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CONTENTS

- DETERRENCE: Aging U.S. nuclear arsenal slated for costly and long-delayed modernization
- DPRK: Pyongyang politicians go home empty- handed
- ENERGY SECURITY: Low hanging fruit: fossil fuel subsidies, climate finance, and sustainable developments
- GOVERNANCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY: China focus: Diaoyu Islands rift takes toll on China-Japan economic, trade ties
- CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: Limits and barriers to climate change adaptation for small inland communities affected by drought
- CLIMATE CHANGE AND SECURITY: Report warns of global food insecurity as climate change destroys fisheries

DETERRENCE: Aging U.S. nuclear arsenal slated for costly and long-delayed modernization, Dana Priest, Washington Post (15 September 2012)

The Stimson Center estimated the cost to upgrade and maintain the US' 5,113 nuclear warheads, to replace old delivery systems and to renovate the aging facilities where nuclear work is performed is at least $352 billion over the coming decade. The cost may be higher if the work is delayed.

- Washington Post misleads in major article addressing nuclear weapons complex, Greg Mello, Los Alamos Study Group (15 September 2012)
- Resolving ambiguity: costing nuclear weapons, Russell Rumbaugh, Nathan Cohn, Stimson Center (5 June 2012) [PDF, 0.7MB]

DPRK: Pyongyang politicians go home empty- handed, Yan Jun, Deutschewelle (25 September 2012)

North Korea's second Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) meeting this year proved anti-climactic – so far; stressing the importance of education reform to uphold socialist ideals. North Korean boats continue moving south frequently searching for food in what North Korea sees as its territorial waters. This situation has a relatively high chance of ending in crisis. North Korea halted construction at one launch site, but one remains active.

- North Korea convenes the Sixth Session of the 12th Supreme People's Assembly, Zhou Zhiran, People's Daily Online (25 September 2012) [Chinese language]
- Construction halted at new North Korean missile launch pad; old site refurbished in preparation for future launches, Nick Hansen, 38 North (24 September 2012)
- S Korean leader warns of growing maritime threats, The International News (25 September 2012)

ENERGY SECURITY: Low hanging fruit: fossil fuel subsidies, climate finance, and sustainable developments, Oil Change International for the Heinrich Böll Stiftung North America with Natural Resources Defense Council and contributions from the Vasudha Foundation (India) and Greenovation Hub (China) (June 2012)

Cheap research, with self-righteous assertions in the name of climate change, is a low-hanging fruit for fame and grants. So what if the G-20 committed to "phase out and rationalize over the medium term inefficient fossil fuel subsidies while providing targeted support for the poorest"? Promises are cheap. Certain aspects of Western-style environmentalism have been romantic regressions into a mythical past, even smacking of imperialism. Fiscal pressures may force the issue and help reduce such subsidies.

- IISD guidebook details the scale and impacts of Nigeria's energy subsidies, Press release for A Citizen's Guide to Energy Subsidies in Nigeria, IISD (21 September 2012)
- Address to the Nation by the Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, Times of India (21 September 2012)

GOVERNANCE AND CIVIL SOCIETY: China focus: Diaoyu Islands rift takes toll on China-Japan economic, trade ties, Xinhua News (25 September 2012)

The ongoing Senkaku (Diaoyu) Islands conflict between Japan and China has hindered economic relations, including numerous flight cancellations during a peak holiday season. Thousands of Chinese tourists now plan to spend a weeklong holiday in Korea and are boycotting all things Japan. Japanese and Taiwanese ships exchanged water-cannon fire off the Island's coast. Rising Japanese leaders are taking an even tougher stance on issues of nationalism.

- China-Japan Islands dispute stokes S. Korean tourism boom, Kyunghee Park and Sangim Han,

Bloomberg News (24 September 2012)

- Japan opposition picks new leader, possible next PM amid China feud, Tetsushi Kajimoto, Reuters (26 September 2012)
- In dispute over islands, Japan trades water-cannon fire with Taiwan as meets with China, Associated Press (25 September 2012)

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: Limits and barriers to climate change adaptation for small inland communities affected by drought, Anthony Kiem and Emma Austin, The National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility - NCCARF (2012) [2.05 MB, PDF]

In assessing the limitations of water trading, and MBIs (market-based instruments) in general, as a climate change adaptation tool it is crucial to note the difficulties of separating the impacts and issues attributable to water trading or water policy and those that are caused by drought or other climate impacts. The highly variable nature of Australia's climate poses a significant barrier to overcome when developing and assessing the performance of any water trading scheme.

- Limits to adaptation project: synthesis and integrative research programme, The National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility - NCCARF (2012)
- Historical case studies of extreme events: drought and the future of rural communities: drought impacts and adaptation in regional Victoria, Australia, Anthony S Kiem et al., The National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility - NCCARF (2010)

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SECURITY: Report warns of global food insecurity as climate change destroys fisheries, Suzanne Goldenberg, The Guardian (24 September 2012)

The Persian Gulf, Libya, and Pakistan are at high risk of food insecurity in coming decades because climate change and ocean acidification are destroying fisheries. Some of the countries at highest risk were in oil-rich – and politically volatile – regions. "The Persian Gulf is actually expected to be one of the hardest-hit regions. In terms of fish catch they are supposed to lose over 50% of their fisheries." America is expected to lose about 12% of its catch potential by mid-century.

- Ocean-based food security threatened in a high CO2 world: a ranking of nations' vulnerability to climate change and ocean acidification, Matthew Huelsenbeck, Oceana (September 2012) [PDF, 1.06MB]
- Climate trends and global crop production since 1980, David Lobell, Wolfram Schlenker, Justin Costa-Roberts, Policy Brief, Stanford University Program on Food Security and the Environment (May 2011) [PDF, 309.9KB]
- East Timor may take climate refugees, Geraldine Coutts, Radio Australia, ABC (19 September 2012)

*The **Nautilus Peace and Security Weekly Report** presents articles and full length reports each week in six categories: Austral security, nuclear deterrence, energy security, climate change and security, the DPRK, climate change adaptation and governance and civil society**.** Our team of contributors carefully select items that highlight the links between these themes and the three regions in which our offices are found—North America, Northeast Asia, and the Austral-Asia region. Each week, one of our authors also provides **a short blog** that explores these inter-relationships.*

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