

# NEWS BULLETIN

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## GLOBAL

**CLIMATE** - The world's three biggest polluters, China, the U.S. and India, were holding back support for a "road map" proposed by the European Union that would deliver the next global climate treaty even as, for the first time ever, developed and developing countries joined together to back such a plan. At least 120 countries, led by Brazil, Japan, Canada, as well as many African countries, support the proposal, under which all major polluters would negotiate a new pact in 2015 that would cut emissions after 2020.

**TECHNOLOGY** - The race to develop green technologies, China reportedly invested \$54 billion in low carbon energy technology in 2010, and the U.S. invested \$34 billion, is likely to accomplish what negotiators at UN climate talks cannot.

## AFRICA

**HIV** - The latest guidelines on infant-feeding options for HIV-positive mothers in Africa have not been disseminated in many countries, leaving women dangerously confused about the best nutritional path to protect their children from contracting the virus, a new report shows.

**SOUTHERN AFRICA** - At any given time, an estimated 130,000 people in sub-Saharan Africa are engaged in forced labour as a result of trafficking. It is a fraction of the global figure, which the International Labour Organization (ILO) puts at 2.5 million, but this highly lucrative and concealed crime is on the rise in Africa and traffickers usually operate with impunity.

## ASIA & PACIFIC

**INDIA** - For the first time in 80 years India, in conducting a census according to the Hindu caste system as part of its efforts to engineer development for its underclass through a massive and complex affirmative-action program. The number of groups on the country's official list of "backward classes" has doubled to 2,251 since 1993, making more and more people eligible for various government benefits and job quotas, possibly even in the private sector.

## LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

**CLIMATE** - When the U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development dubbed Rio+20 convenes in Brazil next year, Caribbean leaders want to ensure that the concerns of vulnerable low-lying coastal and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) will be heard. Closing a one-day summit of Cuba and the 15-member Caribbean Community (CARICOM) grouping Thursday night, Cuban President Raul Castro and his regional colleagues issued the "Declaration of Port of Spain", affirming their support for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as the primary intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change.

WFWO's Communications Team