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## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

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### Amnesty International Reports & Statements:

**18 March: Taiwan:** Amnesty International has noted the recent debate on the death penalty sparked by former Minister of Justice Wang Ching-feng's open support for a moratorium on executions and her subsequent resignation. Amnesty has written an open letter to the government of Taiwan asking them to ensure that Taiwan continues towards its stated goal of abolition of the death penalty. <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/open-letter-death-penalty-taiwan-2010-03-18>

**12 March: USA:** Amnesty International has called on President Obama to tackle soaring rates of maternal mortality and pregnancy-related complications that particularly affect minorities and those living in poverty. Amnesty International's report *Deadly Delivery: The Maternal Health Care Crisis in the USA*, urges action to tackle a crisis that sees between two and three women die every day during pregnancy and childbirth in the USA. <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/usa-urged-confront-shocking-maternal-mortality-rate-2010-03-12>

**12 March: Pakistan:** Insurgent groups in Pakistan must stop targeting humanitarian agencies that are trying to provide assistance to the country's poor, said Amnesty International after six NGO workers were killed in the country's northwest region. <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/attack-pakistani-humanitarian-workers-major-setback-human-rights-2010-03-12>

**12 March: Kenya:** Amnesty International has called for the promised investigation into the alleged killing by Kenyan police of seven men to be impartial, independent and for the results to be made public. Police officers claimed the men were part of a criminal gang, but witnesses

say they were taxi drivers. <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/kenyan-investigation-alleged-police-killings-must-be-impartial-2010-03-12>

**11 March: Italy:** In a new briefing paper, *The Wrong Answer - Italy's "Nomad Plan" violates the housing rights of Roma in Rome*, Amnesty International has warned that the programme, which began in July 2009, violates the human rights of thousands of Roma. The measures envisage the destruction of over 100 Roma settlements across the capital and an estimated 6,000 Roma are to be resettled into just 13 new or expanded camps on the outskirts of the city. The plan is likely to leave more than 1,000 Roma homeless. <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/report/italian-authorities-urged-stop-forced-evictions-roma-2010-03-11>

**11 March: Sri Lanka:** Since the January 2010 presidential election, the government has engaged in a campaign to silence and discredit journalists and nongovernmental organizations. A recently leaked document, which appears to be a government surveillance list of more than 30 journalists and activists, significantly raises concerns about the safety of the people on the list. said. <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/sri-lanka-urged-end-witch-hunt-against-media-and-ngos-2010-03-11>

**8 March: International:** Victims of rape and sexual violence worldwide are denied access to justice due to gender discrimination and assumptions about the sexual behaviour of victims of rape. To mark International Women's Day, Amnesty International released reports on sexual violence in Cambodia and the Nordic Countries of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

**8 March: Cambodia:** A new report focuses on victims of rape in Cambodia as rapes of women and girls appear to be increasing. Survivors of rape in Cambodia face limited access to justice, medical services and counseling, <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/report/cambodia-government-protect-victims-sexual-violence-reports-rape-increase>

**8 March: Afghanistan:** Women who push for better human rights face systematic violence and threats from the Taliban and other anti-government groups, as well as local warlords and militias. The government does little to support women human rights defenders and sometimes actively hinders their work, eroding the hard-won gains Afghan women have made since the fall of the Taliban. <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/afghan-women-human-rights-defenders-tell-intimidation-and-attacks-2010-03-08>

**5 March: DRC:** Amnesty International has said it strongly opposes any withdrawal or reduction of the numbers of UN peacekeepers from the Democratic Republic of Congo, after the government requested that the current force (MONUC) withdraws from the country by June 2011. Massacres, rape, looting and other attacks on the civilian population and humanitarian agencies by armed forces and groups continue unabated, primarily in the war-torn east of the country. <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/un-forces-must-remain-democratic-republic-congo-2010-03-05>

## World TB Day 24 March 2010

Wednesday 24 March is World TB Day. The year 2010 marks the halfway point for the Global Plan to Stop TB (2006-2015). This annual event commemorates the date in 1882 when the German bacteriologist Dr. Robert Koch announced his discovery of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacillus that cause tuberculosis (TB). (Koch was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1905. A biography of Koch is available at the Nobel web site: [http://nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/medicine/laureates/1905/koch-bio.html](http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/medicine/laureates/1905/koch-bio.html).)

Information and resources on TB are available at: <http://www.stoptb.org/>; at the World Health Organization's TB page: <http://www.who.int/tb/en/index.html> and at the US Centers for Disease Control TB page: <http://www.cdc.gov/tb/events/WorldTBDay/default.htm>.

In a new WHO report -- *Multidrug and Extensively Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis: 2010 Global Report on Surveillance and Response* -- it is estimated that 440,000 people had MDR-TB

worldwide in 2008 and that a third of them died. The report is available at:  
[http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241599191\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241599191_eng.pdf)

**Canada:** The rate of tuberculosis among Canada's aboriginal peoples is an embarrassment that demands an immediate government plan, opposition parties demanded this morning. A report from the Public Health Agency of Canada last week revealed that the rate of TB among aboriginal Canadians was 28.2 cases per 100,000 people, compared to 0.8 for non-aboriginal Canadians. In Manitoba, aboriginals had a TB rate of 51.2 compared to 1.2 for non-aboriginals. *Winnipeg Free Press* (16 March) <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/breakingnews/TB-rate-among-aboriginals-an-embarrassment-87825817.html>

**UK:** The number of cases of tuberculosis diagnosed in Wales has risen by almost a third in the space of a year. Across the UK the increase in TB cases was the largest since 2005 – there were also increases in eight of the nine English regions and in Scotland. The main burden of infection remains in London and the West Midlands reported the second highest number of cases. *Wales Online* (17 March) <http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/health-news/2010/03/17/tb-cases-in-wales-increase-by-nearly-a-third-91466-26047619/>

**UK:** UK prisoners are significantly more likely to have drug resistant TB than other people with the disease, suggests research published ahead of print in the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*. And one in four of TB cases fall through the healthcare net once they leave prison. *Science Centric* (18 March) <http://www.sciencecentric.com/news/article.php?q=10031732-high-rates-drug-resistant-tb-among-uk-prisoners>

Other TB-related information: Nair N et al. Tuberculosis in the WHO South-East Asia Region. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, Mar 2010. Available at:  
<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/88/3/09-073874.pdf>.

Reyes H. Multi-drug resistant TB in prisons. *World Medical Journal*, Feb 2010, pp.6-10.

Amnesty International has concerns about the well-being of prisoners in many prisons around the world who are exposed to infection with TB and who do not have access to adequate treatment.

## Children

**India:** Everyday, about 5,000 children die in India and every 20 seconds, the country loses one child under five years of age. The latest report by the NGO World Vision says out of the total 2.1 million child deaths per year as many as 1.9 million are preventable, which means almost 90 per cent of child deaths in India are preventable. *IBN Live* (19 March) <http://ibnlive.in.com/news/90-per-cent-of-child-deaths-in-india-preventable/111722-17.html>

**Nepal:** Nepal is boosting efforts to tackle child malnutrition, which is so widespread that every other child under five has been found to be malnourished. Health experts say poor maternal health among Nepali women is directly contributing to child malnutrition; nearly a quarter of the country's estimated 14.5 million women are malnourished, afflicted particularly by a low body mass index. *IRIN* (16 March) <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=88442>

## Death Penalty

**Singapore:** Lawyers representing Yong Vui Kong, a 22-year old Malaysian, argued that the mandatory death sentence for drug smugglers violates international standards and human rights laws. Singapore executes anyone found guilty of importing more than 15g of drugs. It is one of the few countries in the world to impose mandatory death sentences for drug offences. This case is regarded by experts as an important challenge to the country's death penalty and has attracted media attention across Asia, where executing people for drug offences remains

controversial. *The Guardian* (15 March)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/mar/15/singapore-drug-execution-challenge-kong>

**South Korea:** South Korea is having second thoughts about its years-long de facto suspension of death penalty, as a result of a series of heinous crimes and subsequent public outcry. Justice Minister Lee Gui-nam added fuel to the highly polarizing debate by hinting at a possible resumption of executions, quickly earning applause and disapproval from both sides of the spectrum. *Xinhuanet* (18 March) [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-03/18/c\\_13216146.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-03/18/c_13216146.htm)

## Food Security and Poverty

**Africa:** In the fourth and final part of the series "[Are we heading for another food crisis?](#)", IRIN takes a brief look at West Africa, where prices have begun to rise and failed rains have left 10 million people across the Sahel food insecure, after barely recovering from the 2007/08 food price crisis. *IRIN* (18 March) <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=88478>

**Haiti:** World Food Programme, the Haitian government and food experts from NGOs have just completed a comprehensive assessment which confirms the scale of the ongoing food needs in Haiti two months after the earthquake. The Emergency Food Security Assessment (EFSA) looked at how people in areas affected by the earthquake have been feeding their families since the quake struck. Not surprisingly, more than half of the people surveyed don't have enough to eat or aren't able to eat the right kinds of food to get the nutrients they need.

*ReliefWeb* (17 March) <http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/MYAI-83M7WF?OpenDocument>

Report available in French at: [http://reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/VDUX-83KU9F/\\$File/rapport\\_complet.pdf](http://reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/VDUX-83KU9F/$File/rapport_complet.pdf)

**Yemen:** Millions of Yemenis are starving while the international community focuses on security issues and tackling al-Qaida, according to the United Nations. Vital deliveries of food and assistance are being cut because of a near-total absence of funding. Nearly one in three Yemenis, more than 7 million people, struggles daily to find enough food to live a healthy and productive life, leading to rates of malnutrition that are the third highest in the world, the UN said. *The Guardian* (11 March) <http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/mar/11/millions-yemenis-starving-donors-un>

## HIV and AIDS

**Nigeria:** Despite improved information and education on HIV/AIDS in the country, stigma and discrimination have remained the greatest challenges facing patients. HIV screening has become part of the recruitment or admission requirements for many schools and corporations with those who test positive being denied employment or admission. Also, some healthcare providers especially in the general purpose health facilities stigmatise HIV patients, by either avoiding them or attending to them scornfully. *Daily Champion* (3 March)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201003030542.html>

**South Africa:** From April 15, everyone attending a clinic or hospital will be offered an HIV test, regardless of whether they have symptoms of the disease or not. Dubbed the HIV Counselling and Testing campaign, or HCT, this is the most ambitious HIV testing campaign in the world, according to the SA National AIDS Council (SANAC) co-chairperson, Mark Heywood. The HCT's target is to have 15 million South Africans tested for HIV by June next year at any of the country's 4,300 health facilities. <http://www.health-e.org.za/news/article.php?uid=20032690>

**USA:** The debate between those who favour investment in AIDS treatment and those who favour investment in its prevention came to the forefront at a U.S House of Representatives hearing on U.S. investments in HIV/AIDS in Africa. International health organisations working to help check the spread of AIDS in Africa said meagre increases in funds from the U.S. government this year would be a step backwards. Some experts also emphasised that prevention must get appropriate attention in any fight against the disease. *IPS* (12 March)

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=50651>

## Malaria, TB and Other Diseases

**Mozambique:** Cholera has claimed the lives of over 40 people in Mozambique and ongoing flooding throughout the central and northern parts of the country could "aggravate" the problem, aid agencies say. *IRIN* (15 March) <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=88434>

## Maternal and Infant Health

**Afghanistan:** With more than half a million women dying each year from largely preventable complications related to pregnancy and childbirth, Afghanistan is now ranked second worst in the world when it comes to maternal mortality behind Sierra Leone. *The Huffington Post* (8 March) [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rahim-kanani/maternal-mortality-in-afg\\_b\\_490107.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rahim-kanani/maternal-mortality-in-afg_b_490107.html)

**India:** A new campaign to create awareness about maternal mortality in India has been launched. Campaigners say that 78% of maternal deaths are avoidable. An Indian woman dies every seven minutes during pregnancy or childbirth. "Play Your Part" aims to bring the families and communities together to stop 65,000 maternal deaths every year. Campaigners say a lack of health facilities coupled with the lower social status of the women affected are to blame for high mortality rates. *BBC* (5 March) [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south\\_asia/8551173.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/south_asia/8551173.stm)

**Zambia:** Zambia's maternal mortality rate of 591 per 100,000 live births is one of the highest in the world, according to the 2008 Demographic Health Survey (DHS), the most recent. One-third of maternal deaths are thought to be the result of abortion, but a shocking statistic is that 80 percent of the women who die from abortions are under the age of 19. *Lusaka Times* (11 March) <http://www.lusakatimes.com/?p=24658>

## Mental Health

**South Africa:** As more HIV-positive people access treatment and live longer, the number of people suffering from HIV-related mental disorders is growing, but mental health remains an ethical, legal and clinical minefield, where many doctors and nurses fear to tread - and fear to test. Various studies have shown a higher than average prevalence of mental illness among people living with HIV. A 2005 study by South Africa's Human Sciences Research Council found that about 44 percent of the 900 HIV-positive individuals surveyed suffered from a mental disorder. *PlusNews* (17 March) <http://allafrica.com/stories/201003171133.html>

**Scotland:** The head of a leading charity accused the government of deliberately ignoring an epidemic of poor mental health among asylum seekers, because admitting it would mean allowing greater numbers to stay in the country. Lesley Benzie, chief executive of Lifelink, was speaking a week after three Russian asylum seekers leapt to their deaths from a tower block in Glasgow's Red Road. Ms Benzie fears the level of desperation among asylum seekers in Glasgow is such that services would be overwhelmed if the problem was acknowledged. *The Herald* (14 March) <http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/health/mental-illness-epidemic-hits-asylum-seekers-in-scotland-1.1013192>

## Prisons

**USA:** The Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) has agreed to end the segregation of prisoners with HIV, a longstanding discriminatory policy that has prevented prisoners from accessing key resources that facilitate their successful transition back into the community. The segregation policy remains in Alabama and South Carolina. *Common Dreams* (17 March) <http://www.commondreams.org/newswire/2010/03/17-10>

## Torture

**International:** The UN Special Rapporteur on Torture says torture is increasing around the world due to the global fight against terrorism, organized crime and rising crime rates in many countries. The rapporteur, Manfred Nowak, has submitted a "Global Study On Torture" to the

UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. The study is based on Nowak's more than five years of experience as Special Rapporteur. *VOA News* (10 March)

<http://www1.voanews.com/english/news/human-rights/Torture-Widespread-Around-World-87258147.html>

**UK:** Torture survivors seeking sanctuary in Britain are being wrongly held in government detention centres, despite independent medical evidence supporting claims of brutal violence against them in their home countries. According to Home Office guidelines, in cases where there is evidence that a person seeking asylum has been tortured they should be detained only in "exceptional circumstances". But medical charities that carry out hundreds of independent assessments of torture survivors every year have accused the government of routinely ignoring their reports, with victims held in detention centres until their asylum claims are heard – and, in almost every case, rejected. *The Guardian* (14 March)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/mar/14/asylum-torture-evidence-ignored>

## Violence Against Women

**Bosnia:** Almost 20 years after the war that destroyed former Yugoslavia, those whose lives were wrecked by rape still hope that their rapists will be tried and convicted. It is estimated that 20,000 people, including men, were raped during the war. In many cases the violence was planned and used as a deliberate weapon to terrorise civilians; but few rapists have been tried, and many victims have failed to receive economic and psychological support from the Bosnian government. *Le Monde Diplomatique* (March 2010)

<http://mondediplo.com/2010/03/09bosnia>

**Israeli Occupied Territories:** Rights activists blame the economy, Hamas-Fatah tensions and the conflict with Israel for the rising number of cases of violence against women. Disinterest in domestic abuse by the judicial authorities and the apparent impunity of violators have made matters worse, they say. A March 2010 report by the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) explores women's perceptions of the organizations or legal bodies designed to protect them, based on focus group discussions and interviews with women and girls in the West Bank and Gaza between June and November 2009. *IR/IN* (16 March)

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=88446>

Report available at: <http://www.dcaf.ch/publications/kms/details.cfm?lng=en&id=112812&nav1=5>

**Mexico:** With a population of just 1.5 million, Juarez has one of the highest murder rates in the world. In 2008, state authorities reported 86 slayings of women. The homicide rate for women in Juarez far exceeds the Mexican national average and is three times that of Tijuana, a border city of comparable size, according to a recent Inter-American Commission Report. *ABC News* (10 March)

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/03/10/2841822.htm?section=justin>

Report Available at: <http://www.cidh.org/annualrep/2002eng/chap.vi.juarez.htm>

## Water and Sanitation

**International:** Bad water kills more people than wars or earthquakes, declares Anders Berntell, executive director of the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI). Some 3.6 million people - including 1.5 million children - are estimated to die each year from water-related diseases, including diarrhoea, typhoid, cholera and dysentery. *IPS* (18 March)

<http://ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=50710>

**International:** The report from the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, says the world is on track to meet or even exceed the drinking-water target of the Millennium Development Goals, which aims to cut in half the number of people who do not have access to good water. The report notes 87 percent of the world's population or approximately 5.9 billion people are using safe drinking-water sources. But, the situation regarding sanitation is not as good. *VOA News* (15 March)

<http://www1.voanews.com/english/news/health/WHO-UNICEF-Say-Global-Access-to-Safe-Drinking-Water-Increasing-87700142.html>

Report available at:

[http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/publications/9789241563956/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/publications/9789241563956/en/index.html)

## Courses and Conferences

**The 2nd International Conference on the Survivors of Rape, 30 September – 2 October 2010, University Medical Center Utrecht, The Netherlands.** The Conference aims to further enhance the understanding of the impact of rape for children, adolescents and adults and to improve the quality of multidisciplinary care for survivors of rape. Abstract submission is now open. For more information about the conference, visit:

<http://www.umcutrecht.nl/subsite/ConferenceOnRape/>

**SAfAIDS Regional Conference on Changing the River's Flow, 12 – 13 April 2010, Johannesburg, South Africa.** The conference will provide a platform for the exchange of knowledge and ideas and practical solutions to designing and implementing effective programmes, with the ultimate objective of promoting work focusing on the role of culture in HIV and GBV interventions. For more information, visit: <http://www.safaids.net/?q=node/1101>

**2010 World Water Week in Stockholm: The Water Quality Challenge, September 5 – 11**  
Preparations are underway for the 2010 World Water Week in Stockholm, which will mark the 20th Anniversary of the event. The Stockholm International Water Institute is currently putting together the programme for the week in consultation with our co-convening organisations. Further information: <http://www.worldwaterweek.org/sa/site.asp?site=460>

## Vacancies

### **International Federation of Human Rights Organisations (IFHHRO) Research and Campaign Officer, The Netherlands**

To lead IFHHRO in its participation in the campaign based on solid research and consultation of the organised health professions in cooperation with the Regional Focal Points, member and observer organisations, the International Board, coordinator and secretariat.

IFHHRO website: <http://www.ifhhro.org/main.php?op=text&id=1>

Further information: Adriaan van Es, coordinator on Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-15 hrs +31 6 51329490 or [a.van.es@planet.nl](mailto:a.van.es@planet.nl)

### **Institute for Health and Social Justice (IHSJ) Partners In Health Project Coordinator, Boston MA, Closing Date: 12 April**

The Project Coordinator for the IHSJ will be based in Boston and will support the Director of the IHSJ, the Policy and Advocacy Director, and Research and Administrative Assistant by tracking legislative activities related to Haiti, food security, global health funding and health systems strengthening. S/he will collaborate with Development and Communications' teams on outreach to increase membership for PIH's on-line community. In addition, there will be a strong research and writing component to this position. Further information:

[http://216.197.119.113/jobman/publish/article\\_64383.shtml](http://216.197.119.113/jobman/publish/article_64383.shtml)

### **Roma Health Project - Public Health Program / OSI-Budapest Program Coordinator, Budapest, Closing Date: 31 March**

OSI's Public Health Program (PHP) has been supporting Roma health programs since January 2001 through the Roma Health Project (RHP). The mission of the Roma Health Project is to advance the health and human rights of Roma persons by building the capacity of Roma civil society leaders and organizations, and advocating for accountability and a strong civil society role in the design, implementation and monitoring of policies and practices that most impact on the health of Roma. Further information at:

[http://216.197.119.113/jobman/publish/article\\_64424.shtml](http://216.197.119.113/jobman/publish/article_64424.shtml)

## UNICEF

### **Health Specialist, Nairobi, Kenya, Closing Date: 2 April**

Under the overall guidance of the Regional Adviser, Child Survival and Development, you will be responsible for providing technical and programme support at the regional and country levels on the development, organization, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of UNICEF and national programmes for the control and prevention of Malaria in collaboration with other health programmes in the region including IMCI, HIV/AIDS, Immunization. You will assist national programmes in the establishment and strengthening of Malaria surveillance and environmental control activities as a part of the Sector Wide approaches in Health and through Poverty Reduction Strategies Paper. You will promote the convergence of Child Health, Nutrition, Sanitation and Hygiene interventions especially at the community level. Further information at:

[http://216.197.119.113/jobman/publish/article\\_64472.shtml](http://216.197.119.113/jobman/publish/article_64472.shtml)

### **Montrose**

#### **Health and Water and Sanitation Experts, Equatorial Guinea, Closing Date: 15 April**

Montrose is an international development services company providing support to clients in the developing world. Specialized in the sectors of health, education, rural livelihoods and water & sanitation, we provide technical advisory services as well as comprehensive project development and management services. Our clients include bilateral and multilateral organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other development stakeholders.

[http://216.197.119.113/jobman/publish/article\\_64364.shtml](http://216.197.119.113/jobman/publish/article_64364.shtml)

### **Resources**

#### **UNIFEM: Global Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls.**

This one-stop centre will support practitioners around the world in effective design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes. The web-based site brings together lessons learned to date and recommended practices gleaned from initiatives on ending violence against women and girls, whether originating from the women's movement, civil society organizations, governments, the United Nations system or other actors. *UNIFEM* (4 March) News article:

[http://www.unifem.org/news\\_events/story\\_detail.php?StoryID=1044](http://www.unifem.org/news_events/story_detail.php?StoryID=1044)

Global Virtual Knowledge Centre Website: <http://www.endvawnow.org/>

#### **Stop TB Partnership: World TB Day**

This website provides vary resources in the campaign to end TB.

[http://www.stoptb.org/events/world\\_tb\\_day/2010/](http://www.stoptb.org/events/world_tb_day/2010/)

#### **Asian AIDS Law Database.**

The database is a free, user-friendly resource, searchable in Chinese and English, to help researchers to find HIV/AIDS-related statutes throughout Asia. It is the first database exclusively dedicated to this purpose. With the "public beta" launch, Asia Catalyst invites lawyers, experts and organizations to share AIDS-related laws and policies from around Asia that may not yet be online. The database has over 100 records, ranging from Cambodia's draft law on drug control to the national policy on HIV/AIDS of Bangladesh. *Asia Catalyst* (8 March), press release: <http://www.asiacatalyst.org/>

Database: <http://www.yazhoudiaocha.com/laws/>

### **Publications**

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Hassim S et al. (2010), 'Detection of a substantial rate of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis in an HIV-infected population in South Africa by active monitoring of sputum samples', *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, Vol. 50, pp. 1053-59.

Human Rights in a Healthcare Setting: making it work. An evaluation of human-rights based approach at The State Hospital, *Scottish Human Rights Commission*. 10 December 2009. Available online at:

<http://www.scottishhumanrights.com/research/ourpublications/article/healthcareresearch>

Hunger on the Rise, *Finance & Development*, March 2010, Volume 47, Number 1. Available online at: <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/fandd/2010/03/picture.htm>

Mangham L.J., and Hanson K. (2010), 'Scaling up in international health: what are the key issues?', *Health Policy & Planning*, (25)2, Available at:

<http://heapol.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/full/25/2/85>

Multi-Drug and Extensively Drug-Resistant TB (M/XDR-TB) 2010 Global Report on Surveillance and Response, *World Health Organization*, Available online at:

[http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241599191\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2010/9789241599191_eng.pdf)

Payne-James et al.(2010), 'Medical implications of the Taser', *British Medical Journal*, 340: c853

Available with login at: [http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/340/feb22\\_1/c853](http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/340/feb22_1/c853)

Respect, Protect and Fulfill: Legislating for Women's Rights in the Context of HIV/AIDS, Volume 1: Sexual and Domestic Violence. *Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network*, 2009. Full document:

<http://www.aidslaw.ca/publications/interfaces/downloadFile.php?ref=1535>

Ruger, Jennifer Prah (2010), *Health and Social Justice*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press)

Available for purchase at: <http://ukcatalogue.oup.com/product/9780199559978.do>

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