New UN websites & publications

UN in General

UN System Chart – updated version (DPI/2470/Rev. 4, June 2015)

“Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Global Action”
The final draft of the outcome document for the UN Summit in September 2015 which will adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda is now available at http://un4.me/1OwVf9g.
This final draft builds on the feedback received from Member States and other stakeholders during our 22 to 25 June negotiation session and endeavours to respond to comments and suggestions made.

The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have produced the most successful anti-poverty movement in history and will serve as the jumping-off point for the new sustainable development agenda to be adopted this year, according to the final MDG report launched on 6 July 2015 by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015 found that the 15-year effort to achieve the eight aspirational goals set out in the Millennium Declaration in 2000 was largely successful across the globe, while acknowledging shortfalls that remain. The data and analysis presented in the report show that with targeted interventions, sound strategies, adequate resources and political will, even the poorest can make progress.

English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/A/70/132
Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced on 6 July 2015 that “a further inquiry or investigation would be necessary to finally establish the facts” of the death of the second Secretary-General of the United Nations, Dag Hammarskjöld, in a plane crash in Northern Rhodesia, now Zambia, along with 15 others more than 50 years ago.
A statement by Mr. Ban’s spokesperson said the three-member Independent Panel of Experts appointed by the Secretary-General found “new information relating to ‘crew fatigue’ which contributes to one or more of the hypothesis. Most importantly, the Panel found new information, which it assessed as having moderate probative value, sufficient to further pursue aerial attack or other interference as a hypothesis of the possible cause of the crash.” Mr. Ban has conveyed the report of the Independent Panel of Experts to the President of the General Assembly, along with his own observations on the progress made and on the way forward in the search for the truth about the death of the late Secretary-General and of the 15 members of the party accompanying him.

Yearbook of the United Nations – Express series
http://unyearbook.un.org/express/
The online multilingual Yearbook Express series, which features the chapter introductions of recent Yearbooks of the United Nations in all six official languages, has been augmented with the complete 2007 and 2010 editions. The Yearbook Unit of the UN Department of Public Information (DPI) works with teams of translators engaged through the United Nations Volunteers Online Volunteering service (Arabic, French, Russian and Spanish versions) as well as the School of Foreign Languages of Soochow University (Chinese version) to produce the Express.

Peace and Security

UNRNIC Library Backgrounder: Burundi
English - html: http://un4.me/1fqO7Q6
English - pdf: http://un4.me/1IMhIPg
French - pdf: http://un4.me/1KRiADP

Guide to Participating in the Confidence-Building Measures of the Biological Weapons Convention (UNODA)
The 1972 Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) effectively prohibits the development, production, acquisition, transfer, retention, stockpiling and use of biological and toxin weapons and is a key element in the international community’s efforts to address the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. In 1986, BWC States Parties agreed to the exchange of Confidence-Building Measures (CBMs) "in order to prevent or reduce the occurrence of ambiguities, doubts and suspicions and in order to improve international cooperation in the field of peaceful biological activities". This guide has been prepared by the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) with the support of the European Union in order to provide practical advice and guidance to officials responsible for preparing CBM submissions.

The Secretary-General’s Mechanism for Investigation of Alleged Use of Chemical, Bacteriological (Biological) or Toxin Weapons: A lessons-learned exercise for the United Nations Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic (UNODA)
In December 2013, upon completion of the UN Mission to Investigate Allegations of the Use of Chemical Weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, the Secretary-General called for a lessons-learned process to strengthen preparedness in order to enhance the effective application of the Secretary-General’s Mechanism (SGM) and its Guidelines in future investigations. As a result, the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) launched a comprehensive lessons-learned
exercise with generous financial support from interested donors. A review of the challenges and areas for enhancing the operational readiness of the SGM in light of the experience in Syria has proven highly beneficial, including through identifying lessons in light of the uniqueness of the Syria case.

Economic & Social Development


English: http://un4.me/1HwOvbS
French: http://un4.me/1C961ko
Spanish: http://un4.me/1INn2NH

A new paper shows that 34 million children and adolescents are out of school in conflict-affected countries. The most vulnerable are the hardest hit: the poorest are twice as likely to be out of school as their counterparts in peaceful countries. The paper shows that $2.3 billion is required to place them in school - ten times the amount that education is receiving from humanitarian aid right now.

A growing number of children and adolescents are out of school as aid fails to meet the mark (Policy Paper 22 / Fact Sheet 31, July 2015)

English: http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002336/233610e.pdf

The number of out-of-school children and adolescents around the world has risen to worrying levels, dealing a potential blow to education targets aimed at achieving universal primary and secondary education, a new United Nations report has warned. According to the study released on 6 July 2015 by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Education for All Global Monitoring Report (EFR GMR), 124 million children and adolescents are now out of school while international aid to education continues to remain below 2010 levels.

Heatwaves and Health: Guidance on Warning System Development (WMO / WHO)

http://un4.me/1gaenoy

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) have issued new joint guidance on Heat–Health Warning Systems to address the health risks posed by heatwaves, which are becoming more frequent and more intense as a result of climate change. Over the past 50 years, hot days, hot nights and heatwaves have become more frequent. The length, frequency and intensity of heatwaves will likely increase over most land areas during this century, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. In addition to the health impact, heatwaves also place an increased strain on infrastructure such as power, water and transport. In recent weeks alone, both India and Pakistan have been hit by deadly heatwaves, killing hundreds of people. The European heatwaves in the northern hemisphere summer of 2003 was responsible for the deaths of tens of thousands of people, as were the Russian heatwaves, forest fires and associated air pollution in 2010.
How AIDS changed everything—MDG 6: 15 years, 15 lesson of hope from the AIDS response (UNAIDS)
Report: http://un4.me/1CDgUv4
Fact Sheet & Executive Summary: http://un4.me/1SmyPYs
The AIDS targets of MDG 6—halting and reversing the spread of HIV—have been achieved and exceeded, according to a new report released on 14 July 2015 by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS). New HIV infections have fallen by 35% and AIDS-related deaths by 41%. The global response to HIV has averted 30 million new HIV infections and nearly 8 million (7.8 million) AIDS-related deaths since 2000, when the MDGs were set.

Mental Health Atlas 2014 (WHO)
People suffering from mental health disorders are facing unequal access to specialized care, the United Nations health agency announced today as it urged international governments to boost financing for mental health services around the world. According to the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Mental Health Atlas 2014, on average, globally, there is less than one mental health worker per 10,000 people—a number which falls below one per 100,000 people in low and middle-income countries.

Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water: 2015 Update and MDG Assessment (UNICEF / WHO)
http://www.unicef.org/publications/index_82419.html
Looking back on 25 years of water, sanitation and hygiene monitoring, this report provides a comprehensive assessment of progress since 1990. The Millennium Development Goal target for drinking water was achieved in 2010, but, in 2015, 663 million people still lack improved drinking water sources. The world has missed the sanitation target by almost 700 million people, with 2.4 billion still lacking improved sanitation facilities and 946 million practicing open defecation.

This is a report by the panel of independent experts who reviewed WHO’s response to the Ebola outbreak. The report and recommendations fall under the following 3 headings: the International Health Regulations (2005), WHO’s health emergency response capacity, and WHO’s role and cooperation with the wider health and humanitarian systems.
WHO response to the Ebola Interim Assessment Panel report (Statement, 7 July 2015):

Scaling Up Finance for Sustainable Energy Investments
http://un4.me/1Skl7VZ
This new United Nations-backed report launched on 13 July at the today at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa details concrete ways to boost crucial investment in sustainable energy by some $120 billion a year. It was produced by the Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) initiative. According to the latest estimates, investment from both the public and private sectors will need to triple to more than $1 trillion per year to meet SE4All's ambitious goal of sustainable energy for all by 2030.
Sustainable Development in Action: Special Report on Voluntary Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships and Commitments for Sustainable Development
This year’s edition reviews a numbers of action networks and multi-stakeholder partnerships with a particular focus on how knowledge and expertise is aggregated, managed and ultimately shared, in order to identify trends and challenges in this area, and to inform and prepare all stakeholders and partners as the world transitions into the post-2015 development era.

World Drug Report 2015 (UNODC)
Report in English, Executive Summary in English, French & Spanish:
http://www.unodc.org/wdr2015/
Drug use prevalence continues to be stable around the world, according to the 2015 World Drug Report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). It is estimated that a total of 246 million people - slightly over 5 per cent of those aged 15 to 64 years worldwide - used an illicit drug in 2013. Some 27 million people are problem drug users, almost half of whom are people who inject drugs (PWID). An estimated 1.65 million of people who inject drugs were living with HIV in 2013. Men are three times more likely than women to use cannabis, cocaine and amphetamines, while women are more likely to misuse prescription opioids and tranquilizers.

Human Rights

Flash Human Rights Report on the Escalation of Fighting in Greater Upper Nile, April/May 2015 (UNMISS)
http://un4.me/1CIGSYk
The South Sudanese armed forces may have committed widespread human rights abuses, including the alleged raping and immolation of women and girls, during the recent upsurge in fighting across the African State, according to a new report released by the United Nations mission in the country (UNMISS). The report – released on 30 June 2015 by UNMISS – suggests that the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) and associated armed groups carried out a campaign of violence against the population of South Sudan's Unity state, reportedly killing civilians, looting and destroying villages and displacing over 100,000 people. According to the testimony of 115 victims and eyewitnesses from the Unity state counties of Rubkona, Guit, Koch, Leer and Mayom, SPLA fighters also abducted and sexually abused numerous women and girls, some of whom were reportedly burnt alive in their dwellings.

http://un4.me/1Hq3r8A
A UN report released on 13 July 2015 shows that the conflict in Iraq continues to take a terrible toll on civilians, with at least 15,000 killed and 30,000 injured since January 2014. Widespread human rights violations and massive displacement continue unabated throughout the country. The report, compiled by the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), covers the period from 11 December 2014 to 30 April 2015. It is based on investigations on the ground and testimonies from victims and witnesses, including internally displaced people. The report shows that the situation of civilians in areas under the control of the so-called Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) remains dire. “Civilians continued to be murdered, often in grim public spectacles,” it says.
Humanitarian Affairs

The sea route to Europe: The Mediterranean passage in the age of refugees (UNHCR)
Story: http://tracks.unhcr.org/2015/07/the-sea-route-to-europe/

A large majority of the thousands of people who made dangerous sea journeys across the Mediterranean into Europe in the first six months of 2015 were fleeing war, conflict or persecution. This makes the current Mediterranean crisis primarily a refugee crisis, according to a landmark UNHCR report released on 1 July 2015. The report found that one third of the 137,000 men, women and children who arrived by sea in Italy or Greece were from Syria, whose nationals are almost universally deemed to qualify for refugee status or other forms of protection.

IMO/IOM/UNODC platform
https://gisis.imo.org/Public/MIGRANT/Incidents.aspx

A new inter-agency platform for information sharing on migrant smuggling by sea has been launched today (6 July) by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in order to better understand unsafe mixed migration by sea. It is anticipated that the platform will assist in improved monitoring of incidents associated with unsafe and irregular mixed migration by sea, on a global basis, with a view to better analysis of trends. The IMO/IOM/UNODC platform will include a joint database on migrant incidents and on suspected smugglers and vessels. A revised reporting format for States, international organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations to submit information to the database was recently agreed at IMO’s Maritime Safety Committee (MSC 95). The joint platform is hosted on IMO’s Global Integrated shipping Information System (GISIS) and will include publicly accessible data and restricted access information for Member States.

International Law

ICTY Remembers: The Srebrenica Genocide
1995-2015

English: http://icty.org/srebrenica20/

On 18 June 2015, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) has launched a dedicated website ‘The Tribunal Remembers: The Srebrenica Genocide’ commemorating the 1995 genocide, four weeks ahead of its twentieth anniversary on 11 July 2015. Envisaged as a resource for teachers, journalists and the general public, the website provides a wealth of multimedia information for those wishing to learn more about the Srebrenica genocide, its victims and the ICTY’s role in bringing the perpetrators to justice. Users can learn more about the ICTY’s cases which dealt with events in Srebrenica, view testimonies given before the court by Srebrenica citizens and consult key trial statistics brought together in an infographic.
New information material

Single copies of the following titles can be ordered via e-mail: info@unric.org

Sorry, nothing received this month.

NEW TITLES
added to the library collection in July

I General Information and Reference

Chronique ONU, Volume LI, Numéro 4, 2014:

II.D Trade, Finance and Commerce

World Investment Report 2015: Reforming international investment governance.

II.E Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

Environmental Performance Reviews: Serbia; Third Review.

Water and Climate Change Adaptation in Transboundary Basins: Lessons Learned and Good Practices.

VIII Transport and Communications
