

# NEWS BULLETIN

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## GLOBAL

**HEALTH** - The Million Moms Challenge is part of a groundbreaking effort to ensure better care for pregnant women and small children around the world, writes US Agency for International Development Administrator. In countries such as South Sudan, a young woman is more likely to die in childbirth than complete a secondary education, and prevention and treatment options must be made more available.

**CLIMATE CHANGE** - Stock markets around the world are incorrectly valuing the companies they list because the costs of emissions of greenhouse gases are not part of the equation, said Christiana Figueres, UN climate chief. Companies that invest in low-carbon technologies should be distinguished from those that emit large quantities of climate-warming gases, she said.

## AFRICA

**HEALTH** - The United Nations Children's Fund called today for an urgent increase in the efforts to combat "one of the worst ever" cholera outbreaks affecting large numbers of people across West and Central Africa. In a news release issued today, UN Children's Fund urged governments to coordinate their preparation and response measures not only within their borders but also with neighbouring countries to prevent the spread of the disease.

**SIERRA LEONE** - The sexual violence endemic in places such as Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, where 26% of the rape victims treated in one clinic are 11 years old or younger, warrants strong consideration by the US for support of the International Violence Against Women Act, writes. "The pattern is that after peace arrives, men stop shooting each other but continue to rape women and girls at staggering rates, and often at staggeringly young ages."

**SOMALIA** - Hundreds of families are on the move in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, after three days of fighting between government troops supported by African Union peacekeeping troops and Islamist insurgents.

## ASIA

**BANGLADESHI** authorities will team up with the country's largest cellular telephone providers in early 2012 to launch an early cyclone and flood warning system. Bangladesh is at risk from earthquakes, cyclones, droughts and other weather-related events, and half of the country's population uses cellphones.

WFWO's Communications Team