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## Children's Environmental Health International Initiatives

This is an international mailing list provided by [WHO](#) and [UNEP](#)  
dedicated to promoting healthy environments for children

September – October 2009

### Third WHO International Conference on Children's Health and the Environment

*Busan, Republic of Korea 7-10 June 2009*

The conference was a great success, attended by over 600 participants from 60 countries and more than 30 different organizations. There were nine plenary sessions, ten thematic sessions, six settings sessions and a special session on asbestos. There were also interactive community events that involved thousands of children, their parents and the Busan community in an eco-festival right outside the convention centre. [Link to conference page](#)

The Busan Pledge for Action proposed at the conference outlined the desire for a stronger international, collaborative effort and for the preparation of a global plan of action that will help reposition Children's Environmental Health in the public health arena. [The Busan Pledge](#)



### REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS

[Human Development Report 2009](#) "Overcoming Barriers: Human mobility and development".

[State of the world's vaccines and immunization, third edition](#) – new publication focuses on the major developments in vaccines and immunization since 2000.

[Protecting health in Europe from climate change](#) – This publication addresses policymakers in the health and other sectors at all levels of government.

[WHO Indoor air quality guidelines for dampness and mould](#) – This book provides an overview of the scientific evidence on the health problems associated with this ubiquitous pollution and provides WHO guidelines to protect public health.

[Children's environmental health indicators](#) – This brochure summarizes the process, outcomes and key findings of the children's environmental health indicator projects.

### CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NEWS

#### Press Releases

[Tackling global health risks prevents premature deaths](#) being underweight in childhood is one of the five important factors affecting health according to new report (27/10/09)

[Childhood vaccines at all-time high, but access not yet equitable](#) immunizations are at their highest levels but funding gap leaves millions of children still at risk (21/10/2009)

[Reducing childhood deaths from diarrhoea](#) more must be done to prevent the death of millions of children from this devastating illness (14/10/09)

[UN speeds assistance to Filipino children hit by tropical storm as death count climbs](#) rushed emergency relief effort to children and families in wake of tropical storms (28/09/09)

[UN partners with African initiative to slash numbers of starving on the continent](#) new partnership to fight against malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa (28/09/09)

[UN endeavours to ensure that children have a say in climate change moves](#) UN push to ensure children's voices and needs are not ignored (22/11/09)

#### In the Media

[Ailing planet seen as bad for human health](#)  
(The Washington Post 27/10/2009)

[Steep rise in Down's pregnancies](#)  
(BBC 27/10/2009)

[Call to act on maternal mortality](#)  
(BBC 26/10/09)

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## JOURNAL ARTICLES

### Air Pollution

[Association of Traffic-Related Air Pollution with Children's Neurobehavioral Functions in Quanzhou, China](#)

[Prenatal and Early, but Not Late, Postnatal Exposure of Mice to Sidestream Tobacco Smoke Increases Airway Hyperresponsiveness Later in Life](#)

[Biomass fuel use and indoor air pollution in homes in Malawi](#)

[Ambient particulate pollution and the world-wide prevalence of asthma, rhinoconjunctivitis and eczema in children: Phase One of the International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood \(ISAAC\)](#)

### Chemicals

[Exposure to Hydroxylated Polychlorinated Biphenyls \(OH-PCBs\) in the Prenatal Period and Subsequent Neurodevelopment in Eastern Slovakia](#)

[Postnatal Cadmium Exposure, Neurodevelopment, and Blood Pressure in Children at 2, 5, and 7 Years of Age](#)

[Maternal Blood Lead Levels and the Risk of Pregnancy-Induced Hypertension: The EDEN Cohort Study](#)

[Influence of Prenatal Lead Exposure on Genomic Methylation of Cord Blood DNA](#)

[Serum Polybrominated Diphenyl Ether \(PBDE\) Levels Are Higher in Children \(2–5 Years of Age\) than in Infants and Adults](#)

[Misery and Illness Persist in Philippine Typhoons' Wake](#)  
(NY Times 25/10/09)

[Study links urogenital birth defects with DDT](#)  
(The Medical News 24/10/09)

[Tallying the real environmental cost of biofuels](#)  
(Time Magazine 23/10/09)

[H1N1: Swine Flu's Collateral Health Benefits in Bolivia](#)  
(Time 22/10/2009)

[Oil - Soil Tests Expose High Toxic Levels](#)  
(All Africa 21/10/2009)

[A system under threat: The shrinking of Lake Chad](#)  
(FAO 16/10/2009)

[The Spread of New Diseases and the Climate Connection](#)  
(Yale enviro360 15/10/09)

[Four Perspectives on the H1N1 Virus and Vaccine](#)  
(Healthy Child 14/10/09)

[Farm Workers and Allies Ask Gov't to Protect Kids From Toxic Pesticide Drift](#)  
(Organic Consumers Association 14/10/09)

[Nearly 1,000 children poisoned with lead in China](#)  
(AFP 13/10/2009)

[Mother can pass on cancer in womb](#)  
(BBC 12/10/2009)

[Bitter lives of Bolivia's child workers](#)  
(BBC 11/10/2009)

[Tropics face fish famine due to climate change, report warns](#)  
(Guardian 8/10/09)

[After Storms, Stagnant Floodwaters Bring Disease in Philippines](#)  
(NY Times 7/10/09)

[Air quality improvements over the last decade may be a factor in fewer ear infections](#)  
(Eureka Alert 7/10/09)

[Autism Is on the Rise \(Or Is it?\)](#)  
(Newsweek 6/10/2009)

[Flu virus behind infant pneumonia in poor countries](#)  
(Nature News 5/10/09)

[Mass Lead Intoxication from Informal Used Lead-Acid Battery Recycling in Dakar, Senegal](#)

## **Water And Sanitation**

[Prenatal exposure to tetrachloroethylene-contaminated drinking water and the risk of congenital anomalies: a retrospective cohort study](#)

[Cholera Outbreak in Kenyan Refugee Camp: Risk Factors for Illness and Importance of Sanitation](#)

[Drinking-Water Herbicide Exposure in Indiana and Prevalence of Small-for-Gestational-Age and Preterm Delivery](#)

[The value of hygiene promotion: cost-effectiveness analysis of interventions in developing countries](#)

## **Global Change**

[Climate change and urban children: impacts and implications for adaptation in low- and middle-income countries](#)

[Urban poverty and vulnerability to climate change in Latin America](#)

[The implications of population growth and urbanization for climate change](#)

## **Reproductive Health**

[Environmental Factors in Birth Defects: What We Need to Know](#)

[Urinary Phthalate Metabolites in Relation to Preterm Birth in Mexico City](#)

[Do Human Milk Concentrations of Persistent Organic Chemicals Really Decline During Lactation? Chemical Concentrations During Lactation and Milk/Serum Partitioning](#)

## **General**

[Editorial: Are We Really Addressing the Core of Children's Environmental Health?](#)

[Using National and Local Extant Data to Characterize Environmental Exposures in the National Children's Study: Queens County, New York](#)

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

[1<sup>st</sup> International Seminar on Sustainable Infrastructure and Built Environment in Developing Countries.](#)

2 – 3 November 2009 Ivintra Pane, Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering ITB, Jalan Ganesa Bandung, Indonesia.

[International Conference on Environmental Pollution and Toxicology in Africa](#)

2 – 5 November 2009. Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda.

[United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#)

2 – 6 November 2009. Resumed ninth session of the AWG-KP and resumed seventh session of the AWG-LCA. Barcelona, Spain

[40th Union World Conference on Lung Disease and Health: Poverty and Lung Health](#)

3 – 7 December 2009. Cancún Center, Conventions & Exhibitions. Cancún, Mexico.

[United Nations Climate Change Conference](#)

7 - 18 December 2009 Bella Center, Copenhagen, Denmark.

[First Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety](#)

19-20 November 2009. International Trade Centre, Moscow, Russian Federation.

[The Pacific Basin Consortium for Environment and Health \(PBC\) 13th International Conference](#)

20 - 22 November 2009. Institute of Child Health Research, Perth, Australia. Contact: [info@pacificbasin.org](mailto:info@pacificbasin.org)

[Role of Environmental Stressors in the Development of Origins of Disease.](#)

7 – 10 December 2009. Thu Miami Beach, Florida, USA.

[5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Children's Health and the Environment](#)

1 – 3 February 2010. Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bangalore, Karnataka, India.

[4th International Conference on the History of Occupational and Environmental Health.](#)

19 – 22 June 2010. California. University of California, San Francisco, USA.

[Links to past issues and how to subscribe](#)

### **Have news for us?**

If you would like to submit information to future HECANET issues, email us at [heca@who.int](mailto:heca@who.int) with the subject line INFORMATION FOR HECANET".

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