



News Bulletin

■GLOBAL

UNITED NATIONS Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon will head to Central Asia this week for a five country visit aimed at bolstering regional cooperation, development and the fight against climate change.

ENVIRONMENT - The hapless people flooding ports and airport terminals in developed countries are occasionally seen as "environmental migrants" or even "environmentally induced migrants", fleeing natural disasters in their part of the world.

CLIMATE CHANGE - A different way of fighting global warming will be tried out in the central Bolivian city of Cochabamba when government representatives and thousands of activists gather for the World People's Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth.

DEVELOPMENT - The world's poor appear to have become pawns in a political battle over the European Union's (EU) new diplomatic corps. According to anti-poverty campaigners, there has been no substantial consultation with outside analysts. Some campaigners allege, too, that Ashton's proposals constitute an effort to give her greater powers than those provided for the foreign policy chief in the EU's core rulebooks. The Lisbon treaty, which came into effect last year and created the post awarded to Ashton, says nothing about giving the foreign policy chief responsibility for development aid, the campaigners say.

■AFRICA

BURUNDI - "Peace" villages come with a price - When the first "peace village" was set up in Burundi in 2003, it was meant to foster healing and reconciliation among the country's three ethnic groups - Hutu, Tutsi and Twa - at the end of a prolonged civil war.

EAST AFRICA - One region, one HIV law - As the East African Community (EAC) becomes more integrated, countries in the region are developing a common HIV Prevention and Management Bill that will establish minimum standards for HIV services in the five states - Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

KENYA - HIV funding begins at home - Smarting from two consecutive Global Fund rejections and declining donor interest, the Kenyan government is considering ways to fund its own national treatment programme.

SOMALIA - Importing food against all odds - Prolonged conflict in Somalia and rising world food prices have severely undermined food security, forcing most Somalis to rely on imports.

ZIMBABWE - Men take a hands-on approach to pregnancy - Men in rural Zimbabwean are taking a hands-on approach to pregnancy - and to preventing mother-to-child HIV transmission.

■MIDDLE EAST

EGYPT - Pressure is mounting on the Egyptian authorities to do more to protect the Nile Delta, which provides up to a third of the country's agricultural produce, from rising sea levels.

■LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

HAITI - Haitian authorities will look to win support for a \$3.9 billion reconstruction plan Wednesday at a United Nations-hosted meeting of international donors. Beyond efforts to meet immediate post-earthquake needs, donors will be looking at ways to help Haiti decentralize buildings and infrastructure to locales outside overcrowded Port-au-Prince.

WFWO's Communications Team