

NEWS BULLETIN

5 APRIL 2012



GLOBAL

MIGRATION - Climate change pressures – including worsening droughts, floods and sea level rise – are expected to drive a surge in world migration by 2050. But a worrisome amount of that movement may be putting families in new kinds of peril rather than making them safer, an expert warns.

CHILDREN - Countries worldwide are failing to properly protect children from sex trafficking, a global child protection network has said in a report, urging governments to ratify UN protocols on the issue and give victims more support.

AFRICA

KENYA - The Kenyan government has issued guidelines on counselling for HIV-discordant couples, but many counsellors in smaller, rural health centres remain untrained.

SAHEL - Millions of people in Africa's turbulent Sahel region are on the brink of starvation due to drought and conflict, the United Nations says, and aid response plans are less than 40 percent funded ahead of an expected crisis peak.

SOUTH AFRICA's nine provinces will begin phasing out provision of free formula to HIV-positive mothers and implement a new policy on breast-feeding from Sunday. But despite the clarity of the policy and its supporting data, vocal critics, including respected individuals from leading medical and academic institutions, have decried the choice.

MOROCCO - Women's rights activists in Morocco were outraged at the invitation of an accused rapist to a roundtable discussion on child marriage. The invitation to a man who reportedly forced 16-year-old Amina Filali to marry him after he had raped her is being presented by activists as further evidence of unwillingness by the state to halt the surge in child marriages, estimated at more than 41,000 in 2010.

ASIA & PACIFIC

SRI LANKA's capital city Colombo, the vibrant economic and administrative heart of the bustling island nation, is rapidly turning into a city of slums. Home to over 30 percent of the country's population, one in every two people living in the Greater Colombo Area is a slum dweller.

WFWO's Communications Team