

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

HIV/AIDS - Medical male circumcision has been a UNWHO-endorsed HIV prevention method for more than four years, with most countries still using relatively expensive surgical procedures that require anaesthetic, at least a couple of health workers and a six-week healing period. However, several new devices could revolutionize the amount of time, labour and money involved, enabling countries to rapidly scale up their programmes.

AFRICA

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - The Security Council's Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict has expressed concern over continuing violations of children's rights in the Central African Republic (CAR) and urged all armed groups in the country to immediately halt the practice.

D.R. CONGO - The cholera outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) continues to intensify and has spread to the neighbouring Republic of Congo as well, the United Nations World Health Organization has reported, as international efforts step up to combat the disease.

HORN OF AFRICA - Emergency delivery of aid to people facing drought-related hunger in the Horn of Africa must be accompanied by longer-term efforts to boost food security in the region, UN Secretary-General said, calling for an agricultural transformation that improves the livelihoods of rural communities in the region.

SOMALIA - At least 1,000 of an estimated 14,000 malnourished children in 50 camps for the drought-displaced in Somalia's capital are in a critical condition and government officials have appealed for immediate help.

SWAZILAND's economic crisis has affected its ability to provide healthcare as the country's buffer stock of antiretrovirals (ARVs) has fallen below the prescribed three-month supply. And people living with HIV/AIDS are extremely concerned about what will happen to their treatment if the country cannot afford to purchase ARVs.

ASIA & PACIFIC

INDIA - Years of poor policies and neglect are taking a toll on Kashmir's unmatched ecological assets, that also happen to be international tourist attractions.

MYANMAR - Heavy rains pounding earthquake-struck Southern Shan State continue to hinder efforts to rebuild the homes of quake survivors, agencies say.

NEPAL - Officials warn of further landslide deaths following heavy rains throughout the end of the monsoon season.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

LAC Region - Latin America and the Caribbean have reduced hunger and infant deaths but face delays reaching goals on education, deforestation and HIV.

HAITI - The new president of Haiti, Michel Martelly, is undertaking a major overhaul of the 34-member panel in charge of the country's recovery after a devastating earthquake. The Interim Haiti Recovery Commission has completed only five of the projects it has approved in health, job creation, housing and shelter, disbursing only \$84 million of \$5.5 billion in promised aid.

WFWO's Communications Team