

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

HEALTH - Despite many efforts, half of the world's population is still at risk of malaria, particularly in developing countries. Each year, more than 500 million people are infected, and more than 1 million die as a result of Malaria.

AFRICA

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - A new United Nations report voices serious concern about the continued recruitment of children by armed groups in the Central African Republic (CAR) and calls for measures to address the ongoing "protection crisis" in the country.

ASIA & PACIFIC

CAMBODIA/THAILAND - The border dispute between Thailand and Cambodia, revived over three days of armed clashes, cannot be resolved by military means, said UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. He called for a cease-fire in the deadly fighting near the Preah Vihear temple, an area from which thousands of villagers have fled.

INDONESIA - Six months after a devastating tsunami struck Indonesia's southern Mentawai Islands, survivors are slowly rebuilding, but huge challenges remain, say aid workers.

PAKISTAN - An additional loan of \$41 million has been approved by the World Bank for the polio vaccination program in Pakistan in order to enable the government to immunize 32 million children against the disease. The country has seen a spike in the number of polio cases since last year's floods and continued fighting against Taliban insurgents.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

HAITI - Some 800,000 of an estimated 1.5 million displaced Haitians have moved out of makeshift camps and tent cities since last year's devastating earthquake, but most - up to 95% - of those who have left continue to live with relatives or in dilapidated, damaged or partially-collapsed housing. Most were forced out the camps by landowners or simply fled in order to escape crime and deteriorating conditions.

MEXICO needs to take urgent steps to tighten oversight of the storage, handling and disposal of radioactive materials that can threaten the lives and health of its population, experts warn.

WFWO's Communications Team