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Asylum seekers / refugees / internally displaced people (IDPs):

Kenya: The UNHCR, UNICEF and the World Food Programme are urging funders to provide US\$32 million to improve care for refugee children and their mothers in camps in the northeast of Kenya. According to IRIN, government policies ruling out farming, grazing or work outside the camps mean refugees are entirely dependent on aid. *Irin* (12 July): <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=73058>

Children:

Iraq: The UNHCR is calling for the evacuation of seriously ill Palestinian refugees from refugee camps in Iraq. *Reuters* (29 June): <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/UNHCR/38ba41307c84a1eea8153550956a0e70.htm>

Kenya: The Kenya Red Cross Society has highlighted the need for a social awareness campaign before insecticide-treated bed nets are distributed, according to *All Africa* (2 July): <http://allafrica.com/stories/200707020771.html>

Death Penalty:

Japan: An opinion piece on Japan's status as the last industrialised country, other than the USA, to use the death penalty; and on the absence of debate in Japan on this issue.

Le Japon est le dernier pays industrialisé, avec les Etats-Unis, à avoir recours à la peine de mort et il y a une absence d'un véritable débat.

Français: *Le Monde Diplomatique* (Juin 2007)

<http://lecourant.net/content/view/418/11/>

Libya: The Libyan Supreme Court today once again upheld the death sentences imposed on five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor who were accused of intentionally infecting more than 400 Libyan children with the HIV virus in 1998. *New York Times* (11 July): <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/07/11/world/africa/11cnd-libya.html?hp>

Health Services:

Iraq: The deteriorating security situation has made it very hard to repair sewage and water networks, and as such, Iraqi Health Ministry officials have expressed concern at a possible increase in waterborne diseases in the hot summer months, according to *Irin* (3 July): <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=73052>

HIV/AIDS:

Afghanistan: The Afghan government has called for assistance from UNAIDS after a reported increase in HIV rates in the country. *Irin* (2 July): <http://www.plusnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=73044>

Brazil: The government has reached agreement with pharmaceutical firm Abbott over the price of the anti-retroviral drug Kaletra. The price will be reduced by around 30%. *BBC News* (5 July):

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/6272044.stm>

India: An HIV positive woman was refused medical help as she gave birth at a hospital in Uttar Pradesh, northern India, according to *Newspost* (29 June):

<http://www.newspostindia.com/report-5363>

India: The number of HIV cases in India is lower than previously thought. The disparity is the result of more accurate research methods rather than a reduction in number of cases, according to *Bloomberg* (6 July):

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601080&sid=aLnUqu6sfBDI&refer=asia>

India: The Kerala Government has promised to stand by five HIV positive pupils whose attendance at a local school has provoked a boycott by other parents, according to *Gulf News* (3 July):

<http://www.gulfnews.com/home/index.html>

Myanmar: HIV/AIDS activist Phyu Phyu Thin was released on 2 July according to *Reuters* (3 July):

http://in.today.reuters.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=worldnews&storyID=2007-07-03T040009Z_01_NOOTR_RTRMDNC_0_India-282913-1.xml

Saudi Arabia: The Saudi Health Minister has announced that HIV screening will soon be part of the compulsory medical tests that couples must undergo before they marry. *Arab News* (9 July):

<http://www.arabnews.com/?page=1§ion=0&article=98304&d=9&m=7&y=2007>

Sri Lanka: HIV rates in Sri Lanka remain low despite the ongoing conflict. (See Lancet report in Publications section). *Irin* (29 June):

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=73002>

Mental Health:

UK: The forthcoming mental health bill is generating protest from campaigners concerned that it is incompatible with existing human rights legislation. *The Independent* (8 July):

<http://news.independent.co.uk/health/article2745136.ece>

Organ transplants:

China: The Ministry of Health has been highlighting new rules on organ transplants, including one which regulates foreign citizens travelling to China for transplant surgery. *BBC News* (4 July):

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/6269166.stm>

Sexual and Reproductive Health:

Africa: Catholic bishops are urging African governments not to ratify a continental treaty, the 'Maputo Protocol', which would provide access to safe abortion. *All Africa* (29 June):

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200706290776.html>

Egypt: The Grand Mufti, Egypt's highest official arbiter of Islamic law, has stated that female genital mutilation (FGM) is forbidden by Islam. Egyptian Christian leaders have also stated that the Bible neither mentions nor demands the practice. *BBC News* (28 June):

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/middle_east/6251426.stm

UK: Police in London are launching a new campaign to combat female genital mutilation. (FGM). *BBC* (11 July):

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/6291218.stm>

One woman's story of being subjected to genital mutilation. *BBC* (10 July):

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/6287926.stm>

Pakistan: Opinion piece on maternal mortality and unsafe abortion. *DAWN* (29 June):

<http://www.dawn.com/2007/06/29/local14.htm>

Philippines: Health experts have warned that efforts to slow the Philippines' rapidly-growing birth rate will fail unless the central government resists religious pressure and provides funding for contraception, according to *Reuters* (11 July):

http://in.today.reuters.com/news/newsArticle.aspx?type=worldNews&storyID=2007-07-11T145215Z_01_NOOTR_RTRMDNC_0_India-284179-1.xml&archived=False

World: Multilateral development banks (MDBs) are not fulfilling their commitments to support initiatives involving reproductive and sexual health in developing countries, according to a new study released by Gender Action, according to *Kaiser Network* (10 July):

http://www.kaisernetwork.org/daily_reports/rep_index.cfm?hint=1&DR_ID=46099

Report: <http://www.genderaction.org/images/Gender%20Action%20MDBs%20RH-AIDS.pdf>

World: 'Men as Partners in Maternal Health' was the United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) theme for World Population Day 2007. *IPS* (11 July)

<http://www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=38494>

UNFPA statements: <http://www.unfpa.org/wpd/>

Torture:

CPT. The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture has published reports on visits to the Czech Republic (12 July: <http://www.cpt.coe.int/documents/cze/2007-07-12-eng.htm>)

Spain (10 July: <http://www.cpt.coe.int/documents/esp/2007-07-10-eng.htm>), and Italy (5 July:

<http://www.cpt.coe.int/documents/ita/2007-07-05-eng.htm>).

Morocco: The prime minister has announced that the state will pay the medical bills of all past victims of human rights abuses and those who suffered under the rule of former king Hassan II. *Independent Online* (6 July)

http://www.iol.co.za/index.php?set_id=1&click_id=68&art_id=nw20070706092423886C283272

Publications:

Gostin, L.O., 'Meeting the survival needs of the world's least healthy people. A proposed model for global health governance'. *JAMA*, Vol 298, No 2, 2007 pp.225-228

[http://jama.ama-](http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/298/2/225?maxtoshow=&HITS=10&hits=10&RESULTFORMAT=&fulltext=meeting+survival+needs&searchid=1&FIRSTINDEX=0&resourcetype=HWCIT)

[assn.org/cgi/content/full/298/2/225?maxtoshow=&HITS=10&hits=10&RESULTFORMAT=&fulltext=meeting+survival+needs&searchid=1&FIRSTINDEX=0&resourcetype=HWCIT](http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/298/2/225?maxtoshow=&HITS=10&hits=10&RESULTFORMAT=&fulltext=meeting+survival+needs&searchid=1&FIRSTINDEX=0&resourcetype=HWCIT)

Shiffman, J. and Ved, R. 'The state of political priority for safe motherhood in India'. *BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology*. Vol.114, Issue 7, pp. 785-790, July 2007

<http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1471-0528.2007.01374.x>

Spiegel, P. et al, 'Prevalence of HIV infection in conflict-affected and displaced people in seven sub-Saharan African countries: a systematic review' *The Lancet* Vol 369, No. 9580, 30 June 2007

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673607610150/fulltext>

Widdows, H. 'Is Global Ethics Moral Neo-Colonialism? An investigation of the issue in the context of bioethics.' *Bioethics*, Vol 21, Issue 6, pp. 305-315, July 2007. (subscription required).

<http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1467-8519.2007.00558.x>

Ethical and safety recommendations for researching, documenting and monitoring sexual violence in emergencies, *World Health Organisation*, July 2007

http://www.who.int/gender/documents/EthicsSafety_web.pdf