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Amnesty International reports & statements

See a selection of recent AI news releases:

AI Annual Report 2006. World's poor and disadvantaged pay price of war on terror (23 May).
<http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGPOL100182006>

China. Tianenmen Square Justice denied for disabled survivors (4 June).
<http://web.amnesty.org/pages/chn-020606-summary-eng>

Council of Europe calls on European countries to stop renditions (7 June).
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGEUR010102006>

'I am not ashamed!' HIV-AIDS and human rights in the Dominican Republic and Guyana (31 May).
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAMR010022006>

NGOs lead by example World's international NGOs endorse accountability charter (6 June).
<http://news.amnesty.org/index/ENGPOL306062006>

Philippines Abolition of the death penalty (7 June).
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGASA350042006>

Sudan. Crisis in Darfur (June).
<http://web.amnesty.org/pages/sdn-index-eng>

Zimbabwe. Satellite images provide shocking evidence of the obliteration of a community (31 May).
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAFR460082006>

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

Children

USA/Guantanamo. The Independent on Sunday (London) reports that more than 60 of the detainees held at the detention centre at Guantanamo Naval Base were under 18 at the time of their capture, some as young as 14. See the Independent (28 May).
<http://news.independent.co.uk/world/americas/article620704.ece> [Subscription needed]

Death Penalty

The Council of Europe is waiting for Russia to abolish the death penalty, the Council's Commissioner for Human Rights Thomas Hammarberg said, reported Interfax (6 June).
http://www.interfax.ru/e/B/0/28.html?id_issue=11529296

Philippines. A Philippines Information Agency press release reports the end of the death penalty after the Senate and the House of Representatives collectively decided to approve of Senate Bill No. 2254. 9 June 2006. <http://www.pia.gov.ph/news.asp?fi=p060609.htm&no=56>. See also the Philippine Star report: <http://www.philstar.com/philstar/News200606070401.htm>

HIV/AIDS

Kenya. The president has announced that fees will be removed for anti-retroviral drugs. See BBC (2 June):
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/5040240.stm>

UNAIDS. 2006 Report on the global AIDS epidemic.
http://www.unaids.org/en/HIV_data/2006GlobalReport/default.asp

UNGASS Review. A meeting of UN delegations and civil society representatives met at the United Nations in New York between 31 May and 2 June 2006 to review progress since the UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS in 2001. The outcome was criticised by NGOs as a missed opportunity for a clear commitment to effective action. The final declaration is available at:
<http://www.ungasshiv.org/index.php/en/content/download/3486/36709/file/060602DraftPoliticalDeclaration.pdf>. NGO criticisms are available at:
http://www.ungasshiv.org/index.php/en/ungass/media/latest_news/international_civil_society_denounce_un_meeting_on_aids_as_a_failure. See also the AI press release which preceded the meeting: <http://www.amnestyusa.org/news/document.do?id=ENGUSA20060531001>

World. Only one HIV-positive child in 20 in developing countries receives the treatment they need, states a report by the Global Movement for Children.
<http://www.gmfc.org/>

Prisoners

UK. The most senior judge has made wide criticisms of the criminal justice system and warned prison overcrowding is proving "absolutely fatal" for efforts to tackle the treatment of inmates, according to the Guardian (30 May).
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/prisons/story/0,,1785585,00.html>

Right to health

Iraq. The health ministry says the bodies of 6,000 people have been brought into Baghdad's main mortuary this year, most of whom died violently, according to the BBC (6 June).
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/5052144.stm

Torture / cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment

Egypt. The government-linked National Council for Human Rights has criticised Egypt's treatment of pro-reform activists, saying security forces should re-examine their "highly cruel" measures, according to the Gulf Times (7 June).

http://www.gulf-times.com/site/topics/article.asp?cu_no=2&item_no=90437&version=1&template_id=37&parent_id=17

Europe. Fourteen European states colluded with the CIA in secret US flights for those suspected of terrorism, according to a Council of Europe report. See BBC article (7 June): <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/5054426.stm>

The Council of Europe report is available at the BBC website:

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/bsp/hi/pdfs/07_06_06_renditions_draft.pdf or at the Council of Europe website: http://assembly.coe.int/CommitteeDocs/2006/20060606_Ejdoc162006PartII-FINAL.pdf

USA. The US military is to put troops in Iraq through 'ethical' training, in the wake of the alleged murder of civilians in Haditha, US press reports say. See BBC (1 June): <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/5036686.stm>

USA. Physicians for Human Rights has denounced new US Defense Department guidelines on the role of health personnel in interrogations, calling them "an assault on medical ethics, the professional integrity of military health personnel, the Geneva Conventions, and on US military tradition and discipline. See: http://www.phrusa.org/research/torture/news_2006-06-06.html, 6 June.

Trafficking

USA. The US State Department has issued its annual report on trafficking. See USINFO (5 June):

<http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.html?p=washfile-english&y=2006&m=June&x=20060605164421cmretrop0.2916681&t=dhr/hr-latest.html>

Publications

Awofeso N. Doctors, prison torture and the "war on terror". (Letter) *Medical Journal of Australia* 2006; 184 (11): 588-589. Available at:

http://www.mja.com.au/public/issues/184_11_050606/letters_050606_fm-2.html

Editorial. Russia, the G8, and HIV. *The Lancet* 2006; 367:1703

<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673606687424/fulltext>

G Haddow. "Because you're worth it?" The taking and selling of transplantable organs. *Journal of Medical Ethics* 2006;32:324-328.

<http://jme.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/abstract/32/6/324>

Hogerzeil HV. Essential medicines and human rights: what can they learn from each other? *Bull World Health Organ.* 2006 May;84(5):371-375.

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=16710546&query_hl=1&itool=pubmed_docsum

Donald Macintyre. Human rights group calls on Israel to save Palestinian health services. *BMJ* 2006;332:1231 (27 May)

<http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/extract/332/7552/1231-a>

Kober KKK, Van Damme WWVD. Public sector nurses in Swaziland: can the downturn be reversed? *Human Resources for Health* 2006, 4:13

<http://www.human-resources-health.com/content/4/1/13>

Owen-Kostelnik J, et al. Testimony and interrogation of minors: assumptions about maturity and morality. *Am Psychol.* 2006 May-Jun;61(4):286-304

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=pubmed&dopt=Abstract&list_uids=16719674&query_hl=12&itool=pubmed_docsum

WHO study group. Female genital mutilation and obstetric outcome: WHO collaborative prospective study in six African countries. *The Lancet* 2006; 367:1835-1841
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673606688053/fulltext>

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