

# NEWS BULLETIN

2 APRIL 2012



## GLOBAL

UNITED NATIONS - A 594-page study by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change shows there is "limited to medium evidence" that climate change has contributed to extreme weather events, especially flooding. The report, from 220 authors in 62 countries, urges policymakers to better plan for disasters in order to save more lives and limit economic damage.

## AFRICA

ETHIOPIA - Late and erratic mid-February to May rains could significantly reduce crop yields in central and southern Ethiopia and adversely affect food security, warn officials.

SAHEL - Unrest in African countries including Mali, Libya and Nigeria is contributing to the food crisis sweeping the continent's Sahel region, where aid agencies warn that severe food shortages are affecting up to 15 million people.

SOMALIA - Officials in the self-declared republic of Somaliland, northwestern Somalia, are appealing for food aid and potable water for thousands of families who have lost their livelihoods in the current drought.

## ASIA & PACIFIC

MYANMAR - Human rights groups say hundreds of Burmese political prisoners remain incarcerated, despite an amnesty in January, when about 600 of the most prominent activists were released.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA - Health Ministry and international aid agencies have launched a mass vaccination of 1.8 million women and girls aged 15-45 against maternal and neonatal tetanus (MNT).

PAKISTAN, which has reported 14 cases of polio this year, is focusing its anti-polio drive on tribal agencies along the Afghanistan border where militant violence has affected eradication efforts, say officials.

WFWO's Communications Team