
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Al Bulletin Vol. 9 No. 25, 8 December 2006 Al Index: ACT 84/025/2006

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Amnesty International reports & statements

See the following recent AI news releases [dates given in day/month/year format].

08/12/2006 Pakistan: Growing anger at continuing enforced disappearances ASA 33/052/2006

07/12/2006 UN votes for historic Arms Trade Treaty proposal IOR 41/027/2006

07/12/2006 Estonia: Every third person a potential victim of discrimination EUR 51/005/2006

06/12/2006 Iran: Amnesty International concerned at increasing censorship MDE 13/133/2006

06/12/2006 Kimberley Process: An Amnesty International Position Paper POL 30/057/2006

06/12/2006 Sudan: New Janjawid attacks as UN evacuates staff AFR 54/086/2006

06/12/2006 Taiwan: Justice Minister must halt execution of Chong Deshu ASA 38/003/2006

04/12/2006 <u>Lebanon: Need for responsible leadership and comprehensive approach to end impunity</u> MDE 18/010/2006

04/12/2006 <u>United Kingdom -- The Killing of Jean Charles de Menezes: let justice take its course</u> EUR 45/021/2006 04/12/2006 USA: Government attempts to dismiss appeals of Ali-Saleh Kahlah al-Marri, held in conditions of extreme

isolation for over four and a half years AMR 51/182/2006

01/12/2006 Amnesty International's Secretary General to lead delegation to Middle East 2 - 11 December MDE 02/037/2006

01/12/2006 Chad: Civilians left unprotected as brutal Janjawid attacks reach 150 kilometres inside Chad AFR 20/013/2006

01/12/2006 People's Republic of China: AIDS activists at risk ASA 17/061/2006

01/12/2006 Sri Lanka: Amnesty International urges effective action to end impunity IOR 41/026/2006

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

Asylum seekers/refugees

Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan might have secretly deported a Chinese asylum seeker in violation of its international commitments on refugee rights, according to the UNHCR. See the *International Herald Tribune*, 1 December; http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2006/12/01/asia/AS GEN Kazakhstan UN Refugees.php

Zimbabwe. At least 15 percent of the Zimbabwean women refugees who visited a counselling centre run by the Zimbabwe Torture Victims/Survivors Project (ZTVP) in Johannesburg over the past 20 months alleged they had been raped according to a new report, *Women on the Run*. See IRIN (7 December) http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/IRIN/805c77d62058173d83d90932aba2d5c3.htm

Children

Haiti and Liberia. Children have been subjected to rape and prostitution by United Nations peacekeepers in Haiti and Liberia, a BBC investigation has found. BBC 30 November http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/6195830.stm

Child soldiers. The 14 armed groups and two governments that refused repeated UN demands to stop using child soldiers should be subject to sanctions, Human Rights Watch said, 27 November; http://www.hrw.org/english/docs/2006/11/27/global14664.htm

Death Penalty

USA. According to the Death Penalty Information Center, there is growing concern among national mental health and legal organizations regarding inmates on death row who are severely mentally ill. See DPIC 27 November; http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/article.php?did=1979&scid=64

HIV/AIDS

Australia. Sydney's gay community has an infection rate of HIV that is similar to that of countries in Africa reports the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 26 November;

http://www.smh.com.au/news/national/hiv-infection-rate-rises-to-epidemic-levels-in-gay-community/2006/11/25/116434 1446659.html

China. A prominent Chinese AIDS campaigner who was organising a forum on the illness has been released after being held by police for three days, reports the BBC 27 November; http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/asia-pacific/6187670.stm

Israel. Physicians for Human Rights-Israel has published a report on the situation of migrant workers and refugees living with HIV in Israel. See *Surviving on Scraps*, available at: http://www.phr.org.il/phr/article.asp?articleid=402&catid=65&pcat=-1&lang=ENG

South Africa. The AIDS Law Project has expressed concern at the confusion and misinformation being generated in the reporting of the Health Professions Council of South Africa's (HPCSA) disciplinary action against Bloemfontein pathologist Dr Leon Wagner reported for stating on a death certificate that the cause of death was AIDS. See *Mail and Guardian Online* (24 November)

http://www.mg.co.za/articlepage.aspx?area=/breaking_news/breaking_news_national/&articleid=291099

Human rights

Fiji. The Fiji Human Rights Commission says it will defend and protect the rights of everyone in Fiji and will uphold the 1997 Constitution by all means at its disposal according to the Fiji Times, 8 December. http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?id=53122. The pledge follows the recent military coup in the country.

Right to health

China. The government will establish a new government body to oversee the registration and allocation of donated organs for transplants, amid widespread controversy in the field reports the *China Daily* 28 November http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2006-11/28/content 744638.htm

Japan. It is harder to get an organ transplant in Japan than almost anywhere else in the world reports the BBC 29 November

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/6156925.stm

Torture

UK. The government has been rebuked by the European Parliament over its failure to aid an investigation into the CIA's transportation of terrorist suspects and their alleged torture in secret jails in Europe reports the *Scotsman* 29 November:

http://news.scotsman.com/uk.cfm?id=1768232006

Violence against women

India. A sexual assault evidence kit (SAFE Kit) for collecting high quality evidence has been launched by the NGO CEHAT; See cities.expressindia.com, 28 November; http://cities.expressindia.com/fullstory.php?newsid=211111

Zambia. A Zambian non-governmental organisation has said that it records eight cases of rape of young girls every week at its centre in the capital, Lusaka. *Irin News* 27 November;

http://irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=56528&SelectRegion=Southern Africa&SelectCountry=ZAMBIA

Publications

Adamson S Muula , Ben Panulo Jr. Fresier C Maseko The financial losses from the migration of nurses from Malawi. Page 2 of 3

BMC Nursing 2006, 5:9; http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6955/5/9

Cunningham MD. Dangerousness and death: a nexus in search of science and reason. *Am Psychol.* 2006 Nov:61(8):828-39.

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=pubmed&cmd=Retrieve&dopt=AbstractPlus&list_uids=17115827&query_hl=3&itool=pubmed_docsum

Gottlieb MK. Executions and torture: the consequences of overriding professional ethics. *Yale J Health Policy Law Ethics*. 2006 Summer;6(2):351-89 (no abstract)

Robertson CL. et al. Somali and Oromo refugee women: trauma and associated factors. *J Adv Nurs.* 2006 Dec;56(6):577-87

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=pubmed&cmd=Retrieve&dopt=AbstractPlus&list_uids=17118037&query_hl=8&itool=pubmed_docsum

Stepakoff S. et al. Trauma healing in refugee camps in Guinea: a psychosocial program for liberian and Sierra Leonean survivors of torture and war. *Am Psychol. 2006 Nov*;61(8):92-32

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=pubmed&cmd=Retrieve&dopt=AbstractPlus&list_uids=17115852&query_hl=8&itool=pubmed_docsum

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