

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

DEVELOPMENT - The gap between the poorest countries and the rest of the world has increased over the past four decades, due to factors such as poor education, limited infrastructure and limited ranges of exports, according to a report from the United Nations. Forty-eight countries are rated as Least Developed Countries.

HEALTH - Over two million people will contact a form of tuberculosis (TB) resistant to standard drugs by 2015 and the fight against it must be stepped up, the UNWHO has said in a report launched on World TB Day.

AFRICA

GHANA - Farmers in Ghana are divided over the benefits of turning farmland to biofuel, and rising temperatures and worsening dry spells are adding to food shortage problems in Zimbabwe.

IVORY COAST - Up to one million Ivorians have now fled fighting in the main city Abidjan alone, with others uprooted across the country, the U.N. Refugee Agency has said in a sharp upwards revision of previous estimates.

SOMALIA - With drought spreading to almost all regions of Somalia, officials and aid workers have expressed concern for those affected, saying drought was now a major cause of displacement.

YEMEN - Nearly a third of the 23 million people in impoverished Yemen do not have enough food to eat, and popular unrest is making it difficult for aid groups to reach them, the United Nations has said.

ASIA & PACIFIC

PAKISTAN - The price of wheat in Pakistan has almost tripled since 2008, making people in places like the poorer suburbs of Lahore, capital of Punjab Province, wonder how they will feed their families, local residents say.

MIDDLE EAST

ISRAEL/OPT - A report released by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, examines the humanitarian consequences of Israeli policies for the estimated 270,000 Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem and their increasing isolation from the rest of the Palestinian territories.

WFWO's Communications Team