

## Antarctic fragility a reminder of importance of success in Copenhagen — Ban

*(1 December 2009)*

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today urged action on two fronts ahead of next week's United Nations climate change conference in Copenhagen as he marked the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Antarctic Treaty and commended European ministers for their work with the UN.

In a video address, the Secretary-General said that international cooperation in and for Antarctica provides an example for all...

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## International Calls for Action from World Leaders

### Expectations for Copenhagen

*(25 November 2009)*

In a briefing to the press less than two weeks ahead of the historic UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen (COP 15), UNFCCC Executive Secretary Yvo de Boer spoke about his expectations for the meeting, which he described as a "historic turning point."

In particular, a successful outcome in Copenhagen requires ambitious emissions targets from industrialized countries, as well as stable and predictable finance to support mitigation and adaptation actions by developing countries — with US 10 billion a year up to 2013 needed to kick-start immediate action.

[More Details](#)

**UN-backed report urges Pacific nations to scale up response to HIV/AIDS**

(2 December 2009)

A new United Nations-backed report calls on countries in the Pacific Ocean region to scale up their response to HIV and AIDS, which is being fuelled in the region by violence against women, stigma and unprotected sex.

According to "Turning the tide: an OPEN strategy for a response to AIDS in the Pacific," the first report published by the Commission on AIDS in the Pacific, an estimated 59,000 people were living with HIV in the region in 2008, of which 3,800 were new infections.

Excluding Australia and New Zealand, Papua New Guinea accounted for more than 99 per cent of reported HIV cases in the region in 2007.

Outside of Papua New Guinea, the islands of New Caledonia, Fiji, French Polynesia and Guam account for the vast majority of HIV infections.

[More Details](#)

### **Year-end UN snapshot shows Asia-Pacific leading global economic recovery**

(30 November 2009)

A year-end update released today by the United Nations regional arm in Asia and the Pacific shows that the region is leading the global economic recovery, with the growth rate in 2010 forecast at 6.3 per cent – the highest in the world.

However, the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2009: Year-end Update also found that considerable uncertainties remain about the extent and durability of the recovery.

Published by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the report said that the region's recovery depends very much on external factors. Key to the region's exports, for example, will be the recovery of demand in developed countries.

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### **UNAA Member News and Events**

#### **Annual General Meeting 2009**

The 2009 United Nations Association of Australia (Victorian Division) Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday, November 26 at the Knox Lecture Room, Thomas Carr Centre. Mr. John Gibson, President of the Refugee Council of Australia, was the guest speaker for the evening and delivered an insightful presentation on refugee policies in Australia. At the AGM, Mr. Mark Coffey announced that he would be standing down from his role as President of the Association. At the meeting, Mr. Graham Hunter was duly elected to the position of President. Graham Hunter, in his presentation, thanked Mark on behalf of the Association for the contribution he had made over his three years as President.

[Other Events](#)

**Government House Open Day**

**Tuesday 26 January 2010**

Government House Open Day will occur on Australia Day, Tuesday, 26 January 2010.

On this day, Professor David de Kretser AC, Governor of Victoria and Mrs. Jan de Kretser invite all citizens of Victoria and visitors to the State, to an Open Day at Government House.

Open Day is a completely free event. Visitors will be able to view the State Apartments, the Private Apartments and the Governor's Study. Many of these rooms are not normally open to the public.

Visitors are invited to tour the House and picnic in the grounds, with refreshments available for purchase. Children's entertainment and musical performances will be available in the grounds, as well as performances inside the House.

Gates open at 10.00am until 3.00pm. Government House is located at:

Government House Drive, Melbourne

Melways Map Reference 2G, A11

Parking: Birdwood Avenue and St. Kilda Road

For further information, please contact:

Alex Hodgson or Wendy Heintz — Open Day Co-ordinators

Telephone: 9655 4211

[Alexandra.hodgson@govhouse.vic.gov.au](mailto:Alexandra.hodgson@govhouse.vic.gov.au)

[Wendy.heintz@govhouse.vic.gov.au](mailto:Wendy.heintz@govhouse.vic.gov.au)

UNAA Victoria office:

[www.unaavictoria.org.au](http://www.unaavictoria.org.au)

Ph: (03) 9670 7878 || Fax: (03) 9670 9993

Email: [info@unaavictoria.org.au](mailto:info@unaavictoria.org.au)