



The **INTERNATIONAL** **CURRENT AFFAIRS** Society Official Newsletter

Meetings every **Wednesday** at **2pm** in **S0.18**
Live at **5pm** on **RaW 1251AM** every **Friday**

2009/10 - Term 1 - Week 10

COPENHAGEN SUMMIT ON CLIMATE CHANGE UNDERWAY

The Copenhagen summit on climate change has now begun, with the intention of uniting the world in mitigating the effects of climate change. Many believe leaders will agree on pledges to ensure the Earth does not warm by more than 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. However, many African and island nations are pushing for more stringent targets. The talks aim to bring measures to curb emissions into place, as well as methods to bring financial support to developing countries and the creation of a carbon trading scheme. Barack Obama has also said he will attend only the end of the event, strongly implying he intends to use his political clout to ensure a deal is made. Will anything come of these talks? Or is it, excuse the pun, just a lot of hot air?

US RECOGNISES CLIMATE CHANGE

On a similar topic: the American government has officially recognised that greenhouse gases harm human health. This paves the way for the US Environmental Protection Agency to instigate reductions in emissions without prior approval. This is a big change compared to the Bush administration, which refused to admit climate change even existed, and regularly covered up scientific evidence.

ROMANIAN OPPOSITION CLAIMS FOUL PLAY

Both parties in the recent Romanian presidential election have declared victory, but official results claim current president Traian Basescu the victor, with a margin of just 1%. This seems odd as exit polls suggested a victory for his rival from the Social Democrat party, who claim that they have evidence that the vote was rigged.

News Briefs:

- ❖ *Shoes thrown at Iraqi shoe-thrower.*