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Newsletter on Children in Armed Conflict

June 2013

Submitted by: the International Bureau for Children's Rights (IBCR)

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1. Global development on children's rights

World Day against Child Labour

12 June- Hundreds of millions of girls and boys throughout the world are engaged in work that deprives them of adequate education, health, leisure and basic freedoms, violating their rights. Of these children, more than half are exposed to the worst forms of child labour such as work in hazardous environments, slavery, or other forms of forced labour, illicit activities such as drug trafficking and prostitution, as well as involvement in armed conflict. The International Labour Organization (ILO) launched the first World Day Against Child Labour in 2002 as a way to highlight the plight of these children. The day, which is observed on June 12th, is intended to serve as a catalyst for the growing worldwide movement against child labour, reflected in the huge number of ratifications of ILO Convention No. 182 on the worst forms of child labour and ILO Convention No. 138 on the minimum age for employment.

[News](#) (ILO)

Petition filed in High Court against corporal punishment

16 June 2013 - A Public Interest Litigation has been filed in the AP High Court on Saturday, challenging the inaction of the state government in preventing “corporal punishments” to children in schools. Mohammed Shahbaz Ahmed Khan, a city resident, moved the PIL contending that as per the United Nations convention, the state was required to protect the child from all forms of physical and mental violence, torture and other cruel and degrading punishment or treatment. He said the government has to ensure that school discipline was administered in a manner consistent with the child's human dignity and in conformity with the UN convention. He urged the court to direct the government ensuring that the school authorities forthwith form the ‘school management committees’ to address the issues of corporal punishment.

[Full article](#) (Deccan Chronicle)

Un rapport de l'Organisation des Nations Unies (ONU) dénonce la détention d'enfants soldats au Mali

17 Juin 2013-Alors que les négociations entre le pouvoir malien et les rebelles touareg occupant Kidal, dans le nord du Mali, sont toujours au point mort, l'ONU attire l'attention sur un danger persistant : la détention par les autorités maliennes d'enfants accusés de servir dans les rangs séparatistes. Leila Zerrougui, la représentante spéciale de l'ONU pour les enfants et les conflits armés, confirme dans son rapport annuel "recevoir des informations préoccupantes sur des enfants détenus par les forces de sécurité maliennes pour association présumée avec des groupes armés, ainsi que sur des enfants qui se cachent dans leurs communautés par peur d'être arrêtés" pour la même raison.

[Article complet](#) (Le Monde)

Un documentaire sur les enfants soldats et les violences sexuelles primé au Festival de Télévision de Monte-Carlo

18-06-2013 – Dans le cadre du 53ème Festival de Télévision de Monte-Carlo, le jury spécial du CICR a décerné son "Prix pour la Presse" à Yasmina Farber et Franck Vrignon pour leur documentaire intitulé : "Les enfants du Seigneur". Le film décrit la situation des adolescents survivants, évadés par miracle des bandes armées pour le compte desquelles ils étaient forcés d'opérer tentent depuis de se reconstruire et de surmonter leurs traumatismes. Ils décrivent les crimes perpétrés, graves violations du droit international humanitaire, et demandent à ce que les auteurs soient recherchés, arrêtés et sanctionnés.

[Article complet](#) (CICR ressources)

Mali- « C'est la première fois qu'on parle d'enfants soldats au Mali »

19 Juin 2013- Le phénomène des enfants soldats est bien connu en Afrique. Depuis longtemps, les groupes armés utilisent des mineurs au Tchad ou bien en République démocratique du Congo. En quoi ce phénomène est-il nouveau en Afrique de l'Ouest ? Ce n'est pas un phénomène nouveau en Afrique de l'Ouest, on se souvient des enfants soldats en Sierra Leone ou au Liberia dans les années 1990. Toutefois, c'est la première fois qu'on parle formellement d'enfants soldats au Mali. Les groupes armés rebelles – le Mouvement pour l'unicité et le jihad en Afrique de l'Ouest (Mujao), le Mouvement national de libération de l'Azawad (MNLA), ou encore Al-Qaida au Maghreb islamique (AQMI) – enrôlent des mineurs. Mais ce qui est frappant, c'est que l'on trouve également des enfants dans les rangs des milices progouvernementales, qui sont soutenues, entraînées et financées par le gouvernement malien. Nous n'avons pas de preuve que ces enfants ont participé à la reconquête du Nord, mais nous avons la preuve que des enfants ont été entraînés à cette reconquête.

[Article complet](#) (Le Monde)

Nigeria-Statement attributable to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) spokesman Martin Dawes on the reported killing of children in Nigeria

19 June 2013 - UNICEF condemns in the strongest terms the attack which has reportedly left at least nine pupils dead in Maiduguri, north east Nigeria. Five of the children were said to be taking exams when they were shot. Children going to school, is an investment for all. UNICEF wishes to offer sincere condolences to the families, while reminding all involved in the current violence affecting the north east of their obligations to protect children from harm.

[Statement \(UNICEF\)](#)

Les pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest veulent mieux protéger leurs enfants

26 Juin 2013- Dans le souci d'œuvrer pour l'amélioration de la qualité dans la prise en charge et de la protection des enfants, une rencontre des coordinations régionales du Réseau Afrique de l'Ouest pour la protection des enfants (Rao) s'est ouverte, hier, à Dakar. La protection des enfants dans l'espace CDEAO demeure une préoccupation pour le Réseau Afrique de l'Ouest pour la protection des enfants (Rao). C'est dans cette optique que cette structure, en collaboration avec Enda jeunesse action, a débuté hier une rencontre de 5 jours qui regroupe les coordinations des 15 pays de la CDEAO. L'objectif de ce conclave est de permettre une amélioration de la qualité dans la prise en charge des enfants vulnérables de cet espace. Selon Pierre Marie, coordonnateur Enda Jeunesse Action Sénégal, cela se fera par le renforcement des capacités des organisations pour une intégration transnationale des enfants et des jeunes. En effet, le Rao se veut un outil de coopération pour la protection des enfants dans la sous-région.

[Article complet](#) (Le Soleil)

Guide: Advancing Children's Rights

Advancing Children's Rights is a guide by Plan and Save the Children Sweden on how civil society organisations can best engage with the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

[Guide](#) (Plan and Save the Children Sweden)

News: Children in Mali conflict forced to fight, detained with adults and tortured

Children in Mali, some as young as 13, who were recruited as child soldiers by armed groups or suspected of links with them, are now being detained by Malian forces alongside adults, where some say they've been tortured, Amnesty International revealed after returning from a four-week visit to the country.

The organization's delegates spoke to nine children between 13 and 17 years of age who were held with adults at the Maison centrale d'arrêt and at Camp I of the gendarmerie of Mali's capital, Bamako, on suspicion of association with armed groups.

[Full article](#) (Amnesty International)

News: Nusra gunmen execute child before parents

AMMAN: Syria's main opposition group lashed out on Monday at the execution a day earlier of a 15-year-old child at the hands of unidentified Islamist gunmen who accused him of blasphemy.

Members of an Al Qaeda-linked Islamist group in the northern Syrian city of Aleppo executed the boy in front of his parents on Sunday as punishment for what the group regarded as a heretical comment, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

[Full article](#) (The Gulf Today)

News: Afghan Taliban 'behead two boys in Kandahar'

The Taliban have beheaded two boys for spying in the southern Afghan province of Kandahar, officials say.

The boys, 10 and 16, had been scavenging for food in bins near police headquarters when they were abducted.

They are thought to have regularly accepted food handouts from police. Analysts say the Taliban are known to target those suspected of colluding with police.

[Full article](#) (BBC)

News: Afghan children die as suicide bomber targets soldiers

A suicide bomber has killed at least 13 people, 10 of them children, in an attack on a military patrol in eastern Afghanistan, say police and Nato.

Two coalition soldiers and an Afghan policeman also died in the blast.

The bomber, who was on a motorcycle, struck a market in Samkani district near the Pakistan border. About 20 other people were injured.

[Full article](#) (BBC)

News: Briefing for the Security Council working group on children and armed conflict regarding the recruitment and use of child soldiers in Burma (Myanmar) and implementation of the joint action plan

We welcome the examination by the United Nations Security Council working group on children and armed conflict of the Secretary-General's report on children in armed conflict in Myanmar (S/2013/258). We note that most of the parties listed in the Secretary-General's annex for recruitment and use of child soldiers in Burma are considered persistent perpetrators, and that the government armed forces, the Tatmadaw, have been listed every year since 2002. Because of this long history of violations, clear and strong action by the Security Council is vital.

[Full article](#) (Human Rights Watch)

News: Namibia: Corporal Punishment Was Assault on Pupil

AN APPEAL to the High Court will follow after four teachers of a private school in Windhoek who subjected a pupil to corporal punishment were convicted on assault charges yesterday.

The headmaster of the private school Windhoek Gymnasium, Stephanus van Zyl, and teachers Ettienne Odendaal, Estelle Oberholzer and Frederick Maartens were convicted of assault in a judgement delivered by Magistrate Helvi Shilemba in the Windhoek Magistrate's Court.

Magistrate Shilemba sentenced each of them to pay a fine of N\$2,000 or serve a one-year prison term. The fines were paid shortly after their sentencing, with Windhoek Gymnasium's managing director, Colette Rieckert, saying in a media statement that the school paid the fines on behalf of the four "loved and respected" teachers.

[News](#) (AllAfrica)

UN Security Council holds debate on children and armed conflict, condemns violations against children, calls on states to end impunity and hold perpetrators to account

Today, the United Nations Security Council held a Debate on the issue of children and armed conflict. At the Debate, the Security Council adopted a presidential statement condemning violations of international law against children in armed conflict and calling on States to hold persistent perpetrators of violations to account. The Debate on Children and Armed Conflict took place on the basis of the UN Secretary-General's 12th Report on Children and Armed Conflict. The Secretary-General submits an annual report to the Security Council on the situation of children in armed conflict around the world. The Secretary-General's Report lists 55 armed forces and armed groups as having committed violations against children. 29 of these are persistent perpetrators, having been listed for a period of five years or more. Contrary to last year's report, no listed parties were removed after the completion of an action plan. Three armed groups active in Mali, MUJAO, MNLA, and Ansar Dine, were listed for recruitment and use, and for rape and other forms of sexual violence. In Syria, the Syrian Free Armed was listed for recruitment and use of children as child soldiers, whereas the Syrian government forces are now listed for killing and maiming, attacks on schools and hospitals, and rape and other forms of sexual violence.

[For more information](#) (Watchlist)

Briefing for the Security Council working group on children and armed conflict regarding the recruitment and use of child soldiers in Burma (Myanmar) and implementation of the joint action plan

We welcome the examination by the United Nations Security Council working group on children and armed conflict of the Secretary-General's report on children in armed conflict in Myanmar (S/2013/258). We note that most of the parties listed in the Secretary-General's annex for recruitment and use of child soldiers in Burma are considered persistent perpetrators, and that the government armed forces, the Tatmadaw, have been listed every year since 2002. Because of this long history of violations, clear and strong action by the Security Council is vital.

[Full article](#) (Human Rights Watch)

Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) 63rd Session: Committee issues Concluding Observations to six States

Armenia, Israel, Guinea-Bissau, Rwanda, Uzbekistan and Slovenia all under review. At the close of the Committee on the Rights of the Child's 63rd session - in which Kirsten Sandberg of Norway was elected as the new Chairperson - Concluding Observations were issued to six States.

[Report](#) (UN-OHCHR)

Report: Grave violations committed against children in 22 situations of concern

The annual report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict presents information about grave violations committed against children in 22 country situations.

The report also includes what is known as the “List of shame”. This is the list of armed groups and armed forces who recruit and use children, kill and maim, commit sexual violence or attacks on schools and hospitals in conflict zones.

[Full report](#) (UN- Secretary-General on children and armed conflict)

Report: World Day against Child Labour: the International Cocoa Initiative (ICI) launches its 2012 Annual Report

Abidjan/Accra/Geneva, 12 June 2013 -- On the occasion of World Day against Child Labour, the International Cocoa Initiative (ICI) launches today its 2012 Annual Report, which highlights progress made in the fight against child labour in cocoa-growing communities in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana over the past year.

The report shows that, through awareness-raising, mobilisation and community action, ICI was able to promote, amongst other things:

- 324 development actions implemented by the communities themselves
- 192 development actions supported by local authorities and development actors
- The construction or rehabilitation of 205 school classrooms leading to improved schooling capacity for 10,050 children
- The installation of 1,789 new school desks and benches contributing to improved learning conditions for 3,578 children
- The construction of 40 teachers' houses

[Full report](#) (International Cocoa Initiative)

Report: Annual Child Soldiers Initiative's Report

2012 Annual Report highlights our training, research and advocacy efforts over the course of the year. It also looks at our new handbook, the new documentary *Fight Like Soldiers Die Like Children*, and our work on children in marine piracy. All of us at the Initiative wish to thank our allies, donors, partners and friends for having assisted our work throughout the past year. Our efforts to eradicate the use of child soldiers would not have been possible without your ongoing support.

[Report](#) (Child Soldiers Initiative)

Report: The issue of violence against children included in post- Millennium Development Goals (MDG) framework

The High Level Panel (HLP) has made recommendations to the UN Secretary General on the post MDG framework released its report on May 30th. The report sets out a vision to carry forward the spirit of the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), with a practical focus on issues like poverty, hunger, water, sanitation, education and healthcare. Although there is no mention of a specific goal on violence and exploitation of children, many of the targets that have been advocated by CPWG members and coalitions that CPWG has been involved in have found their way in the HLP report.

These are the targets on violence against children in the HLP report:

- End all forms of violence against all girls and boys in all settings (Goal 11)
- End child marriage (Goal 2)
- Birth registration for all children without discrimination (Goal 10)
- Recommends a target on violence against women and girls (Goal 2)

[Report](#) (United Nations)

Report: Children are the aftermath of the Iraqi conflict

War Child compiled a statement report on the 10 years of the Iraqi war. On the first of May 2003, Bush announced the end of combat operations in Iraq while standing before a banner that declared ‘Mission Accomplished.’ A decade on and Iraq continues to suffer from the sentiment of those words. Iraq can now be seen as one of the world’s most neglected crises, with The Department for International Development (DFID) pulling out of their in-country commitment in 2012 and other donors ignoring the stark numbers and realities of conflict that Iraqis still must face.

[Report](#) (War Child)

Report: Barely Surviving: Detention, Abuse, Neglect of Migrant Children in Indonesia

Refugee and asylum seeker children arriving in Indonesia are subject to “routine brutality” in immigration detention centers, according to a new report by Human Rights Watch. The organization draws on the testimonies given by 102 migrants, including 42 who were children at the time of entering the country, who report having been punched, slapped and kicked by guards. In one case, an unaccompanied migrant child who tried to escape after two months detention with unrelated adults, was caught and beaten up by at least eight people, most of whom were guards.

[Report](#) (Human Rights Watch)

Report: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights - Conflict in Syria reaches new levels of brutality

Geneva, 4 June 2013 -- The United Nations commission of inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic is presenting its latest report on the human rights situation in Syria. The Commission found that war crimes and gross human rights violations continue to be perpetrated on an ever larger scale as the violence escalates.

Crimes against humanity are being perpetrated by government forces and affiliated militias as they carry out widespread attacks against civilian populations through indiscriminate shelling, unlawful killing, torture, enforced disappearance, and sexual violence. They are systematically inflicting sieges against towns perceived as hostile, while populations have been forcibly displaced.

[Report](#) (UN-OHCHR)

Report: US - Trafficking in Persons Report 2013

Secretary Kerry (June 19): "When we help countries to prosecute traffickers, we are strengthening the rule of law. When we bring victims out of exploitation, we are helping to create more stable and productive communities. When we stop this crime from happening in the first place, we are preventing the abuse of those who are victimized as well as the ripple effect that caused damage throughout communities into our broader environment and which corrupt our global supply chains. We all have an interest in stopping this crime. That's why President Obama is so focused on this issue. And that's why, as Secretary of State, I will continue to make the fight against modern-day slavery a priority for this Department and for the country."

[Report](#) (US Department of State)

Guide: Advancing Children's Rights

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[Guide](#) (Plan and Save the Children Sweden)

Press Release: 2013 Debate on Children and Armed Conflict

New York City, 17 June 2013 – Today, the United Nations Security Council held a Debate on the issue of children and armed conflict. At the Debate, the Security Council adopted a presidential statement condemning violations of international law against children in armed conflict and calling on States to hold persistent perpetrators of violations to account. The Debate on Children and Armed Conflict took place on the basis of the UN Secretary-General's 12th Report on Children and Armed Conflict. The Secretary-General submits an annual report to the Security Council on the situation of children in armed conflict around the world.

[Press release](#) (Watchlist)

Press Release: The UN concerned over 53 children at risk of being retaken by the M23 in Nyiragongo Territory, North Kivu Province

The United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict, Ms. Leila Zerrougui, are concerned by reports indicating that at least 53 children are at risk of being re-recruited by the M23 rebel group in DR Congo. The 53 children were part of a group of at least 70 who were recruited by the M23 in Nyiragongo and Rutshuru territories. They escaped from the rebel group during clashes between Bosco Ntanganda and Sultani Makenga's factions in February 2013. Since then, 17 have reportedly fled the area while the remaining 53 are still in hiding in several locations.

[Press Release](#) (Office of the Special Representative of the SG for Children and Armed Conflict)

Special Update: Security Council Debate on Children and Armed Conflict

In June, the UN Secretary-General is expected to submit his 12th annual report on children and armed conflict to the Security Council, pursuant to SCR 2068. The Council will discuss the report during a debate on children and armed conflict, currently scheduled to take place on 17 June. Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict urges the Security Council to commit to the following actions to strengthen implementation of the Children and Armed Conflict agenda: Encourage action plan implementation by parties to conflict and the UN; Call for enhanced engagement by all relevant actors with non-state armed groups for the purpose of influencing them to end violations and to conclude action plans; Take specific and concrete measures to increase pressure on perpetrators of grave violations against children; Mainstream children and armed conflict-concerns in the Security Council's country-specific work;

Revitalize the Security Council's Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict.

[Special Update](#) (Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict)

2. Events and Conferences

International Conference on "Children and War: Past and Present" Salzburg

Second international multidisciplinary conference to be held at the University of Salzburg, Austria, on 10-12 July 2013. Organized by the University of Salzburg and the University of Wolverhampton, in association with the United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, for Children and Armed Conflict.

[Full program](#)

Conference Inequalities in Children's Outcomes in Developing Countries

This conference will bring together papers that discuss the extent of inequalities in key indicators of children's human capital and well-being, especially how inequalities change and evolve, and the factors that mitigate or reinforce early inequalities and explain their evolution over time

Department of International Development, University of Oxford,

Date: July 8-9 2013

Location: Oxford, England

[Details](#) (Childwatch)

International Seminar on Urban Inequalities in Childhood and Adolescence: Urban Social and Political Rights

In July 2013 Equity for Children and “Equidad para la Infancia” will co-host an International Seminar on Children and Intra-Urban Inequalities at the Universidad Nacional Tres de Febrero in Buenos Aires. The conference will address the rights of children and adolescents in urban settings.

Time and place: July 3, 2013 - July 4, 2013, Universidad Nacional Tres de Febrero, Buenos Aires, Argentina

[More about](#) (Childwatch)

Conference Children as actors for transforming society

Organised by Initiatives of change in partnership with the Child-to-Child Trust, this conference will be the first in a series of annual conferences on children’s participation. It aims to:

- share learning in participatory programming
- support the development of networks for children’s participation practitioners and advocates
- create a more sustainable approach to children's participation

Selected groups of children and young people will actively engage with adults professionals in discussions on rights-based participation in key areas of children’s lives: health, formal and non-formal education, protection, safety and post conflict reconstruction

Date: 24/07/2013 to 30/07/2013

Location: Caux, Switzerland

[For more information](#) (CRIN) [Site](#)

3. Courses and Training Sessions

The United Nations Children's Fund to train trainers on child protection

6 June 2013 - The child protection unit of UNICEF will organize a training program to resolve the issue of trained manpower shortage to deal with matters related to upholding children's rights. The training will focus on protecting children from or against any perceived or real danger to their life, their personhood and childhood. The program will cover Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, Juvenile Justice Act, child rights, child protection framework and other related issues.

[Details](#) (Times of India)

2S Applied Research Methods with Hidden, Marginal and Excluded Populations

The course provides an introduction to research methods in conducting research, both qualitative and quantitative, with marginal and hidden populations, with a focus on children. The course introduces the main theories and approaches on hidden and marginal populations, using different frameworks and techniques. Focusing on action-oriented research, the course explores topics such as estimation and sampling challenges, participatory research, the use of qualitative and quantitative methods, and ethical considerations arising when conducting this type of research

Date: 22/07/2013 to 26/07/2013

Location: University of Essex, Colchester, UK

[More about](#) (CRIN)

International Summer Course on the Rights of the Child

The Working Group on the Rights of the Child within the Francophonie, in collaboration with the Canadian Council of Child and Youth Advocates and l'Université de Moncton, presents the conference. The focus will be Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: The Right Against all Forms of Violence, Injury or Abuse, Neglect or Negligent Treatment, Maltreatment or Exploitation.

This course is of special interest to graduates and students registered in graduate programs. It is also beneficial for researchers, members of professional associations working in the fields of child protection, education and early childhood development, youth correctional systems, and the development of institutions and policies based on just and legal recognition and respect for the rights of children around the world.

More than 150 participants from around the world are expected to attend, including institutional stakeholders, professionals and advocates for the rights of children within the Francophonie.

Topics to be addressed in the workshops and conferences

- Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Children's Rights
- Data collection and research on children's rights and well-being
- Child Psychology and Healthy Development
- Children's Rights and Education
- Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- The Child's Right to protection from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation

Date: July 12 to 19, 2013

Location: Moncton Campus University

Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada

[For more information](#) (Université de Moncton)

4. Vacancies

Chief Education: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Under the overall guidance of the Representative/Deputy Representative, responsible for the development, design, planning, implementation and management of the programme for Education within the country programme, and administering programme budget. As head of section, directs a significant group of professional and support staff to develop and administer the Education programme.

Location: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Deadline: 5 July 2013

[For more information](#) (UNjobs)

Deputy Country Representative Nepal: “Terre des homes” (Tdh) Foundation Child Relief

Responsible for the overall operations coordination of Tdh projects across Nepal in coordination with the Country Representative, respective project coordinators, partners and support departments.

- Works directly in the field with children, families, partners and stakeholders of the project locations.
- Acts as Tdh focal point in the wider Nepalese community and represents the organization professionally.
- Promotes and ensures the principles of child protection and child participation are respected within the Tdh projects, partners and with identified child protection resources.
- Assists the Country Representative in hosting donor visits and maintaining regular liaison with the same, attending meetings as requested.
- Supports the Country Representative with project development and reporting.
- Assists the Country Representative in identifying local funding sources.
- Is prepared to act as Country Representative when requested.

Location: Kathmandu, Nepal

Deadline: 10 July 2013

[For more information](#) (ReliefWeb)

Adolescent Girls' Program Specialist: International Rescue Committee

Specific responsibilities include: contributing to the development of adolescent girls program content, engaging Technical Advisors from relevant sectors (Women's Protection and Empowerment, Reproductive Health, Education, Economic Development) developing and implementing the training curricula; and supporting monitoring and evaluation of the program. The Specialist reports to the WPE Senior Technical Advisor and collaborates with other IRC sectors (namely the Children Youth & Development, Economic Recovery & Development and Health Units) to support IRC's efforts to empower girls and equip their communities to keep them safe from violence and exploitation.

Location: New York, United States of America

Deadline: 23 July 2013

[For more information](#) (ReliefWeb)

Improvement Advisor – Reporting & Deliverables: University Research Co.

The Improvement Advisor, Reporting and Deliverables, will be responsible for managing project reporting and technical deliverables (work plans, annual reports, and quarterly reports) to USAID. The Advisor will collaborate with headquarters and country-level staff and report to the ASSIST Knowledge Management (KM) Director.

Location: Bethesda, United States

Deadline: 31 July 2013

[For more information](#) (ReliefWeb)

Livelihoods Specialist, Rwanda: ACDI/VOCA

We are currently seeking a Livelihoods Specialist for an anticipated US Department of Labor (USDOL) funded education and livelihoods program focused on reducing children's participation in child labor in tea growing areas of Rwanda. The Livelihoods/Agriculture Specialist will be the principal technical advisor for activities and interventions focused on the household and community level; program activities will focus on reducing child labor in the production of tea by increasing children's access to education, promoting decent work for older children and economic opportunities for the households most vulnerable to child labor in tea growing areas.

Location: Rwanda

Deadline: 07 August 2013

[For more information](#) (ReliefWeb)

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Coordinator

The MEL Coordinator will be expected to lead on finalising the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework which will bring together all the surveys, assessments, consultations and monitoring which the international humanitarian agency GOAL undertakes and ensure this is being used for decision making and programme development, as well as meeting donor requirements. The MEL Coordinator will also take forward GOAL's beneficiary accountability through the review or establishment of beneficiary complaints procedures, through use of an annual beneficiary satisfaction survey and by a series of consultative meetings and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) to ensure communities participate in the planning and reorientation of GOAL programmes

Location: Juba, South Sudan

Deadline: 15 July 2013

[For more information](#) (ReliefWeb)

Monitoring and Evaluation Officer – Colombia U.S. Department of Labor-funded Project: Global Communities

The Monitoring and Evaluation Officer will be responsible for the principle monitoring and evaluation activities for the program. In particular, s/he will be responsible for: implementing and updating the Performance Management Plan to ensure consistent data collection and management; managing the data collection process to include schedules, logistics and methodologies in coordination with data collection teams and consultants; analyzing and interpreting qualitative and quantitative data; reporting on activities, accomplishments and results for USDOL deliverables; and ensuring that lessons learned influence future program selection, design and implementation; and will also act as the liaison and point of contact between the project and a USDOL external evaluation contractor.

Location: Colombia

Deadline: 18 July 2013

[For more information](#) (ReliefWeb)

Program Manager (Capacity Development): Pact

Pact seeks a Program Manager (Capacity Development) for a five year USAID-funded multi-sector development project called ‘Shae Thot’, addressing Maternal and Child Health, Livelihoods and WASH issues in Central and Eastern Burma. The Program Manager (Capacity Development) will be responsible for progressively building the capacity of CSOs, LNGOs and local government agencies, through properly designed program approaches that can address appropriate opportunities. Successful applicants will be responsible for the quality of the design and delivery of the program’s capacity development activities and must ensure that such activities are implemented in compliance with all donor, Pact, and project-specific policies.

Location: Yagon, Myanmar

Deadline: 05 July 2013

[For more information](#) (ReliefWeb)

Protection Project Manager: Mercy Corps

The Protection Project Manager will report to the Deputy Country Director and oversee the implementation of the Psychosocial Response Support for Vulnerable Refugees (PRSVR) program by providing technical support and guidance to field project managers, officers and partners as they carry out protection monitoring and community engagement activities. S/he will have some office oversight responsibilities in coordination with the Beirut-based Operations Manager and the local operations team and will be responsible for coordinating with government and international and national NGOs working in the child protection and psychosocial support sectors to promote protection standards in policies and program activities, including coordinated referral mechanisms.

Location: Beirut, Lebanon

Deadline: 20 July 2013

[For more information](#) (ReliefWeb)

Senior Director, Emergency Health & Nutrition: Save the Children

The Senior Director is responsible for the overall strategic development, implementation, monitoring, and accountability of Save the Children's work in emergency health and nutrition. As a member of the Department of Health and Nutrition (DHN) Senior Leadership Team, the Senior Director is responsible for defining the strategic direction and guiding DHN's overall efforts to meet the objectives of results for children. The Senior Director is responsible for advancing the emergency-related work in support of the Agency's strategic plan related to health and nutrition, as well as serving as a key member of the Humanitarian Response Business Team and informing agency-wide emergency directions and programming. At the global level, the Senior Director will serve as a key advocate and spokesperson for Emergency Health and Nutrition (EHN) and humanitarian response on behalf of Save the Children, as well as contributing to the leadership of Save the Children International's humanitarian programs and implementation.

Location: Washington DC, United States

Deadline: 13 July 2013

[For more information](#) (UNjobs)

Senior Specialist, Child Protection, Latin America & Middle East: Save the Children

The Senior Specialist, Child Protection, provides technical assistance to ensure quality child protection (CP) programs, with a priority for support to programs in Latin America, the Caribbean, the Middle East and Eurasia. Technical assistance will be provided in development and emergency contexts to develop, implement, improve, and evaluate child protection programs, and contribute to program learning and innovation. He/she will lead on child protection proposal development for supported countries. The Senior Specialist will contribute to child protection strategic directions and plans with a particular emphasis on reducing harmful child labor. The individual will develop and maintain key external partnerships with the other Save the Children US departments, other Save the Children members, donors, and others to advance and expand our work for children.

Location: Washington DC, United States

Deadline: until filled

[For more information](#) (Save the Children)

5. Sub regional and Country updates

Algérie - trop d'abus sexuels sur les enfants

1 juin 2013 - Elle se baladait dans son quartier. Lina*, 12 ans, 5e année primaire, jouait avec d'autres enfants de son âge, comme elle le fait souvent après les cours. Elle est loin de se l'imaginer, mais très vite le pire arrive. Lina rentre chez elle et se confie maladroitement à sa mère. Le cauchemar prend forme en silence jusqu'au jour où la maman de Lina réalise que sa fille est enceinte. Elle compose le 30 33 (numéro vert du réseau Nada pour les enfants victimes de maltraitance) et c'est toute l'équipe du programme «Je t'écoute» qui se voit bouleversée par ce drame, ce qui est loin d'être un cas isolé. Depuis le début de l'année, le réseau accueille de plus en plus de cas de maltraitance, de violence, de discrimination et d'abus sexuels sur enfants. Lina fait partie des 16 310 personnes qui ont demandé assistance à ces professionnels durant la période allant de juin 2012 à mai 2013.

[Article complet](#) (El Watan)

Algérie - Protéger les enfants sur internet

2 juin 2013 - Le président-directeur général d'Algérie Télécom, Azouaou Mehmel, a présenté ce dimanche le système de contrôle parental que son entreprise est en train de développer, a rapporté APS. Le contrôle s'effectuera sous la forme d'un filtre : les parents pourront choisir les profils des sites à bloquer, tels que les jeux en ligne, les sites pour adultes, malveillants ou violents, a expliqué Azouaou Mehmel. La présentation de cette solution de contrôle parental par le président-directeur d'AT s'est faite dans le cadre de la célébration de la journée internationale de l'enfance. Il a donc manifesté un vif intérêt pour le bien-être des enfants, en précisant par exemple que les «enfants sont exposés à des dangers dont les adultes n'ont, dans bien des cas, qu'une vague idée». Selon lui, il est donc de la mission de son entreprise de «faire reculer les dangers qui menacent chaque jour davantage nos enfants». Or les menaces sont nombreuses pour un enfant sur internet.

[Article complet](#) (Algérie Focus)

Algérie - Accompagnement des enfants en dangers physique et moral : La société doit conjuguer les efforts

2 juin 2013 - En célébration de la journée mondiale de l'Enfance, l'Assemblée populaire nationale a abrité les travaux d'une journée d'étude parlementaire consacrée au thème de l'accompagnement des enfants en dangers physique et moral. Le président de l'Assemblée, M. Mohamed Larbi Ould Khelifa, a insisté sur la nécessité de conjuguer les efforts et de multiplier les actions communes dans la mise en œuvre de nouvelles mesures de nature à renforcer la protection de l'enfance contre tout danger susceptible de la menacer. Ould Khelifa a rappelé l'engagement de l'Algérie en ce qui concerne la promotion des droits des enfants, à la faveur de la signature, en 1992, de la Convention internationale pour la protection des droits de l'enfant, appelant à la mise en œuvre d'un organe avec pour mission de superviser et de suivre le processus de protection de la frange des jeunes contre les dangers sociaux qui pourraient surgir.

[Article complet](#) (Elmoudjahid)

Algérie - Colloque national sur la violence contre les enfants

3 juin 2013 - Pas moins de 13 000 enfants ont été victimes d'agressions sexuelles en 2012, en Algérie. C'est ce qu'a déclaré, avant-hier, Abderrahmane Arâar, président du réseau algérien de défense des droits de l'enfant, Nada, lors d'un colloque national organisé à Constantine, à l'occasion de la célébration de la Journée internationale de l'enfance. En effet, des experts et des spécialistes des droits de l'enfant, de la charia, des avocats, des représentants de la Gendarmerie nationale et de la sûreté ainsi que ceux de la Protection civile et des parents se sont réunis à la salle Ibn-Badis de l'université islamique Émir-Abdelkader pour débattre du phénomène de la violence juvénile et comment y faire face du point de vue de la charia et de la loi. Concernant cette dernière, le président du Nada a affirmé qu'une nouvelle loi pour la protection des enfants a été soumise, il y a quelques mois, au Parlement pour adoption. Tout en ajoutant que « la révision du code de la famille devient une nécessité, notamment avec les dernières statistiques qui font état de 2 444 cas de violence corporelle sur des enfants en 2012, dont 80% sont commises sur des filles »

[Article complet](#) (Liberté Algérie)

Algérie - La justice déterminée à appliquer les peines maximales contre les agresseurs d'enfants

4 juin 2013 - Le secteur de la justice est « déterminé » à appliquer les peines maximales prévues par le code pénal contre les auteurs d'atteintes morales et physiques contre les enfants, a affirmé lundi à Alger Mme Mebarka Sakhri, magistrate et directrice d'études au ministère de la Justice. Lors d'une journée d'étude sur la protection juridique et judiciaire des enfants victimes de crimes, Mme Sakhri a indiqué que le ministre en personne a donné instruction à l'effet de l'application "rigoureuse" de la loi à l'encontre des agresseurs d'enfants. « Les statistiques disponibles sur les crimes contre les enfants (coups et blessures et agressions sexuelles) ne reflètent pas la réalité de ces crimes », a souligné Mme Sakhri qui a ajouté « qu'un nombre important d'enfants souffrent en silence et leurs cas ne parviennent pas à la justice ».

[Article complet](#) (Le temps d'Algérie)

Bahrain - Bahrain forces assault children under five during playtime

1 June 2013 – Bahraini regime forces assaulted two children aged five and under by beating them and kicking them near their house in Bani Jamra on Friday. Live witnesses said on Twitter that the two children, 4 years old and 5 years old, were beaten while playing near their house in a residential neighborhood in the region, and were later thrown on the street. Al-Wefaq National Islamic Society considered that the assault came in the context of oppression and collective punishment by the regime forces against safe citizens.

[Full article](#) (AlManar)

Bahrain - Fight against child abuse stepped up

7 June 2013 - Bahrain has stepped up efforts to protect children against all forms of violence and abuse. A hotline will operate round-the-clock to receive complaints and take necessary measures. The 998 hotline was launched as part of efforts to ensure protection for children. Social Development Minister Dr Fatima Al Balooshi yesterday announced the drive as she visited the Child Protection Centre, Manama. "Every child in Bahrain should have a card featuring the rescue hotline 998," she said. The hotline number is being distributed at malls, schools and other venues. The minister was updated on procedures and the follow-up of cases of violence and abuse against children.

[Full article](#) (Gulf Daily News)

Bahrain - Children 'used as human shields'

7 June 2013 – Nearly 300 children have been used as human shields during clashes between anti-government protesters and police in the last few weeks, it has been claimed. Mr. Fulad, secretary-general of the Bahrain Human Rights Watch Society, said volunteers had witnessed children being used as human shields in Bani Jamra, Sitra, Duraz, Jidhafs and Sanabis when police were called to break up illegal protests. "These children are brainwashed by these groups who want to spread their political agenda and it affects their education," he said. "[International NGOs] are still in the dark when it comes to Bahrain and we told them that Iran-backed extremists are using children as human shields," he claimed. "Even women are being used by these groups in Bahrain to lead illegal marches and demonstrations."

[Full article](#) (Gulf Daily News)

Bahrain - Bahrain marks World Day against Child Labour

11 June 2013 – Bahrain will join the other nations in celebrating the World Day against Child Labour. The International Labour Organization (ILO) first launched the World Day against Child Labour in 2002 to draw global attention to the child labour and muster all efforts to eradicate the scourge. The World Day Against Child Labour 2013 is being held the slogan "No to child labour in domestic work," to shed light on children's inalienable right to protection from labour and other basic human rights violations. This is an especially sensitive topic due to the level of domestic workers present in Bahrain from other countries.

[Full article](#) (Bahrain News Agency)

Bahrain - 600,000 victims of trafficking

11 June 2013 - Around 600,000 men, women and children are trafficked in the region annually - most of them in the Gulf, said United Nations expert Dr Mohamed Mattar. Speaking yesterday on the side-lines of a workshop in Manama on National Capacities in Controlling Trafficking in Persons, Crimes and Criminal Investigations, he said victims of trafficking included those whose travel documents were withheld - restricting their movements and preventing them from changing jobs. He added Bahrain's plan to combat human trafficking focused on building capabilities at relevant authorities by increasing participation in regional and international workshops, pointing to the fact that foreign workers were now able to transfer between employers as a sign of progress.

[Full article](#) (Gulf Daily News)

Bahrain - Bahrain arrests students, deny them exams

14 June 2013 – Al-Wefaq Bahraini opposition group revealed Thursday that the regime forces' arrests have noticeably increased with the beginning of the final exams on June 2nd, 2013. It further mentioned that many of the arrested are students. The arrests take place either during home raids or on streets. According to the Liberties and Human Rights Department (LHRB) in al-Wefaq recently issued a report in which it documented 240 arrests during May 2013, 19 of which were children. “In fact, tens of students remain behind bars for reasons related to freedom of expression, while hundreds are pursued,” it clarified. In March, the LHRB submitted to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education a written complaint on the denial of exams and revision for students inside detention.

[Full article](#) (Ahlul Bayt News Agency)

Bahrain - Royal Charity Organisation (RCO) urges private sector to support orphans

19 June 2013 – Royal Charity Organisation (RCO) Secretary-General Dr. Mustapha Al-Sayyed today appealed to the Bahraini private establishments to contribute charity and voluntary work and sponsor entertainment programmes for orphans. “Foreign private companies are outshining Bahraini firms in sponsoring charities and voluntary programmes, particularly orphans,” he said. He urged Bahraini private establishments to support voluntary work and charities and contribute to efforts aimed at promoting social solidarity. Meanwhile, Dr. Al-Sayyed launched an RCO-sponsored summer camp. More than 100 children aged 6 to 12, affiliated with RCO, are taking part in a series of activities aimed at tapping on their talents and honing their skills as well as building the personalities of the orphans.

[Full article](#) (Bahrain News Agency)

Centrafrique- Journée de l'Enfant Africain : 3500 enfants-soldats à démobiliser en Centrafrique

26 Juin 2013- L'Unicef et de nombreuses organisations de protection des enfants se sont mobilisés sur le continent. Le thème de cette année: «Éliminer les pratiques sociales et culturelles néfastes affectant les enfants ».En Centrafrique, les ONG ont décrié la maltraitance infligée aux enfants depuis le début de la crise enclenchée en décembre 2012 par la coalition Séléka. Mariage forcé, recrutement forcé des enfants dans les conflits armés, destruction des écoles et hôpitaux, violences sexuelles, meurtre et enlèvement d'enfants ainsi que le refus de l'ouverture d'un couloir humanitaire aux structures internationales afin d'assister les enfants victimes de conflit, ne sont que les exemples les plus flagrants des violations des droits des enfants en Centrafrique, indiquent les organisations non gouvernementales Enfant Sans Frontière et Les Enfants D'abord.

[Article complet](#) (La Voix de l'Amérique)

Congo (RDC) – RDC: des milliers d'enfants exploités dans les mines

18 Juin 2013- Des milliers d'enfants congolais sont exploités dans les sites miniers et des centaines d'autres dans les groupes armés dans le district du Tanganyika au nord du Katanga, selon Radiokapi.net. A l'occasion de la journée de l'enfant africain, célébrée le dimanche 16 juin, les défenseurs locaux des droits de l'enfant ont appelé les autorités à sécuriser ces enfants. Le chef de service du Genre, de la Famille et de l'Enfant du district du Tanganyika, Fatuma Kamona, avance des chiffres alarmants sur la situation des enfants dans les mines et les groupes armés. « Plus de deux mille enfants enrôlés [dans les groupes armés], par exemple à Kiyambi, à Shamwana, à Manono. Nous déplorons aussi les cas de viols et violences sexuelles sur de petites filles. Que l'impunité puisse prendre fin. La plupart des filles qui sont dans des carrières minières sont des filles mineures engrossées avant l'âge », indique-t-elle.

[Article complet](#) (Afrik.com)

Congo (RDC) - RDC : Les conditions des enfants à Kinshasa est alarmante

26 Juin 2013- C-change un projet multisectoriel portant sur la communication pour le changement social et des comportements en matière de santé a dressé un tableau sombre sur les conditions des enfants à Kinshasa. 35 pourcent des enfants de sept à quatorze sont engagés dans les travaux, sept pourcent des filles de moins de quinze ans sont mariées contre plus de soixante pourcent des jeunes filles de 6 à 17 ans violées. Le taux de mortalité infantile et infanto-génital atteint respectivement 60 et 91 pourcent. Le C-change note également que seulement 39 pourcent des enfants achèvent l'école primaire bien que le taux de fréquentation est estimé à 90 pourcent. Voilà ce qui fait croire à C-change que l'existence des lois seules ne suffit pas pour améliorer les conditions des enfants en RDC.

[Article complet](#) (Kongo.Times)

Congo (RDC)- RDC : 100 millions USD pour réhabiliter 1000 écoles

26 Juin 2013 - En marge de l'édition 2013 de l'examen d'État, le Premier ministre Matata Ponyo a annoncé que son Gouvernement, sur instruction du chef de l'État, va mettre à la disposition du secteur de l'éducation 100 millions Usd pour une réhabilitation rapide de 1000 établissements scolaires sur toute l'étendue du territoire national. Ce financement, le plus important du genre depuis 1960, permettra la réhabilitation des établissements scolaires, dans le but d'offrir aux enseignants et aux élèves de bonnes conditions de travail et d'études. A cette occasion, le chef du Gouvernement a exhorté les finalistes des humanités participant à la session ordinaire de l'Examen d'Etat 2012-2013, à réaliser un meilleur score pour faire honneur au chef de l'État, Joseph Kabila Kabange, qui place l'éducation parmi ses priorités.

[Article complet](#) (Kongo Times)

Congo (RDC)- La Brigade d'intervention appelée à privilégier la protection des enfants soldats enrôlés dans les groupes armés

22 Juin 2013- Elles sont treize ONG congolaises et internationales actives à l'Est de la RDC à avoir adressé ensemble un vibrant appel à la Brigade d'intervention en voie de déploiement dans la région ainsi qu'aux FARDC pour que ces forces accordent une priorité à la protection des enfants soldats enrôlés de force dans les rangs des groupes armés

[Article complet](#) (Digital Congo)

Côte d'Ivoire - Traite des êtres humains/Henri Blémin Guida (Point focal Afrique à Interpol) : « La Côte d'Ivoire est une zone de transit »

14 Juin 2013- Officier des renseignements criminels à la Sous-direction Trafic des êtres humains du secrétariat général de l'Organisation internationale de Police criminelle (OIPC-Interpol) à Lyon-France, Henri Blémin Guida est le point focal de la Traite des personnes en Afrique au sein de cette unité. Fin mai dernier, cet Ivoirien de 55 ans a séjourné à Abidjan, à l'invitation du Salon Shield Africa (Salon international de la défense et de la sûreté intérieure) où il a prononcé une conférence sur la traite des êtres humains. Nous l'avons interrogé via Internet pour nous entretenir sur ce phénomène qui gangrène certains pays africains dont la Côte d'Ivoire.

[Article complet](#) (Abidjan.net)

Côte d'Ivoire- Construction de l'Hôpital mère-enfant de Children Of Africa: Le contrat signé avec le Consortium ivoirien Cauris SC 2 S

19 Juin 2013- Les choses se mettent en place. Et les derniers réglages pour le début effectif de la construction de l'Hôpital mère-enfant de Bingerville vont bon train. Après la conférence de presse pour annoncer la pose de la première pierre et le début de la construction de l'Hôpital mère-enfant, la Fondation Children Of Africa vient de franchir un nouveau pas vers la concrétisation de son ambitieux projet. En effet, la Fondation de Mme Dominique Ouattara a signé, hier, le contrat jetant les bases juridiques de la construction de l'hôpital avec le Consortium Cauris SC 2 S, l'opérateur retenu après appel d'offre international et le mariage a eu lieu au Cabinet de la Première Dame, à Cocody.

[Article complet](#) (Abidjan.net)

Egypt - Egyptian girl dies undergoing circumcision

10 June 2013 - Suhair al-Bata'a, a 13-year-old Egyptian girl, has died undergoing circumcision at a village in the Daqahliya governorate northeast of Cairo. "We left our daughter with the doctor and the nurse. 15 minutes later, the nurse took my daughter out of the operation room to a nearby room, along with three other girls whom the doctor was circumcising," Mohammed Ibrahim, a farmer, told Egyptian daily al-Masry al-Youm. "The doctor who circumcised Suhair had previously circumcised her elder sister two years ago. "I want nothing but to hold the doctor accountable and to have justice for my daughter," Suhair's mother told the newspaper. UNICEF Egypt has also condemned the incident, saying female circumcision has neither medical nor religious justification.

Gabon- 658 enfants vivent dans la rue au Gabon

Six cent cinquante-huit enfants vivent dans la rue au Gabon, selon une étude commanditée par le ministère gabonais de la Famille et des Affaires sociales, avec l'appui du Fonds des Nations unies pour l'enfance (UNICEF) et d'autres acteurs œuvrant à la protection de l'enfant. Sur 658 enfants de la rue dénombrés dans le pays, 595 sont des Gabonais tandis que les 63 sont d'autres nationalités africaines, précise l'étude qui s'est déroulée de novembre 2011 à décembre 2012.

[Article complet](#) (StarAfrica.com)

Gabon- Plus de 140 enfants issus du trafic dénombrés au Gabon en 2010

20 Juin 2013- Les trafiquants et autres circuits d'exploitation des enfants ont acheminé, en 2010, plus de 140 enfants africains de différentes nationalités vers le Gabon, un pays où le phénomène de la traite transfrontalière des enfants tend à prendre de l'ampleur, a appris APA. "En 2010, plus de 44 adultes ont été emprisonnés pour avoir exploité 140 enfants venus de différents pays africains", a indiqué le ministre gabonais de la justice, dans un document rendu public la veille de la célébration de la Journée de l'enfant africain. Le document décline les trois axes fondamentaux de la politique du gouvernement gabonais contre le trafic des enfants: dénoncer le fléau, alerter l'opinion publique nationale et internationale sur le phénomène grandissant de la traite transfrontalière des enfants vers le Gabon et condamner une pratique avilissante qui détruit la dignité des enfants et viole leurs droits fondamentaux.

[Article complet](#) (IciLomé.com)

Gambia - More funding needed for vital resilience programmes in The Gambia

26 June 2013- The UN Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Sahel, Robert Piper, completed a visit to The Gambia where he met senior Government officials, the humanitarian and development community, donors and the media. During his mission, Mr. Piper also visited school feeding programmes supported by the Government and the World Food Programme. "The Gambian Government has placed agriculture, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation as high on the policy agenda as any Government in the region" observed Mr. Piper during a meeting in Banjul. "Local and international actors need to come together in The Gambia to help build these critical building blocks for the greater resilience of the Gambian people. With a sense of urgency that acknowledges the suffering that characterized the 2012 situation" he added.

[Full report](#) (Relief Web – UNOCHA)

Guinea- School by Streetlight: Africa's 'Black Out' Kids Seek the Power of Education

25 June 2013- Black Out movie maker Eva Weber will never forget one evening outside the G'bessia International Airport in Guinea. She spoke to a young girl who was using the sickly green airport light to study for a school exam during the dead of night. The girl was reading at the airport because her home had no electricity or other light source. Weber was both impressed by the student's dedication and haunted by her sense of futility. "I never imagined her saying, 'Why do we study? Even if we study, we might not get a job; so what is the point of it?'" recalls Weber. "At the same time, she's actually studying. She goes there every night, and she stays there until three o'clock in the morning."

[Full article](#) (Take part)

Liberia- Les réfugiés ivoiriens prennent racine au Liberia

26 juin 2013 - Bien que la paix soit officiellement rétablie en Côte d'Ivoire depuis plus de deux ans, une grande partie des 60 000 réfugiés restés au Liberia prévoit de s'y installer pour longtemps, prétextant l'instabilité constante, la violence et la crainte des persécutions politiques dans leur pays d'origine. Deux ans après la fin du conflit, la population dans des camps comme celui de PTP, près de Zwedru, dans l'est du Liberia, est effectivement toujours en hausse.

[Article complet](#) (IRIN)

Iraq - What's delaying the World Health Organization (WHO) report on Iraqi birth defects?

6 June 2013 - Thirty-five million Iraqis wake up every morning to a living nightmare of childhood cancers, adult cancers and birth defects. Familial cancers, cluster cancers and multiple cancers in the same individual have become frequent in Iraq. Sterility, repeated miscarriages, stillbirths and severe birth defects - some never described in any medical books - are all around, in increasing numbers. At long last, public pressure and media attention to this public health catastrophe prompted a joint study by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Iraqi Ministry of Health to determine the prevalence of birth defects in Iraq. This study began in May-June 2012 and was completed in early October 2012. Why should such an important report be kept secret? In a serious health emergency, as we see in Iraq, such an extensive survey of public health must be widely publicised to attract international support and expertise. We are still waiting for an answer from the WHO. Why is this important report being held up?

[Full article](#) (Al Jazeera)

Jordan - charity aims to feed over 15 thousand families in poverty

10 June 2013 - Volunteers at Jordanian charity, Tikyet Um Ali, are preparing to deliver food aid to thousands of people living in the kingdom. The charity aims to tackle hunger and poverty by distributing food to families. Jordan is home to thousands of refugees, including Palestinians and those fleeing the bloodshed in Syria. The charity doesn't have a specific program aimed at feeding Syrian refugees, they are looking to feed up to 20 thousand families in the coming years.

[Full article](#) (Al Arabiya)

Kuwait - Kuwait holds children cultural festival

16 June 2013 – The National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters (NCCAL) said the Children Cultural Festival would kick off next Sunday, including a variety of activities of interest to children. NCCAL, in a statement Sunday, said the festival would be held in Abdulaziz Hussein Cultural Center in Mishref Area would include activities aimed at improving critical thinking of and discover talented children. The festival, due until July 4, also includes musical shows, plays, movies, exhibitions and training workshops which are all designed to improve cultural awareness of children. The training workshops are in Arabic calligraphy, oil painting, glass painting, pottery and printing on clothes.

[Full article](#) (Kuwait News Agency)

Kuwait - Kuwait hangs ‘monster’ child rapist

18 June 2013 – Authorities in Kuwait on Tuesday hanged a 33-year-old Egyptian man dubbed a “monster” for the abduction and rape of 17 children under the age of 10, the public prosecution said. The authorities said Saadi had confessed to raping 17 boys and girls after luring them onto rooftops in Hawalli, an area mainly inhabited by foreigners 12 kilometres south of the capital. Kuwait only recently reimposed the death penalty after a six-year moratorium on executions.

[Full article](#) (Al-Arabiya)

Lebanon - In Lebanon, a Syrian boy copes with disability and loss

30 May 2013 - Imagine you are a healthy 13-year-old boy from a prosperous family. One day at school, you witness the death of your classmates in a horrific bomb blast, and you realize one of your legs is missing. Suddenly forced to leave your home and your belongings behind, you walk across the border into a new country. You settle in a makeshift camp, living in poverty and living with a disability. “Sometimes I wish I had died in the explosion,” Ali says. He looks down as he talks to Sahar Samhoun, a social worker at the UNICEF-supported NGO Himaya, a sister agency of Arc en Ciel, a Lebanese NGO that works with children with disabilities. Ali and his parents and four older sisters fled their Syrian homeland six months ago in search of safety. They arrived in Lebanon having to rebuild their lives from scratch while living in a makeshift tent. Ali has had to learn to cope not only with this life-changing upheaval, but also with the loss of a limb.

[Full article](#) (UNICEF Press Centre)

Libya - The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Libya sign agreement to improve basic education system

25 June 2013 – UNICEF and the Libyan Government today signed an agreement that aims to improve the basic education system in the North African country. “Quality education for all is fundamental for a peaceful, democratic and productive society, and UNICEF commends the Ministry of Education for tangible achieved results,” said Carel de Rooy, the agency’s Libya Country Director. The signing of the agreement will kick start action on various policies, including the development of an education management information system, validation of early learning development standards, and the promotion of early childhood care. It will also support teachers’ training, risk education and the establishment of inclusive education mechanisms in schools.

[Full article](#) (UN News Centre)

Libya - Police training to boost children's rights

18 June 2013 - Another step towards ensuring Libyan children are protected has been taken with a five-day workshop for police officers, who can now train other members of the force on child rights. Eleven police officers took part in the training, which was one component of a project to build an effective and sustainable child protection system in Libya. The training, organised by the Interior Ministry and the United Nations children's fund UNICEF, was led by an international expert in children's rights, Dr. Ghassan Khalil. It covered the principles and provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was ratified by the Libyan government in 1993, as well as relevant Libyan legislation. Participants were also trained in modern learning methods and how to set objectives for the future training sessions they will run.

[Full article](#) (Libya Herald)

Libya - Children of the revolution

21 June 2013 - The Arab spring has been famously youthful. In much of the Middle East and North Africa up to 70% of the population is under 30 years old; that fact has been discussed at length. But what of the children of those revolutions? In Libya, 4,000 children displaced during the 2011 uprising against Muammar Qaddafi from three of the conflict's main hotspots - Ajdabiya, Brega and Ra's-Lanuf - displayed symptoms of psychological damage, according to a report by Save the Children, a charity. These included bed wetting, aggression and stammering. Some parents noticed their children holding up their fingers in the victory sign in their sleep.

[Full article](#) (The Economist), [Report](#) (Save the Children)

Mali- Malian forces accused of torture as children as young as 13 are captured and detained

14 June 2013 - Malian forces are reported to have tortured children – as young as 13 – in detention centres across Bamako for reported involvements or having links to armed militant groups, Amnesty International said in a release Friday. The children are suspected of being recruited as child soldiers by armed groups fighting the Malian military forces and its allies for control of the northern part of that country. Their ages ranged between 13 to 17 years and once arrested, they are kept in a general population area together with adult prisoners – an international law violation.

[Full article](#) (Newstime Africa)

Mali- « C'est la première fois qu'on parle d'enfants soldats au Mali »

19 Juin 2013- Le phénomène des enfants soldats est bien connu en Afrique. Depuis longtemps, les groupes armés utilisent des mineurs au Tchad ou bien en République démocratique du Congo. En quoi ce phénomène est-il nouveau en Afrique de l'Ouest ? Ce n'est pas un phénomène nouveau en Afrique de l'Ouest, on se souvient des enfants soldats en Sierra Leone ou au Liberia dans les années 1990. Toutefois, c'est la première fois qu'on parle formellement d'enfants soldats au Mali. Les groupes armés rebelles – le Mouvement pour l'unicité et le jihad en Afrique de l'Ouest (Mujao), le Mouvement national de libération de l'Azawad (MNLA), ou encore Al-Qaida au Maghreb islamique (AQMI) – enrôlent des mineurs. Mais ce qui est frappant, c'est que l'on trouve également des enfants dans les rangs des milices progouvernementales, qui sont soutenues, entraînées et financées par le gouvernement malien. Nous n'avons pas de preuve que ces enfants ont participé à la reconquête du Nord, mais nous avons la preuve que des enfants ont été entraînés à cette reconquête.
[Article complet](#) (Le Monde)

Mali- Un rapport de l'Organisation des Nations Unies (ONU) dénonce la détention d'enfants soldats au Mali

17 Juin 2013-Alors que les négociations entre le pouvoir malien et les rebelles touareg occupant Kidal, dans le nord du Mali, sont toujours au point mort, l'ONU attire l'attention sur un danger persistant : la détention par les autorités maliennes d'enfants accusés de servir dans les rangs séparatistes. Leila Zerrougui, la représentante spéciale de l'ONU pour les enfants et les conflits armés, confirme dans son rapport annuel "recevoir des informations préoccupantes sur des enfants détenus par les forces de sécurité maliennes pour association présumée avec des groupes armés, ainsi que sur des enfants qui se cachent dans leurs communautés par peur d'être arrêtés" pour la même raison.

[Article complet](#) (Le Monde)

Mali - Amnesty et Human Rights Watch (HRW) dénoncent des exactions par l'armée et des groupes armés au Mali

7 Juin 2013- Exécutions sommaires", "enlèvements", "tortures", "abus sexuels", Amnesty International et Human Rights Watch (HRW) dénoncent vendredi dans deux rapports distincts les crimes et exactions commis par l'armée et les groupes armés au Mali depuis janvier. Amnesty affirme que "des civils font partie des dizaines de personnes tuées, torturées et disparues, y compris en détention, depuis le lancement de l'intervention de l'armée française il y a cinq mois" contre les djihadistes et les rebelles touareg qui ont occupé le nord du Mali en 2012. "Le bilan des forces de sécurité maliennes en matière de droits de l'homme est simplement terrible", selon Gaëtan Mootoo, à l'issue d'une récente mission au Mali, "elles continuent à violer les droits de l'homme, sans crainte apparente d'en être tenues responsables". Amnesty "s'inquiète" que l'armée française et celles de pays africains également présentes au Mali "aient remis des prisonniers aux autorités maliennes alors qu'elles savaient, ou auraient dû savoir, que ces prisonniers risquaient d'être torturés ou maltraités". L'ONG accuse également les groupes islamistes armés, dont le Mouvement pour l'unicité et le djihad en Afrique de l'Ouest (Mujao), "d'exécutions sommaires" et "d'enlèvements" de civils accusés de collaboration avec les armées française et malienne. Le Mujao et la rébellion touareg du Mouvement national de libération de l'Azawad (MNLA) sont en outre accusés "d'abus sexuels" contre des femmes et de jeunes filles, et d'avoir recours aux enfants soldats.

[Article complet](#) (Le Monde)

Morocco - 'Little Maids' but Big Victims

12 June 2013 - Each year "Terre des homes" (Tdh) witnesses young girls from rural zones in Morocco being exploited by employers in the city, despite the strengthening of laws in Morocco. Tdh workers in Morocco work to help these girls, but also to raise community awareness of the risks that these "little maids" face. The rise of the middle class in Morocco is pushing some families to want to appear wealthier, even though they might not necessarily be that well-off. These girls are recruited by "Samsars" - intermediaries from the same village - who send them to the towns to work as "little maids" whilst promising to provide a wage for the parents and a good education for the girls. "One of the main problems is a lack of education on the part of the parents. They do not understand what the girls placed in the town have to do on a daily basis," according to Tdh.

[Full article](#) (All Africa)

Morocco - Morocco should adopt victim-centred approach to combat human trafficking – UN expert

25 June 2013 - A United Nations independent expert today urged Morocco to put victims at the center of its measures to combat human trafficking, citing the lack of protection and support services in the country for migrants who are particularly vulnerable to this scourge. “Morocco faces considerable challenges as a source, transit and increasingly as a destination country for trafficking in persons,” said the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, Joy Ngozi Ezeilo at the end of a visit to the country. Ms. Ezeilo welcomed the Government’s ratification of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, and urged it to translate its standards into specific actions to protect and assist victims, prevent trafficking and punish perpetrators. In addition, she encouraged the Government to broaden its cooperation with other country on this issue, noting the cross-border dimension of trafficking.

[Full article](#) (UN News Source)

Nigeria- Nigeria school attacks spur vigilante groups

27 June 2013- Youths in northern Nigeria’s Borno State, where many members of the radical Islamist group Boko Haram (BH) have been arrested in recent weeks, are increasingly joining vigilante gangs to pass on the identity of BH members to the military-police Joint Task Force (JTF) following a string of deadly attacks on schools, according to vigilante groups and residents of Borno State capital, Maiduguri.

[Full article](#) (IRIN)

Oman - Campaign to promote road safety for children in Oman

4 June 2013 - Oman’s leading, independent, not-for-profit road safety campaigning organisation — Safety First - is joining hands with the National Youth Commission (NYC). The campaign involves a series of events in Muscat and Salalah that focuses on engaging, educating, developing awareness and changing the prevalent attitude among parents in order for them to start using special car seats for children. To change this attitude, Safety First and NYC represented by Ali al Habsi, Hamed al Wahaibi and Sayyid Nasr al Busaidi will be visiting various public and private organisations in the first week of June and engaging with the public in Muscat and Salalah. During the visits, they will be distributing special car seats for children as well as asking parents to pledge to the golden rules of safer driving, one of which is “I will protect my children.”

[Full article](#) (Oman Observer)

Qatar - Faster response to child abuse cases in the offing

15 June 2013 – Plans are on to create a straightforward pathway that will hasten the process of handling child abuse cases in Qatar, Hamad Medical Corporation's Paediatric Emergency Centre (PEC) Department director Dr Khalid al-Ansari said yesterday. Still regarded as a taboo, instances of child abuse are presently under-reported in Qatar, because of the attending stigma and ostracisation of the victim. Low levels of notification from Primary Healthcare Centres as well as schools and nurseries were factors influencing child abuse reportage in the country. Lack of experience or education on the part of healthcare workers in identifying a child abuse case is the biggest limitation. Delayed response from the Ministry of Interior, especially during weekends and holidays, despite their 24/7 access, is also an issue. On suspecting a case of child abuse, [PEC] staff will first isolate the child for physical assessment, which is usually done by a senior consultant after which a forensic medicine examination is conducted if a case of abuse is established. A total of 120 suspected child abuse cases occurred in Qatar last year.

[Full article](#) (Gulf Times)

Qatar - 5 convicted in mall fire that killed 13 toddlers

20 June 2013 – Five people were found guilty Thursday of death by negligence after a Doha mall fire killed 19 people, including 13 toddlers, a spokesman for the victims' families said. Qatar's ambassador to Belgium, Sheikh Ali Bin Jasim Bin Al Thani, and his wife were sentenced to six years in prison and were ordered to pay the victims' families blood money, the spokesman said. The couple owned the Gympanzee day care centre where the children died in the May 2012 blaze. Part of an investigation's report said the day care centre “was not licensed as a nursery by the ministry of social affairs and thus did not have the necessary safety conditions.”

[Full article](#) (CNN)

Saudi Arabia - Saudi father arrested for torturing son to death

3 June 2013 – A father in Saudi Arabia who reportedly tortured his 10-year-old son to death and dumped his body in the desert has confessed his crime. According to Saudi news site Sabq, the father, 37, turned violent against his son, chained him with a metal chain and tortured him until he died. Shocked by the tragic turn of events, he took the lifeless body and dumped it in the desert. He then contacted the police and the Commission for the Promotion of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice, the religious police, to inform them that his son was missing. However, the mother, a non-Saudi Arab, told the police that she suspected the father was behind her son's disappearance, explaining that he had tortured him. During his interrogation, the father confessed to killing his son and showed the police where he had dumped the body. Authorities in Saudi Arabia have been pushing for an integrated approach to protect children from domestic mental and physical violence and from school bullying.

[Full article](#) (Gulf News)

Saudi Arabia - The Saudi Child Care Association (SCCA) warns against expat 'child smugglers'

20 June 2013 – The Saudi Child Care Association (SCCA) has warned against possible attempts by expatriates to smuggle Saudi children out of the country legally by utilizing the opportunity provided by the amnesty period decreed by King Abdullah for irregular expatriates to normalize their work status or leave the Kingdom. SCCA Chief Matouq Al Sharief told local media that the amnesty period offered opportunities to expats to kidnap children and transport them abroad legally by taking advantage of the new labour laws. The warning comes in the wake of reports that the Indonesian Consulate in Jeddah is allowing the correction of children's status and attaching them to their families without conducting any medical tests to establish parenthood. Regarding legal action that is taken by the Immigration Department toward children being deported, no special procedures are taken, except verifying the passport and then allowing them to depart.

[Full article](#) (Arab News)

Saudi Arabia - Domestic helper slits child's throat in Saudi Arabia

25 June 2013 – new gruesome murder involving a foreign domestic helper and a local child has shaken Saudi Arabia to the core after police said that a 26-year-old Ethiopian had slit the throat of her sponsor's daughter, aged six. Reports in the Saudi capital Riyadh said that the police received a call late on Sunday evening informing them that the helper and a child were missing. The police, dispatched to the home in the suburbs of Riyadh, found the victim in a pool of blood after her throat was slit with a sharp object, most likely the knife found next to the lifeless body. According to a local report, the woman said that she could no longer bear the alleged ill-treatment she was receiving from the family and that she killed their daughter to exact revenge. The woman was kept in jail and the police are still investigating the murder.

[Full article](#) (Gulf News)

Sénégal- La Coalition nationale des associations et organisations non gouvernementales en faveur de l'enfant (CONAFE) plaide pour l'élimination des pratiques néfastes

22 Juin 2013- En marge de la 23^{ème} Journée internationale de l'enfant africain et de la 25^{ième} Semaine nationale de l'enfant au Sénégal, la Coalition nationale des associations et organisations non gouvernementales en faveur de l'enfant (CONAFE) a initié un plaidoyer en direction des autorités étatiques pour la prévention et l'élimination des violences faites aux enfants. La Journée internationale de l'enfant africain est célébrée le 16 juin de chaque année en souvenir au massacre des enfants de Soweto (Afrique du Sud) par le régime de l'apartheid. Le Sénégal donne un cachet particulier à l'événement en le célébrant sous la forme de Semaine nationale de l'enfant.

[Article complet](#) (Sudonline.sn)

Somalia - Somalia: Somalis Recall Forced Marriages With Al-Shabaab Fighters

21 June 2013 - Mogadishu — when al-Shabaab held sway over much of Somalia several years ago, many Somali parents were compelled to arrange for their daughters to flee from forced marriages to the militant group's fighters. These women escaped to Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia, but now they are beginning to come home as Somali and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) forces wrest more areas from al-Shabaab control.

[Full article](#) (All Africa)

Somalia- Youth of Somalia - From Heroes to Criminals and Victims

20 June 2013- It is hard to mull over the history of Somali Youth and not first feel pride and then despair and sadness because of the bright past and tragic present. First, thanks to the mass mobilization and effective leadership of a small group of young Somalis, the British Somaliland protectorate and Italian Somaliland trusteeship gained their independences and formed the Republic of Somalia on July 1, 1960. On May 13, 1943, a group of thirteen young Somalis got together and decided to form a political organization called Somali Youth Club (SYC) later renamed Somali Youth League (SYL) on May 15, 1947. They penned down the indelible principles of their political platform based on nationalism, unity, education, equality and justice for a prosperous and strong Somalia which was divided at that time into five parts under different colonial powers as a result of Berlin Conference of 1884-85 on the scramble for Africa.

[Full article](#) (All Africa)

Somalia- Al-Shabaab Recruiting Children in Galgadud

13 June 2013- Ahlu Sunna wal Jamaa (ASWJ) has accused al-Shabaab of torture, violence and forcibly recruiting child soldiers in Somalia's Galgadud region, UN-funded Radio Bar-Kulan reported Wednesday (June 12th).

[Full article](#) (All Africa)

Syria - Child marriages rise among Syrian refugee girls

28 May 2013 - Nine Syrian refugee women gather in the living room of a house on the outskirts of the Lebanese town of Jdeideh in the Bekaa Valley. Most of the women are teenagers. They're all dressed neatly, and everybody seems healthy and well fed. According to them, though, that wasn't always the case. "When we left Syria, we slept in the street, all of us...we had nothing to eat," says. At 14, Maya is the most striking of the group, with unusual light blue eyes in a round face. She says she's just been engaged to a wealthy Lebanese man from the town, but she's dreading the union because her future husband is 45 years old. "I'm marrying him so things will be better," Maya says. "I don't want to get married; I don't want to have children. I'm only doing this for security. Isn't it shameful that I'm 14 years old and I have to marry a 45-year-old man?" "I don't love him," she says, starting to cry. "I can't even look him in the face."

[Full article](#) (The Atlantic)

Syria - Attacks on schools in Syria: Children interrogated, arrested

6 June 2013 - The Syrian government has interrogated students and carried out violent assaults on their protests and military attacks on schools, Human Rights Watch said in a report released today. The 33-page report, "Safe No More: Students and Schools under Attack in Syria," is based on more than 70 interviews, including with 16 students and 11 teachers who fled Syria, primarily from Daraa, Homs, and greater Damascus. The report documents the use of schools for military purposes by both sides. It also describes how teachers and state security agents interrogated and beat students for alleged anti-government activity, and how security forces and shabiha, pro-government militias, assaulted peaceful student demonstrations.

[Full article](#) (Huffington Post), [full report](#) (HRW)

Syria - "New levels of brutality" in Syria, including children's rights abuses

6 June 2013 - Syrian children continue to suffer gross violations of their human rights because of the conflict, according to a new UN report. Experts say death, injury, torture, sexual violence, arrest and detention and a lack of education and health facilities are just some of the horrific abuses of children's rights happening now in Syria.

[Full article](#) (CRIN), [full report](#)

Syria - Syrian child workers spark debate in Lebanon

11 June 2013 - The Lebanese labour ministry and the International Labour Organization (ILO) are preparing to conduct a national survey on the issue. Deputy ILO Regional Director Frank Hageman says there is no reliable data on the issue, adding that it is unrealistic to characterize all child labourers as foreign since many such workers are Lebanese. A study conducted before the Syrian crisis found that there are around 100,000 children working in Lebanon throughout its governorates in the following percentages. Hageman says that the ratio of child labour in Lebanon is low in comparison with other Arab countries like Egypt and Yemen. However, the situation has changed with the influx of Syrian refugees into the country and the absence of political action to manage their problems.

[Full article](#) (Al Bawaba)

Syria - Through their eyes: Children who fled the violence draw picture of Syria crisis

11 June 2013 - When children at Domiz camp in northern Iraq drew pictures of the violence they had witnessed in Syria, a lot of my colleagues commented on how the pictures “spoke for themselves.” But when a teenage girl explained her drawing in more detail, it was much, much worse. The building being bombed in her picture turned out to be her school, the stick figures on the ground were fellow students “dying while they were going to school,” and the drawing, she said, was intended to show “how afraid [she] was while planes were bombing the school.” At Domiz camp, UNICEF supports a Child Protection Unit, which helps identify vulnerable children, as well as two safe spaces (known as a Child Friendly Space and Youth Friendly Space), which provide hundreds of children and youths with psychosocial support and recreational activities. But there’s an estimated 13,000 children at Domiz camp, with more arriving everyday. We need to increase the facilities that we have to support them recover.

[Full article](#) (The Independent)

Syria - Syrian girl rescued from destroyed building (video)

19 June 2013 - A Syrian girl was found on Wednesday alive under the debris of a destroyed building shelled two days ago by Syrian government forces. The victim’s father called on people to help extract the girl from the rubble in the Damascus neighborhood of Jobar.

[Full article](#) (Al Arabiya)

Syria - In Pictures: Syria's young refugees

20 June 2013 - Among the Syrian refugees located in camps in Jordan and Lebanon, children are particularly hard hit. A high percentage of child fatalities occur while en route to escape the war in Syria. While on this perilous journey, juveniles are often separated from their parents and left to die in the rugged terrain. Refugees describe this voyage as “death journey”, according to NGO Save the Children, which consists of hiding from snipers and shelling, ventures into extreme weather without shelter, and desperate measures for nutrition, such as licking moisture from grass.

[Pictures](#) (Al Jazeera English)

Syria - Syrian child refugees struggle in Lebanon

22 June 2013 - Syrian students at a school in northern Lebanon did their final exams, a possible opportunity for some kind of normalcy. There are at least 530,000 Syrian refugees in Lebanon, more than half of them under the age of 18, according to the United Nations. The Lebanese Education Ministry is now the deciding factor. “The exams will be corrected and then passed on to [Syria’s main] opposition National Coalition, which will see whether they can be recognized,” said Zakaria Sabbagh, who heads the Islamic Education charity’s teaching section. This question is key, since most of the students who fled Syria with their families left with just the clothes on their back. School records, exam results, teacher recommendations and official education certificates are all back home, in schools that may not even exist anymore. Syrian academics and activists have come together to form the Syrian Educational Commission in Lebanon to streamline a Syrian syllabus, partner with Lebanese private schools, and hand out certificates that are recognized by the Lebanese government. [Full article](#) (Al Arabiya)

Tanzania - Tanzania's Victims of Torture

26 June 2013- On June 26, the world commemorates the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. In Tanzania, however, such commemorations are likely to be muted. Tanzania is among a small minority of countries that have not signed or ratified the Convention against Torture and Other Forms of Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, a United Nations treaty. [Full report](#) (Human Rights Watch)

Tanzania - “Treat Us Like Human Beings” Discrimination against Sex Workers, Sexual and Gender Minorities, and People Who Use Drugs in Tanzania

18 June 2013 - This 98-page report documents abuses including torture, rape, assault, arbitrary arrest, and extortion. The organizations found that the fear of abuse is driving sex workers, people who use drugs, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) people away from prevention and treatment services. The groups conducted their research from May 2012 to April 2013, and interviewed 121 members of high risk groups, along with Tanzanian government officials, service providers, and academics. [Full report](#) (Human Rights Watch)

Togo- Journée de l'enfant africain: Des chefs traditionnels du Togo s'engagent à lutter contre les pratiques préjudiciables aux enfants

15 Juin 2013- Au Togo, cette journée a été célébrée vendredi dernier à Notsè (environ 95 km au nord de Lomé) en présence des Drs. Afi Ntifa Amenyo et Viviane Van Steirteghem respectivement ministre de l'action sociale et de la solidarité nationale et Représentante de l'UNICEF. James Fredrick Fritz Foster, Représentant de l'ONG Plan était également présent. La célébration de la Journée de l'Enfant Africain (JEA) est d'abord une occasion pour rappeler les insurrections de 1976 à Soweto (Afrique du sud), quand une protestation par des écoliers contre une scolarité inspirée par l'apartheid, a eu pour résultat la répression brutale et meurtrière de ces jeunes manifestants non armés par des policiers. Deuxièmement, cette journée est une opportunité pour réfléchir sur les réalités vécues de nos jours, par les enfants en Afrique. Elle permet à ceux qui s'occupe du bien-être des enfants de se concentrer sur le travail de tous les acteurs dévoués aux droits de l'enfant sur le continent, de consolider leurs efforts et de lever les obstacles à la réalisation des droits de l'enfant.

[Article complet](#) (IciLomé.com)

Tunisie - Campagne contre l'exploitation des enfants dans le travail domestique

12 juin 2013 - La journée mondiale contre le travail des enfants sera célébrée ce mercredi 12 juin. En Tunisie, la journée est dédiée, cette année, à toutes les petites filles qui travaillent dans les ménages, ces « petites bonnes », aux multiples tâches. Dans un communiqué publié lundi, le ministère des affaires de la femme et de la famille en appelle aux citoyens et à la société civile pour combattre ce phénomène qui constitue une des pires formes d'exploitation de l'enfant. Pour un enfant, travailler comme aide-ménagère est une violation franche de ses droits fondamentaux à la vie, à la croissance, à la protection, à la santé et à l'éducation, peut-on lire de même source. Le département appelle, également, au devoir de dénoncer toutes les formes de menace auxquelles l'enfant est exposé (article 20 du code de protection de l'enfance).

[Article complet](#) (Maghreb Mergent)

Tunisie – Une Organisation Non Gouvernementale (ONG) se mobilise pour défendre les droits des enfants

12 juin 2013 - Des associations et syndicats chargés de l'enfance ont lancé un appel à la mobilisation pour dimanche 16 juin, dans la matinée, devant l'Assemblée nationale constituante (ANC). L'Association tunisienne de défense des droits de l'enfant et d'autres composantes de la société civile soulignent dans une déclaration que « notre appel émane de nos craintes à voir une Constitution permettant un désistement de l'Etat de ses responsabilités à défendre les droits de nos enfants ». L'Association rappelle que la nouvelle version de la Constitution indique que la famille est considérée « comme premier responsable des droits de l'enfant ». Donc « notre appel est un cri d'alarme face au risque d'institutionnalisation de l'inégalité sociale dès la naissance », précise le communiqué dans lequel elle revendique « un engagement de l'Etat: l'école pour tous, la santé pour tous, la justice dans l'égalité des chances et la dignité ».

[Article complet](#) (WMC)

United Arab Emirates (UAE) - UN Human Rights Council adopts the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) report on UEA.

7 June 2013 - The UN Human Rights Council successfully adopted the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) report on the UAE in Geneva on Friday, marking the conclusion of the UAE's participation in the current cycle of the UPR. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Anwar Mohammad Gargash, announced that the UAE has fully accepted 100 recommendations, partially accepted or noted 61 recommendations and rejected 19 recommendations made by UN member states during the UPR session in January 2013. Among the accepted recommendations is the decision by the UAE to establish a national human rights institution.

[Full article](#) (Gulf News)

United Arab Emirates (UAE) - FNC calls for Down syndrome support for all UAE children

9 June 2013 - A member of the FNC has called for free treatment for all Emirati and expatriate children born in the UAE with Down syndrome. Dr Amal Al Qubaisi, the deputy speaker, painted a grim picture of the state of aid given to families with Down syndrome children. She said a study found that the genetic disorder, which causes a delay in mental and psychical development, affects one in every 319 babies born in the UAE – double the world average. Dr Al Qubaisi said it was necessary to help families as early as possible. “We must have specialised centres for Down’s syndrome and early intervention is needed – and free treatment.” She said that insurance companies charged higher rates to cover children with Down syndrome and that mothers of those children often suffered from depression because they had no support or education on dealing with them.

[Full article](#) (The National)

United Arab Emirates (UAE) - Dh100m bid to beat developmental disorders in UAE children

16 June 2013 – A new charity programme is aiming to improve life for the thousands of children in the country thought to have undiagnosed developmental disorders. The Al Jalila Foundation's Ta'alouf (Harmony) programme hopes to raise Dh100 million in its first year to combat low detection rates by improving screening initiatives and providing scholarships to nurture specialists. The foundation believes a lack of public awareness about such disorders means thousands of cases go undetected and therefore untreated. Spotting disorders early means children can get appropriate help, enabling them to lead more fulfilling lives. The foundation said that even the most conservative estimates put the prevalence rate of development disorders at 1 in 1,000 children, which suggested there were more than 8,200 cases in the UAE.

[Full article](#) (The National)

United Arab Emirates - Accidental poisoning among kids drops

June 19 2013 – Accidental poisoning among children in the emirate is decreasing, particularly through household chemical ingestions, compared to more than a decade ago. However, unintentional poisoning is still double the international average, a local study reveals. According to the report that was published in the Paediatric Emergency Care - a prestigious paediatric journal - early this year, Emirati children were twice as likely to suffer accidental poison ingestions compared to expatriate children. The authors did not offer any explanation for this; however, they suggested a separate investigation of possible “sociological, environmental and cultural factors.” Dr Bharwani, associate professor of paediatrics at the UAE University, said it often happens when parents leave their medicines unattended or got "distracted" especially in a household with many children. “About 80-85% of cases happen when parents are in the house. We also found that this happens when they (children) are playing with their siblings," he pointed out. He underscored the importance of being vigilant, as well as, “child-proofing” or clearing the house of any potential problems.

[Full article](#) (MENA Financial Network)

United Arab Emirates - Dubai mum reunited with children after more than 30 years

20 June 2013 – Dubai Police have helped a mother see her children for the first time in more than 30 years. The woman’s husband, who is Omani, divorced her more than three decades ago and took custody of the children. The pair married in 1977 and they had three children, a son and two daughters. However, they divorced and the woman, who is Asian, had not seen her children since 1980. First corporal Reem Al Ameer, from the victims care centre at Al Qusais Police Station, said: “The father gave his son to an Emirati family and the younger daughter stayed with relatives in Oman. Nobody knows what happened to the older sister. The father didn't allow the mother to see the children but two years ago he died and the younger daughter asked her relatives about the truth. They told her about her mother, so she started searching for her.” The situation highlights the weakness of women and expatriates when it comes to the law in the Gulf country, especially if they are up against male nationals.

[Full article](#) (7DAYS)

United Arab Emirates - contest creates ‘academic apps’ for children with special needs

25 June 2013 – App developers in the UAE have been using their hi-tech powers to build software for mobile devices that can be used by students at Dubai’s Al Noor Training Centre for Children with Special Needs. The tailor-made Android apps were created as a result of a competition organised by Samsung, which asked developers to design educational apps to fill gaps in the market identified by the centre’s teachers. The director of the Al Noor centre, Isphana Al Khatib, told 7DAYS the apps were crucial to help students achieve their goals. Teachers at the center said they have observed an increase in attention span and reception to learning among students using the apps.

[Full article](#) (7DAYS)

Yemen - The trials of child marriage: Girls forced to marry often face physical health problems, lack of education

13 May 2013 - In Yemen, instead of going to school or spending time with their friends and families, girls, some as young as 8, are married - often to much older men. If the girls don't want to marry, their families generally force them. After they are wed, life often changes for the worse. Girls often drop out of school after marrying. In particularly conservative countries, on the eve of their marriage the girls may not even know what sex is - let alone birth control - and they quickly become pregnant. In part because they're not physically or mentally fully developed, they can face a lifetime of health problems. Girls who marry young are also at a higher risk of physical and sexual abuse. Human Rights Watch has researched the issue extensively, honing in on child marriage in Yemen, where 14 percent of girls are married before age 15.

[Full article](#) (All Africa)

Yemen - Children Parliament team heads to Geneva

16 June 2013 – The team of the General Secretariat for Children Parliament (Democracy School) has headed on Saturday to Geneva to discuss the second alternative shadow report on armed conflict in Sa'dah and Abyan 2011, in the framework of meetings of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) to be held on 16 – 21 June, 2013. The head of the Democratic School Jamal al-Shami has said that the children parliament team would discuss the report with the CRC in the presence of international organizations and the Yemeni government side. Al-Shami pointed out that this second report is provided by the children's parliament, saying that the first report was discussed in 2009 on the situation of children in Yemen 2006-2009.

[Full article](#) (SabaNet)

Yemen must improve kids' plight in new constitution

18 June 2013 – Yemen is currently engaged in dialogue to create a new constitution which “should ensure that the rights of children are fully baked into the constitution,” said UNICEF's Yemen representative Julien Harneis. The talks are part of a UN-brokered deal that saw former Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh step down after a 33-year rule, and they aim to pave the way for elections in 2014. Mr Harneis identifies child marriage, juvenile justice, birth registration, access to basic services, and a lack of clarity in the legal definition of what constitutes a child as main concerns affecting Yemeni children. On the last point, Harneis highlights that “[d]epending upon which bit of legislation [you look at], a child in Yemen can be somebody under 14, somebody under 15, somebody under 16 or somebody under 18.”

[Full article](#) (France 24)

Yemen - Workshop on impact of armed conflicts on women, children in Sana'a

24 June 2013 – The Interior Ministry organized here on Monday in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) a workshop in the field of the armed conflicts impact on women and children. At the opening of the workshop, which is attended by 25 officers from the capital Sana'a and provinces of Sana'a, Amran, Hajjah and Mahweet, the Undersecretary of the Interior Ministry for human and financial resources Dr. Mohammed al-Sharafi noted to the importance of the working in addressing the violence issues against women and children. Al-Sharafi called on the participants to take advantage from the theoretical and practical knowledge they will receive during the workshop in line with the international and local standards in this aspect.

[Full article](#) (SabaNet)