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Amnesty International reports & statements:

See the following selected recent AI reports and press statements. These and other press releases and reports are accessible at the following link under 'News and Updates': http://www.amnesty.org/

5 June: Myanmar: Cyclone survivors at increased risk because of Mynamar government's actions http://www.amnesty.org/en/for-media/press-releases/myanmar-cyclone-survivors-increased-risk-because-myanmar-government%E2%80%99s-ac

5 June: Uganda: Amnesty International condemns attacks against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AFR59/004/2008/en

5 June: Brazil: Freedom of expression under threat - para-police torture reporters http://www.amnesty.org/en/for-media/press-releases/brazil-freedom-expression-under-threat-para-police-torture-reporters-200

29 May: Council of Europe: Women should be free of all gender-based violence http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/IOR61/007/2008

25 May: Amnesty International Report 2008: The state of the world's human rights

http://thereport.amnesty.org/eng/download-report

22 May: World must act on food crisis http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/world-must-act-food-crisis-20080522

Children:

Africa: In its latest study, UNICEF reports there are 5 million child deaths every year in Africa. *IPS* (30 May): http://www.ipsnews.net/africa/nota.asp?idnews=42593

Ethiopia: Soaring malnutrition is hitting children the hardest. *IRIN* (28 May): http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=78443

Haiti: UNICEF has joined a national call to halt the kidnappings of children in Haiti. *UNICEF* (4 June): http://www.unicef.org/media/media/44320.html

International: A study by Save the Children UK has found rampant child abuse by aid workers and peacekeepers in countries affected by conflict and natural disaster. *Voa News* (27 May): http://www.voanews.com/english/2008-05-27-voa25.cfm

Zimbabwe: The political violence in Zimbabwe has displaced at least 10,000 children and is hampering the delivery of humanitarian relief to children and their families. *UNICEF* (28 May):http://www.unicef.org/media/media_44183.html

Death Penalty:

Afghanistan: Afghanistan's appeal court referred a reporter sentenced to death to hospital for medical tests after he said he was tortured. *Agence France Presse* (1 June): http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5gR83BLmZB2D3Ui9EoEaqhxgmi-Cg

Ethiopia: Ethiopia's former Marxist leader, Mengistu Haile Mariam, was sentenced to death by the country's Supreme Court for genocide and other crimes against humanity. *The Sun News* (5 June): http://www.sunnewsonline.com/webpages/opinion/editorial/2008/jun/05/editorial-05-06-2008-001.htm

Ghana: The President of the Ghana Bar Association has called for the removal of the death penalty from the country's statute books describing it as a cruel form of punishment that does not serve any good purpose. *ModernGhana.com* (31 May): http://www.modernghana.com/news/167822/1/why-not-abolish-the-death-penalty.html

Nigeria: Lawmakers in Nigeria are moving towards abolishing the death penalty from the nation's statute books. *This Day Online* (2 June): http://www.thisdayonline.com/nview.php?id=113063

USA: An appeals court in Texas will create a new integrity unit to examine and correct problems in the justice system. *Chron.com* (4 June): http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/5819149.html

USA: Executioners struggled for 35 minutes to find a good vein for lethal injection. *Atlanta Journal Constitution* (4 June):

http://www.ajc.com/search/content/metro/stories/2008/06/04/execution 0605 web.html

Drugs:

Canada: Ottawa wants to shut down Canada's only safe injection site. *The Globe and Mail* (30 May):

http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/ArticleNews/freeheadlines/LAC/20080530/BCINSITE30/national/National

Scotland: Scotland has launched the country's first national strategy to tackle drugs. *Scotland.gov.uk* (29 May): http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2008/05/29103236

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights:

International: A resolution calling for the integration of a human rights dimension in the fight against the food crisis has been adopted by the Human Rights Council. *Human Rights Tribune* (30 May): http://www.humanrights-geneva.info/The-orphan-s-famine,3153

Zimbabwe: Aid workers fear the worst after President Mugabe banned the distribution of food aid. *BBC* (6 June): http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/7439457.stm

Health Workers:

Guinea: Doctors are demanding bribes to treat patients as their salaries are not enough to live on. *IRIN* (3 June): http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=78535

India: Over 300 doctors, who were on strike for 11 days, have been sacked by the Jharkhand Government. *News Post India* (5 June): http://newspostindia.com/report-58952

South Africa: A doctor is fighting for his right to be guided by his conscience after being dismissed for supporting the dispensing of anti-retrovirals for rape survivors. *Health-e.org* (5 June): http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20031981

Health Services:

Africa: The health of African women is lagging behind the rest of the world, says the UN. *UN News Centre* (30 May): <a href="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26863&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=268663&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=268663&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=268663&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=268663&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=268663&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=268663&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=268663&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=268663&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=268663&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=268663&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=268663&Cr=ticad&Cr1="http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?News/stor

Czech Republic: In the Czech Republic you can now see a doctor for about \$1.85, but some say this is too much. *New York Times* (29 May): http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/27/world/europe/27czech.html?pagewanted=1& r=1

International: Forty states have agreed at a Japan summit that stronger health systmes and better maternal health are critical to Africa's development. *UNFPA* (30 May): http://www.unfpa.org/news/news.cfm?ID=1136

Malawi: An initiative to improve the health, wealth and environment of Malawians is being driven by a proposal to trade in carbon credits. *IRIN* (29 May): http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=78467

Pakistan: Saudi-funded health centres will provide primary care to around 60,000 people, including women and children. *IRIN* (5 June): http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?Reportld=78580

HIV/AIDS:

Africa: A caravan is travelling through West Africa in a campaign aimed at educating, testing and counselling people about HIV/AIDS. *Voa News* (5 June): http://www.voanews.com/english/2008-06-05-voa25.cfm

Barbados: The Government of Barbados will spend \$180 million between 2008 and 2013 in the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS. *Nation News* (28 May): http://www.nationnews.com/story/340565471128971.php

India: Vast distances are a major barrier to combating HIV/AIDS in India. *Reuters* (2 June): http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUST2472220080603

International: New studies have found ways to reduce mother-to-child HIV transmission. *Voa News* (5 June): http://www.voanews.com/english/2008-06-05-voa2.cfm

International: More than 3 million people in developing nations are receiving treatment for HIV, says the UN. *UN News Centre* (2 June):

http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26873&Cr=hiv&Cr1=aids

Rwanda/Namibia: Rwanda and Namibia are the only African countries that have made significant progress in increasing HIV/AIDS treatment access and care. *New Times* (6 June): http://www.newtimes.co.rw/index.php?issue=13553&article=6914

South Africa: The prevalence of HIV in pregnant women has decreased over the last two years in South Africa. *Bua News* (6 June): http://www.buanews.gov.za/view.php?ID=08060610151005&coll=buanew08

Intellectual Property Rights:

International: The World Health Organization's member governments have overcome a rich-poor rift of how to overcome intellectual property. *Reuters* (24 May): http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSL2419043220080524

Malaria and Other Diseases:

Myanmar: The UN is stepping up efforts to combat major diseases in Myanmar that are now the main threat to millions left homeless after Cyclone Nargis. *Reuters* (29 May): http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSL2981477220080529

Mental Health:

UK: Women's Institute members have voted overwhelmingly to back a resolution calling for an end to "inappropriate imprisonment" of the mentally-ill. *BBC* (4 June): http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7436237.stm

Prisons:

Iraq: Juveniles languish for months in US-run prisons in Iraq. *IRIN* (2 June): http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=78472

Russia: Russian officals have confirmed the beating to death of four inmates at a prison in the Ural mountains, allegedly at the hands of prison guards. *Voa News* (3 June): http://www.voanews.com/english/2008-06-03-voa43.cfm

USA: Immigrants in detention in ths US receive inadequate medical care whilst awaiting deportation, say Human Rights Watch. *Human Rights Watch* (3 June): http://www.hrw.org/english/docs/2008/06/02/usdom18997.htm

Sexual and Reproductive Health:

Cuba: New horizons have opened up for transsexuals in Cuba with the approval of a Public Health Ministry resolution that establishes guidelines for their health care, including free gender reassignment operations. *IPS* (6 June): http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=42693

Kenya: Teenage mothers are denied education in Kenya, according to a new report. *IPS* (23 May): http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=42487

Liberia: A major campaign intended to curb the old-age practice of female genital mutilation has intensified in the country with the Women and Children Desk of the Inter-religious Council of Liberia (IRCL) taking the lead in the campaign. *The News Online* (30 May): http://www.thenews.com.lr/story.php?record_id=3407&sub=News

Nigeria: A rise in maternal mortality rates in Nigeria have been linked to a drop in girls' eduction. *allAfrica.com* (3 June): http://allafrica.com/stories/200806030448.html

Torture:

USA: The US is to investigate how its immigraton service deported a Syrian-born Canadian to Syria where he was allegedly tortured. *BBC* (5 June): http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/7438508.stm

Violence against Women:

Azerbaijan: The UN has launched a project to prevent violence against women in Azerbaijan. *Today.Az* (4 June): http://www.today.az/news/society/45429.html

Burundi: Human rights abuses including sexual abuse are widespread in the Burundian capital. *IRIN* (4 June): http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=78566

Conferences/Seminars/Courses:

Australia: From Margins to Mainstream: 5th World Conference on the Promotion of Mental Health and the Prevention of Mental and Behavioral Disorders, Melbourne, 10-12 September, 2008. Please see: http://www.margins2mainstream.com/registration.php

Canada: 15th Canadian Conference on Intenational Health. The theme this year is "Checking In: Health for All or Health for Some?" Ottowa, Canada, 26-29 October 2008. Call for papers by 15 June 2008. For further details please visit: http://www.csih.org/en/ccih/index.asp

Kenya: The 1st conference on Strengthening Linkages Between Sexual and Reproductive Health And HIV/AIDS Services: The Sexual Violence Nexus, Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya, 29 September to 1 October 2008. For more details please see: http://www.svconference2008.org/

Publications:

Alper, T., Anesthetizing the Public Conscience: Lethal Injection and Animal Euthanasia. *Fordham Urban Law Review*, 2008. Available at:

 $\frac{http://www.law.berkeley.edu/clinics/dpclinic/LethalInjection/LI/documents/articles/2008.anethetizing.pdf$

Chambliss LR., "Intimate partner violence and its implication for pregnancy". Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, 51(2): 385-97, 2008. Available at:

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citationIds%5b%5d=citiournalarticle 87298 20

Department for International Development, "Achieving Universal Access - the UK's strategy for halting and reversing the spread of HIV in the developing world". June 2008. Available at: http://www.dfid.gov.uk/pubs/files/achieving-universal-access.pdf

Mackenbach JP, et al., "Socioeconomic Inequalities in Health in 22 European Countries". *The New England Journal of Medicine*, Volume 358:2468-2481, June 2008, Number 23. Available at: http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/358/23/2468?query=TOC

Smith JS, Rainey SL, Smith KR, Alamares C, Grogg D, "Barriers to the Mandatory Reporting of Domestic Violence Encountered by Nursing Professionals". *Journal of Trauma Nursing*, 15(1): 9-11, 2008. Available at:

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citationIds%5b%5d=citjournalarticle 87271 20

Stremersch S. and Lemmens A., "Sales Growth of New Pharmaceuticals Across the Globe: The Role of Regulatory Regimes". Erasmus Research Institute of Management, May 2008. Available at: http://publishing.eur.nl/ir/repub/asset/12340/ERS-2008-026-MKT.pdf

WHO, UNAIDS and UNICEF, "Towards Universal Access: Scaling up priority HIV/AIDS interventions in the health sector". Progress report, June 2008. Available at: http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/Towards Universal Access Report 2008.pdf

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