

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

UNITED NATIONS DAY marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, the United Nations officially came into being.

WORLD DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION DAY - Information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster economic growth, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, poverty eradication and social inclusion.

DEVELOPMENT - As extreme weather conditions, rising carbon emissions, unprecedented global economic crises and widening social inequalities throw the planet increasingly off balance, the world is gearing up for another earth summit.

HEALTH - Economic status, education, access to clean water and sanitation, nutrition and the environment determine the level of health of persons, communities or countries, and so does the extent to which rights are enjoyed or denied.

CLIMATE CHANGE - The effects of climate change may force hundreds of thousands of people to flee their homes only to find themselves in equally perilous situations, British authorities say in a report. Drought, floods and other severe weather events will affect areas of Africa and Asia that are home to between 114 million and 192 million by the year 2060, the report warns.

AFRICA

DRC - With almost 17,000 cases reported in the latest cholera outbreak in four provinces, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) must rethink its preparedness strategy to curb future outbreaks, say health experts.

ASIA

DPRK - The Democratic People's Republic of Korea cannot feed its people for the "foreseeable future," the United Nations relief chief reported today, urging the world to step up humanitarian support and not "turn our backs" on a population where an estimated six million people now depend on food aid.

MIDDLE EAST

EGYPT - The upheaval of the Arab Spring has provided fertile ground to plant the seed of a new framework for human rights that moves beyond monitoring violations. Rights advocates want to integrate human rights into the fabric of daily life and are working at the community level to establish the first Human Rights City in the Middle East.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

CHILE - The Chilean Government must adopt a human rights approach in its policies, particularly those regarding education, indigenous people and freedom of expression, a senior United Nations official has said.

HAITI - Almost 470,000 cases of cholera, including 6,595 deaths, have been reported in Haiti since an epidemic of the disease erupted in the Caribbean country one year ago, the UNWHO reported.

WFWO's Communications Team