

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

UNITED NATIONS Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is encouraging the international community to plan beyond 2015, by which time the global poverty rate is expected to fall below 15%, one of the world body's Millennium Development Goals. "When the MDGs were first articulated, we knew that achieving them would, in a sense, be only half the job. We knew that too many men, women and children would go largely untouched by even our best efforts," UN Secretary-General said.

HIV/AIDS drugs can be used to provide additional protection against infection as well as for treatment of those already affected by the disease, according to results of two studies conducted in Africa. Officials from UNAIDS and UNWHO hailed the findings, presented ahead of an international HIV/AIDS conference in Italy, as an important examination of the vital role antiretroviral drugs play in the battle against HIV/AIDS transmission.

AFRICA

ANGOLA - Domestically abused women who are financially dependent on their abusers can now report the crime with the assurance that they will be able to get financial and medical support from the state, thanks to the country's new law on domestic violence.

DR CONGO - Outbreaks of measles and cholera in parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo have killed hundreds of people, with thousands more infected, says an official of the UN World Health Organization.

EAST AFRICA - At least 125 children died, and some 18,000 were sickened, from measles outbreaks in Ethiopia and Kenya during the first six months of this year, according to UN officials. The risk of such an outbreak has been heightened because of mass migration due to drought in East Africa, and poor sanitation in overcrowded refugee camps, the UN World Health Organization said.

ETHIOPIA - While the ongoing drought has seriously undermined the food security of up to 4.5 million people in Ethiopia, a threat posed by expected flooding during the second half of 2011 could exacerbate the situation, say meteorological officials.

SOUTH AFRICA - An independent United Nations human rights expert called on South Africa to build a food economy that is inclusive and benefits all segments of the population, especially the millions who are poor and food insecure.

WFWO's Communications Team