

NEWS BULLETIN

13 July 2011



GLOBAL

CLIMATE - The committee developing operating mechanisms for the United Nations-backed Green Climate Fund is taking stock of progress related to \$30 billion in fast-start funds promised by wealthy countries for the 2010-2012 period to help developing countries cope with the effects of climate change.

AFRICA

DEVELOPMENT - The United Nations trade and development agency on Monday said that more young Africans will be out of work within a few years, portending more unrest, if governments do not shift from agriculture toward mining, manufacturing and other industries. "Africa is losing ground in labor-intensive manufacturing, which is generally the entry-level step in industrial development, and is a category especially important in Africa, where jobs are needed in rapidly growing cities," said the author of a recent agency report.

EASTERN AFRICA - As parts of the Horn of Africa experience their driest periods in 60 years, pushing the numbers needing aid to beyond 10 million, some have been quick to blame climate change.

KENYA - The Kenyan government is taking steps to incorporate screening for cervical cancer - one of the biggest killers of women of child-bearing age - into HIV care, but health workers say low awareness means the uptake of this vital service is low.

ASIA & PACIFIC

CHINA - A growing reluctance from donor countries to provide funds to help ever-wealthier China battle HIV/AIDS will adversely affect efforts against the disease's spread, says the head of UNAIDS. Chinese authorities were slow to acknowledge HIV/AIDS and until recently maintained strict controls on nongovernmental agencies working on the issue.

MIDDLE EAST

OPT - The Palestinian economy is growing but remains unsustainable, with large sections of the population still unemployed and trapped by rising poverty, says a new report by the International Monetary Fund.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

CHILE - Fear is growing among environmental and indigenous organisations in Chile over the possible appropriation of native seeds by foreign companies, opening the doors to transgenic crops and their negative impact on biodiversity.

WFWO's Communications Team