On 8 September, WHO and its partners appealed for US$ 4.2 million to provide health care for many of the 800 000 people – including children and pregnant women – affected by tropical storms in Haiti. On 8 September, WHO and its partners appealed for US$ 9.76 million to respond to the humanitarian crisis following recent conflict and flooding in Pakistan.

Health ministers from countries of the African meningitis belt, on 4 September, committed themselves to introduce a highly promising candidate meningitis vaccine. The vaccine is designed to prevent periodic epidemics of the deadly disease in these countries.

WHO’s Commission on the Social Determinants of Health presented its findings to the Director-General, Dr Margaret Chan, on 28 August. Read the report here: http://www.who.int/social_determinants/en/

For more about these and other WHO news items please see: http://www.who.int/mediacentre