

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

UNITED NATIONS - Delegates at a United Nations health gathering today adopted resolutions on preventing child injury and preparing for the forthcoming General Assembly high-level conference on non-communicable diseases. The report on child injury prevention shows that at least 558,000 people under the age of 20 in South-East Asia and Africa died from such causes, compared to a global total of 950,366 deaths.

UNITED NATIONS - Indigenous communities are often not consulted when decisions are made on the use and management of water sources, despite the fact the access to the resource is vital for their cultural vitality and resilience, delegates attending the United Nation Forum on Indigenous issues said.

WOMEN & GIRLS - Child marriage continues to put 600 million girls worldwide at risk from health problems, abuse and economic disadvantage even though many countries such as India, Ethiopia and Zimbabwe are working to end the custom, says United Nations Executive Director for Women and Children. The international community must continue to place pressure on developing countries to accelerate change.

ASIA & PACIFIC

INDIA's efforts to promote rapid industrialization have brought officials into conflict with the country's farmers affecting election outcomes and challenging the status quo. For decades, officials would simply take whatever land was needed for a project and pay landowners a small stipend, but now some farmers are pushing back against those practices.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

BRAZIL - A trio of Brazilian organizations are combining to reduce wood consumption and deforestation, as well as gain carbon credits, by helping to build new cookstoves that are still fueled by wood, but are considerably more energy-efficient.

CHILE - Environmental approval for the construction of five hydroelectric dams in Chile's southern Patagonia region has triggered nationwide protests in Chile, giving rise to a citizen's movement whose focus has gone beyond the question of the dams.

WFWO's Communications Team