

High-level Nigerian government participation is needed at an upcoming international conference to make progress in ending a lead poisoning epidemic among children in Zamfara State, Human Rights Watch said today.

The international conference, in Abuja, the capital, on May 9 and 10, 2012, will include representatives from the World Health Organization, bilateral donor agencies and nongovernmental organizations. It will focus on the mass lead poisoning in the northern Nigerian state of Zamfara, one of the worst such crises in modern history. More than 400 children have died there since March 2010 from lead exposure related to artisanal gold mining. Thousands of other children remain in ill-health and at risk of long-term disability or death. (...)

The article:

<http://www.hrw.org/news/2012/05/06/nigeria-show-commitment-child-lead-poisoning>

The video:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5N8e3XbnxG8&feature=player_embedded

More about:

<http://www.business-humanrights.org/Links/Repository/1012821>

<http://www.hrw.org/node/107652>