

NEWS BULLETIN



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GLOBAL

CLIMATE CHANGE - The Kyoto Protocol cannot be laid to rest at a UN climate summit in Durban this month as the legitimacy of the 1997 global climate pact will be undermined, a senior South African lawmaker says. International negotiators are due to meet in the South African city at the end of the month in an attempt to make progress on a new global binding climate pact to succeed Kyoto, but expectations are low as rifts from previous summits continue.

AFRICA

REFUGEE - Twenty years after the creation of the Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya, the site, originally intended as a temporary solution to conflict in the Horn of Africa, has grown from 90,000 refugees to nearly half a million.

CLIMATE - Scientists under the auspices of the United Nations' World Meteorological Organization are working to localize climate forecasts through the next century to help African communities adapt to climate change.

KENYA / SOMALIA - Heavy rainfall in Somalia and Kenya has delayed the delivery of emergency food aid and increased the risk of cholera, diarrhoea and malaria outbreaks, the United Nations says.

MADAGASCAR - A centuries old practice of putting newborn twins up for adoption is dividing residents in the Madagascan coastal town of Mananjary as surely as the siblings are separated from their parents. It is said that twins bring bad luck and violence to parents and the community.

SIERRA LEONE - In Sierra Leone misconceptions about blindness are widespread, and people often blame blindness and other disabilities on witchcraft, but local and international work is being done to reduce stigma and open up opportunities, according to campaigners.

SUDAN - Nearly 2,000 Sudanese refugees who say they are fleeing government bombing in the Blue Nile state have crossed over into Ethiopia in the last four days alone, the United Nations has said.

ASIA

SRI LANKA - The decades-long conflict has ended in Sri Lanka, but the damage to the country's educational system lingers, particularly in the disaster-prone east, say families and experts.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

BRAZIL will get \$8 billion in financing from the World Bank to push its campaign to uproot extreme hardship deeper into some of the country's poorest areas, the bank has said.

WFWO's Communications Team