

# NEWS BULLETIN

8 March 2011



## **GLOBAL**

**UNITED NATIONS** - A growing population, rising costs of producing staple foods and an increasing demand for biofuels have made the world more susceptible to food crises, according to a report by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. Climate change, too, is contributing to the drop in food security.

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY** - 8 March 2011 is being celebrated in many parts of the world as the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day. The official theme of International Women's Day 2011 is "Equal access to education, training and science and technology: Pathway to decent work for women".

## **AFRICA**

**KENYA** - The situation of women in Kenya, as is the case in many other countries in Africa, leaves a lot to be desired. Women remain the suffering face of HIV/AIDS in the world. Statistics from the Kenya Aids Indicators Survey show women constitute three of every five people living with HIV.

**UGANDA** - Women and girls returning to northern Uganda from forced conscription into the Lord's Resistance Army struggle to resettle in their home communities because of stigma and a severe shortage of reintegration facilities tailored to their needs, say analysts and returnees.

**SUDAN** - Up to 25,000 people have fled the contested town of Abyei since an estimated 100 people died in violence last week. With fears still high that the unresolved status of this border region could lead to more fighting, UN agencies and aid groups are worried that the precarious humanitarian situation could quickly deteriorate, leaving those displaced even more vulnerable.

## **ASIA & PACIFIC**

**CHINA** - Over the next five years, the Chinese government has pledged to raise lagging income levels among the poor to coincide with the country's general rate of economic growth. Wen Jiabao, China's premier, said Sunday that the country hoped to "basically eradicate" poverty by 2020, partly in an effort to tamp down calls for popular revolt along the lines of that currently seen in the Middle East.

WFWO's Communications Team