AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
NEWS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS
AI Bulletin Vol 5, No. 4, 22 February 2002
AI Index: ACT 84/004/2002

To subscribe or unsubscribe from the bulletin or to contact AI please write to mailto:medical@amnesty.org. Visit the AI web-site: http://www.amnesty.org and the AI Health Professional web-site at: http://www.web.amnesty.org/rmp/hponline.nsf

Contents of external sites are not the responsibility of Amnesty International. Links are provided for the convenience of readers. NOTE: Some sites may require registration or only be available to subscribers.

Summary

AI reports & statements: child soldiers / Turkey / USA
Further news: Protocol added to European Convention on Human Rights / HIV trial, Libya / increasing number of HIV infections, Russian Federation / MSF denounces killings, Sudan / prison health care, UK / study: error in capital cases, USA / stay of execution, Georgia USA
Conferences: Study day on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Birkbeck College UK
Vacancies: Project Coordinator and Organizational Development Trainer, Center for Victims of Torture, Minneapolis / Program Development and Public Relations Officer, Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees, Jerusalem
Publications

Amnesty International reports & statements


USA: As President Bush visits China, he should reflect on an execution looming at home. 21 February (AMR 51/037/2002). Alexander Williams is schedule to die by lethal injection on Monday 25 February for a crime when he was 17 years old and is suffering from a mental illness. http://web.amnesty.org/web/news.nsf/WebAll/7208CAD2221863AB880256B67003DEAC8 Also see 'Further news'.

This is a small selection of Amnesty International reports and statements. For a comprehensive overview, please check Amnesty International's website: http://www.amnesty.org/

Further news


Libya - HIV trial. The BBC reported that the People's Court in Tripoli has ruled that there is no evidence that one Palestinian and six Bulgarian health workers, accused of infecting 393 children with HIV, intended to undermine state security. http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/english/world/middle_east/newsid_1825000/1825777.stm
**Russian Federation - increasing number of HIV infections.** The *Boston Globe* reported on the fast spread of HIV/AIDS, which reportedly is due to an increase in drug use, prostitution and inadequate health care (10 February). http://www.boston.com/dailyglobe2/041/focus/Rapid_spread_of_AIDS_in_Russia_imperils_a_generation%2B.shtml

**Sudan - MSF denounces killings.** Medicins Sans Frontieres expressed its shock at the killing of James Koang Mar, an MSF health worker, and four other Sudanese civilians in southern Sudan (15 February). http://www.msf.org/countries/page.cfm?articleid=510672AD-84F6-4AB2-8CDCF1EBBB666F0


**USA - study: error in capital cases.** Columbia University has published the second part of a study first published in June 2000. The report, *A Broken System Part II: Why There is so Much Error in Capital Cases and What Can be Done About It*, by James S Liebman and colleagues, is available on line at: http://www.law.columbia.edu/brokensystem2/index2.html (11 February).


**USA - execution and mental disability.** The US Supreme Court is currently hearing an appeal by Daryl Atkins (Virginia) that the execution of people with learning difficulties is unconstitutional. See the *New York Times* report (21 February) http://www.nytimes.com/2002/02/21/national/21SCOT.html

**Conferences**

Birkbeck College of the University of London is organising a *Study day on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*. Date and place: 2 March, Birkbeck, Clore Management Centre, 25 - 27 Torrington Square, London WC1, UK. To book a place call Carol Watts on +44 (0) 20 7631 6652 or mailto:ce.watts@bbk.ac.uk

**Vacancies**

The *Center for Victims of Torture*, Minneapolis USA, is hiring a *Project Coordinator / Organizational Development Trainer* to manage a contract providing training and technical assistance to over 20 torture treatment centers nation-wide. For further information contact: Joann Morss, Director of Administrative Services, 717 East River Road, Minneapolis, MN 55455, USA. Fax: +1.612.627.4144.

The Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees (UPMRC) is seeking a Program Development and Public Relations Officer based at their Jerusalem Headquarters. For further information contact: Katie Taylor, UPMRC, PO Box 51483, East Jerusalem. Tel: +972.2.583.3510. Fax: +972.2.583.0679. Mailto:katie@upmrc.org Web-site: http://www.upmrc.org/
Publications

The American Medical Association has a site dedicated to articles published in JAMA and associated journals on the subject of bioterrorism. See: http://pubs.ama-assn.org/bioterr.html


The *BMJ* published a number of electronic responses to a letter on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (*BMJ* 2002;324:361):http://bmj.com/cgi/eletters/324/7333/361


Sidley P. Mandela emphasises importance of preventing vertical transmission of HIV. *BMJ* 2002;324:386 (16 February). http://bmj.com/cgi/content/full/324/7334/386/a


=====================================================================
This newsletter may be freely distributed in unrevised form. For free subscription contact the AI Medical Program at Amnesty International, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, UK. (mailto:medical@amnesty.org)

AI web-site: http://www.amnesty.org/

Newsletters are archived at: http://www.web.amnesty.org/rmp/hponline.nsf/bull?openview