**UNICEF OPSCEN Brief – Monday, 21 July 2014**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| GENERAL | **Across Regions** | Child brides abducted, raped, married to appease gods, settle debts |
|  |  | New TB diagnostic tool could lower costs |
|  |  | Polio eradication needs old vaccines and faster responses |
|  |  | Russian envoy says will support UN resolution on jet crash –report |
|  |  | Putin demands access for experts at Ukraine crash site |
|  |  | Each side of Sudan's border, hunger and suffering worsen as conflicts rage |
|  |  | AIDS conference opens with tribute to crash victims, attack on “monstrous” laws |
|  |  | Trial of Congolese who 'Plotted to Kill President' opens in S. Africa |
|  | **United Nations** | UN calls for ceasefire as deaths pass 500 |
|  |  | UN SC to vote Monday on Ukraine resolution |
| CEE/CIS | **Bosnia and Herzegovina** | Bosnia buries 284 war victims unearthed from gruesome death pit |
|  | **Ukraine** | Fighting flares in centre of Donetsk, four dead |
|  |  | Ukrainian deputy prime minister says 27 more bodies found |
|  | **Uzbekistan** | Uzbekistan plans to attract grants for $975.35m in 2014-2016 |
| EAP | **China** | China Typhoon death toll rises to 17 as more rain expected |
|  |  | Chinese communist party in ideology crackdown |
|  | **DPR Korea** | North Korea blasts UN over missile condemnation |
|  | **Indonesia** | Indonesian leader urges presidential election loser to concede |
|  | **Thailand** | Thai students mobilize to resist Junta rule |
|  |  | Thai military conducts refugee headcount, sparking fears of forced repatriation |
| ESA | **Burundi** | Presidential vote set for June 2015 |
|  | **Kenya** | Kenya to pilot community-wide malaria treatments |
|  |  | Gunmen kill at least 4 in Kenyan port city, scatter leaflets |
|  | **South Sudan** | South Sudan ceasefire under threat as rebels, government troops clash |
|  | **Tanzania** | As floods threaten, Tanzania aims to build a megacity that works |
|  | **Uganda** | Ugandan police abuse homeless kids, says report |
| LAC | **Colombia** | Colombia's Santos opens 'Congress of peace,' urges deal with rebels |
|  | **Mexico** | Authorities begin transfer of children |
| MENA | **Across MENA** | Israel kills militants entering from Gaza, death toll tops 500 |
|  |  | Israel announces 2 soldiers killed in militant infiltration |
|  |  | Israel shells Gaza militants, probes Hamas claim of captured soldier |
|  |  | Sentencing of Palestinians Fuels Tension in Nahr Al-Bared |
|  |  | Qatar to host Gaza ceasefire talks with Abbas and UN SG |
|  |  | Egypt summons Turkish envoy over Gaza criticism |
|  | **Bahrain** | Bahrain main Shiite opposition bloc may face 3-month suspension |
|  | **Egypt** | Gunmen kill 15 Egypt soldiers in checkpoint attack |
|  | **Iran** | Iran eliminates sensitive stockpile under interim nuclear deal: IAEA |
|  | **Iraq** | Iraqi Christians flee after Isis issue Mosul ultimatum |
|  | **Lebanon** | Lebanese bomb maker killed, militant arrested - security sources |
|  | **Libya** | Battle for Libya airport leaves at least 47 dead |
|  |  | Philippine worker beheaded in Libya |
|  | **State of Palestine** | In Gaza, whatever the target, children often the victim of conflict – **UNICEF mention** |
|  | **Sudan** | Aid workers free after month's captivity in Darfur: UN – **UNICEF mention** |
|  | **Syria** | UN delivers first aid to besieged Syrian town since 2012 – **UNICEF mention** |
|  |  | Assad reappoints woman VP but mum on Sharaa |
|  | **Tunisia** | Tunisia putting squeeze on extremism after attacks |
|  | **Yemen** | Yemen struggles towards fuel price reform as finances crumble |
| SA | **Afghanistan** | Audit of disputed run-off halted |
|  | **India** | Kashmir teenager killed during anti-Israel protest |
|  | **Pakistan** | Pakistan military says 28 militants killed in airstrikes |
|  | **Sri Lanka** | Sri Lanka's NGO crackdown triggers free speech fears |
| WCA | **Across WCA** | CAR refugees dying in Cameroon hospitals |
|  | **CAR** | IDPs in Bangui in CAR reluctant to return home: IOM |
|  | **Liberia** | Tackling Liberia’s high rape rate |
|  | **Nigeria** | Boko Haram 'kill many' in northeast attack |
|  | **Sierra Leone** | Sierra Leone religious leaders criticise government handling of Ebola |

GENERAL

**Across Regions**

**Child brides abducted, raped, married to appease gods, settle debts**

Ethiopia, girls are abducted on their way to school, raped and then married to their captors. In Ghana, they are married to traditional priests and become “slaves to the gods” to pay for their family’s sins. In Cameroon, girls are promised in marriage to settle debts while still in the womb. On 22 July, the Girl Summit in London will bring together governments, charities, activists and business to declare their intention to end child marriage in one generation. Fifteen of the 20 countries with the highest rates of child marriage are in Africa, and 39% of the continent’s girls are married before the age of 18.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140718082523-uh8y3/?source=jt**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140718082523-uh8y3/?source=jt)

**New TB diagnostic tool could lower costs**

Early results from a clinical trial indicate that an enzyme based TB detection method could diagnose the disease in 30 minutes and further lower the cost of diagnosis by up to 40 percent, according to authors of a new study. With the help of a chemical called CDG-3 which glows when it is broken down by an enzyme called BlaC - produced by mycobacterium tuberculosis, the bacterium that causes TB - the researchers were able to show the presence of the TB-causing bacteria. “This discovery has the potential to serve as a frontline tool in developing countries, allowing health providers to deliver results in 10 minutes and begin treatment in the same patient within the same session.

**IRIN -** [**http://www.irinnews.org/report/100366/new-tb-diagnostic-tool-could-lower-costs**](http://www.irinnews.org/report/100366/new-tb-diagnostic-tool-could-lower-costs)

**Polio eradication needs old vaccines and faster responses**

Two studies published last week call for changes to polio vaccinations that may help eradicate the resurging disease: reintroduce injections and vaccinate earlier. The two improvements could bring about longer lasting immunity and reduce the number of people infected, say researchers at Imperial College London and the Christian Medical College in Vellore, India. Advances are badly needed as outbreaks are now emerging in previously polio-free countries in Asia, Africa and the Middle East and the WHO has declared it an international public-health emergency - calling formandatory vaccinations for travellers to or from Cameroon, Pakistan and Syria.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140721095448-h6tlu/?source=jtTheWire**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140721095448-h6tlu/?source=jtTheWire)

**Russian envoy says will support UN resolution on jet crash –report**

Russia will support a UN resolution ensuring unfettered access to the crash site of Malaysian Airlines flight MH17 as long as it does not blame Moscow, its ambassador to Australia told the Australian Financial Review on Monday. Ambassador Vladimir Morozov said Moscow was prepared to support a draft resolution circulated by Australia that would guarantee international investigators access to the wreckage, which is in rebel-held territory in eastern Ukraine.

**Reuters-** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140721045644-4nqdc/?source=jtTheWire**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140721045644-4nqdc/?source=jtTheWire)

**Putin demands access for experts at Ukraine crash site**

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Monday the downing of a Malaysian airliner in east Ukraine must not be used for political ends and urged separatists to allow international experts access to the crash site. "Everything must be done to guarantee the security of international experts at the site of the tragedy," Putin, wearing a dark suit and tie, said in an unusual televised address standing alone by a desk in an office.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140721063120-gorn4**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140721063120-gorn4)

**Each side of Sudan's border, hunger and suffering worsen as conflicts rage**

With war raging in separate conflicts on both sides the Sudan-South Sudan border, civilians have nowhere to run and hunger is approaching famine levels, the UN said. South Sudan became independent from Sudan in 2011, following a peace deal that ended decades of civil war between north and south. But the new nation became embroiled in its own internal conflict in December 2013. Meanwhile, fighting has intensified between the government and rebels in Sudan’s southern states of South Kordofan and Blue Nile. Hungry civilians caught in the crossfire on both sides are struggling to find places of refuge where humanitarians can deliver emergency aid.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140718121948-whnbp/?source=dpagehead**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140718121948-whnbp/?source=dpagehead)

**AIDS conference opens with tribute to crash victims, attack on “monstrous” laws**

Countries should not be allowed to get away with repressive laws that reinforce discrimination against groups of people at high risk of HIV, speakers told a global AIDS conference, which opened on Sunday, despite being marred by tragedy. Emotional tributes were paid during the opening ceremony to six delegates who were heading to the 20th International AIDS Conference in Melbourne when their plane was shot down over Ukraine three days ago. Nobel laureate Francoise Barre-Sinoussi led a moment of silence to remember the 298 people killed when the Malaysian Airlines plane was brought down in an area where Russian-backed separatists are fighting government forces.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140720150714-6kwa2/?source=jt**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140720150714-6kwa2/?source=jt)

**Trial of Congolese who 'Plotted to Kill President' opens in S. Africa**

Twenty Congolese nationals go on trial Monday in a South African court accused of seeking to assassinate their country's president, Joseph Kabila. Besides Kabila, the prosecution claims the group had a hit list including other senior Democratic Republic of Congo figures including the head of the military, interior minister and the central bank governor. Most of the defendants, aged 25 to 49, were longtime residents in South Africa, one of their lawyers, Thesigan Pillay, told Agence France Presse. The group was arrested in South Africa 17 months ago, and the alleged hit list was discovered on one of the suspect's computers. Rights activities have warned of possible bias in their upcoming trial in Pretoria, which is expected to last six weeks.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139751-trial-of-congolese-who-plotted-to-kill-president-opens-in-s-africa**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139751-trial-of-congolese-who-plotted-to-kill-president-opens-in-s-africa)

**United Nations**

**UN calls for ceasefire as deaths pass 500**

The UN SC has called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza after holding an emergency closed-door meeting on the crisis. The talks came after the UN chief described Israel's shelling of a Gaza City suburb as "an atrocious action". A total of 501 people have now died in Gaza during Israel's operation against Hamas militants, according to Gaza's Ministry of Health, with 3,135 injured. US Secretary of State John Kerry is due in Egypt to discuss the crisis. He will meet political leaders in Cairo on Monday, as efforts to broker a ceasefire continue. On Sunday Gaza saw its deadliest day since the Israeli offensive began on 8 July, with 13 Israeli soldiers and more than 100 Palestinians killed.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-28397215**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-28397215)

**UN Security Council to vote Monday on Ukraine resolution**

The UN SC is due to vote Monday on a resolution that would condemn the downing of a Malaysian passenger plane in Ukraine and demands that those responsible be held accountable and that armed groups don't compromise the crash site integrity. While Russia engaged in negotiations with the 15-member council on the resolution - drafted by Australia which lost 28 citizens - it was unclear if it would support the final version, said diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140720221526-7zyyr/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140720221526-7zyyr/?source=search)

CEE/CIS

**Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**Bosnia buries 284 war victims unearthed from gruesome death pit**

The remains of 284 victims of the Bosnian war were laid to rest on Sunday having been unearthed from what is believed to be the largest mass grave of Europe's worst conflict since World War Two. Thousands of relatives from Bosnia and across Europe gathered in collective Islamic prayer for the mainly Muslim Bosniak victims, including 21 members of the same family, on a soccer field in the northwestern town of Kozarac. Coffins draped in green cloth lined the pitch.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140720145226-2rz2b/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140720145226-2rz2b/?source=search)

**Ukraine**

**Fighting flares in centre of Donetsk, four dead**

Fighting broke out near the railway station at the heart of the rebel stronghold of Donetsk on Monday in what separatists said was an attempt by government forces to seize back the east Ukrainian city. The government in Kiev denied sending the regular army into the centre of Donetsk, which the separatists captured in April, but said small "self-organised" pro-Ukrainian groups were fighting the pro-Russian rebels in the city. Four people were killed in clashes near the railway station and close to the airport outside Donetsk, local health officials said in the industrial city which was home to about 1 million people before many fled the fighting in the region.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140721121329-s0sg0/?source=jtTheWire**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140721121329-s0sg0/?source=jtTheWire)

**Ukrainian deputy prime minister says 27 more bodies found**

Twenty-seven more bodies have been found on Sunday along with 20 fragments of bodies at the site where a Malaysian airliner crashed, Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman said. He told a news conference that the bodies of 192 of the 298 people killed when the plane plunged into the steppe in eastern [Ukraine](http://www.reuters.com/places/ukraine?lc=int_mb_1001) on Thursday had been placed in refrigerated train wagons before being sent home for burial.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/07/20/us-ukraine-crisis-bodies-numbers-idUSKBN0FP0GV20140720**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/07/20/us-ukraine-crisis-bodies-numbers-idUSKBN0FP0GV20140720)

**Uzbekistan**

## **Uzbekistan plans to attract grants for $975.35m in 2014-2016**

The Government of Uzbekistan is planning to attract over US$975.35 million of grants to implementation of 467 new projects in 2014-2016. The Government of Uzbekistan issued a resolution “On measures on attracting to Uzbekistan of no-string technical assistance (grants) of donor countries, international and foreign governmental and non-governmental organizations for 2014-2016” on 11 July 2014.

**UzDaily** - <http://www.uzdaily.com/articles-id-28571.htm>

EAP

**China**

**China Typhoon death toll rises to 17 as more rain expected**

The death toll from the strongest storm to hit China in decades has reached 17, state media said Sunday, as forecasters issued warnings of more extreme weather. Typhoon Rammasun has left eight people dead in the island province of Hainan and another nine in Guangxi, official news agency Xinhua reported. At least two people are missing, Xinhua added citing local authorities, as the strongest typhoon to hit south China since 1973 headed north. Meanwhile, China's National Meteorological Center was warning that downpours triggered by the typhoon were expected in northern parts of China in the coming days. Rammasun - meaning "Thunder God" in Thai - has caused at least 94 deaths in the Philippines, where it hit before lashing China.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139707-china-typhoon-death-toll-rises-to-17-as-more-rain-expected**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139707-china-typhoon-death-toll-rises-to-17-as-more-rain-expected)

**Chinese communist party in ideology crackdown**

China's Communist Party is pushing ideological orthodoxy and demanding government officials reconfirm their faith in "socialism with Chinese" characteristics, a newspaper with close ties to the party reported Monday. A recent circular from the ruling party's powerful Organization Department said that officials must be prevented from "being disoriented and losing themselves" to the effect of Western ideals, the Global Times tabloid reported. Such Western ideals included constitutional democracy, universal values and civil society, the report said, though it added that other influences such as superstition and religion should also be guarded against.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139784-chinese-communist-party-in-ideology-crackdown**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139784-chinese-communist-party-in-ideology-crackdown)

**DPR Korea**

**North Korea blasts UN over missile condemnation**

North Korea hit back at the UN SC Saturday over its recent censure of Pyongyang for launching several rounds of short-range ballistic missiles. In a statement carried on North Korean official media the foreign ministry described the UN criticism as "absolutely intolerable" and defended the missile launches as a response to "madcap war manoevres" by the US. North Korea regularly fires off missiles and rockets, but the frequency of the recent tests - six in less than three weeks - is unusual. UN resolutions bar North Korea from conducting any launches using ballistic missile technology. On Thursday the UN SC officially condemned North Korea for the launches, and urged it to "fully comply" with UN restrictions. But Pyongyang has shown little appetite for backing down over the launches.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139671-north-korea-blasts-u-n-over-missile-condemnation**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139671-north-korea-blasts-u-n-over-missile-condemnation)

**Indonesia**

**Indonesian leader urges presidential election loser to concede**

Indonesia's outgoing leader on Monday came within a whisker of telling retired general Prabowo Subianto to admit defeat so that the country's most bitterly fought leadership contest could be resolved. Prabowo has almost certainly lost the July 9 election but on Sunday cried foul and demanded the Elections Commission investigate vote cheating before he would accept its result. The Commission is due to announce the result on Monday or Tuesday. "Admitting defeat is noble," President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono told reporters in a clear reference to Prabowo.

A protracted wrangle over the election outcome could undermine confidence in Southeast Asia's biggest economy which has seen strong investment in recent years.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/07/21/us-indonesia-election-idUSKBN0FQ0FF20140721**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/07/21/us-indonesia-election-idUSKBN0FQ0FF20140721)

**Thailand**

**Thai students mobilize to resist Junta rule**

Huddled around a table at a university canteen, six Thai students draft a newsletter celebrating democracy - a meeting that would have barely attracted a glance two months ago, but could now land them in jail. They are part of a small but growing troop of undergraduates uniting in Bangkok to resist the curtailment of civil liberties under military rule. "We should write about what isn't being reported," says Achara, a 24-year-old languages student spurred into action by the junta's censorship of domestic media. Democratic rights. Students and the coup. The legality of the takeover. These small and sporadic acts of resistance by students - from launching alternative publications to group readings of George Orwell's anti-authoritarian novel "Nineteen Eighty-Four" - are among the few public expressions against the takeover.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139697-thai-students-mobilize-to-resist-junta-rule**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139697-thai-students-mobilize-to-resist-junta-rule)

**Thai military conducts refugee headcount, sparking fears of forced repatriation**

Thai soldiers launched a headcount of refugees here, as authorities restricted movement in and out of this sprawling camp near the Burmese border, raising fears among refugees that they would soon be forcefully repatriated to Myanmar. The headcount early Monday morning at Mae Hla – home to 43,000 and the country’s largest refugee camp - comes a week after the junta announced it would send home an estimated 120,000 people living in nine refugee camps straddling the Thai-Myanmar border. Local authorities said they would enforce Thai government rules forbidding refugees from leaving the camp. Many go out to work in nearby villages, risking arrest and extortion.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140721092847-kd7i3/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140721092847-kd7i3/?source=search)

ESA

**Burundi**

**Presidential vote set for June 2015**

Burundi's presidential vote will be held in June 2015, its electoral commission announced on Friday, amid concerns over political freedoms in the landlocked country. The first round of voting will be held on 26 June with any possible run-off taking place the following day, commission head Pierre-Claver Ndayicariye said at a press conference. President Pierre Nkurunziza, in power since 2005, is believed to be planning a third term in office, which his opponents claim would violate Burundi's constitution. The 2010 general election was boycotted by opposition parties, sparking widespread violence.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/burundi-presidential-vote-set-june-2015-182215473.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/burundi-presidential-vote-set-june-2015-182215473.html)

**Kenya**

**Kenya to pilot community-wide malaria treatments**

Kenya is experimenting with unconventional methods to tackle high malaria rates through the piloting of mass drug administration (MDA) - treating entire communities with anti-malarial drugs, regardless of whether they have the parasite. The project is an initiative of the newly created Malaria Elimination Consortium of Western Kenya, founded in 2013 by the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), and other partners, and is set to be rolled out at the beginning of next year. MDA has been considered a malaria control mechanism for over a century, with studies on MDA usage dating back to 1914.

**IRIN -** [**http://www.irinnews.org/report/100365/kenya-to-pilot-community-wide-malaria-treatments**](http://www.irinnews.org/report/100365/kenya-to-pilot-community-wide-malaria-treatments)

**Gunmen kill at least 4 in Kenyan port city, scatter leaflets**

Gunmen killed at least four people and injured several others in the Kenyan port city of Mombasa on Sunday, police said. Witnesses said gunmen went on a shooting rampage on the edge of Kenya's second-largest city and scattered leaflets saying the attack was retribution for last month's raid on Mpeketoni, a town about 300 km north of Mombasa along Kenya's Indian Ocean coastline. About 50 people were killed when gunmen raided Mpeketoni in Lamu County, a coastal region where about 100 people in total have died since mid-June in a series of ambushes and raids. Somalia's al Shabaab militants have claimed responsibility for many of the attacks but the government, including President Uhuru Kenyatta, has suggested local politicians were behind the incidents. The latest attack will further dent Kenya's beleaguered tourist industry after a wave of militant attacks and will deepen public frustrations about poor security.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140720214152-tuxru/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140720214152-tuxru/?source=search)

**South Sudan**

**South Sudan ceasefire under threat as rebels, government troops clash**

South Sudanese rebels and government soldiers clashed in the northern town of Nasir on Sunday, adding to fears that a shaky ceasefire agreement signed in May could totally collapse. Rebel spokesman Lul Ruai Koang said troops loyal to Riek Machar, South Sudan's former vice president, launched an assault on the government-held town and "at dawn liberated Nasir". South Sudan army spokesman Philip Aguer confirmed there was fighting but said the rebels were not in full control of Nasir, a small town 30 km from the Ethiopian border in the oil-rich Upper Nile State.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/07/20/us-southsudan-violence-nasir-idUSKBN0FP0G620140720**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/07/20/us-southsudan-violence-nasir-idUSKBN0FP0G620140720)

**Tanzania**

**As floods threaten, Tanzania aims to build a megacity that works**

Tanzania’s largest commercial city - one of the fastest growing in Africa - has redrawn its master plan to try to become a megacity prepared for climate change, and not a city of worsening urban sprawl and flooding. The plan, which looks ahead to 2036, aims to transform the city of over 4.5 million people and proposes creation of a Metropolitan Development Authority to oversee planning and major infrastructure development, including transportation and utilities. It calls for measures to mainstream climate change adaptation into existing urban development policies, for instance constructing better storm-water drainage systems for a city increasingly hard-hit by flooding, and relocating residents from areas with high flood risk.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140721110205-5rqd9/?source=jtTheWire**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140721110205-5rqd9/?source=jtTheWire)

**Uganda**

**Ugandan police abuse homeless kids, says report**

Homeless children in Uganda's urban centers face beatings and abuse at the hands of police and local officials, Human Rights Watch charged in a new report that urges Ugandan authorities to protect street children from targeted roundups and arbitrary detentions. A police spokesman said the allegations are "totally not true." Street children have long been ubiquitous on the streets of the Ugandan capital, Kampala, where they risk being knocked down by speeding cars as they beg motorists for money. Many of the children are young girls with babies on their backs, one reason why it is widely believed they are sexually assaulted while on the streets. Law enforcement officials in Kampala conduct random operations to rid the city of street children who put on trucks in order to be sent back to their original homes, often in the arid, poor parts of northeastern Uganda.

**AP -** [**http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/ugandan-police-abuse-homeless-kids-report-24597516**](http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/ugandan-police-abuse-homeless-kids-report-24597516)

LAC

**Colombia**

**Colombia's Santos opens 'Congress of peace,' urges deal with rebels**

Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos opened a new session of Congress on Sunday, calling on lawmakers to back government efforts to strike a peace deal with Marxist rebels to end 50 years of war. "This will be - there's no doubt - the Congress of peace," said Santos, who will be inaugurated for a second four-year term on Aug. 7.

"We have a great challenge - an achievable challenge - to end an armed conflict which has bled us for half a century, and build peace." Santos won re-election last month with support for his bid to bring an end to five decades of war with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, that has killed more than 200,000 people and displaced millions.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140720222457-3gmt2/?source=jtOtherNews1**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140720222457-3gmt2/?source=jtOtherNews1)

**Mexico**

**Authorities begin transfer of children**

The authorities in the Mexican state of Michoacan say they have begun to transfer groups of children out of a children's home in the city of Zamora. The home where more than 450 children lived was raided on Tuesday after parents said their children were living in appalling conditions. The governor of Michoacan said 167 children had been transferred to homes in other states. Families complained children were being held against their will and abused.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-28389464**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-28389464)

MENA

**Across MENA**

**Israel kills militants entering from Gaza, death toll tops 500**

Israeli forces killed at least 10 Palestinian militants on Monday after they crossed the border from Gaza through two tunnels, the military said, as the death toll from the two-week conflict passed 500. With the U.N. Security Council calling for an immediate ceasefire, Israeli jets and tanks continued to pound the Gaza Strip through the night. The Israeli barrage killed 25 people from one family near Gaza's southern border with Egypt, while 10 from another died in the nearby Khan Younis after shells hit their home and struck again as they tried to flee, hospital officials said. The overnight raids lifted the Palestinian death toll to 484, mostly civilians, since fighting started on July 8. Israel says 18 of its soldiers have also died along with two civilians.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140721071056-n38ip/?source=jtHeadlineStory**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140721071056-n38ip/?source=jtHeadlineStory)

**Israel announces 2 soldiers killed in militant infiltration**

Israel's army announced Saturday the deaths of two of its soldiers in a clash with Gaza militants who had breached the Jewish state's border, hours after they had been reported wounded. An army statement said the two, Sergeant Adar Bersano, 20, from Nahariya, and Major Amotz Greenberg, 45, from Hod Hasharon, were killed fighting a group of militants who infiltrated Israel through a tunnel from the centre of the Gaza Strip.

**AFP -** [**http://news.yahoo.com/army-announces-2-soldiers-killed-militant-infiltration-165604598.html**](http://news.yahoo.com/army-announces-2-soldiers-killed-militant-infiltration-165604598.html)

**Israel shells Gaza militants, probes Hamas claim of captured soldier**

Israeli tanks shelled militant targets in the Gaza Strip on Monday and a woman died in an air strike after the bloodiest day of a nearly two-week military offensive that showed no signs of abating, despite global calls for a truce. The Israeli military said it was checking a televised announcement in Gaza from Hamas's armed wing that it had captured an Israeli soldier during the fighting in Shejaia. But Israel's ambassador to the UN dismissed the report as untrue.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140721005535-jnxg4/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140721005535-jnxg4/?source=search)

**Sentencing of Palestinians Fuels Tension in Nahr Al-Bared**

The army sent reinforcements Saturday to the northern refugee camp of Nahr al-Bared after a court handed heavy sentences to 22 Palestinians over deadly clashes six years ago between Islamists and the army. Friday's verdicts were the latest in the ongoing trials of Lebanese and other Arabs accused of involvement in the months-long 2007 battles at Nahr al-Bared. Judicial sources said two Palestinians were sentenced to death in absentia, six others were handed life sentences and the others were given jail terms of between seven and 20 years. The sentences triggered fury in Nahr el-Bared, where relatives of the convicted men took to the streets to vent their anger, an AFP correspondent said. The camp was almost totally destroyed in the fierce fighting between the military and a small al-Qaida-inspired group called Fatah al-Islam.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139644-sentencing-of-palestinians-fuels-tension-in-nahr-al-bared**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139644-sentencing-of-palestinians-fuels-tension-in-nahr-al-bared)

**Qatar to host Gaza ceasefire talks with Abbas and UN SG**

Qatar will host a meeting between Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and UNSG Ban Ki-moon on Sunday to try to reach a ceasefire agreement with Israel to bring an end to 12 days of warfare, a senior Qatari source told Reuters. Due to take place in Doha, the meeting will be headed by the Gulf state's emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, who has been acting as a "channel of communication" between Hamas and the international community, said the senior source familiar with the matter.

**Reuters** - **http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/07/19/us-qatar-gaza-conflict-idUSKBN0FO0YY20140719**

**Egypt summons Turkish envoy over Gaza criticism**

Egypt's foreign ministry on Sunday summoned Turkey's charge d'affaires over criticism of Cairo's handling of the war between Israel and Hamas in neighboring Gaza. Turkey and Egypt withdrew their ambassadors last year after the military ousted Egyptian Islamist president Mohammed Morsi, who had forged closer ties with Turkey's devout premier, Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Erdogan on Friday called Egypt's President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi a tyrant, saying Cairo could not be relied upon to negotiate a truce with Israel. The foreign ministry told Ankara's charge d'affaires that it "rejected and resented" Erdogan's comments, it said in a statement.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139741-egypt-summons-turkish-envoy-over-gaza-criticism**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139741-egypt-summons-turkish-envoy-over-gaza-criticism)

**Bahrain**

**Bahrain main Shiite opposition bloc may face 3-month suspension**

Bahrain has filed a lawsuit to suspend al-Wefaq's activities for three months after the largest Shiite opposition group allegedly violated the kingdom's law on associations, the official BNA news agency reported Sunday. Political parties are banned in Bahrain, as in other Gulf Arab monarchies, and al-Wefaq has the status of an association. The ministry of justice said al-Wefaq must rectify its "illegal status following the annulment of four general assemblies for lack of a quorum and the non-commitment to the public and transparency requirements for holding them," as per Bahraini regulations, said BNA.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139732-bahrain-main-shiite-opposition-bloc-may-face-3-month-suspension**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139732-bahrain-main-shiite-opposition-bloc-may-face-3-month-suspension)

**Egypt**

**Gunmen kill 15 Egypt soldiers in checkpoint attack**

Gunmen firing rocket-propelled grenades attacked an Egyptian border guards checkpoint Saturday, killing 15 soldiers, officials and state media said, in one of the biggest assaults since president Mohamed Morsi´s ouster. Militants have stepped up attacks on the security forces since Morsi was toppled in July 2013 as the army struggles to quell insurgency that has killed scores of soldiers and police, mainly in the Sinai Peninsula bordering Israel and the Palestinian Gaza Strip. Gunmen used RPGs and heavy machineguns when they attacked the checkpoint in a desert area at El-Farafrah, 630 km west of Cairo, security officials said.

**AFP -** [**http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-154360-Gunmen-kill-15-Egyptian-soldiers-in-checkpoint-attack**](http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-154360-Gunmen-kill-15-Egyptian-soldiers-in-checkpoint-attack)

**Iran**

**Iran eliminates sensitive stockpile under interim nuclear deal: IAEA**

Iran has moved to eliminate its most sensitive stockpile of enriched uranium gas under an interim nuclear deal reached with six world powers last year, according to a monthly update by the UN nuclear watchdog obtained by Reuters on Sunday. The report by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) showed that Iran had met the terms of the six-month agreement, under which it limited its atomic activities in exchange for some easing of sanctions that are crippling its economy.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/07/20/us-iran-nuclear-iaea-idUSKBN0FP0LW20140720**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/07/20/us-iran-nuclear-iaea-idUSKBN0FP0LW20140720)

**Iraq**

**Iraqi Christians flee after Isis issue Mosul ultimatum**

Iraqi Christians are fleeing Mosul after Islamist militants threatened to kill them unless they converted to Islam or paid a "protection tax". A statement issued by the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (Isis) was read out at the city's mosques. It called on Christians to comply by midday on Saturday or face death if they did not leave the northern city. Isis has control of large parts of Syria and Iraq and said last month it was creating an Islamic caliphate. The ultimatum cited a historic contract known as "dhimma," under which non-Muslims in Islamic societies who refuse to convert are offered protection if they pay a fee, called a "jizya".

**BBC** - **http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-28381455**

**Lebanon**

**Lebanese bomb maker killed, militant arrested - security sources**

Lebanese security forces killed a bomb maker and arrested another prominent militant suspect overnight in the northern city of Tripoli, sending armed supporters onto the streets in protest, security sources said on Sunday. Religiously mixed Lebanon has suffered a wave of sectarian violence and multiple bomb attacks linked to the war in Syria which, like its neighbour Iraq, is fighting a Sunni Muslim insurgency. The divisions in Tripoli, 30 km from the Syrian border, reflect the sectarian gulf across Lebanon over Syria's civil war. But the coastal city, where tensions between the Sunni Muslim majority and small Alawite community have festered for decades, has seen some of the heaviest violence this year.

Reuters - <http://www.trust.org/item/20140720091530-kueh1>

**Libya**

**Battle for Libya airport leaves at least 47 dead**

Islamist-led militiamen have stepped up their assault on Libya's main airport, controlled by rival fighters, which the health ministry said Monday had left at least 47 dead in a week. The fighting, which erupted on July 13 and shut Tripoli international airport, also injured 120 people, according to figures for the week until Saturday. The EU condemned a fresh outbreak of violence Sunday, two days after the collapse of a truce with the militia controlling the airport, which left five civilians dead according to local media. A coalition of militias led by Islamist fighters launched an assault on the airport on Sunday, with clashes later spreading along the road to the capital. By Sunday evening, fighting had subsided around the airport, security official Al-Jilani al-Dahesh told AFP, but clashes continued in the western suburbs of the capital, witnesses said.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139760-battle-for-libya-airport-leaves-at-least-47-dead**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139760-battle-for-libya-airport-leaves-at-least-47-dead)

**Philippine Worker Beheaded in Libya**

Suspected militiamen have beheaded a Philippine worker in Libya after singling him out because he was not a Muslim, the Philippine Foreign Department said Monday. Department spokesman Charles Jose said this reinforced the government's order to all Filipinos to evacuate the country because of the worsening security situation.

He told reporters the Filipino construction worker was kidnapped on July 15 and his beheaded remains were found in a hospital on July 20. The kidnappers had initially negotiated with the Filipino's company for a $160,000 ransom but eventually "they received a call from the abductors on July 20 (that) referred them to a Benghazi hospital", he added.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139821-philippine-worker-beheaded-in-libya**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139821-philippine-worker-beheaded-in-libya)

**State of Palestine**

**In Gaza, whatever the target, children often the victim of conflict – UNICEF mention**

The spiralling number of children killed in the latest conflict between Israel and the Palestinian group Hamas in Gaza has raised international concern. On Saturday, a group of international and Palestinian rights groups and aid agencies urged an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, noting the high number of children killed. "So far, more children have been killed by Israeli fire than Palestinian militants," said a statement from the groups, including War Child and Defence for Children International. On Saturday, UNICEF, said children made up one third of civilian casualties in the conflict so far. "From July 8th, until 4:00am on July 19, at least 73 Palestinian children have been reported killed as a result of airstrikes and shelling Israel aerial, naval and ground forces," **UNICEF**'s Catherine Weibel said. She said the children included 53 boys and 20 girls under the age of 18 years old.

**AFP -** [**http://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/gazaunderattack/in-gaza-whatever-the-target-children-often-the-victim-of-conflict/article1-1242404.aspx**](http://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/gazaunderattack/in-gaza-whatever-the-target-children-often-the-victim-of-conflict/article1-1242404.aspx)

**Sudan**

**Aid workers free after month's captivity in Darfur: UN – UNICEF mention**

Three Sudanese employees of international aid agencies were released on Saturday in the troubled Darfur region after 32 days in captivity, peacekeepers said. "They appear to be unharmed and in good condition," the AU-UN Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) said in a statement. Mustafa Abdalla Adarge, of **UNICEF**, was freed along with two staff from the Irish aid group GOAL, Mohamed Abu Elgassem and Ahmed Elsayed, in North Darfur state's Kutum district, UNAMID said. GOAL had confirmed on June 20 that two of its employees were "abducted by an unknown group" while driving on a routine assignment near Kutum town. It said a third Sudanese was also taken, but did not identify him as working for **UNICEF**.

**AFP -** [**https://au.news.yahoo.com/world/a/24502862/aid-workers-free-after-months-captivity-in-darfur-un/**](https://au.news.yahoo.com/world/a/24502862/aid-workers-free-after-months-captivity-in-darfur-un/)

**Syria**

**UN delivers first aid to besieged Syrian town since 2012 – UNICEF mention**

The UN has delivered life-saving aid to thousands of people in the besieged Syrian town of Mouadamiya for the first time since early 2012, humanitarian agencies said on Friday. A spokeswoman for WFP said aid workers with food and hygiene supplies managed to enter the embattled town, 10 km south-west of Damascus, on July 14. **UNICEF** spokesman Chris Tidey said the aid group had delivered hundreds of food items and 40,000 bars of soap to the town, where a truce between Syrian rebels and government troops has been in place since December last year.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139509-u-n-delivers-first-aid-to-besieged-syrian-town-since-2012**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139509-u-n-delivers-first-aid-to-besieged-syrian-town-since-2012)

**Assad reappoints woman VP but mum on Sharaa**

Syrian President Bashar Assad has reappointed Najah al-Attar as his vice president but made no mention of his other deputy, the veteran diplomat Faruq al-Sharaa. Attar, 81, the only woman to reach that post, took the oath on Sunday, a day after Assad issued a decree re-appointing her as his deputy, the official SANA news agency reported. But the decree made no mention of Sharaa, a veteran politician who headed the foreign ministry for 22 years before being appointed by Assad as one of his two vice presidents in 2006. In fact the 75-year-old Sharaa seems to have disappeared from the political limelight since Assad replaced him in the ruling Baath Party's leadership in July 2013, without officially sacking him.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139733-assad-reappoints-woman-vp-but-mum-on-sharaa**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139733-assad-reappoints-woman-vp-but-mum-on-sharaa)

**Tunisia**

**Tunisia putting squeeze on extremism after attacks**

Tunisia’s prime minister has announced a crackdown on networks recruiting people to fight jihad abroad and on imams who incite violence, after 14 soldiers were killed in one of this country’s deadliest attacks in recent years. An extremist group believed linked to al-Qaida’s North Africa arm claimed responsibility for the attacks on two army posts on Mount Chaambi on Wednesday night during a Ramadan feast. Prime Minister Mehdi Jomaa said in a televised address Thursday night that the attacks were aimed at discrediting “open and tolerant Tunisia” and derailing its transition to democracy.

**AP -** [**http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/tunisia-putting-squeeze-on-extremism-after-attacks/2014/07/18/c8efac02-0e54-11e4-9c90-0c289b74e142\_story.html**](http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/tunisia-putting-squeeze-on-extremism-after-attacks/2014/07/18/c8efac02-0e54-11e4-9c90-0c289b74e142_story.html)

**Yemen**

**Yemen struggles towards fuel price reform as finances crumble**

A clampdown on state spending was an effort by Yemen's government this month to win public support before its biggest economic reform in years: higher fuel prices. But an angry public may not be won over. In the capital Sanaa, where roads to petrol stations have been choked for months by queues of cars waiting for scarce fuel supplies, the frustration is palpable. "I've been standing in line for six hours ... By the time I arrived at the front of the queue, they told me there was no fuel left," doctor Waddah Hashed said. "Our lives have become hell."

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140721101345-4u1jh/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140721101345-4u1jh/?source=search)

SA

**Afghanistan**

**Audit of disputed run-off halted**

Afghanistan's election commission has suspended an audit of votes from June's hotly-disputed presidential run-off. The Independent Election Commission (IEC) said this was due to a "misunderstanding", without elaborating. Both candidates Ashraf Ghani and Abdullah Abdullah accuse each other of electoral fraud. The audit process of more than eight million votes - brokered by US Secretary of State John Kerry - has been marred by walkouts by both sides. Analysts warn that any further delays could further destabilise the conflict-torn country.

**BBC -** [**http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-28389911**](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-28389911)

**India**

**Kashmir teenager killed during anti-Israel protest**

Police say a teenage boy was killed when government forces in Indian-controlled Kashmir fired on protesters rallying against Israel's invasion of Gaza. A police officer says troops opened fire Saturday after the protesters clashed with security forces in Khudwani, a village south of Srinagar, the main city in Indian Kashmir. The officer spoke on customary condition of anonymity. Police didn't give the boy's age, but residents said he was 15 or 16. More protests erupted following the boy's death and spread to at least two nearby towns where police used tear gas to disperse the demonstrators.

**AP -** [**http://www.nzherald.co.nz/world/news/article.cfm?c\_id=2&objectid=11296313**](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/world/news/article.cfm?c_id=2&objectid=11296313)

**Pakistan**

**Pakistan military says 28 militants killed in airstrikes**

The Pakistani military said it killed 28 local and foreign militants in air strikes in the volatile northwest of the country on Sunday, as evidence emerged that civilians had died in previous strikes. The bombing took place in the heavily forested Shawal valley, the military said in a statement. It was part of an offensive that began last month to drive the Taliban from their stronghold in North Waziristan, a remote region that borders Afghanistan. The area has been heavily bombed in recent days.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140720172504-kkjxf/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140720172504-kkjxf/?source=search)

**Sri Lanka**

**Sri Lanka's NGO crackdown triggers free speech fears**

A Sri Lankan government crackdown this month on NGOs has sparked claims that President Mahinda Rajapakse, paranoid that he could be toppled, is again attempting to silence critics and tighten his grip on power. The defense ministry this month banned non-governmental organizations from holding press conferences, awareness campaigns, training for journalists, workshops and disseminating press releases on everything from voter rights to exposing corruption. The ministry, which has regulated local and foreign NGOs since soon after the end of the island's civil war in 2009, said the order was necessary to stop them operating "beyond their mandate". But NGO workers, many of whom have long suffered harassment and intimidation in Sri Lanka, said the order was a new crackdown on dissenting voices ahead of possible snap presidential elections.

**AFP -** [**http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139698-sri-lanka-s-ngo-crackdown-triggers-free-speech-fears**](http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/139698-sri-lanka-s-ngo-crackdown-triggers-free-speech-fears)

WCA

**Across WAC**

**CAR refugees dying in Cameroon hospitals**

Refugees fleeing violence in the CAR are continuing to die in significant numbers after reaching the relative safety of Cameroon, reports children’s charity Plan International. About 116,000 refugees have now crossed into Cameroon since the start of this year, according to UN figures. More than a fifth of refugee patients in some health centres in Cameroon are dying after making the long and traumatic journey, according to OCHA. “Children are continuing to die each day in Cameroon, having already survived massacres in the Central African Republic and travelled long distances with little or no shelter, food or water,” says Famari Barro, Plan’s Country Director in Cameroon. OCHA estimates that 13 refugee children are dying every day.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140720203744-air6w/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140720203744-air6w/?source=search)

**CAR**

**IDPs in Bangui in CAR reluctant to return home: IOM**

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) said on Friday that its 6th return intention survey of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Bangui, capital of the Central African Republic (CAR), reflected a continuing reduce in the amount of people who intend to return home. This IDP survey, conducted with the help of 601 IDPs at 31 displacement sites from 17-19 June on a monthly basis since January 2014, was to monitor the needs and return intentions of IDPs in Bangui, said IOM. The latest survey showed that security, housing and non-food aid items were the top three priority needs that IDPs wanted to be satisfied before returning home, which remained largely unchanged compared to the previous studies.

**Xinhua -** [**http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/xinhua-news-agency/140718/idps-bangui-car-reluctant-return-home-iom**](http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/xinhua-news-agency/140718/idps-bangui-car-reluctant-return-home-iom)

**Liberia**

**Tackling Liberia’s high rape rate**

Rates of sexual violence in post-war Liberia are still “extremely high” according to a recently published report by UK-based think tank the Overseas Development Institute (ODI). Rape remains one of the most frequently reported crimes in Liberia, according to Liberia’s Ministry of Gender and Development, and the incidence of sexual violence against women in Liberia is among the highest in the world. While sexual violence against women is down from a high of 77 percent during wartime, it remains a major problem, and has left many women with lasting physical, psychological, economic and social problems, including HIV infections, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and infertility, according to the report [*The Fallout of Rape as a Weapon of War*](http://www.irinnews.org/report/100364/www.odi.org/publications/8464-rape-weapon-war-liberia).

**IRIN -** [**http://www.irinnews.org/report/100364/tackling-liberia-s-high-rape-rate**](http://www.irinnews.org/report/100364/tackling-liberia-s-high-rape-rate)

**Nigeria**

**Boko Haram 'kill many' in northeast attack**

Boko Haram gunmen killed many people in an attack on the town of Damboa in the restive northeast, throwing explosives into residential homes and shooting dead civilians who tried to surrender, an official and witnesses said Friday. "The insurgents attacked the town from 6:30pm (1730 GMT) on Thursday to the early hours of today," said the official in Damboa's local government. "They killed many people. Women and children fled into the bush," he added. The militants attacked a police station and an army camp in Damboa on 6 July, chasing the security forces out of the town, which has been one of the hardest-hit areas in Boko Haram's five-year extremist uprising. Damboa residents have been left unguarded since the previous attack, the official and witnesses said.

**AFP -** [**http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/140718/boko-haram-islamists-kill-many-northeast-attack-local-official**](http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/140718/boko-haram-islamists-kill-many-northeast-attack-local-official)

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140720195044-0c62o/?source=search**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140720195044-0c62o/?source=search)

**Sierra Leone**

**Sierra Leone religious leaders criticise government handling of Ebola**

Religious leaders in Sierra Leone criticised the government's handling of an Ebola outbreak that has killed 194 people in the West Africa country, saying a lack of information was prompting rural communities to shun medical help. Bishop John Yambasu, chairman of an interfaith task force, said he was "seriously disappointed" the government had failed to declare a public health emergency and pump more resources into the fight against Ebola, which has infected 400 people in the country during a regional epidemic. WHO said last week that Ebola had killed 603 people in total in Sierra Leone and neighbouring Guinea and Liberia since February, the world's deadliest outbreak of the disease.

**Reuters -** [**http://www.trust.org/item/20140721112154-fj735/?source=jtTheWire**](http://www.trust.org/item/20140721112154-fj735/?source=jtTheWire)

The Brief is produced by UNICEF's Emergency Operations Centre (OPSCEN) and is a daily compilation of the main humanitarian, political and security-related media stories from around the world. It aims to provide field offices and senior decision-makers with critical information related to humanitarian emergencies and staff security.

Disclaimer: The views presented here are those of the original authors and are not necessarily shared by UNICEF. Please note that these news stories should be used solely for official purposes. Our license agreement does not permit users to store, post or redistribute the contents beyond personal use. We kindly ask that UNICEF colleagues be responsible users of copyrighted material. For information on this service please contact: