RMNCH in the news: 8-14 December 2011

Malaria 'a significant pregnancy risk'
FIGO – 14 December 2011
Malaria is a significant risk to miscarriage during the first trimester of pregnancy, but treatment with antimalarial drugs is relatively safe, new women's health research has revealed. A study conducted at the Shoklo Malaria Research Unit in Thailand revealed 16,668 of the women who ...

Helping Women in Bangladesh and Beyond
ABC News (blog) – 14 December 2011
BRAC has figured out a way to prevent the leading causes of death during childbirth. The solutions aren’t particular high-tech or don’t often require advanced medical degrees. They only require that we work directly with the poor, within their communities, and trust them to do the things that are needed, with a small amount of proper training, to take care of their neighbors. ...

Fistula woes: Stitching up torn lives in Teso
New Vision – 14 December 2011
In addition, the long hours of labour pains and stillbirth culminate into obstetric fistula and Lucy Iwonyu, 40, from Kadungulu sub-county in Serere ...

No place for girls in Rajasthan?
NDTV – 14 December 2011
Female infanticide or killing newborn girls after birth continues in some parts of Rajasthan. Even though health workers report these deaths in their registers, the administration looks the other way. Three bodies of new-born girls were exhumed this ...

Govt to spend more on childbirth insurance
Jakarta Post – 14 December 2011
“Given the fact that more poor women throughout the country have been going to health centers for childbirth, I believe that this has contributed to the decreasing maternal mortality rate in this country. Around 50 percent of deaths of pregnant mothers ...

Fetal Tracheal Occlusion Improves Neonatal Survival
Doctors Lounge – 14 December 2011
Fetal endoscopic tracheal occlusion is associated with improved neonatal survival in severe isolated congenital diaphragmatic hernia, according to a study published online Dec. 14 in Ultrasound ...

Sudan: Challenges Affecting Implementation of MDGs in South Sudan
AllAfrica.com – 14 December 2011
For example, the maternal and child health need much attention to be paid so that the lives of mothers and children could be safe, but due to the inadequate funds and personnel or medical experts that can educate people on the following ways such as, ...

Free delivery and drop for mothers
Times of India – 14 December 2011
GUWAHATI: In a bid to bring down the state's maternal mortality rate (MMR), the highest in the country, health minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced a special scheme for mothers and newborns called Adoroni on Tuesday that will encourage ...
**Family planning in Pakistan**
Washington Post – 14 December 2011

Health workers are advocating the use of contraceptives in Pakistan, a highly conservative country where birth control use is low and the fertility rate is higher than other Muslim nations. Pakistan’s total population is projected to rise from 173 ...

**As Pakistan's population soars, contraceptives remain a hard sell**
Washington Post – 14 December 2011

But Pakistan's family planning efforts have lagged far behind those of other major Muslim-majority nations, including Iran and Bangladesh. In those countries, governments have stuck to population policies and backed them with money and political will, ...

**Teaching birth control in Pakistan: An uphill battle**
Washington Post – 14 December 2011

A woman with a daughter-in-law attends a community meeting on family planning in the southern Sindh province village of Mirwah, in Pakistan in September. One of the challenges of family planning in Pakistan is that young brides commonly live with their ...

**Kenya: Morans Bend Tradition With Fathering Skills**
AllAfrica.com – 14 December 2011

On any other morning, Kitesho, 24, would be rounding up his livestock from their shed to prepare for another trek through thorny thickets in search of pasture to feed on. But today, Kitesho's younger brother must ensure the flock is fed. That's because Kitesho has been invited to a meeting where he'll learn the importance of caring for his family in another way: by supporting better health for pregnant women and infants. ...

**Global health funding slows as deadline for Millennium Development Goals nears**
EurekAlert (press release) – 14 December 2011

Growth in development assistance for HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and health sector support slowed between 2008 and 2009. Development assistance for malaria, noncommunicable diseases, and maternal, newborn, and child health accelerated over the same period. ...

**“My child is assured of her 5th birthday celebration ...” says mother of two**
Sierra Express Media – 14 December 2011

... At age 16 she was forced out of school due to pregnancy. Her boyfriend then was a student alike. Both could not afford five dollars (US $5) a day. As a result of their dependent situation they could neither provide a well balanced diet for their first child, nor finance his medical bill. ...

**Concerns Arise over Maternal Mortality in Afghanistan**
Ms. Magazine – 14 December 2011

Politicians, economists and activists gathered at the Bonn Conference in early December expressed concerns regarding the impact of the withdrawal of the US on maternal mortality. Sarah Pickworth, a public health specialist in Afghanistan stated, ...

**The White Ribbon Alliance in China**
Huffington Post UK (blog) – 14 December 2011

... those to improve sexual, reproductive and maternal health”. This means that efforts to improve the health of women and their children, including eliminating mother-to-child transmission ...
Nigeria: Kano Shuns USAID’s Family Planning Method Launch
AllAfrica.com – 14 December 2011
Kano — The Kano State government yesterday shunned the official launching of the USAID’s new family planning methods in the state, citing suspicion in the goals of the project. Launching of the project, it was gathered, sparked up row between the ...

Concerns over rising incidence of maternal deaths
GBC Ghana – 14 December 2011
The Ashanti Regional Director of Health Services, Dr Aaron Offei, has expressed concern about the growing incidence of maternal deaths in the region. The region has recorded 200 such deaths since the beginning of the year, compared with last year’s figure of 165. This, he said, should be ...

Nigeria: FG Commits US$3 Million for Procurement of Contraceptives
AllAfrica.com – 13 December 2011
According to him, family planning, which is one of the key pillars of safe motherhood is a quick win in the reduction of maternal and child mortality by 30 percent and 25 percent respectively. ...

'Ve can reach the youth with Family Planning information via mobile phones'
New Vision – 13 December 2011
Kafamba and his team are trying to reach out to the adolescents with family planning information. However, with the growing use of mobile phones in Uganda, we can now reach more young ...

A Health System’s Best Friend Is A Pushy NGO: The Role Of Local Advocates
Health Affairs (blog) – 13 December 2011
Landlocked with poor health indicators, Malawi suffers from a high maternal mortality: 637 mothers die for every 100000 live births. And there are fears that this number may be even higher ...

Give The Gift Of Life
Huffington Post (Sarah Brown) – 13 December 2011
This decline in maternal mortality certainly represents progress, but we still have a long way to go. At this time of year, when many of you generously give to good causes, I hope you will consider a donation that will make pregnancy and childbirth ...

Hotline in Sierra Leon for Fistula Treatment
Ms. Magazine – 13 December 2011
Ann Gloag of the Gloag Foundation stated, "This approach might be very effective to recruit fistula patients—always a challenge considering the stigma ...

Dangers stalk childbearing women in Afghanistan
AFP – 13 December 2011
In Bibi’s case, her experience of childbirth left her with a complicated fistula -- a hole next to her urinary tract -- that has left her incontinent and ...

Govt works to ease ‘birth pang’
Bangladesh News 24 hours – 13 December 2011
Dhaka, Dec 13 (bdnews24.com) – The latest survey on maternal mortality shows 77 percent women still deliver at home, which is a major cause of death during or after childbirth. Keeping that as a guideline, a new initiative has been taken to further ...
Malaria deaths are down but progress remains fragile
StarAfrica.com – 13 December 2011
This is partly because of an actual decrease in the number of malaria deaths (36,000), and partly because of a downward revision of child mortality estimates for all causes and diseases - for the past decade - by the UN Inter-agency Group for Child ...

Formal Global Interdependence: Mechanisms and Processes
ISN – 13 December 2011
One MDG specifically targets the reduction of child mortality by two-thirds between 1990 and 2015. As a result of this initiative, child mortality rates in the developing world have declined from 100 deaths per 1000 live births in 1990 to 72 deaths in ...

New medical scheme for would-be mothers
Assam Tribune – 13 December 2011
It needs to be mentioned here that the maternal mortality rate in the State is very high when compared with other parts of the country. As per the provisions in this scheme, any would-be mother will be able to avail all medical facilities right from ...

Maternal, child malnutrition unacceptably high: Survey
Daily Star Online (BANGLADESH) – 13 December 2011
The level of food insecurity and maternal and child malnutrition remains unacceptably high in Bangladesh, says a survey. ...

A midwife's dream comes true
Sun.Star – 13 December 2011
This weekly monitoring and giving of much needed health care a few years later would spread to other barangays as the venture has proven to be effective in reducing maternal mortality and infant deaths, one of the Millennium Development Goals set by ...

Yobe recruits traditional birth attendants to fight HIV/AIDS
NEXT – 13 December 2011
Mamudo said on Monday in Damaturu in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that the agency would train the attendants on safe practises in handling maternal and child health care, to prevent the spread of the disease. ...

Reuters examines maternal mortality in Afghanistan
News-Medical.net – 13 December 2011
"An Afghan woman can expect to have an average 5.1 babies in her lifetime, the highest fertility rate in Asia," Reuters writes in the first of two articles examining childbirth and maternal mortality in Afghanistan. The news service adds that "giving ...

Pneumococcal vaccine will be available in country for free by March ...
thenews.com.pk – 13 December 2011
Around 80,000 to 100,000 children die every year in Pakistan due to pneumonia, a disease that can be prevented if children under the age of two are vaccinated against it, said Pakistan Pediatric Association (PPA) office-bearers at a press conference on Monday. ...
Naadu cries over alarming maternal deaths
Modern Ghana – 12 December 2011
The First Lady, Mrs. Ernestina Naadu Mills, has called on Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives to draw comprehensive programmes that would help reduce the maternal mortality rate in the country. According to her, the rate at which ...

The Insidious Tradition Of Taking Child Brides
NPR – 12 December 2011
The community needs to be educated on the downsides of this, which are, you know, increased physical problems, you know, all kinds of issues that can happen to the girl, from fistula to ...

Ghana: ISODEC, Media Commit to Advocate for Improved Maternal Health Care
AllAfrica.com – 12 December 2011
If the current trends continue, maternal mortality will reduce to only 340 per 100000 live births by 2015. Information available on the trends and status of MDG 5 in Ghana shows that the rate of pregnancy-related deaths of women stands in sharp ...

150 midwives deployed in Armm
Sun.Star – 12 December 2011
COTABATO CITY -- At least 150 midwives were deployed in remote parts of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (Armm) to provide basic health services to residents. Armm Health Secretary Kadil Sinolinding said that the midwives are part of the ...

Securing a triple win with health and climate change
Ghana Business News – 12 December 2011
For example, only seven countries are on track for MDG4, reducing child mortality by two-thirds; and only two for MDG5, reducing maternal mortality by ...

Foundation boosts women’s health
The Nation Newspaper – 12 December 2011
The foundation, he added, was “established by our parent company-Heineken NV to support and enhance the health of people who live in sub-Sahara Africa. The foundation was established with the objective of financially supporting relevant health projects ...

Merck Sharpe and Dohme to fund PATH maternal health research
Zenopa – 12 December 2011
More than 30 innovations will be evaluated by scientists from PATH and Merck for Mothers, focusing on post-partum haemorrhaging and preeclampsia, the two leading causes of maternal mortality. The alliance will extend through to next autumn and is ...

SD strengthens elimination of HIV transmission to babies
Times of Swaziland – 12 December 2011
Just over a year ago, Ministry of Health managers from the national Sexual and Reproductive Health Unit (SRHU) and Regional Health Management service providers from all four regions, received leadership and management training by a faculty from the ...
Giving birth is a battle for survival in Afghanistan
Reuters – 12 December 2011
Politicians, economists and activists from around the world met in Bonn this month to thrash out their vision for battered and impoverished Afghanistan. In addition to the insurgency and violence, it remains the most dangerous place in the world for a woman to have a baby, the latest World Health Organization data shows.

Factbox: Why are maternal deaths so high in Afghanistan?
Reuters – 12 December 2011
Afghanistan has the worst rate of maternal mortality in the world, the latest World Health Organization data shows, with a toxic mix of inaccessibility, poverty and cultural barriers to women’s healthcare conspiring against expectant mothers.

Nigeria: Family Planning - USS10 Million Pact Signed with UN Population Fund
AllAfrica.com – 12 December 2011
Nigeria has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with United Nations Population Fund for $3 million in counterpart funding to procure family planning commodities, ranging from condoms to contraceptive drugs and injections. The commodities are estimated ...

First National Male Conference held in Accra
Myjoyonline.com – 11 December 2011
Participants were taken through topics such as demography and Development in Ghana, Sexual and Reproductive Rights Issues in Ghana-Implication for maternal and child health, Sexual and Reproductive Rights of Men and Young People in Ghana. ...

A child is born in China, 18 million times a year
Toronto Star – 11 December 2011
Most couples are allowed only one child under China's family planning policies. And yet — even with that restriction — the number of annual births in China is mind-bending: last year more than 18 million babies were born here. This year 18 million ...

Nigeria: The Country Under Siege of Malnutrition - A Time to Act
AllAfrica.com – 11 December 2011
The report showed that most countries, including Nigeria, were making slow progress in meeting the Millennium Development Goal targets on reducing by half the incidence of hunger and child mortality by the year 2015. Critical observers are worried that ...

Nabagereka asks government to emphasis family planning
UGPulse.com – 11 December 2011
The Queen (Nabagereka) of Buganda Kingdom, Sylvia Naginda has asked the government to put more emphasis on family planning programs. The Nabagereka said this at the meeting of women parliamentarians in Kampala. The female legislators were brainstorming ...

'Give 51 per cent budgetary allocation to health sector in Oyo'
Nigerian Tribune – 11 December 2011
She recommended that 10 out of the 15 per cent allocation she suggested should be channelled towards revamping the reproductive health sector to mitigate the incidence of maternal mortality. The 79-year-old expert stated that the proposed percentage ...

The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health, Secretariat hosted by the World Health Organization
Room V103, 20 avenue Appia, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland,  tel: +41 22 791 2595  fax: +41 22 791 5854
www.pmnch.org
**HIV-positive Mothers in Africa Unsure about Breastfeeding Choices**
SOS Children Villages – 11 December 2011
The UN World Health Organization (WHO) recommends exclusive breastfeeding with an antiretroviral (ARV) treatment intervention for the first six months of a child’s life to reduce transmission, and continued breastfeeding - with complementary feeding - until the child is at least a year old.

**UN chief underscores importance of interfaith dialogue**
Kuwait News Agency – 11 December 2011
He stressed the importance of implementing women’s and children’s health and educational programs. The second imperative is preventing conflict and violence ...

**Tanzania: Need to Control Dar es Salaam’s Population Growth**
AllAfrica.com – 11 December 2011
Similarly, limited progress has been made in the area of maternal health (MDG5) including reduction of maternal deaths and ensuring universal access to ...

**State Minister of Health Addresses Fresh Post Graduate Medical Students in ...**
Sudan Vision – 11 December 2011
One of the biggest challenges he is keen to address in the New Year, is to reduce Maternal and Child mortality rates and focus on Mother & Child health care. He said that the new batch of Consultants would help to inject “fresh blood” into the Health ...

**Women’s Health Advocate Wins ‘CNN Hero Of The Year’**
Jezebel – 11 December 2011
Lim, who’s known as "Mother Robin," became a midwife and opened a clinic that has provided prenatal and birthing services to thousands of low-income women in Bali and Indonesia. Lim was selected by CNN.com voters, and in addition to the $50000 each ...

**‘Mother Robin' wins CNN Hero of the Year**
CNN – 11 December 2011
As founder of Every Mother Counts, she is also a passionate advocate for maternal health around the world. "Eight years ago, after giving birth to my first child Grace, I felt what could have been a life-threatening complication," she told the audience ...

**Let’s Reduce Maternal Mortality - First Lady**
Ghana – 10 December 2011
Ghana’s First Lady, Mrs Ernestina Naadu Mills, yesterday called on Civil Society Organisations and other stakeholders to increase efforts in mobilising resources to accelerate the reduction in maternal mortality in Ghana. “I am asking Municipal Chief ...

**Involving men in family planning**
Inquirer.net – 10 December 2011
“Male Involvement” has long been a buzz-word (or “buzz-term”) in family planning circles. Often it is paired with the word “increasing,” that is, assuming that male involvement in family planning – either by encouraging their wives or partners to use ..
Gender: A woman's role in family planning
The Citizen Daily – 10 December 2011
By Sharifa Kalokola Family planning is not a luxury for the majority of Tanzanian women, since its accessibility and acceptability remains a challenge. Despite the fact that more women are being empowered by education and engaging in income-earning ...

VP joins mothers in prayers on maternal problems
Nyasa Times – 10 December 2011
... saying maternal health is an important subject that needs attention. She said it is shocking to see the numbers at which women are losing their lives due to the many problems that hospitals are facing. “The number of women dying during child birth ...

EC child death shock
Daily Dispatch Online – 10 December 2011
But, although still the highest in the country, the Eastern Cape child mortality rate is down from the 100 per 1000 reported by the Medical Research Council 11 years ago. Provincial health spokesman Sizwe Kupelo said the Eastern Cape faced unique ...

Campaign to reduce maternal deaths launched in Volta
Ghana Broadcasting Corporation – 10 December 2011
She therefore called on stakeholders in the health sector, development partners, the private sector and civil societies to join hands towards the provision of quality health care to ensure the reduction of maternal mortality in the country. ...

Babies and bandages: Female Treatment Team educates Afghan women
DVIDS – 10 December 2011
A unique program was developed by coalition special operations forces to encourage the education of women and midwives: the Female Treatment Team. The mission of the FTT was to train women as midwives for their villages and enable them to turn around ...

Midwives face hard choices in periphery
Jakarta Post – 10 December 2011
Roosmany, one of only two midwives then working at Bima Hospital, said she had been determined to penetrate the placenta that covered part of the opening of her patient’s cervix, no matter what. “The placenta grew in the lowest part of her uterus, ...

Nabagereka appeals to government on maternal and child health
UGPulse.com – 10 December 2011
She said this today while opening a conference on maternal, newborn and child deaths for MPs. The Nabagereka noted that the health services in the country are still lacking in regard to provision of emergency obstetrics. She says there are still delays

Reproductive health is a human right
Manila Standard Today – 10 December 2011
In terms of family planning, CEDAW is more explicit. Its Article 12 states, “1. State Parties shall take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of health care services, including those related to family planning ...
2011 CNN Hero of the Year: Robin Lim, midwife in Bali, Indonesia
CNN – 10 December 2011
Want to help Robin's cause? Make a tax-deductible donation to a Top 10 CNN Hero and they'll receive 100% of the funds. Thanks to Google, all transaction fees will be waived with your donation.

Indian NGOs Release First Statement Supporting Midwives
Ms. Magazine – 9 December 2011
According to the statement, "The second indicator of MDG 5, 'proportion of births attended by skilled health providers' highlights the crucial role of midwives and others with midwifery skills in providing skilled birth attendance to achieve optimal ...

Uganda loses sh275b annually in maternal health
New Vision – 9 December 2011
Ochan noted that although more women in Uganda are now able to practice family planning, majority still lack full access to reproductive health services, including quality contraceptive services. “Many women bear children before they are ready or bear ...

FIDA-Ghana and UNFPA organise first National Male Conference in Accra
Vibe Ghana – 9 December 2011
The conference was aimed at mobilising male awareness and commitment to engage in promoting women rights, elimination of abuse and violence and pursuance of advocacy in improving the delivery of social services for women as well as maternal and child mortality. ...

Kenyan parliamentarians pledge commitment to women’s health
FIGO – 9 December 2011
The World Health Organization (WHO) reported on a two-day meeting between parliamentarians held on December 5th and 6th, which ended in the agreement of five pledges, including developing legislation, providing a budget and improving the monitoring processes for the wellbeing of kids and females in the country.

Parliamentarians Dialogue On Family Planning
Scoop.co.nz (press release) – 9 December 2011
On contraceptives, Ms Raitamata said the marketing of contraceptives had over the years, narrowed the concept of family planning to its partial and crippled meaning of using contraceptives. She said Family Planning needed to be restored to its original ...

Gov't agencies give focus on Kalusugan Pangkalahatan
Philippine Information Agency (press release) – 9 December 2011
DOH revealed that in 2010, there were 64 maternal mortality cases in Caraga. They are aiming to achieve zero mortality rate in the coming years through the collaborative efforts of the government and private stakeholders. ...

Burkinabe Women Experience High Rates Of Unintended Pregnancy
Modern Ghana – 9 December 2011
According to the report made available to the GNA, roughly one-third of all pregnancies in Burkina Faso are unintended and this contributes to the country's high rate of maternal mortality and ill-health. About 3600 women die every year from maternal ...
ARMM deploys 150 new midwives
Sun.Star – 9 December 2011
THE Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) is deploying 150 midwives in the region’s remote areas to enhance the delivery of basic health services to the residents, a health official announced. ARMM Health Secretary Kadil Sinolinding said the ...

India determined to eradicate polio: Minister
Zee News – 9 December 2011
With only one case of polio being reported in India this year, the government is hoping to eradicate the paralytic disease completely, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Sudip Bandyopadhyay told the Lok Sabha Friday.

Lets reduce maternal mortality – First Lady
Vibe Ghana – 9 December 2011
The First Lady Mrs Ernestina Naadu Mills on Friday called on Civil Society Organizations and other stakeholders to increase efforts in mobilizing resources to accelerate the reduction in maternal mortality in Ghana. “I am asking MCEs and DCEs in the ...

Which Is the Best Profession for Northern Women?
AllAfrica.com – 9 December 2011
Recently, the Kano State government lamented the dearth of midwives in the state, asking for more women to enter the profession. Even at the federal level, with the midwives scheme to reduce maternal mortality, by sending midwives (mostly retired) to ...

AFRICA: HIV-positive women still confused about infant-feeding choices
IRIN – 9 December 2011
The latest guidelines on infant-feeding options for HIV-positive mothers in Africa have not been disseminated in many countries, leaving women dangerously confused about the best nutritional path to protect their children from contracting the virus, a new report shows.

Manila Bulletin: Unplanned pregnancies on the rise
Manila Bulletin – 8 December 2011
According to a World Health Organization (WHO) study, one third of teen pregnancies worldwide result in abortion. In the Philippines where abortion is illegal, the numbers are unspeakable: 64,000 abortions annually, based on a study by the World Bank in 2010

International Conference Highlights Family Planning in Senegal
Voice of America – 8 December 2011
Dakar With the global population reaching 7 billion this year, doctors and health officials are advocating better family planning methods. ...

First Lady calls for improvement in nutritional needs of pregnant women
GhanaWeb – 8 December 2011
She called for concerted efforts in dealing with the high mortality rate of 80 per 1000 live births among children under five years, and high maternal mortality ratio of 451 per 100000 live births. Mrs Naadu Mills noted that in Ghana, one out of every ...
Community reality far from global ambition on mother to child transmission of HIV
Africa Science News Service – 8 December 2011
This week at ICASA, host country Ethiopia announced a new Emergency Plan on Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission. Responding to the launch, Hereni Yalew of the National Network of Positive Women Ethiopians (NNPWE) said, “We welcome Ethiopia’s new ...

UN Population Fund Executive Director on HIV/AIDS, Maternal Health, and Leadership
Forbes – 8 December 2011
This means that efforts to improve the health of women and their children, including eliminating mother-to-child transmission of HIV, requires a joint commitment and integrated efforts. Health-care systems must meet people where they are and offer a ...

First Ladies call for increase in budget allocations to address family ...
Vibe Ghana – 8 December 2011
The First Lady of Senegal, Mrs Viviane Wade has called on governments to increase budgetary allocations to family planning and reproductive health at national levels in line with the Abuja Declaration. She said African women should also be included at ...

Missed opportunity for family planning in urban hospital settings – Dr Adu ...
Vibe Ghana – 8 December 2011
Dr Kwame Adu-Bonsaffoh, an Obstetric and Gynaecologist, has said that there is a missed opportunity for family planning among women with very severe obstetric complications in urban hospital settings. Dr Kwame Adu-Bonsaffoh said despite the higher ...

African Parliaments to Raise Visibility of Maternal and Infant Health
Africa Science News Service – 8 December 2011
He spoke to Africa Science News Service at the just concluded Parliamentary Retreat on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health held in Nairobi. The meeting sought to raise awareness on maternal and infant health among members of parliament. ...

Malaria: Trying to tame a killer
The Africa Report – 8 December 2011
If seven Boeing 747s full of children crashed into a mountain every day, would the world take measures to prevent it? That was the grim analogy offered by Tanzania’s leading malaria researcher Wen Kilama, several years ago. If you did the maths, that would account for nearly 3,000 children killed each day by malaria – over a million deaths each year in Africa.

Team on wheels to spread polio message
The Deccan Chronicle – 8 December 2011
For the first time in the history of Rotary Clubs and the polio eradication drive, a nation-wide awareness rally is being launched by the Rotarians from Kochi on December 11. The rally team, comprising six Rotarians, will take the message of rooting out polio in two vehicles to 23 states ...

More attention needed to improve maternal health
UGPulse.com – 8 December 2011
Maternal death audits are tools or strategies used to understand the causes of maternal mortality and develop strategies of reducing maternal mortality. According Makerere University School of Public Health lecturer, Dr. Elizabeth Ekirapa, the Ministry ...

The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health, Secretariat hosted by the World Health Organization
Three new polio cases reported in September: FAFEN
Business Recorder (PAKISTAN) – 8 December
Three new polio cases were confirmed in September during the current year-two in Killa Abdullah district of Balochistan and another in Punjab’s Lodhran district, a Free and Fair Election Network (FAFEN) report on government healthcare facilities said on Wednesday.

Feed the Babies extends nutrition project
Daily News (SOUTH AFRICA) – 8 December 2011
The Feed the Babies Fund recently launched a project that extends its nutrition programme for children to providing food and other essentials to KwaZulu-Natal charities.

Maternal, Child Health Care: Rural doctors disappointed over incentive cuts
The Express Tribune (PAKISTAN) – 8 December 2011
ISLAMABAD: Gynecologists working in rural areas of Rawalpindi District on Wednesday expressed concern over cancellation of monetary incentives.

Diarrhea claims 183 children in the past three months in Botswana
News Xinhuanet – 8 December 2011
Botswana government announced that the outbreak of diarrhoea in the past three months across Botswana has claimed the lives of 183 children under the age of five.

Where fighting polio makes business sense
The Business Daily Africa – 8 December 2011
Two decades ago, Rotary International founded PolioPlus – a programme to immunise the world’s children against the paralysing polio disease. To date, the club has contributed more than $1 billion and millions of volunteer hours to the protection of more than two billion children in 122 countries against the disease.

Health leaders call for more effort on preventing unwanted pregnancies
Nigerian Tribune – 8 December 2011
Millions of women in Africa and the developing world will continue to suffer and die needlessly unless the global family planning community confronts its responsibility to help women with unwanted pregnancies obtain safe, legal abortion, said a former ...

Pregnancy, haunted by death
The Ottawa Citizen (Opinion) – 8 December 2011
Better access to contraceptives would not only reduce maternal deaths, reduce unsafe abortions and improve the health of newborns, because their births would not be spaced so closely together, it would increase education rates among women ...

Merck for Mothers and PATH collaborate to identify innovations that save mothers’ lives
Health Canal – 8 December 2011
Merck (NYSE: MRK), known as MSD outside the United States and Canada, awarded a grant to PATH, a global health nonprofit, to identify game-changing technologies with potential to save the lives of women during pregnancy and childbirth in low-resource settings. Spearheaded by top scientists from Merck for Mothers and PATH, this unique alliance will evaluate more than 30 promising ...