

A bomb exploded beside a police station in **Algeria** overnight, wounding at least five people in the first direct attack on a police post in several years.

Even as the bloody fallout from fighting between the army and rebels at Am Timan in southern **Chad** is still being counted, new clashes have erupted nearby.

Further north the Darfur war has reportedly spilled into eastern Chad for the second time in a month. Unidentified armed groups continue to target humanitarian workers and steal their vehicles, the United Nations refugee agency warned today. Thousands of Somali refugees have fled to Kenya.

Cholera has surged again in **Guinea** since the rainy season began in June, including in the capital, Conakry, where the Health Ministry reported 626 cases so far this year.

Deadly clashes between **Somalia's** Union of Islamic Courts fighters in Gilinsor, Mudug province and militias loyal former defeated warlord Abdi Qeybdid who has links with the autonomous regional government of Puntland took place around Gilinsor district Monday.

Mauritanians have voted massively in favor of limiting presidents to a maximum of 10 years in power in a referendum aimed at ending decades of coup attempts and one-party system.

Swarms of desert locusts have been sighted in the remote northwest **Mauritanian** province Inchiri, 250 km west of the capital Nouakchott, raising fears of a locust invasion at the height of the growing season.

Almost 70,000 people in Western Africa have been displaced by floods from seasonal rains and need food, blankets, mosquito nets and other assistance, according to a report from three United Nations agencies.

Ibrahima Sory Dieng, managing director, and Alhassane Souare, editor-in-chief of the state-owned newspaper "Horoya", were suspended indefinitely by the minister of information Aboubacar Sylla, for not publishing a photograph of President Lassana Conte of Guinea alongside his speech.

A bill that would abolish capital punishment in **Morocco** is scheduled to be presented to parliament within the few next months.

The main opposition parties have dropped out of the election race in **Tajikistan**, and the few remaining candidates have no chance against the current president.

The world was shocked, dismayed and angered over North Korea's test of a nuclear weapon.

Puppets have long been used to entertain and to teach children basic lessons such as how to count and the letters of the alphabet. Now in **Afghanistan**, the creators of Muppet stars Miss Piggy and Fozzy Bear have teamed up with two charities to teach children a lesson in survival: how not to get killed or maimed by the millions of land mines still buried in the Afghan soil.

With violence bloodying Iraq, Kurds in the peaceful north have been showing signs of going their own way, raising their own flag and even hinting they could secede in a dispute over oil wealth—moves that have alarmed Shiites and Sunnis.

United Nations agencies and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) are investigating reports that thousands of people recently fled into **The Gambia** from unrest in Senegal's southern Casamance region. The situation is being exacerbated by an upcoming vote and the numerous allegations of fraud already circulating.

Saudi Arabia's religious police, normally tasked with chiding women to cover themselves and ensuring men attend mosque prayers, are turning to a new target that has been banned: cats and dogs. Muslims consider dogs to be unclean, but it is unusual to ban cats.

Jordanian Lawmakers have approved a measure that would only allow a state-appointed council to issue religious edicts, a move aimed at denying Islamic hard-liners a forum for disseminating extremist ideology.

Drought and destroyed crops are contributing to famine in Afghanistan, with millions of people facing starvation.

President Hamid Karzai formally opened a 25-million-dollar Coca-Cola bottling plant, one of the most significant investments in Afghanistan since the ousting of the Taliban five years ago.

President Muammer Gaddafi has warned Africans in the diaspora to come back because if they do not move quickly all the best-paid jobs will be taken by Chinese or Indians.

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