

NEWS BULLETIN

2 May 2011



GLOBAL

HEALTH - According to the UN World Health Organisation, India, Pakistan, Nigeria and Afghanistan are the four countries that still have the virus, out of the 125 countries where the UNWHO started a polio immunisation drive in 1988.

AFRICA

LYBIA - Prices of cooking staples such as sugar, oil and butter are rising in Benghazi, Libya, amid supply disruptions caused by the ongoing battle between Moammar Gadhafi's forces and anti-government rebels. The UNWFP warned of impending food shortages across eastern Libya this week and projected existing supplies will run out within two months.

MAURITANIA needs to do much more to eliminate slave-like practices, the United Nations human rights chief said today as she also called on the West African country to take steps to improve the role of women and set up mechanisms to tackle human rights violations by previous regimes.

ASIA & PACIFIC

FOOD - An annual meeting of Asian finance ministers and central bank governors in Hanoi is set to address the fate of 64 million people in the region on the brink of extreme poverty. They are the worst affected by soaring food prices, which have hit record highs in the first two months of this year.

NORTH KOREA - The UNWFP is launching an emergency effort to help 3.5 million North Koreans fight off chronic malnutrition through the provision of cereals, biscuits and nutritious products such as corn-soy milk. Aid officials say current North Korean government rations are providing only about half of daily food intake needs

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

LAC Region - The countries of Latin America are working slowly to overcome barriers in the fight against the often brutal violence suffered by children and adolescents in their homes, schools, workplaces or juvenile detention centres.

GUATEMALA - More than 3,500 cases of HIV infection were diagnosed among the native peoples of Guatemala between 2004 and 2010, equivalent to 23 percent of the country's total HIV-positive population, according to statistics from the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance.

WFWO's Communications Team