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## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

### NEWS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

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#### Amnesty International reports & statements:

**27 February: Egypt:** An Egyptian family have been threatened by police for complaining of torture.  
<http://amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/news/egyptian-family-threatened-police-complaining-torture-20090227>

**25 February: Guatemala:** The Guatemalan authorities have been urged to step up their efforts to provide justice for the hundreds of thousands of victims of the country's internal armed conflict.  
<http://amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/report/time-justice-guatemala039s-war-victims-20090225>

**25 February: Pakistan:** The Pakistan's new civilian government has failed to provide information about hundreds of cases of people believed to be held secretly by the government.  
<http://amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/news/pakistan-fails-come-clean-secret-detentions-20090225>

**24 February: Myanmar:** Twenty-four political prisoners were set free in Myanmar on Saturday after the government announced that it would release 6,313 prisoners.

<http://amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/good-news/political-prisoners-set-free-myanmar-20090224>

**24 February: UK:** UK resident Binyam Mohamed was released from detention in Guantánamo Bay on Monday and allowed to return to the UK. His family and lawyers, together with human rights activists, including Amnesty International members, had campaigned extensively for his release.

<http://amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/good-news/binyam-mohamed-released-guant-namo-20090224>

**24 February: Nigeria:** Nigeria's state governments have been urged not to extend the death penalty to include crimes such as kidnapping.

<http://amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/nigerian-states-urged-not-execute-20090224>

**24 February: Colombia:** The Colombian security forces, paramilitaries and guerrilla groups are punishing those who refuse to be part of the conflict across Colombia, said Amnesty International.

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/for-media/press-releases/colombia-thousands-civilians-punished-not-participating-conflict-2009022>

**18 February: UK:** The UK's highest court, known as the Law Lords, has given the go-ahead for the government to deport three men to countries where they will face a real risk of serious human rights violations, including torture.

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/news/law-lords-go-ahead-deportations-including-abu-qatada-20090218>

**18 February: Afghanistan:** Tens of thousands of Afghans displaced from their homes by escalating fighting and ongoing food shortages require immediate humanitarian assistance, said Amnesty International.

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/for-media/press-releases/afghanistan-tens-thousands-people-displaced-fighting-and-hunger-20090218>

**16 February: South Korea:** The South Korean government is deciding whether to resume its use of the death penalty, following the arrest of a man for the alleged murder of seven women.

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/news/south-korea-must-not-resume-death-penalty-20090210>

**16 February: Colombia:** The Colombian authorities are being urged to initiate an investigation into the killing of 27 Indigenous Awá People in the department of Nariño this month.

<http://amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/news/calls-for-investigation-killing-indigenous-people-colombia-20090216>

## Children:

**Ethiopia:** According to the 2007 UN Secretary General's report on violence against children, Ethiopia is still one of the countries with the highest rates of Female Genital Cutting in Africa.

*TADIAS* (26 February): <http://www.tadias.com/2009/02/26/un-report-ethiopia-still-one-of-highest-for-fgm/>

**Guatemala:** According to UNICEF data from 2007, Guatemala has the highest percentage of chronically malnourished girls and boys in Latin America, and the fourth highest in the world.

*UNICEF* (18 February): [http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/guatemala\\_48087.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/guatemala_48087.html)

**India:** In a shocking incident, a 13-year-old girl from Varachha has accused her uncle and grandfather of raping her repeatedly for one year. *Time of India* (24 February):

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Surat/13-year-old-alleges-rape-by-grandfather-and-uncle/articleshow/4185068.cms>

**International:** Young people from around the world have presented UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon with thousands of symbolic "red hands" to draw attention to the plight of child soldiers. *All Africa* (18 February): <http://allafrica.com/stories/200902190181.html>

**Israel/OPT:** School children in the Gaza Strip face psychological trauma and lack facilities after schools were badly damaged or destroyed during Israel's three-week assault on the enclave that began in December. *IRIN* (23 February): <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=83088>

**Mozambique:** As part of a campaign financed by ActionAid International - "No to Sexual Abuse of Girls in Education", which aims to reduce the level of sexual abuse of minors - Girls' Clubs have been set up in schools and communities throughout Manica. *IRIN Plus News* (25 February): <http://www.plusnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=83143>

**Sri Lanka:** As the conflict between the Sri Lankan Government and the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) continues, the United Nations Children's Fund has voiced its grave concern for the South Asian island nation's children who are increasingly being recruited by rebels and who are being killed or injured. *UN News Centre* (18 February): <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=29942&Cr=sri+lanka&Cr1=>

**UK:** The Joseph Rowntree Trust predicts that a total of 3.1 million children could live in poverty across the UK unless there is new support for low-income families. *Wales Online* (19 February): <http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/2009/02/19/155-000-children-in-poverty-by-2020-91466-22960404/>

## **Death Penalty:**

**Saudi Arabia:** The Saudi authorities have beheaded two traffic policemen convicted of beating a man and sexually assaulting his niece. *International Herald Tribune* (22 February): <http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2009/02/21/news/ML-Saudi-Beheading.php>

**South Korea:** More than 60 percent of Koreans back the death penalty, according to a survey conducted on 3,000 people over the age of 19 by Hankook Research. The Ministry of Justice organized the survey in the wake of growing calls to maintain capital punishment since the arrest of alleged serial killer Kang Ho-soon. The ministry said they conducted the poll to determine the pros and cons of the controversial issue. *The Korea Times* (22 February): [http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2009/02/113\\_40014.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/nation/2009/02/113_40014.html)

**USA:** The Colorado House of Representatives Judiciary Committee has approved a plan to eliminate the death penalty and use the money to focus on dormant cases after victims' relatives asked for help finding closure. *The Press Association* (24 February): <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ukpress/article/ALeqM5g57qbbABaNVUNvjL4818BjYq--xw>

## **Environment:**

**Africa:** Climate change is bringing malaria to regions of Africa where the disease was previously unknown, researchers report from the conference of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Chicago this week. *IPS* (19 February): <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=45814>

**Kenya:** Six thousand tonnes of mercury enter the environment every year, posing a threat to human and animal health. Environment ministers meeting in Kenya have agreed to negotiate a treaty to reduce the supply and use of mercury worldwide. *IPS* (21 February): <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=45847>

### **Food Security:**

**China:** Chinese dairy products, flour, meat and other foods remain dangerously tainted with illegal additives despite a crackdown, the country's health ministry said. *Reuters* (24 February): <http://af.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idAFTRE51N2PQ20090224>

**International:** Almost five million children under the age of five die of malnutrition every year in the developing world. Food aid – which mainly contains nutrient-poor carbohydrates – does little to address the absence of a diverse diet that would prevent the condition. *IPS* (24 February): <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=45872>

**International:** The UN Environment Programme has unveiled an ambitious seven-point plan to feed the world without polluting it further by making better use of resources and cutting down on massive waste. *Health 24* (19 February): [http://www.health24.com/news/Enviro\\_Health\\_/1-1308.49689.asp](http://www.health24.com/news/Enviro_Health_/1-1308.49689.asp)

**Kenya:** Food shortages in the arid Turkana region of north-western Kenya, where an increasing number of people are already unable to find enough to eat, could escalate if rains fail in March, an official warned. *IRIN* (19 February): <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=83003>

**Malawi:** A study by the US-based Michigan State University (MSU) points to a serious hunger problem in Malawi in early 2009; but the government has maintained that it has enough maize. *IRIN* (18 February): <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=82987>

### **Health Services:**

**International:** The world's second biggest pharmaceutical company is to radically shift its attitude to providing cheap medicines to millions of people in the developing world. *The Guardian* (13 February): <http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2009/feb/13/glaxo-smith-kline-cheap-medicine#history-byline>

### **Health Workers:**

**Egypt:** An Egyptian doctor, Mahmoud Fathalla, and a Nicaraguan non-governmental organization, Movimiento Comunal Nicaragüense (MCN), have won this year's United Nations Population Award. *UNFPA* (24 February): <http://www.unfpa.org/public/>

**Iraq:** Seventy percent of Iraq's doctors are reported to have fled the war-torn country in the face of death threats and kidnappings. Those who remain live in fear, often in conditions close to house arrest. *IPS* (21 February): <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=45844>

**UK:** A new training scheme for maternity support workers to enable them to relieve midwives of some of their current tasks is to begin. *BBC News* (26 February): [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/north\\_west/7911518.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/north_west/7911518.stm)

**Zimbabwe:** Resident doctors and nurses are returning to Zimbabwe's hospitals in hopes the new unity government will address the issues that led them to go out on strike in late 2008. *The Voice*

of America (25 February): <http://www.voanews.com/english/Africa/Zimbabwe/2009-02-25-voa54.cfm>

## **HIV/AIDS:**

**Botswana:** Despite significant financial investments in both prevention and treatment, Botswana has been experiencing only a modest decline in HIV prevalence, especially among women. *IPS* (19 February): <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=45822>

**Brazil:** The HIV infection rate in women over 50 in Brazil has more than tripled since 1996, making this population group the prime target of the government's HIV/AIDS prevention campaign during the carnival festivities. *IPS* (13 February): <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=45770>

**China:** AIDS has become China's deadliest infectious disease for the first time, the government said, with figures showing at least one person died on average every hour in the first nine months of last year. *Health 24* (18 February): [http://www.health24.com/news/HIV\\_AIDS/1-920,49674.asp](http://www.health24.com/news/HIV_AIDS/1-920,49674.asp)

**Iran:** The number of AIDS victims in Iran stands at 80,000, announced secretary of State Welfare Organization's Committee for Preventing and Controlling AIDS. *Khabrein.Info* (18 February): [http://www.khabrein.info/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=20176&Itemid=68](http://www.khabrein.info/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=20176&Itemid=68)

**Kenya:** When post-election violence struck western Kenya's Rift Valley last year, hundreds of patients failed to collect their antiretroviral medication from their regular clinics, leading health workers to fear that their patients would develop resistance, or fall ill and even die. *IRIN Plus News* (17 February): <http://www.plusnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=82958>

**South Africa:** About 30 people have died every day over the past four months due to their inability to access AIDS medicines in the Free State, according to the South African HIV Clinicians Society (SAHIVSOC). *Health 24* (24 February): [http://www.health24.com/news/HIV\\_AIDS/1-920,49723.asp](http://www.health24.com/news/HIV_AIDS/1-920,49723.asp)

**South Africa:** Nosimilo Ndlovu interviewed Michel Sidibé, the new executive director of UNAIDS—the coordinating body of the United Nations in the global fight against HIV and AIDS. *The Mail & Guardian*: <http://www.mg.co.za/article/2009-02-13-leading-the-aids-battle>

**Swaziland:** Some 42 percent of pregnant women in Swaziland are infected with HIV, a jump of 3 percent since last year, according to a new government report. *Health 24* (20 February): [http://www.health24.com/news/HIV\\_AIDS/1-920,49708.asp](http://www.health24.com/news/HIV_AIDS/1-920,49708.asp)

**UK:** The development of gels that can protect people against HIV is to receive more than £90 million of funding, after work by British scientists suggest that it has the best chance yet of controlling the spread of AIDS. *The Times Online* (23 February): [http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life\\_and\\_style/health/article5786112.ece](http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/health/article5786112.ece)

**Zimbabwe:** It is a typical hot February afternoon in Harare, Zimbabwe's capital, but for Thulani Siziba, 33, it is an afternoon he will always remember. He is about to take his first HIV test. *IRIN Plus News* (23 February): <http://www.plusnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=83080>

## **Malaria, TB and Other Diseases:**

**Iraq:** Hundreds of measles cases have been confirmed in several provinces once rife with violence where health services had collapsed, according to health officials. *IRIN* (23 February): <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=83116>

**Pakistan:** The government has pinned responsibility on the World Health Organisation (WHO) for the sudden spread of polio in northwestern Pakistan and the tribal areas bordering Afghanistan since 2008. *IPS* (20 February): <http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=45827>

**UK:** Thousands of doses of the meningitis C vaccine have been withdrawn by the manufacturer Novartis following fears of contamination. *BBC News* (26 January): <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/7911733.stm>

**Zimbabwe:** Zimbabwe's humanitarian crisis continues to rapidly deteriorate, causing appalling suffering. The organisation's medical teams have now treated almost 45,000 people, an estimated 75% of the total number of cases in the current cholera outbreak - and the crisis is far from over. *Medecins Sans Frontieres* (17 February): [http://www.msf.org.uk/beyond\\_cholera\\_zimbabwe\\_20090217.news](http://www.msf.org.uk/beyond_cholera_zimbabwe_20090217.news)

## **Mental health:**

**Russia:** Fourteen women with mental disabilities have been sterilised in the Perm region of Russia against their will and without an appropriate court ruling. This was the striking discovery made by the region's human rights committee. *Russia Today* (18 February): [http://www.russiatoday.ru/Top\\_News/2009-02-18/Psychiatric\\_patients\\_sterilised\\_and\\_mistreated.html](http://www.russiatoday.ru/Top_News/2009-02-18/Psychiatric_patients_sterilised_and_mistreated.html)

## **Prisons:**

**Iraq:** Iraqi officials on Saturday formally reopened Abu Ghraib prison, which became synonymous with abuse under the U.S. occupation, and in addition to a fresh coat of paint, gave it a new name. *Reuters* (21 February): <http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSLL596734>

**UK:** Binyam Mohamed, the British resident released from Guantanamo Bay, spent his first day back in Britain trying to come to terms with his freedom, his sister said. *The Telegraph* (25 February) <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstoppers/politics/lawandorder/4801558/Binyam-Mohamed-coming-to-terms-with-freedom-says-sister.html>

## **Refugees and Migrants:**

**Africa:** Six Africans have drowned and another 11 are missing after people traffickers pushed dozens of passengers overboard in deep waters off Yemen last week, the U.N. refugee agency said. *Reuters* (24 February): <http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSL0460289>

**Colombia:** Meeting with members of indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities impacted by floods, displacement and violence in Colombia, the top United Nations relief official today called for stepped up assistance for these minority groups. *UN News Centre* (25 February): <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=30011&Cr=colombia&Cr1=>

**Democratic Republic of Congo:** The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said today it continues to be extremely worried about rising violence against civilians in the eastern Congolese province of North Kivu, where attacks by Rwandan Hutu rebels have sparked new

displacement. *UN News Centre* (24 February):

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=29997&Cr=fdlr&Cr1=29980>

**International:** Antonio Guterres, the world body's high commissioner for refugees, told reporters in the Australian capital Canberra that refugees and migrants can expect to be blamed for economic problems that are deepening in many countries. *Fox news* (22 February):

<http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,498224,00.html>

**Israel:** Some 3,000 African asylum-seekers have to leave Tel Aviv because of an August 2008 ruling by the Israeli Ministry of the Interior. The ruling permits asylum-seekers to reside and work only in towns and cities north of Hadera and south of Gedera. *IRIN* (24 February):

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=83111>

**Middle East:** Human Rights Watch said migrant and domestic workers continue to face abuse, particularly in Middle Eastern and Asian countries, because authorities have lagged in adopting the measures needed to protect them. *Human Rights Watch* (24 February): [http://www.salems-news.com/articles/february242009/human\\_rights\\_2-25-09.php](http://www.salems-news.com/articles/february242009/human_rights_2-25-09.php)

**Sudan:** Over 15,000 people have sought safety in the Zam Zam camp in North Darfur after fleeing the latest outburst of violence in the South Darfur region of Sudan, reports the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. *UN News Centre* (25 February):

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=30014&Cr=darfur&Cr1=displaced>

**UK:** An asylum seeker who says she was tortured in her homeland claims she was forced by poverty into prostitution after her bid to stay in the UK failed. *BBC news* (24 February):

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/7906487.stm>

## **Sexual and Reproductive Rights:**

**China:** Abuses of women's reproductive rights, some of which break China's own laws, are provoking outrage as Chinese public opinion wakes up to the persistence of forced abortion, compulsory sterilisation and even infanticide. *The Times Online* (15 February):

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/article5733835.ece>

**UK:** The Government promises £20m to help young people get better access to contraception and support for teenagers and raise the awareness of the risks of unprotected sex, Public Health Minister Dawn Primarolo and Young People's Minister Beverley Hughes announced. *The Guardian* (26 February): <http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2009/feb/26/teenage-pregnancy-rise>

## **Torture:**

**Kenya:** The Kenyan Army, which receives training and support from Britain, was accused yesterday of torture and murder by Philip Alston, the UN special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions. *The Times Online* (26 February):

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/africa/article5805036.ece>

**UK:** Human rights groups warned last night that the global ban on torture had been undermined by the law lords' ruling yesterday that the radical Islamist preacher and terror suspect, Abu Qatada, can be sent back to Jordan to face trial. *The Guardian* (19 February):

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/feb/19/abu-qatada-terrorism-deportation>

## **Violence against women:**



**Democratic Republic of Congo:** A senior official from the Democratic Republic of Congo's army Saturday dismissed as "baseless" reports by a global rights watchdog that Rwandan forces in the country's east were guilty of rape. *AFP* (15 February):

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hrZz4dvdQZ1zEC18wOuJEuwtKvmA>

**India:** A recent study on violence in marriage has shown that while most men openly admit to physical violence, sexual violence is highly underreported. *The Express India* (19 February):

<http://www.expressindia.com/latest-news/more-sexual-violence-in-marriages-than-records-show-study-finds/425355/>

**Malta:** Eighteen female victims of human trafficking were identified in Malta between 2004 and 2007, a United Nations report shows. Eight of the women, who were identified in 2006 and 2007, were trafficked for sexual exploitation, according to the report launched earlier this month. *The Times of Malta* (24 February): <http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20090224/local/malta-exemplary-in-fight-against-human-trafficking>

**Rwanda:** The Rwanda Medical Association (RMA) has embarked on a programme to improve the services provided to victims of gender based violence in health facilities. *The New Times* (19 February): <http://www.newtimes.co.rw/index.php?issue=13811&article=13490>

**Southern Africa:** Like most other countries, Botswana, Namibia and South Africa criminalize sex work. Criminalization is just the beginning of the numerous forms of rights violations that sex workers in these countries experience. *AWID* (20 February): <http://www.awid.org/eng/Issues-and-Analysis/Issues-and-Analysis/Sex-work-in-Southern-Africa-Criminalization-provides-screen-for-other-rights-violations>

**Ukraine:** With the global crisis in full swing, an increasing number of females in the Eastern Bloc countries are being forced to moonlight as prostitutes. Some find themselves shuttled off to foreign countries against their will. *The Russia Today* 18 February 2009):

[http://www.russiatoday.com/Top\\_News/2009-02-18/Ukraine\\_s\\_sex\\_tourism\\_hits\\_political\\_radar.html](http://www.russiatoday.com/Top_News/2009-02-18/Ukraine_s_sex_tourism_hits_political_radar.html)

## **Women's Rights:**

**Czech Republic:** The Czech Republic has just assumed the rotating presidency of the EU. One of its outspoken female journalists says the country lags on women's rights. "There is absolutely no pro-women culture," says Jana Ciglerova. *Women's E News* (23 February):

<http://www.womensenews.org/article.cfm/dyn/aid/3897/context/journalistofthemoth>

**Yemen:** Although Yemen's parliament has agreed to set the minimum age for marriage at 17, there are concerns the decision may be rescinded as some members of parliament say the amendments violate Sharia (Islamic) law. *IRIN* (23 February):

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=83081>

## **Conferences/Seminars/Courses:**

### **Conference: Group Dynamics and Forensic Psychotherapy**

19-21 March 2009, Konstanz, Germany

The 18th Annual Conference of the International Association for Forensic Psychotherapy (IAFP) is jointly hosted by the Reichenau Centre for Psychiatry and the University of Konstanz. The major purpose of the congress is to present an outstanding scientific program regarding possibilities and



problems of group psychotherapy in the forensic field. For further details visit:  
[www.forensicpsychotherapy.com/activities/conference2009/](http://www.forensicpsychotherapy.com/activities/conference2009/)

**Course: Reducing the Burden of Noncommunicable Diseases: Addressing the Causes of the Causes**  
7-12 June 2009, Venice, Italy

The course is organized by the University of Padua in collaboration with the Department of Chronic Diseases and Health Promotion of the WHO in Geneva, the WHO European Office for Investment for Health and Development in Venice, the ULSS 12-Venice, and the Veneto Region. The Course will explore the evidence and the frameworks used to address the burden of noncommunicable diseases through action on: 1. the social determinants of health (e.g. urbanization, income, education, trade) and 2. the conventional risk factors. (tobacco, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, harmful use of alcohol). For more details see:

<http://www.medicina.unipd.it/on-line/Home/International/News/articolo921.html>

**Call for papers: Measuring health workforce inequalities: methods and applications**

57th Session of the International Statistical Institute, 16-22 August 2009 Durban, South Africa. The World Health Organization's Department of Human Resources for Health (WHO/HRH), in collaboration with the International Statistical Institute, solicits high-quality submissions of original statistical research results and/or experience focusing on the topic of "Measuring health workforce inequalities: methods and applications". For more details, please visit:

<http://www.who.int/hrh/events/2009/inequalities/en/index.html>

**Call for submissions: Global Health Symposium**

American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, 18-22 November 2009, Washington DC, USA  
Symposium Proposals are due on 4 March 2009. The focus is on globalization's impact on health, health disparities and global health partnerships. For more information visit:

<http://www.astmh.org/Source/AM09/index.cfm>

**New MA module in health and human rights 2009-2010: Centre for Applied Human Rights**

MA in Applied Human Rights, The University of York, UK

This innovative new module will bring together health and human rights specialists both in its delivery and its student intake. Understanding the reciprocal relationship between health and human rights is increasingly important to policy-makers, health care professionals, public health practitioners and human rights defenders. The aim of this course is to introduce students to the application of a human-rights framework in the field of public health and gain insight into the structures and processes by which human rights can influence public health objectives. For further details visit: <http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/cahr/>

**Scholarship from the Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund**

The MMMF was established in 1981 to honor the late Margaret McNamara and her commitment to the wellbeing of women and children in developing countries. The purpose of the grant is to support the education of women from developing countries who are committed to improving the lives of women and children in their home countries. Previous grant recipients studied agriculture, architecture, urban planning, civil engineering, education, forestry, journalism, nursing, nutrition, pediatrics, public administration, public health, social sciences, and social work. Read more:

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTSTAFF/WBFN/0,,contentMDK:21135432~menuPK:463095~pagePK:64156201~piPK:64156133~theSitePK:444098,00.html>

**Publications:**

*Please note that subscriptions may be required to access some of these publications.*

Akerman M, "Global Learning Device on Social Determinants of Health and Public Policy Formulation", Pan American Health Organization, February 2009. English and Spanish versions available online at: <http://dds-dispositivoglobal.ops.org.ar/curso/>

Barrett T, Boeck R, Fusco C, Ghebrehiwet T, Yan J, Saxena S, "Nurses are the key to improving mental health services in low- and middle-income countries", *International Nursing Review*, Volume 56 Issue 1, 12 Feb 2009. Available online at: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/122200100/abstract>

Distefano A S, "Intimate partner violence among sexual minorities in Japan: exploring perceptions and experiences". *Journal of Homosexuality*, 56(2): 121-46, 2009. Available online at: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19197646?dopt=Abstract>

Ekine S, "Women's response to state violence in Niger Delta", *Pambazuka News 420*, 18 February 2009. Available at: <http://www.pambazuka.org/en/category/features/54174>

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