

# NEWS BULLETIN

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## **GLOBAL**

**CLIMATE** - Several dozen of the world's biggest seafaring countries have agreed at a meeting of the United Nation's international maritime organization to improve the energy efficiency of ships built after 2013 in order to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions by 2020. Developing countries such as China, Brazil, Saudi Arabia and South Africa were granted a six-year waiver for complying with the agreement, the world's first ever to govern shipping emissions.

## **AFRICA**

**HIV/AIDS** - Efforts to promote male circumcision to help stem the spread of HIV/AIDS in Africa are enjoying the most success in countries where politicians and communities have endorsed the procedure. Fourteen African countries have instituted voluntary circumcision programs into their HIV/AIDS battle plans since UNWHO established guidelines in 2007 for increasing rates of participation.

**EAST AFRICA** - While Kenya struggles to cope with the influx of refugees fleeing the drought in Somalia, it is estimated that about 1,300 people arrive daily at the Dadaab refugee camp, the country is facing its own crisis of malnutrition and starvation.

## **ASIA & PACIFIC**

**BANGLADESH** - In a nation considered the most vulnerable to natural disasters in the world, women must be enabled to take on a bigger role in disaster preparedness and response, experts say.

**INDIA / NEPAL** - More than 200,000 people in India and Nepal have left their homes as a result of monsoon flooding that has killed at least 80 people and affected hundreds of villages over the past week. Monsoon flooding is an annual challenge for South Asia as demonstrated by massive 2010 flooding in Pakistan that affected 18 million people.

## **MIDDLE EAST**

**EGYPT** - Egyptian hospitals are facing a blood stocks crisis following a sharp drop in the number of blood donors at a time of increasing demand, say government officials.

**LEBANON** - The demand for equal religious, gender and other treatment for all Lebanese citizens has gained pace with some saying the time has come to review laws that confer inequality, especially on women.

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