomb  
attack in Philippines

AFP, Marawi

At least four people were killed and dozens wounded in a bomb attack on a Catholic mass in the insurgency-plagued southern Philippines yesterday, with President Ferdinand Marcos blaming “foreign terrorists”.

The blast happened during a morning service at Mindanao State University’s gymnasium in Marawi, the country’s largest Muslim city. Police Lieutenant General Emmanuel Peralta said four people were killed and around 50 wounded in the blast that was caused by an improvised explosive device.



Residents fetch water next to a destroyed house in Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur province, Philippines yesterday, following a 7.6 magnitude earthquake late on Saturday. A second earthquake of 6.6 magnitude hit the southern Philippines yesterday, the US Geological Survey said.

PHOTO: AFP

Over 135 Chinese boats  
‘swarming’ reef off coast

Says Philippines coast guard

AFP, Manila

The Philippines said yesterday more than 135 Chinese vessels were “swarming” a reef off its coast, describing the boats’ growing presence as “alarming”.

The Chinese boats were “dispersed and scattered” within the boomerang-shaped Whitsun Reef, which the Philippines calls Julian Felipe Reef, around 320 kilometres (200 miles) west of Palawan Island, the coast guard said.

Whitsun Reef is more than 1,000 kilometres from the nearest major Chinese landmass of Hainan island.

The Philippines said it counted 111 “Chinese maritime militia vessels” (CMM) on November 13. When the coast guard deployed two patrol boats to the area on Saturday the number had increased to “more than 135”, the force said.

“No response was made to the



radio challenges issued by the PCG (Philippine Coast Guard) to the CMM vessels which is now estimated to have grown to more than 135 vessels dispersed and scattered within Julian Felipe Reef,” Manila’s coast guard said, describing the boats’ presence as “alarming” and “illegal”.

The Chinese embassy in Manila did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Beijing claims most of the South China Sea, including waters and islands close to the shores of its neighbours, and has ignored an

international tribunal decision that its assertion has no legal basis.

It deploys vessels to patrol the waters, and has built artificial islands and military installations to reinforce its stance.

The Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam have also staked claims to various islands and reefs in the sea, which is believed to have rich petroleum reserves deep beneath its waters.

The coast guard yesterday released images which it said showed Chinese vessels lined up in formation while others were scattered around the waters.

In 2021, a similar incident involving more than 200 Chinese vessels at the reef sparked a diplomatic row between Manila and Beijing.

At the time, Manila insisted their incursion into the Philippines’ exclusive economic zone was unlawful.

‘Terrorist plot’  
probe after  
deadly Paris  
stabbing

AFP, Paris

A man known to French authorities for radical Islamism with mental health troubles stabbed a tourist to death and wounded two other people in Paris late Saturday night before being arrested, with prosecutors opening an investigation into a suspected “terrorist plot”.

The attack close to the Eiffel Tower around 9:00 pm (2000 GMT) during a busy weekend came with the country on its highest alert, as tensions rise against the background of the war between Israel and Hamas.


Prosecutors specialising in terrorist incidents told AFP they had opened a probe into the attacker, named as Armand Rajabpour-Miyandoab, a French national born in 1997 to Iranian parents who was arrested soon after the knife and hammer attack.

They suspect him of murder against the 23-year-old dead man, identified as a German-Filipino citizen by a judicial source.

He will further be probed for attempted murder against the two wounded people, a 66-year-old British citizen and a 60-year-old French national, “in connection with a terrorist plot”.

Rajabpour-Miyandoab, known to authorities and in treatment for mental illness, shouted in Arabic for “God is greatest” – at the moment of the attack, Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said at the scene by Bir Hakeim bridge.

The suspect, who lived with his parents in the Essonne region south of Paris, told police he could not stand Muslims being killed in “Afghanistan and Palestine” and accused France of being “an accomplice to what Israel is doing” in Gaza Strip, Darmanin added.

Rangamati Hill District Council					
Rangamati Hill District					
Memo No. 29.34.8400.204.14.003.23-343			Date: 03.12.2023		
e-Tender Notice: 07/2023-24					
Open Tendering Method (OTM)					
e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal ( <a href="http://www.eprocure.gov.bd">http://www.eprocure.gov.bd</a> ) for the procurement of work as stated as below.					
Sl No.	Tender ID	Name of Work & Package No.	Last selling date & time	Closing date & time	Opening date & time
1	917882	Construction of Boundary Wall and Drain at Behind of Bazar Fund 4 No. Building in Sadar Upazilla under Bazar Fund, Rangamati. BF/23-24/001.	18-Dec-2023 16.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00
2	917883	Renovation Works of Drain & Meat Shed & Construction of New Shed in Kawkhali Bazar under Bazar Fund, Rangamati, BF/23-24/002	18-Dec-2023 16.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00
3	917884	Completion of Incomplete Works Ghagra Bazar Internal Road in Kawkhali Upazilla under Bazar Fund, Rangamati. BF/23-24/003	18-Dec-2023 16.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00
4	917885	Construction of 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Market in front of Bazar Fund Office under Bazar Fund, Rangamati. BF/23-24/004	18-Dec-2023 16.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00
5	917886	Development of Kengrachari Bazar by the Earth Leveling at Bilaichari Upazilla under Bazar Fund, Rangamati. BF/23-24/005	18-Dec-2023 16.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00
6	917887	Completion of Incomplete Works in Jurachari Bazar at Juraichari Upazilla under Bazar Fund, Rangamati. BF/23-24/006	18-Dec-2023 16.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00
7	917888	Construction of Semi Pacca House to Prevent Land from Encroachments Behind 4 No. Staff Quarter of Bazar Fund in Sadar Upazilla under Bazar Fund, Rangamati. BF/23-24/007	18-Dec-2023 16.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00	19-Dec-2023 13.00
This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and offline/hard copies will not be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-GP System Portal ( <a href="http://www.eprocure.gov.bd">http://www.eprocure.gov.bd</a> ) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and also from e-GP help desk ( <a href="mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd">helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd</a> ).					
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