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## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

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### Amnesty International reports & statements

See a selection of recent AI news releases:

Algeria. Amnesty International writes to Algerian President about torture concerns (24 April).  
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGMDE280092006>

Bangladesh. Young boy among six killed in electricity protests (13 April).  
<http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGASA130042006>

Colombia. Internally displaced people face elections with few options (27 April).  
<http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGAMR230172006>

Death Penalty: 20,000 on death row across the world (20 April).  
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGACT500092006>

India. Bhopal survivors march 800km in search of justice (6 April).  
<http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGASA200102006>

Trinidad and Tobago. Police killings go unpunished (26 April).  
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAMR490042006>

These and other press releases and reports are accessible at:  
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/eng-recent/index>

### Death Penalty

**China.** The British Transplant Society has expressed concern at reports that China uses organs of thousands of executed prisoners every year to sell for transplants (19 April).  
<http://www.bts.org.uk/>

Also see *BBC* report (19 April): <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/4921116.stm>

**Philippines.** The majority bloc in the House of Representatives assured anti-death penalty advocates of swift action on the proposed abolition of the capital punishment, according to the Manila Bulletin (24 April).  
<http://www.mb.com.ph/issues/2006/04/24/MTNN2006042462198.html>

**USA.** Human Rights Watch has issued a report with a critique of lethal injection procedures (April 2006).  
<http://hrw.org/reports/2006/us0406/>

## **HIV/AIDS**

**Libya.** The re-trial of the five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor accused of infecting hundreds of Libyan children with HIV is scheduled to take place on 11 May, reported the BBC (22 April).  
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/4935024.stm>

## **Prisoners**

**Nepal.** Journalist Kanak Mani Dixit reported on conditions inside a detention centre near the capital. See BBC (18 April):  
[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south\\_asia/4918728.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south_asia/4918728.stm)

**USA.** The United Nations Committee against Torture has demanded that the United States provide more information about its treatment of prisoners at home and foreign terrorism suspects held in Iraq, Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay. See Reuters (18 April):  
[http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=topNews&storyid=2006-04-18T165902Z\\_01\\_L18331246\\_RTRUKOC\\_0\\_US-UN-USA-TORTURE.xml](http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=topNews&storyid=2006-04-18T165902Z_01_L18331246_RTRUKOC_0_US-UN-USA-TORTURE.xml)

## **Right to health**

**India.** Survivors of the Bhopal disaster called off a week-long hunger strike last night after India's prime minister promised to clean up the disused chemical factory, provide fresh drinking water for local people and build a £13m memorial to the dead, said the Guardian (18 April).  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/international/story/0,,1755603,00.html>

**Kenya.** Shortages in health staff have adversely affected the health of Kenyans, said Dr Otieno Nyunya, the chairman of the Eldoret chapter of the Kenya Medical Association, reported allAfrica.com (18 April).  
<http://allafrica.com/stories/200604180617.html>

**Russia.** Twenty years after the worst nuclear accident in history, arguments over the death toll of Chernobyl continue, according to Nature (19 April).  
<http://www.nature.com/news/2006/060417/full/440982a.html>

**UK.** Live organ donation from strangers will be allowed under new human tissue legislation, reported the BBC (25 April).  
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/4942732.stm>

**World.** The World Bank has been accused of publishing false accounts and wasting money on ineffective medicines in its malaria treatment programme, according to the BBC (24 April).  
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/4939810.stm>

## **Torture**

**East Timor.** The government needs to urgently address the problem of police torture and ill-treatment of detainees before it becomes widespread, Human Rights Watch said (20 April). <http://www.hrw.org/english/docs/2006/04/19/eastti13223.htm>  
report: <http://www.hrw.org/reports/2006/easttimor0406/>

**USA.** At least seven US prisoners at Guantánamo Bay say they were transferred to countries known for torture prior to their arrival at the base, according to recently released transcripts from military commission hearings and other court documents, reported the Boston Globe (26 April). [http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2006/04/26/7\\_detainees\\_report\\_transfer\\_to\\_nations\\_that\\_use\\_torture/](http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2006/04/26/7_detainees_report_transfer_to_nations_that_use_torture/)

**USA.** PHR-USA engaged in a debate with US Army Surgeon General Kevin Kiley on the role of Behavioral Science Consultation Teams at US detention facilities, including Guantánamo Bay (March 2006). [http://www.phrusa.org/research/torture/loyola\\_debate.html](http://www.phrusa.org/research/torture/loyola_debate.html)

## Trafficking

**United Nations.** Virtually no country in the world is unaffected by the crime of human trafficking for sexual exploitation or forced labour, a report by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime said (April). [http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press\\_release\\_2006\\_04\\_24.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/press_release_2006_04_24.html)

## Women's rights

**North Africa.** The NGO Global Rights and Maghreban lawyers have published an Arabic language guide to promote women's rights, reported the Morocco Times (23 April). <http://www.moroccotimes.com/paper/article.asp?idr=18&id=14290>

## Vacancies

The Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture (London, UK) is looking for a Director of Policy and External Affairs, an Assistant Legal Officer (female), 14 hours per week and a Temporary Housing Lawyer, 21 hours per week for 10 months. For further details see: <http://www.torturecare.org.uk/jobs/c203/>

## Publications

Kaushal Pandey. Doctors in Nepal take part in democracy protests. *BMJ* 2006;332:931 (22 April). <http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/extract/332/7547/931>

Lee PR et al. Participation in torture and interrogation: an inexcusable breach of medical ethics. *Camb Q Healthc Ethics* 2006 Spring;15(2):202-3. [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list\\_uids=16610758&query\\_hl=9&itool=pubmed\\_docsum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=16610758&query_hl=9&itool=pubmed_docsum)

Muula AS. Condom and sexual abstinence talk in the Malawi National Assembly. *Afr Health Sci* 2006 Mar;6(1):21-6. [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list\\_uids=16615822&query\\_hl=3&itool=pubmed\\_docsum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=16615822&query_hl=3&itool=pubmed_docsum)

Rahman RM. Human rights, health and the state in Bangladesh. *BMC Int Health Hum Rights* 2006 Apr 12;6(1):4 [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list\\_uids=16611360&query\\_hl=1&itool=pubmed\\_docsum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=16611360&query_hl=1&itool=pubmed_docsum)

Andrei Shukshin. Tough measures in Russian prisons slow spread of TB. *Bull World Health Organ* vol.84 no.4 April 2006  
[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list\\_uids=16628296&query\\_hl=1&itool=pubmed\\_docsum](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=16628296&query_hl=1&itool=pubmed_docsum) (no abstract)

Wairagala Wagabi. Condoms still contentious in Uganda's struggle over AIDS. *Lancet* 2006;367:1387 - 1388.  
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673606685978/fulltext>

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