RMNCH in the news: 1-7 December 2011

State rolls out list of child-specific drugs
IBNLive.com – 7 December 2011
Drugs in child-specific dosages for diarrhoea, respiratory diseases as pneumonia and malaria, which are the three largest contributors to child mortality were not available. “For example, Zinc dispersible tablets or solutions, which are very effective ... 

Sarah Brown and the Fight for Global Maternal and Newborn Health
Forbes – 7 December 2011
But it wasn't until I visited Tanzania – where I lived as a child – and Uganda in 2007, that I discovered truly how far behind we were in addressing maternal health on a global scale. During a visit to a local hospital I remember seeing a small room ... 

Rwanda: Men Urged to Embrace Family Planning
AllAfrica.com – 7 December 2011
The call was made by various health officials at the launch of a family planning campaign in Gitoki Sector, Gatsibo District. Gitoki was selected for the launch of the campaign dubbed: "Family planning; everyone's responsibility including men", ... 

Uganda: People with Disabilities Seek Access to Health Services
AllAfrica.com – 7 December 2011
People living with disabilities want government to respect their sexual reproductive health rights by providing them with health services in Uganda. Presenting his findings to at least 2,000 delegates attending the 2011 International Conference on Family Planning in Dakar, Senegal, Ronald Kasule, the administrator of Access for Action Uganda, said PWDS are the most marginalised group ... 

Promote childbirth at hospitals: health minister
Bangladesh News 24 hours – 7 December 2011
"We can save them if we identify them before the delivery," AFM Ruhal Haque said here on Wednesday while handing over awards to 36 upazilla health complexes for their performance in maternal and child health services. Haque said there is lackadaisical ... 

Nigeria receives international award for good governance in maternal healthcare
NEXT (NIGERIA) – 7 December 2011
Nigeria's sustained efforts at reducing maternal and child mortality as well as improving healthcare has been rewarded by the International Social Security Association (ISSA). 

HIV: Better days ahead for eMTCT services in Nigeria
Vanguard – 7 December 2011
Other indicators are integration of PMTCT with other related services such as malaria, TB, maternal and child health, family planning as well as ... 

Nigeria: Against Maternal and Infant Mortality They Gather
AllAfrica.com – 6 December 2011
Sokoto — High maternal and infant mortality rates remain a sore point in Nigeria's health delivery system which professionals discuss with passion whenever they meet, such as during a recent ceremony marking Maternal and Child Health Week in Sokoto, ...
Nationwide program for neonatal screening planned
Arab News – 6 December 2011
Neonatal screening identifies conditions that can affect a child's long-term health or survival. Early detection, diagnosis and intervention can prevent death or disability and enable children to reach their full potential. ...

USAID to Fight Maternal Mortality in the Country With U.S.$56 Million
All Africa – 6 December 2011
The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has earmarked $56.3 million for the implementation of a new project tagged, 'Expanded Society Marketing Project in Nigeria (ESMPIN) aimed at fighting child and maternal mortality in the country. USAID representative, Mr John Quinely disclosed this at the launch of 'Combination 3 capsule', a new pill for child spacing ...

International Health Department to Track Child Health Interventions in Africa in Real Time
Health Canal – 6 December 2011
The Institute for International Programs (IIP) in the Department of International Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health will begin Phase 2 of the Johns Hopkins Real-Time Results Tracking project, an initiative funded by the ...

Giving Birth to Progress
Council on Foreign Relations – 6 December 2011
Soon, they will be deployed to the front lines of the country's fight against the world's worst maternal-mortality statistics. It is a battle they are waging slowly, one pregnant woman at a time. But the students say they see signs of progress—and ...

2010 Antenatal HIV survey: The results
Politicsweb – 6 December 2011
It contributes to a decline in life expectancy, increased infant and child mortality and maternal deaths as well as a negative impact on socio-economic development. In 2010, the South African Government adopted an outcome-based approach to service ...

International Health Department to Track Child Health Interventions in Africa ...
HealthCanal.com – 6 December 2011
In the first phase, IIP worked with CIDA to develop tracking methods to measure changes in child mortality. Now entering Phase 2, researchers will employ the tracking methods to report the real-time results of CIDA's interventions. ...

Nigeria: Faith-based Organisations Key to Overcoming Maternal Mortality - Experts
AllAfrica.com – 6 December 2011
The workshop was aimed at empowering and sensitising religious leaders to help in the reduction or possible elimination of the potentials of incidences of maternal mortality among their faithfuls. The event also provided ...

Pakistani polio cases reach 163
The Central Asia online – 6 December 2011
PESHAWAR – Two more children, one each from Khyber and Bajaur agencies, tested positive for polio December 6, bringing the total number of infected children to 163, said Dr. Altaf Bosan, head of Pakistan’s polio programme. ...
Kenya: Take Maternal Health Seriously, MPs Urged
All Africa – 6 December 2011
DEPUTY Speaker Farah Maalim has urged MPs to ensure that voices of women and children are taken into account in government policies. ...

Kenyan Parliamentarians Meet on Maternal and Child Health
SOS Children’s Villages (CANADA) – 6 December 2011
Today, Kenyan officials came together to continue and improve upon commitments to improve maternal and child health. The parliamentarians collaborated on these issues at the Parliamentary Retreat on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health. At the retreat, hosted by the Kenyan ...

Kenyan MPs focus on better health for women, children
Capital FM – 6 December 2011
Kenyan parliamentarians have been meeting in Nairobi since Monday to discuss how they can best support the improvement of women’s and children’s health. ...

To Mark World AIDS Day, the British Government Pledges 5 Million Pounds for ...
Sacramento Bee – 6 December 2011
The British International Development Minister Stephen O’Brien made the announcement at a plenary session on "Family Planning and HIV: Strange Bedfellows No More" at the on-going second international conference on Family Planning in Dakar. ...

Talking About AIDS in Africa
New Yorker (blog) – 6 December 2011
At the International Conference on Family Planning, the British government announced its plan to buy millions of female condoms for African women, and non-profits handed out pamphlets that illustrated how using condoms would change the continent in a ...

Sierra Leone in tune with global family planning efforts –Health Minister ...
Cocorioko – 6 December 2011
Attaining democratic dividend was at the centre of this year's four-day international family planning conference held in Dakar, Senegal. Demographic dividend is economic growth resulting from ...

Family planning push in sub-Saharan Africa
SOS Children – 6 December 2011
Even so, staff at Pikine’s health centre say that only about five or six per cent of local women go there for family planning. And last year they had hormonal contraceptives available for most of the year. One reason why so few people go there to pick ...

Kenya: Legislators Meet in Nairobi to Discuss Maternal Health
AllAfrica.com – 6 December 2011
Kenyan parliamentarians met in Nairobi on Monday and Tuesday to discuss how to best support improvement of women's and children's health. ...

Kenyan Legislators Pledge to Reinvigorate Maternal and Child Health Agenda
Africa Science News Service – 6 December 2011
Kenyan parliamentarians Tuesday joined their counterparts in Africa to renew their commitment to women and children's health. The MPs pledged to harness their political clout to lobby the ...
The Innovation Working Group and the mHealth Alliance Announce...
DigitalJournal.com – 6 December 2011
The effort puts into action the Global Strategy for Women’s and Children’s Health, which presents a roadmap on how to enhance financing, strengthen policy ...

More work needed to break HIV/AIDS infection - IPPF Boss
Myjoyonline.com – 5 December 2011
With the global population at 7 billion, the IPPF Director General believes what is key is sustainable family planning to guarantee a better life for future generations. That is why IPPF is re-focusing its programs towards young people so they can make informed choices. ...

Bauchi Urged To Increase Budget For Maternal Health
Leadership Newspapers (NIGERIA) – 5 December 2011
He noted that the states of Bauchi, Sokoto and Kano have a high rate of infant and maternal mortality which he ascribed to the inadequate resources, infrastructures and equipment to implement maternal and child health programmes in the states. ...

Maternal Child Health Week in Sierra Leone Ends
Awareness Times – 5 December 2011
By Augustine Samba The Ministry of Health and Sanitation has concluded a vital health immunisation campaign countrywide, the Maternal and Child Health Week (Mami en Pikin Welbodi Week). The campaign which started on November 24th and ended on the 29th ...

INTERVIEW-Hairdressers help Zimbabwe fight HIV/AIDS
Reuters AlertNet – 5 December 2011
Part of an innovative program integrating family planning, HIV testing and counseling, this unusual salon offering is just one key to Zimbabwe's success in reducing HIV infection rates from 30 percent of the population in 1999 to just under 14 percent ...

UNFPA organizes capacity building workshop for Midwives
Vibe Ghana – 5 December 2011
It seeks to share best practices for improving maternal and new born health care delivery and update Midwives on the maternal and newborn health care innovations. It is also aimed at strengthening the supervisory capacity of Midwives and build their ...

Ghana: Nana Yaa Memorial Trust Gets Support to Provide Reproductive Health ...
AllAfrica.com – 5 December 2011
... Dako who died during child birth. Its health provision centre at Ogbojo, in Accra has been in existence for six years with support from the Global Fund and the AWDF. It initially focused on advocacy around improving maternal health in Ghana. ...

Family Planning: Govt Makes Low Progress
Leadership Newspapers – 5 December 2011
The Nigerian Urban Reproductive Health Initiative (NURHI) has revealed that child mortality rates in the country is on the increase because of low up take of modern family planning methods by the people. The Programme Director of NURHI,,...
Suitable gap in pregnancies key for reducing maternal mortality
Pakistan Observer – 5 December 2011
Karachi—Keeping in view the utter need of quality, affordable and accessible contraceptive products in the conservative areas of Pakistan CSM has now decided to launch FEMPLANT. ...

mHealth Alliance, Rockefeller award top 11 innovators of 2011
Government Health IT – 5 December 2011
He has initiated a number of IT activities for health officials, including a mother-and-child tracking system through SMS mobile technology and a mobile messaging system for auxiliary nurse midwives in India. Martin Were, an assistant professor of ...

Merck for Mothers and PATH Collaborate to Identify Innovations that Save Mothers’ Lives
CSRwire.com (press release) – 5 December 2011
Spearheaded by top scientists from Merck for Mothers and PATH, this unique alliance will evaluate more than 30 promising technologies at various stages of development that address the two leading causes of maternal mortality—post-partum hemorrhage and ...

Zimbabwe: Gender Dimensions of 2012 Budget
AllAfrica.com – 5 December 2011
Women cannot maintain their health and that of their families without access to safe and affordable reproductive services. It is commendable that a modest US$10 million is allocated to maternal and child health care, a development likely to bring ...

Ethiopia Launches Plan To Prevent Mother-to-Child HIV Transmission
Bernama – 5 December 2011
As part of this effort, the national plan aims to boost both the rapid expansion and delivery of integrated quality maternal and child health and PMTCT services. ...

Children with HIV ‘falling through cracks’
Pharma Times – 5 December 2011
Despite much greater coverage for adults with HIV/AIDS, less than a quarter of children who need treatment for the disease are getting it, according to the World Health Organization. ...

Maternal Mortality Decreases in Afghanistan
Ms. Magazine – 5 December 2011
The Afghanistan Mortality Survey (AMS) 2010, sponsored by UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the US Government, and the British Department for International Development, revealed that over the past five years, maternal and infant mortality has ...

Advent of needle-free anemia scanning promises progress on maternal health
The Guardian (blog) – 5 December 2011
Anaemia is a major cause of maternal mortality, but a new scanning technique offers hope of fresh progress. ...

UNFPA organizes capacity building workshop for Midwives
Vibe Ghana – 5 December 2011
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has organised a capacity building workshop for Midwives to help improve their operations in order to attain the Millennium Development Goal 4 and 5 ...
Nigeria Targets 2013 For Polio Eradication
Leadership Newspapers (NIGERIA) – 5 December 2011
The executive director, National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), Dr. Ado Mohammed, has declared that Nigeria has made significant stride and would eradicate polio within two years despite the upsurge in wild polio this year.

Curbing Maternal Deaths Through Education
Leadership Newspapers (NIGERIA) – 4 December 2011
An official of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) who also pleaded anonymity affirmed that maternal deaths have remained high in the country, despite the efforts of the government to improve maternal and child health. ...

Govt heaps praise on female health volunteers
Himalayan Times – 4 December 2011
On the eve of FCHVs day, the ministry hailed their contribution in sectors like family planning, maternal care, child health, vitamin A supplementation/de-worming and immunisation coverage, treatment of waterborne diseases and diseases like ...

Fresh hope for mothers at family planning meeting
The Citizen Daily – 4 December 2011
One such new technology promoted at the ongoing second international conference on family planning (ICFP) in Dakar, Senegal, is the silk diaphragm with elements that work like an antiretroviral. Ms Judy Manning from US Agency for International ...

South Sudan calls for increased advocacy on maternal health care
The Sudan Tribune – 4 December 2011
South Sudan on Sunday called on activists and community groups to focus more on giving messages about maternal health care, which is a major challenge in the new nation. Maternal mortality rates are among the worst in the world with 2,054 mothers out 100,000 dying during labour in South Sudan, according to figures from the ministry of health. ...

Delaying cord cutting reduces iron deficiencies, study finds
Globe and Mail (CANADA) – 4 December 2011
The Swedish research confirms what registered midwives have practised for years, says Kelly Hayes , vice-president of the Midwives Association of British Columbia . “I think they're right on the money.” Registered midwives follow scientific literature, ...

Aid Is Not Charity, Says Secretary-General, but Smart Investment in Security …
IEWY News – 3 December 2011
I have seen it in Nigeria, Ethiopia, and Bangladesh, Indonesia and Thailand, where the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health is a vivid example of development cooperation at its smartest. I have seen how strategic partnerships can work to ...

Secretary-General Warns Conflict, Instability Scare Away Much-Needed ...
IEWY News – 3 December 2011
I went to highlight success stories in advancing global health — particularly women's and children's health. I saw rural clinics in Bangladesh and Kalimantan, an island of Indonesia, reducing infant mortality and maternal deaths in childbirth. ...
Family planning in West Africa
Afrique en Ligue – 3 December 2011
UNFPA hails progress made in family planning in West Africa - The Director, Sub-Regional Office for West and Central Africa, of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) in Dakar, Dr. Faustin Yao, said Friday although there was real ...

Family Planning Conference ends with UNFPA asking for more funding to meet MDG 5
Ghana Business News – 3 December 2011
The 2nd International Conference on Family Planning (FP) has ended in Dakar with UNFPA asking for acceleration in funding for FP activities to make decisive progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goal 5. “UNFPA is ready to galvanise greater ...

African governments challenged to keep promises to improving women’s health
Vibe Ghana – 3 December 2011
Dr Brookman-Amissah, who was a former Minister of Health in Ghana, challenged African leaders at the second international conference on Family Planning here in Dakar on Friday. The conference was attended by over 2200 researchers, program managers, ...

More education needed to increase contraception use, prevent unsafe abortion ...
Myjoyonline.com – 3 December 2011
The figures make it the second leading cause of maternal mortality. It is one of the reasons why IPAS, an international NGO, continues to campaign for easier access to safe abortion services across Africa. IPAS's Vice President, Dr. Eunice ...

False promises
Frontline – 2 December 2011
Although life expectancy has increased and infant and child mortality rates have declined, these declines have been relatively modest. Infant and child mortality take an unconscionable toll – 2.2 million children every year. ...

Too few safe beds for too many arriving
DAWN.com – 2 December 2011
The Maternal & Child Health Care Centre (MCH) of Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (Pims) has only five incubators to deal with a number of premature deliveries daily, Dawn has learnt reliably. The 125-bed MCH centre was ...

Maternal health a Crisis in Papua New Guinea
SOS Children’s Villages Canada (press release) – 2 December 2011
Maternal health has dire consequences for child health as well. Children from countries like Papua New Guinea which suffer from poor maternal health are five times more likely to die than in countries with a strong health system. ...

FDI in retail won’t be implemented in C’garh: CM
Zee News – 2 December 2011
"The target for Chhattisgarh is to get rid of problems like infant mortality rate, maternal mortality ratio and malnutrition among children. Naxals have been there in Chhattisgarh for last 40 years but now we need to think ahead as well", Singh said. ...
Chairperson Restates Commitment To Maternal, Child Health
Nigerian Observer – 2 December 2011
She made the statement during the second round of the Maternal newborn and child health week. Mrs. Akhabue however said she appreciated the effort of different donor agencies such as UNICEF, WHO, National Primary Health Care Development Agency and ...

Papua New Guinea experiencing 'crisis in maternal health,' government task ...
News-Medical.net – 2 December 2011
... adding, "Maternal mortality rates in PNG doubled from 1996-2006, states the government's most recent national health survey." The news service examines the issues of access to health care, child mortality, the decentralization of the health system ...

Lagos commissions Maternal and Childcare Centre
Daily Times Nigeria – 2 December 2011
Idris said that currently, 20 out of the 24 secondary health facilities in the State provide maternal health services while 22 of them provide child health services. He also added that Ajeromi General Hospital was the only public secondary health ...

Crocodile tears for the children
Deccan Herald – 2 December 2011
On health issues, India ranks among the worst nations in the world for its child mortality rates. One more November 14 has come and gone. We have celebrated Children's Day in India. But we dare not celebrate the status of the Indian child. ...

Nigeria: First Lady Calls for Review, Reform of Public Health Laws
AllAfrica.com – 2 December 2011
The First Lady said the Integrated Health Programme would among other things "promote access to and advocate for improved budgetary allocation to maternal, child health maternal and promote accountability in the country's national health systems. ...

Nigeria: 'Family Planning Will End Poverty'
AllAfrica.com – 2 December 2011
The governor, who lamented over the increase in the population of Lagos, however said the government would not compel anyone to engage in family planning. Fashola made the call yesterday while commissioning a maternal and childcare centre in Ajegunle in Ajeromi-Ifelodun Local Government Area of the state. ...

UNFPA's assessments needs reveal low use of IUDs in developing countries
Ghana Business News – 2 December 2011
Dr Nuriye Ortayli, Technical Advisor in charge of Sexual and Reproductive Health of UNFPA, was addressing a Plenary Session on "Promoting Family Planning for Post Partum Women: Current Recommendations; Programme Initiatives and Future Directions" at ...

Melinda Gates Announces Commitment to Family Planning
Care2.com (blog) – 2 December 2011
by Jaime-Alexis Fowler This week, Melinda Gates announced that family planning will be one of her top priorities this year and into the future. This was met with cheers and excitement by more than 2500 people at the International Conference on Family ...
Parliamentarians talk to youth about sexual and reproductive health.
The Express Tribune – 2 December 2011
An interactive dialogue session was organised by Rahnuma, the Lahore based wing of Family Planning Association of Pakistan, in collaboration with the United Nations Population on Friday. Parliamentarians from major political parties pledged to work ...

Death rates still high
Fiji Times – 2 December 2011
The review found maternal mortality rates (MMR) also increased from 26.8 deaths per 1000 live births in 1990 to a staggering 67.3 deaths in 2005. The child mortality rate (CMR) also increased from 19.3 deaths per 1000 live births in 1995 to 25.8 in ...

Early ultrasound scans reduce maternal mortality -SOGON
Daily Times Nigeria – 2 December 2011
To reduce the increasing cases of maternal mortality in the country, pregnant women have been advised to go for ultrasound scans in the first 3-4 months of pregnancy. This advice was given by the Society of Gynaecology and Obersitics of Nigeria SOGON on ...

International Family Planning Conference opens in Dakar
Myjoyonline.com – 2 December 2011
Reproductive health experts and advocates from around the world are in Dakar, Senegal to discuss and share ideas about family planning and discuss ways to push for more people to use contraceptives. The five-day International Conference on Family ...

New cases show anti-polio drive failure
Dawn (PAKISTAN) – 2 December 2011
The emergence of four new cases of polio (type-I wild virus) has showed that the federal government’s campaign has failed to achieve the desired results despite the fact that a polio eradication emergency year has been declared in the country, Dawn has learnt.

Eradicating polio in the North
Nigerian Tribune – 2 December 2011
President Goodluck Jonathan has on several occasions made pronouncements on the eradication of polio within two years in Nigeria.

Ghana is committed to addressing family planning needs – Nyonator
Vibe Ghana – 1 December 2011
Dr Frank Nyonator, Acting Director-General of Ghana Health Service, on Wednesday said Ghana was committed to addressing the unmet needs of Family Planning (FP) to attain the Millennium Development Goals 4&5. He said Ghana’s investment in FP currently ...

Maternal Mortality Rate of Afghanistan on Decline
TopNews New Zealand – 1 December 2011
... Afghanistan shows that our solutions are working. Of course much remains to be done". Next target would to improve overall death rate as average age of person in Afghanistan is not more than 62 years. Maternal Mortality Rate Of Afghanistan On Decline.
**Contraception to save thousands of women's lives**
SOS Children – 1 December 2011
The announcement comes during a five day international conference on family planning in Senegal. These contraceptives will prevent more than two million unwanted pregnancies and nearly 220000 dangerous and potentially fatal abortions. ...

**Kenya: Better Funding Key to Improving Rural HIV Care**
AllAfrica.com – 1 December 2011
"With support from development partners, we have been able to integrate HIV programmes in our maternal and child health programme," said Ziporah Ombogo, a nurse at the Kilingili centre. "[This] has helped us reduce cases of missed opportunities - when ...

**Medical experts Africa say maternal mortality is a human rights violation**
Women News Network – 1 December 2011
An International expert on Women's and Health Specialist has spoken out on the topic in the number of deaths occurring worldwide from maternal mortality. “It is a human rights violation because most countries in the world had signed to the United Nations declaration on the right to life,” says Ottowa, Canada based Dr. Andre Lalonde, former executive vice-president of ...

**Family planning in Africa and here**
Inquirer.net – 1 December 2011
DAKAR, SENEGAL—Some 2200 participants from 88 countries are in this seaside city for the Second International Conference on Family Planning. Invited by Women's Edition, a program of the Population Reference Bureau that puts together women journalists ...

**Increase of access to obstetric care defended**
AngolaPress – 1 December 2011
Lubango – The increase of access to emergency obstetric and neonatal care as methods for preventing pregnancy in adolescents, serve as tools for reducing infant mortality registered in the country, affirmed Wednesday, in Lubango City, the national ...

**Tackling maternal health "crisis"**
Gant Daily – 1 December 2011
Maternal mortality rates in PNG doubled from'96-2006, states the government's most recent national health survey, which prompted the government-appointed taskforce to find ways to make pregnancy less deadly. Inaccessible and ill-equipped health ...

**Help moms in life or death AIDS fight**
CNN International (Opinion) – 1 December 2011
Christy Turlington Burns is a global maternal health advocate, founder of Every Mother Counts, and the director/producer of the 2010 documentary "No Woman, No Cry." ... There are an estimated 1.4 million HIV-positive women in the world. By providing women access to the right medication ...

**Study Shows Gains in Afghan Health**
Voice of America (blog) – 1 December 2011
He said there is a need to build on the success, concentrating on neonatal care and using midwives from local communities. The study also found improvements in access to clean water, sanitation and electricity. But it said despite the gains, ...
MSD joins global fight to reduce maternal mortality
Inquirer.net – 1 December 2011
Tan said the phenomenon of women dying during pregnancy or childbirth—or maternal mortality—was “one of the biggest, most confounding health issues,” and that if nothing would be done, more than three million will die from pregnancy or childbirth ...

Women in danger from 'backyard abortionists'
Trinidad Guardian – 1 December 2011
Health Minister Dr Fuad Khan said recent figures compiled by his ministry had shown an increase in septic and maternal mortality rates, with between 13 to 15 per cent of these deaths due to septic abortions. Describing the trend as very disturbing and ...

Vaccination can reduce babies mortality rate
The Nation (PAKISTAN) – 1 December 2011
He said this while addressing a seminar on Mother and Child Week being observed under the auspices of the National Maternal Newborn and Child Health Programme (MNCH) here the other day. He said that it was the responsibility of every parent to provide vaccination to their children up to five years of ...

Report on action to improve global maternal and newborn health published
FIGO – 1 December 2011
A report by a partnership of charities has suggested ways to improve maternal and newborn health across the globe. ...

Pneumococcal Vaccination Can Prevent Deaths of 1.6 Million Babies
Bernama.com News – 1 December 2011
Pneumococcal disease causes the deaths of 1.6 million children around the world every year. Ironically, the disease is easily preventable through vaccination. ...