

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

HEALTH - The annual number of stillbirths around the world is more than double the number of people who die from HIV-related causes, according to a new report that says this widely overlooked epidemic could be dramatically mitigated with better antenatal care. According to the UN World Health Organization, the five main causes of stillbirth are childbirth complications, maternal infections in pregnancy, maternal disorders such as hypertension and diabetes, foetal growth restriction and congenital abnormalities.

AFRICA

NAMIBIA - Flooding in northern Namibia has killed 65 people and displaced about 60,000 others, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

SOMALIA - A severe drought in and around Somalia's southern town of Dobley is taking its toll on thousands of internally displaced persons, some of whom have been displaced several times by fighting.

SUDAN - Sporadic violence in southern Sudan over the past several months has claimed the lives of more than 800 civilians and forced 93,000 people to flee their homes, according to the United Nations.

ZAMBIA - The education sector performance in Zambia now thrives because of Government's efforts to immensely invest in areas of continued teacher recruitments and school infrastructure expansion programmes particularly in rural areas. This unique development barely comes after Zambia joined the rest of the world in appending its signature to the millennium development goals (MDGs) in which it made a firm commitment to among other things, raise access to education by 2015.

ZIMBABWE - Government will add three more new vaccines if the ongoing vaccination programme to wipe out two main child killer diseases under the immunisation month is successful, a health official has revealed.

ASIA & PACIFIC

INDONESIA - Use of antibiotics has reached an alarming level in Indonesia, fuelled by poor diagnosis, ignorance and poor regulation of drugs, experts said.

WFWO's Communications Team