

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

DEVELOPMENT - The goals of the upcoming Rio+20 conference in Brazil are centered on development and the environment, but the solutions are political and economic, says climate expert, of the International Institute for Environment and Development. Because emerging economies such as Brazil, China and India are "not part of the old system," environmental activists can look to solicit their support.

WATER - More droughts and floods are being forecast in coming decades on the heels of research revealing an intensification of the water cycle, the pace of evaporation and ocean rainfall. The speed of the water cycle could increase as much as 20% over a century, according to a paper published today from researchers at the California-based Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

MALARIA - A study by researchers at the University of London shows that genetic mutations in the parasite that causes malaria are building resistance to drugs used to treat the disease in Africa. Such drugs have already been shown to be less effective in parts of Cambodia and Thailand, and new malaria treatments are not expected to be widely available for years.

AFRICA

EAST AFRICA's Legislative Assembly has passed a regional HIV/AIDS Bill that seeks to protect the rights of people living with HIV and harmonize regional legislation and policy on the prevention and treatment of HIV.

UGANDA - The nomadic Karimojong ethnic group, once regarded as a low-risk HIV population because regional instability in northeastern Uganda and strong adherence to their culture kept them relatively isolated, have not been a priority on the country's HIV agenda, but recent statistics show prevalence among this community is now 5.8 percent, up from 3.5 percent five years ago.

ASIA & PACIFIC

INDIA - UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called on India to lead the way in improving health services for women and children, stressing that addressing this issue is a crucial investment in the future of the South Asian nation.

WFWO's Communications Team