



<i>Title:</i> <b>WACAP Stakeholders' Meeting on Experience Sharing, Lessons Learned, Good Practices, the Way Forward and Perspectives on Child Labour in Cocoa/Commercial Agriculture</b>		
<i>Code:</i> A1 00774	<i>Duration:</i> 4 days	<i>Dates:</i> From 18 <sup>th</sup> to 21 <sup>st</sup> of April 2006
<i>Venue:</i> Turin (ITALY)	<i>Course language:</i> English / French	

## JUSTIFICATION

1. The aim of ILO-IPEC is the progressive elimination of child labour, especially in its worst forms. The political will and commitment of individual governments to address child labour—in cooperation with employers' organizations, trade unions, non-governmental organizations and other relevant parties in society—is the basis for ILO-IPEC action. ILO-IPEC's strategy includes raising awareness on the negative consequences of child labour, promoting social mobilization against it, strengthening national capacities to deal with this issue and implementing demonstrative direct action programs (AP) to prevent children from child labour and remove child labourers from hazardous work and provide them with appropriate alternatives.
2. The West Africa Cocoa / Commercial Agriculture Project to Combat Hazardous and Exploitative Child labour (WACAP), is a sub-regional project that aims at preventing and progressively eliminating hazardous child labour in selected cocoa and other agricultural sub-sectors in Ghana, Cameroon, Guinea, Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire. WACAP started officially in September 2002; the team in charge of implementation started working in January 2003. Its planned end-date is end of April 2006. The budget of the intervention provided by the main donor, the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) amounts to USD five million. An additional USD one million is provided by the International Confectionary Association-Cocoa Global Issues Group. The immediate objectives of WACAP are the following:
  - By the end of the project, selected public and private sector partner and concerned agencies have **strengthened capacity** to plan, initiate, implement, monitor and evaluate action against child labour
  - By the end of the project there is increased **awareness / social mobilization** among the children, families and communities and within concerned public and private sector agencies on issues related to child labour, particularly to hazards for children in the cocoa

/ agriculture sector and viable alternatives to child labour (Component 2: Awareness Raising and Social Mobilization)

- By the end of the project, model (pilot) interventions have been tested for **withdrawal of children from work, removal of workplace hazards for those of working age, and provision of appropriate social protection options for their families** are available (Component 3: Direct Action)
  - By the end of the project, the situation of children withdrawn and prevented from child labour is being monitored and verified in selected areas through a credible, affordable and feasible / sustainable **child labour monitoring system**
  - By the end of the project, there is an enhanced **knowledge base** through action-oriented research and a viable **information** dissemination system.
3. WACAP is collaborating with key partners in the field. Among them, it is important to highlight the project on Sustainable Tree Crops Program to support smallholder farmers in Africa (STCP), funded mainly by the United States Agency for International Development. Additionally, the project cooperates with the International Cocoa Initiative (ICI) of the World Cocoa Foundation. In each country, the project works in coordination with governmental agencies, especially the ministries of labour, trade unions, employers' associations and non-governmental organizations. Other international organizations are also key partners for the project.
4. Despite the situation of instability in Côte d'Ivoire, which led to the relocation of WACAP's regional office, the project has made considerable progress towards the achievement of its five objectives. Many activities have been and are still being undertaken at the national and sub-regional levels. WACAP achievements so far include the following:
- the publication of a Manual for Farmers (training of trainers) on child labour, which was used for training and awareness raising purposes in all five project countries;
  - the drafting of a Manual for Education Practitioners, which will soon be published in both English and French, and whose draft has been used for training of trainers workshops in almost all project countries;
  - the completion of Occupational Safety and Health studies to identify and determine hazardous faced by child labourers working in cocoa/commercial agriculture in all project countries, whose synopsis once made will be published;
  - the completion of Rapid Assessments and Baseline Surveys to provide a clear analysis of the problem of child labour in cocoa/commercial agriculture in each of the project countries;
  - the completion of Knowledge, Attitudes and Perceptions Studies on child labour , especially in cocoa/commercial agriculture, in Ghana and Nigeria;
  - the installation of community-based Child Labour Monitoring Systems (CLMS) in all five countries
    - Ghana, the pilot country, is about to come out with the third report generated from the System. The country's second report was used by the Government to draft a report on cocoa certification as required under the Harkin-Engels Protocol;

- Côte d'Ivoire, the next country in which the CLMS was set-up, generated its first report from the System. The Prime Minister's Office created its own CLMS in one region with technical advice from WACAP;
- the remaining countries are progressing towards the production of their first reports;
- the withdrawal/prevention as of September 2005, of the following number of children engaged in or at risk of engaging in child labour in cocoa/commercial agriculture:
  - Cameroon: 750
  - Côte d'Ivoire: 7,478
  - Ghana: 900
  - Guinea: 561
  - Nigeria: 190

already providing a total higher than that anticipated in the project document, due to more children being covered by the project in Côte d'Ivoire;

- inspiration and provision of technical and financial assistance for the creation of national programmes to eliminate child labour in the cocoa sector in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, which will sustain WACAP's objectives in those countries;
  - and several other achievements.
5. As the end of the project is approaching, there is a need to draw together tripartite representatives from the five countries to share experiences, lessons learned, good practices, successful strategies and pave the way forward.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP**

By the end of this tripartite workshop, it is expected that:

- Participants will have discussed and shared experiences, lessons and good practices;
- Participants will have identified and analyzed emerging successful strategies, especially on particular components of the project, such education, the CLMS, the Manual for Farmers and OSH and awareness raising;
- Participants will have given their perspectives and will have paved the way forward to sustain the interventions initiated by WACAP.

#### **PARTICIPANT LIST**

Participants will be drawn from ILO tripartite partners. ILO/IPEC/WACAP's other partners will be invited as resource persons.

The total number of participants (excluding ILO officials) will be as follows:

- Cameroon: 1 representative from the Ministry of Labour,  
 1 representative from an Employers' Organization,  
 1 representative from a Workers' Organization, and  
 2 representatives from Non-Governmental Organizations.

Côte d'Ivoire: 1 representative from the Ministry of Labour,  
1 representative from the Ministry of Education,  
1 representative from an Employers' Organization,  
1 representative from a Workers' Organization, and  
1 representative from a Non-Governmental Organization.

Ghana: 1 representative from the Ministry of Labour,  
1 representative from the Employers' Organization,  
1 representative from a Workers' Organization, and  
1 representative from a Non-Governmental Organization

Guinea: 1 representative from the Ministry of Labour,  
1 representative from an Employers' Organization,  
1 representative from a Workers' Organization, and  
2 representatives from Non-Governmental Organizations.

Nigeria: 1 representative from the Ministry of Labour,  
1 representative from an Employers' Organization,  
2 representatives from Workers' Organizations, and  
1 representative from a Non-Governmental Organization