# Publications from International Organizations on Public Health

Edited by **Annarita Barbaro** 

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)

Climate change: Unpacking the burden on food safety. Food safety and quality series No. 8. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 2020; 176 p. ISBN 978-92-5-132293-2. The purpose of this report is to identify and attempt to quantify some current and anticipated food safety issues that are associated with climate change. The food safety hazards considered in the publication are foodborne pathogens and parasites, harmful algal blooms, pesticides, mycotoxins, and heavy metals with emphasis on methylmercury. There is also a dedicated section on the benefits of forward-looking approaches such as horizon scanning and foresight, which will not only aid in anticipating future challenges in a shifting global food safety landscape, but also will help build resilient food systems that can be continually updated as more knowledge is assimilated.

Food Outlook - Biannual Report on Global Food Markets. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 2019; 104 p. ISBN 978-92-5-131932-1. Food Outlook is a biannual publication focusing on developments affecting global food and feed markets. Each report provides market assessments and short-term forecasts for a wide array of food commodities, including cereals, fish, sugar, oil crops and milk as well as meat and includes feature articles on topical issues. The current edition also has special reports on the global impact of the spread of African Swine Fever and the outlook for banana, avocado and other tropical fruit exports from the Latin American and the Caribbean region. Food Outlook maintains a close synergy with another major GIEWS publication, Crop Prospects and Food Situation, especially regarding the coverage of cereals.

## UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Start Free Stay Free AIDS Free - 2020 report. Geneva: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS 2020; 50 p. This progress report reviews recent gains, new developments and remaining challenges as countries approach the UN 2020 targets of the Start Free, Stay Free, AIDS Free framework. This framework is based on three basic concepts: first, babies have the

right to enter the world free of HIV by eliminating the vertical transmission of HIV; second, through HIV prevention, children, adolescents, and young women have the right to stay free of the virus; third, children and adolescents who do acquire HIV have the right to be identified, treated, and cared for it in a timely manner, with access to optimal antiretroviral therapy so that they can remain AIDS free. In 2020, the initiative is in its final year, but final progress will not be known until a few months after the end date of December 2020. The report recognizes that, with less than a year to go, despite much progress, most of the targets will not be met and service disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic will potentially increase these gaps. Future plans for addressing children and adolescents within the HIV epidemic will require clearly focusing on regaining the progress that has been lost while using the lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)

Safe back to school: a practitioner's guide. USA: UNESCO Publishing 2020; 24 p. As governments prepare to reopen schools and other learning sites, ministries and school communities must minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19 within learning spaces and address the learning inequalities and protection concerns exacerbated by COVID-19 school closures. This guide aims to be a user-friendly, practitioner-focused tool that outlines the key steps needed for a coordinated, inclusive, all-hazards approach to school reopening. The guide is divided into two sections: Checklists with lists of key actions for Health, Nutrition, WASH, Monitoring and Evaluation, Education and Child Protection sectors before and after schools reopen and Technical annexes which provide detailed guidance and resources for specific activities mentioned in the checklists.

The United Nations world water development report 2020: water and climate change. Paris: UNE-SCO Publishing 2020; 219 p. ISBN: 978-92-3-100371-4. The 2020 edition of the World Water Development Report addresses the critical linkages between water and climate change in the context of sustainable development. It also serves as a guide for concrete actions to address these challenges. It outlines actions, supported by examples from across the world, in three areas: first, enabling people to adapt to the impacts of climate change; second, improving the resilience of livelihoods;

and, third, reducing the drivers of climate change. The report concludes that reducing both the impacts and drivers of climate change will require substantial changes in the way we use and reuse the Earth's limited water resources. The report is not meant to be a purely technical examination of the impacts of climate change on the hydrological cycle. Rather, it is meant to focus on the challenges, opportunities and potential responses to climate change – in terms of adaptation, mitigation and improved resilience – that can be addressed through improving how water resources are management and used, while providing water supply and sanitation services for all in a sustainable manner.

#### ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)

OECD Employment Outlook 2020: Worker Security and the COVID-19 Crisis. Paris: OECD Publishing 2020; 339 p. ISBN 978-92-64-99828-5. The 2020 edition of the OECD Employment Outlook focuses on worker security and the COVID-19 crisis. Chapter 1 provides an initial assessment of the labor market consequences of the COVID-19 outbreak and the resulting economic crisis. Chapter 2 investigates the uneven access to unemployment benefits for workers in part-time and less stable jobs and discusses the difficult balance between work incentives and income security. Chapter 3 provides a comparative review of employment protection legislation (EPL) across OECD countries by developing a new version of the OECD's EPL indicators, which now include an improved assessment of regulations for collective redundancies, unfair dismissals, and enforcement issues. Chapter 4 takes a fresh look at job polarization, and the hollowing out of jobs in middle-skill occupations. Finally, Chapter 5 examines the changing labor market outcomes for middle-education vocational, education and training graduates, whose labor market perspectives are challenged by the contraction of jobs in middle-skill occupations.

## INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

Teleworking during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. A practical guide. Geneva: International Labour Office, 2020; 46 p. ISBN 978-92-2-032404-2 (print) ISBN 978-92-2-032405-9 (web PDF). The purpose of this guide is to provide practical and actionable recommendations for effective teleworking that are applicable to a broad range of actors, to support policymakers in updating existing policies, and to provide a flexible framework through which both private enterprises and public sector organizations can develop or update their own teleworking policies and practices. The guide presents 8 focus areas, offers relevant definitions, the main issues for considerations, and presents a number of case examples regarding how employers and policymakers have been handling teleworking during the

COVID-19 pandemic addressing the lessons learned from the recent months that are relevant for the future of teleworking arrangements beyond the pandemic. The guide also contains a list of available tools and resources and references to national government policies, which were designed to respond to the public health crisis, alongside international labour standards laid down in relevant conventions and recommendations.

Telework in the 21st Century. An Evolutionary Perspective. The ILO Future of Work series. Edited by Jon C. Messenger. Geneva: International Labour Office 2019; 352 p. ISBN:9781789903744. Technological developments have enabled a dramatic expansion and also an evolution of telework, broadly defined as using ICTs to perform work from outside of an employer's premises. This book offers a new conceptual framework explaining the evolution of telework over four decades. It reviews national experiences from Argentina, Brazil, India, Japan, the United States, and ten EU countries regarding the development of telework, its various forms and effects. It also analyses large-scale surveys and company case studies regarding the incidence of telework and its effects on working time, work-life balance, occupational health and well-being, and individual and organizational performance.

### WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

WHO report on cancer: setting priorities, investing wisely and providing care for all. Geneva: World Health Organization 2020; 149 p. ISBN 9789240001299 (electronic version), 9789240001305 (print version). This report introduces the principles, tools, and current priorities in cancer control. It also presents new evidence of the value of cancer control as an investment, with substantial human and economic returns. The report seeks to change the dialogue on cancer from one based on fear of death, financial catastrophe, uncertainty, and resignation to a positive message that cancer can be controlled through strategic, high-impact investments in programs, policies and services. Pragmatic decision-making and evidence-based interventions can yield value for money and sustainable development. This report complements the IARC World Cancer Report as well as WHO global reports on tobacco and alcohol.

Global status report on preventing violence against children 2020. Geneva: World Health Organization 2020; 332 p. ISBN 9789240004191 (electronic version) 9789240004207 (print version). This report explores the progress that countries have made in implementing activities to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) targets on ending violence against children through the lens of the seven INSPIRE evidence-based strategies for ending violence against children. In detail, this report focuses on the interpersonal violence that accounts for most acts of violence against children, and includes child maltreatment, bul-

lying and other types of youth violence, and intimate partner violence. Although childhood exposure to interpersonal violence can increase the risk for subsequent self-directed violence (including suicide and self-harm) and the likelihood of collective violence (including war and terrorism) – and similar root causes underlie all three forms of violence – these forms of violence are not covered by the report.

Global tuberculosis report 2019. Geneva: World Health Organization 2019; 284 p. ISBN 978-92-4-156571-4. The World Health Organization (WHO) has published a global tuberculosis (TB) report every year since 1997 with the purpose of providing a comprehensive and up-to-date assessment of the TB epidemic in order to progress in the response to the epidemic, at global, regional, and country levels. Leaders of all UN Member States have committed to "ending the global TB epidemic" by 2030, backed up by concrete milestones

and targets. Global indicators for reductions in TB cases and deaths, improved access to TB prevention and care and increased financing all indicate that progress is being made. The report is based primarily on data gathered by WHO in annual rounds of data collection, and databases maintained by other multilateral agencies. In 2019, data were reported by 202 countries and territories that account for more than 99% of the world's population and estimated number of TB cases. Globally, an estimated 10.0 million (range, 9.0-11.1 million) people fell ill with TB in 2018, a number that has been relatively stable in recent years. The burden of disease varies enormously among countries, from fewer than five to more than 500 new cases per 100 000 population per year, with the global average being around 130. TB affects people of both sexes in all age groups, but the highest burden is in men (aged ≥15 years), who accounted for 57% of all TB cases in 2018. By comparison, women accounted for 32% and children (aged <15 years) for 11%.