

NEWS BULLETIN

7 December 2011



GLOBAL

CLIMATE SUMMIT - Charges on shipping fuels have been identified as the first potential private source of income for the UN Green Climate Fund. A draft document being circulated at climate talks in Durban, South Africa, proposes that the International Maritime Organization set a carbon price per ton of shipping fuel, then funnel the money to the climate aid fund.

AFRICA

HIV/AIDS - HIV patients in Africa frequently suffer shame and depression but the continent's health systems are ill-equipped to handle the issue, which not only affects their quality of life, but can lead to poor adherence to HIV treatment regimens.

CONGO - A lack of development in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo thanks to grinding conflict and poverty in the area has helped protect the Congo Basin from exploitation, conservationists say. The area is home to the world's second largest rainforest, which could fall victim to destructive mining, logging and farming practices as conflict slows.

KENYA - Heavy rains in Kenya have washed away bridges and rendered many roads impassable, complicating efforts to reach thousands of people made homeless by the flooding, aid workers say.

NIGER - The United Nations relief chief today announced the allocation of \$6 million from the world body's humanitarian fund to support efforts to alleviate the suffering of millions of people facing severe food shortages in Niger.

ZIMBABWE - Public health advocates have turned to female hairdressers in Zimbabwe to help cut the rates of HIV/AIDS infections. About 1,500 hairdressers in the country display female condoms and give customers lessons on how to use.

MIDDLE EAST

YEMEN - Thousands of people under "siege" by armed rebels in northern Yemen lack food and healthcare, which has already resulted in deaths and risks killing many more, local leaders and aid workers say.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

BRAZIL - With seven months to go until the Rio+20 conference on sustainable development, Brazil is uniting in support of proposals to be included in the summit's draft final document, which aim to transfer its successful national social and environmental sustainability programmes to the global scale.

WFWO's Communications Team