# NEWS BULLETIN

World for World Organization

**GLOBAL**

UNITED NATIONS - Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro today underscored the importance of education in raising the status of women in society and called for greater investment in measures to ensure gender equality, deploring the fact that two-thirds of illiterate adults across the world are female.

FOOD - Commodities traders expect governments across Africa and Asia to play bigger roles in global food markets in efforts to stave off popular unrest like that currently being seen throughout the Middle East. Some might boost stockpiles and subsidies, while others might impose curbs on trade, to counteract higher costs for wheat, sugar and dairy products that last month took the UN World Food Price Index to a record high.

**AFRICA**

BURUNDI - High food prices, increasing malnutrition and the impact of La Niña are Burundi's major humanitarian concerns as the country moves from post-conflict to a development phase, say aid workers.

SWAZILAND launched Monday a drive to encourage men to volunteer for circumcision in a bid to curb the spread of HIV, of which the small kingdom has the highest infection rate in the world. In 2009, 25.9 percent of the country's 1.2 million people were living with HIV.

ZIMBABWE - The high cost of maternity and health care, the lack of a proper follow-up system, and a limited ability to diagnose HIV infection early in babies means many Zimbabwean children are not being caught by the safety net that the prevention of mother-to-child transmission programme was intended to provide.

**ASIA & PACIFIC**

INDIA - An ongoing campaign in India to vaccinate children against polio is showing that health services not only can be brought to some of the poorest and most geographically remote places on Earth, but that the disease, much like smallpox, can one day be eradicated. In just five days last month, 2.5 million health workers visited 68 million homes and inoculated 172 million children with a new, more effective vaccine.

WFWO's Communications Team