Publications from International Organizations on Public Health

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The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2019. Safeguarding against economic slowdowns and downturns. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2019; 239 p. Job Number: CA5162EN ISBN 978 92 513 1570 5 This year’s report presents evidence that the absolute number of people who suffer from hunger continues to slowly increase. The report also highlights that food insecurity is more than just hunger. For the first time, the report provides evidence that many people in the world, even if not hungry, experience moderate food insecurity as they face uncertainties about their ability to obtain food and are forced to compromise on the quality and/or quantity of the food they consume. This phenomenon is observed globally, not only in low- and middle-income countries but also in high-income countries. The report also shows that the world is not on track to meet global nutrition targets, including those on low birthweight and on reducing stunting among children under five years. Moreover, overweight and obesity continue to increase in all regions, particularly among school-age children and adults. The report stresses that no region is exempt from the epidemic of overweight and obesity; underscoring the necessity of multifaceted, multisectoral approaches to halt and reverse these worrying trends.

Pesticide residues in food 2018 - Report 2018 - Joint FAO/WHO Meeting on Pesticide Residues. Report of the Joint Meeting of the FAO Panel of Experts on Pesticide Residues in Food and the Environment and the WHO Core Assessment Group on Pesticide Residues Berlin, Germany, 18–27 September 2018. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2019; 668 p. (FAO Plant Production and Protection Paper; 234) Job Number: CA2708EN ISBN 978 92 513 1156 1 During the meeting the FAO Panel of Experts was responsible for reviewing pesticide use patterns (use of good agricultural practices), data on the chemistry and composition of the pesticides and methods of analysis for pesticide residues and for estimating the maximum residue levels that might occur as a result of the use of the pesticides according to good agricultural use practices. The WHO Core Assessment Group was responsible for reviewing toxicological and related data and for estimating, where possible and appropriate, acceptable daily intakes (ADIs) and acute reference doses (AR-IDs) of the pesticides for humans. This report contains information on ADIs, AR-IDs, maximum residue levels, and general principles for the evaluation of pesticides. The recommendations of the Joint Meeting, including further research and information, are proposed for use by member governments of the respective agencies and other interested parties.

World Food and Agriculture - Statistical Pocketbook 2018. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2018; 255 p. Job Number: CA1796EN ISBN 978 92 513 1012 0 This pocketbook presents, at a glance, selected key indicators on agriculture and food security, and is meant to serve as an easy-to-access and quick reference for all stakeholders and partners involved in policy formulation or decision-making processes. The indicators are presented in two sections, one thematic and one country-specific; they are organized along four main themes: 1) The setting, that measures the state of the agricultural resource base by assessing the supply of land, labour, capital and inputs; 2) Hunger dimensions, which gauges the state of food insecurity and malnutrition, and highlights the four dimensions – availability, access, stability and utilization – that determine the scale of hunger and the shape of undernourishment; 3) Food supply, which evaluates the past and present productive capacity of world agriculture, together with the role of trade, in meeting the world’s demand for food, feed and other products; and 4) Environment, which examines the sustainability of agriculture in the context of the pressure it exerts on its ecological surroundings.
to promote occupational safety and health for the most vulnerable groups of workers.

Addati L, Cattaneo U, Esquivel V, et al. Care work and care jobs for the future of decent work. Geneva: ILO. 2018, 526 p. Sw.fr.40.00/US $ 40.00 ISBN 978 92 213 1642 8. The report analyses the ways in which unpaid care work is recognized and organized, the extent and quality of care jobs and their impact on the well-being of individuals and society. A key focus of this report is the persistent gender inequalities in households and the labour market, which are inextricably linked with care work. These gender inequalities must be overcome to make care work decent and to ensure a future of decent work for both women and men. The report contains a wealth of original data drawn from over 90 countries and details transformative policy measures in five main areas: care, macroeconomics, labour, social protection and migration. It also presents projections on the potential for decent care job creation offered by remedying current care work deficits and meeting the related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Global AIDS update 2019 — Communities at the centre. Defending rights, breaking barriers, reaching people with HIV services. Geneva: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. 2019, 316 p. The epidemic is changing: in 2018, more than half of all new HIV infections were among key populations—sex workers, people who use drugs, gay men and other men who have sex with men, transgender people and prisoners—and their partners. Globally, new HIV infections among young women (aged 15–24 years) were reduced by 25% between 2010 and 2018. This is good news, but of course, it remains unacceptable that 6,000 adolescent girls and young women become infected with HIV every week. The AIDS response has demonstrated what is possible when people organize and assert their rights. When communities organize and people empower each other, oppression can be replaced by rights and access to HIV services can be accelerated. Peer-to-peer counsellors, community health workers, door-to-door service providers, grass-roots activists and networks of people living with or affected by HIV all have key roles to play in the response to HIV. As this report shows, community leadership in the AIDS response helps to ensure that HIV services are relevant to, and reach, the people who need them the most. Communities play a critical role in holding decision-makers to account and demanding political leadership.

UNAIDS Gender Action Plan - First progress report. Geneva: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. 2019, 16 p. The UNAIDS Gender Action Plan is a tool for transformative change with its targets and commitments paving the way towards a gender-equal workplace. Today more than ever before, gender parity is an urgent priority and essential to UNAIDS’ legitimacy and effectiveness. The first year of UNAIDS Gender Action Plan 2018–2023 coincided with a time of global gender upheaval. People around the world, led by women and connected by social media, are united against gender inequality. Within just one year, the Plan has made remarkable progress. It has put in motion nine and successfully accomplished eleven of the 30 commitments. At the same time, evidence is mounting that gender equality between women and men in all of their diversity is not only a good in itself, but serves and benefits all people. A more gender equal society is healthier and more productive. A more gender equal workforce is more effective and innovative and delivers bigger growth.

Tuberculosis and HIV — Progress towards the 2020 target. Geneva: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. 2019, 12 p. Most countries are not on track and too many people living with HIV are still dying from TB which is preventable and curable. The most vulnerable and the marginalized are still out of reach of HIV and TB services and in around 40 countries the number of TB deaths among people living with HIV is increasing. The epidemics of TB and HIV are closely interlinked. Yet, too often, TB and HIV activities are not coordinated—a missed opportunity that is costing lives. This is unacceptable. The world is moving closer to meeting the United Nations target of reducing tuberculosis (TB) deaths among people living with HIV by 75% by 2020. Between 2010 and 2017, TB deaths among people living with HIV fell by 42% and many countries are now on track to achieving the target by 2020. Five have already done so, ahead of schedule.

UN Environment 2018 Annual Report. Putting the environment at the heart of people’s lives. Nairobi: United Nations Environment Programme. 2019, 44 p. UN Environment released its 2018 Annual Report, highlighting the organization’s work on issues from fighting pollution of the air and sea to helping nations meet their goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. “While 2018 was a challenging year, we saw hope in growing action and global commitment to new ways of doing business that tackle the environmental challenges we face,” said UN Environment Acting Executive Director Joyce Msuya. “Our role in highlighting best practices, advocating action and bringing together governments, civil society and businesses once again proved critical.”

Publications from international organizations. The 2018/19 edition continues the tradition of highly referenced texts accompanied by illustrative infographics and featuring the interactivity of links to videos on related research and information. Frontiers 2018/19 explores the emerging environmental issues facing the planet. It was launched on 4 March 2019 prior to the fourth UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya. The report covers five key emerging issues: the latest developments in synthetic biology; the critical advantages of landscape connectivity; the complex interactions and vulnerability of permafrost peatlands; the challenges of widespread nitrogen pollution; and the hazards of maladaptation in a world of climate change.

**WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)**

**RESPECT women: Preventing violence against women.** Geneva: World Health Organization. 2019, 24 p. WHO reference number: WHO/RHR/18.19 Violence against women is a major public health problem rooted in gender inequality, and is a gross violation of women’s human rights affecting the lives and health of millions of women and girls. Aiming to end violence against women, a package/framework for policymakers with infographics on prevention of violence against women was developed, based on the UN framework for action to prevent violence against women from 2015 and updated new evidence.

**WHO global report on traditional and complementary medicine 2019.** Geneva: World Health Organization. 2019, 226 p. Order number: 11500949 Sw.fr.40.00/US $ 48.00 ISBN 978 92 4 15 1543 6 This report is structured in five parts: national framework for traditional and complementary medicine (T&CM); product regulation; practices and practitioners; the challenges faced by countries; and, finally, the country profiles. Apart from the section on practices and practitioners, the report is consistent with the format of the report of the first global survey in order to provide a useful comparison. The section on practices and practitioners, which covers providers, education and health insurance, is a new section incorporated to reflect the emerging trends in T&CM and to gather new information regarding these topics at a national level. All new information received has been incorporated into individual country profiles and data graphs.

**Drinking coffee, mate, and very hot beverages.** Geneva: World Health Organization. 2019, 504 p. Order number: 17200116 Sw.fr.75.00/US $ 90.00 (IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans; 116) ISBN 978 92 832 0154 0 This volume of the IARC Monographs presents evaluations of the carcinogenic hazard to humans of drinking coffee and very hot beverages including, but not limited to, mate. An IARC Monographs Working Group reviewed epidemiological evidence, animal bioassays and co-carcinogenicity studies, and mechanistic and other relevant data to reach conclusions as to the carcinogenic hazard to humans of drinking coffee, mate, and very hot beverages. The Working Group assessed more than 1000 observational and experimental studies that investigated the association between cancer at more than 20 sites with drinking coffee, mate, and very hot beverages.