



# News Bulletin

## ■GLOBAL

**UNITED NATIONS** -The UN children's agency is taking the lead in an intense global campaign to provide schooling to some 69 million children who are unable to go to school - or don't have any schools to go to.

**HIV/AIDS** - Money, or the lack of it, is likely to be the deciding factor in meeting global health targets. This was one of the main messages to emerge from both the recent Millennium Development Goals (MDG) summit in New York, and the latest report by UNAIDS on progress towards achieving universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care.

**ENVIRONMENT** - Trillions of dollars of investment in dams, canals, aqueducts and pipelines still cannot guarantee safe drinking water for some 80% of the world's population, according to a study. While such infrastructure is engineered in the best interests of people, the study says it often is detrimental to the environment; developing countries, therefore, should also invest in "natural" options such as protecting watersheds, wetlands and flood plains.

## ■AFRICA

**MOZAMBIQUE** - With riots in Mozambique and food prices climbing to their highest level in two years, the early Autumn of 2010 made many observers suspect that the world was headed for a repeat of the 2007-2008 food crisis, writes Director General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

**NIGERIA** - Some 27 million people in Nigeria need treatment for river blindness, also known as onchocerciasis. The disease is spread through the bite of a black simulium fly, which breeds in fast-flowing water.

**SENEGAL** - While researchers and farmers are still divided on the benefits of growing crops for biofuel production as Africa grapples with food security, Senegal is steadily working to balance the growing demands for food and biofuels.

**SOMALIA** - Poor education among women and lack of access to health facilities in many rural areas of war-torn Somalia have increased risks surrounding child birth, according to health officials.

**SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA** - The number of pregnant women being tested for HIV and accessing treatment in Sub-Saharan Africa has shown significant progress – indicating that virtual elimination of mother-to-child transmission of the virus by 2015 is possible.

**WEST AFRICA** - An environmental campaign group claims to have found forced labour and human rights abuses on fishing trawlers off the coast of West Africa.

## ■ASIA

**MALAYSIA** - After years of losing the war against animal traffickers and poachers, Malaysia has finally responded with the passage of a new wildlife conservation law. But experts say it might be too late for some of this South-east Asian country's endangered species. They say that some species like the Sumatran rhinoceros, orang-utans, Malayan tigers and clouded leopards, are fighting a losing battle for their survival, so that all eyes are now on how this new law will be implemented.

**SRI LANKA** - Next month's upcoming monsoon rains could spell trouble for thousands of returnees to conflict-affected northern Sri Lanka. The annual northeast monsoon rains run from November through February, and are usually accompanied by strong winds and extensive flooding.

## ■MIDDLE EAST

**YEMEN** - Internally displaced persons who fled clashes in the past two weeks between the Yemeni army and militant groups in the central-southern governorate of Shabwa, some 400km east of Aden, are appealing to humanitarian organizations for aid.

## ■LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

**ARGENTINA** - Heartened by the passage of a same-sex marriage law in Argentina, women's organisations in this South American country stepped up their demands for the legalisation of abortion, on the Day for the Decriminalisation of Abortion in Latin America and the Caribbean.

WFWO's Communication Team