



News Bulletin

■GLOBAL

UNITED NATIONS - Against the backdrop of rising xenophobia and growing anti-immigrant trends in Western Europe, the United Nations will commemorate International Migrants Day next week calling on member states to ratify the 1990 international convention aimed at protecting the rights of migrants worldwide. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's appeal is directed mostly at Western states - home to over 215 million migrants - which have refused to ratify a treaty obligating these countries to provide security and protection to migrant workers.

■AFRICA

Africa region - Health - Over the past decade, malaria control programmes in Africa have resulted in 200,000 fewer deaths per year, down from 900,000 in 2000 to 709,000 in 2009, states the UNWHO's World Malaria Report 2010.

Africa region - Children - An estimated 80 million children work across Africa a figure that could reach 100 million by 2015. Despite the measures implemented to eradicate the scourge, trafficking and exploitation of children continues in Africa.

KENYA - The naming of Kenyans suspected to bear the greatest responsibility for post-election violence in 2008 could trigger violent reactions in some communities, with humanitarian implications, aid workers warn.

MAURITIUS island has officially 4705 people with HIV/AIDS. They include 3,799 men and 906 women, but the Mauritian Minister of Health, estimates that more than 9,000 Mauritians are currently suffering from this disease.

SOUTH AFRICA is winning the war on want in some areas but failing badly in terms of child and maternal health and in the abolition of poverty, a new government report shows.

TOGO's foreign debt will be slashed more than 80 percent after the African nation took steps to recover from economic crisis, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank said Tuesday.

UGANDA has taken steps to address the HIV threat posed when people have multiple sexual partners, but according to a recent study, campaigns to address the issue are having a limited impact.

■ASIA & PACIFIC

AFGHANISTAN - The war in Afghanistan shows no sign of abating and conflict-related misery such as internal displacement, lack of access to essential health services and civilian casualties, is set to rise in 2011, aid agencies and analysts warn.

TIMOR-LESTE - As the number of reported sexual crimes in Timor Leste increases, survivors - mostly women and girls - must wait up to one year as their cases wind through a struggling court system.

■LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

From deforestation in Guatemala to the effects of mining in Colombia, a new Atlas produced by the United Nations Environment Programme uses over 200 striking satellite images to highlight the most pressing environmental issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Atlas is an indispensable tool in formulating the future actions and public policies needed to achieve more sustainable development in the region.

WFWO's Communications Team