

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

UNITED NATIONS - The United Nations refugee agency today called on countries to offer more resettlement places for the world's most vulnerable refugees, warning that unless a deal is reached this year nearly 100,000 people will be left "in an agonizing limbo."

AFRICA

EAST AFRICA - Collective, concerted action is urgently needed to prevent a major food crisis emerging across East Africa, where an estimated 10 million people now face food shortages because of a prolonged drought, a senior United Nations official has warned.

KENYA - One person dies weekly in Kenya due to a shortage of anaesthetics and the situation is worse in slums and rural areas across the country.

KENYA-SOMALIA - A severe drought ravaging the arid and semi-arid parts of the Horn of Africa region is threatening the livelihoods of pastoral communities, with massive livestock deaths recorded amid an increase in deadly conflict over resources.

NAMIBIA - A successful entrepreneurial programme in the north of Namibia that infuses farming practices with gender-responsive environmentalism may serve as a model for other countries on the African continent.

ZIMBABWE has set a goal of circumcising 1.2 million men by 2015 - a bold target for a country that has been slow to get its circumcision programme off the ground but is now rapidly making up for lost time.

ASIA & PACIFIC

SRI LANKA - More than two years after Sri Lanka's decades-long civil war officially ended, returnees to remote villages face tough times and uncertain futures, despite governmental and international efforts at reconstruction.

MIDDLE EAST

EGYPT has a new law banning the sale of human organs, imposing severe restrictions on transplant operations for foreigners, and stipulating long jail sentences and huge fines for violations.

WFWO's Communications Team