



A901313

International labour standards reporting: child labour conventions

12 – 16 October 2009

Turin, Italy



International
Programme
on the Elimination
of Child Labour
(IPEC)



International Training Centre



Justification

According to ILO estimates¹ there are some 317 million children aged 5 to 17 engaged in some form of economic activity in the world, including 190 million in the age group from 5 to 14 years. "Economic activity" encompasses most productive activities of children: it includes both work that is permissible under the ILO Child Labour Conventions and work that is not suitable for children. "Child labour", however, is a narrower concept: it signifies work that children should not be doing, either because they are below the legal minimum age (usually 14 or 15 years), or because the nature of the work is such that it is entirely unacceptable for any person under 18 (e.g. hazardous work). ILO action targets the elimination of "child labour" as defined in the ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and the ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182). ILO-IPEC's research identified an estimated 217.7 million children aged 5 to 17 years in child labour, of which 165.8 million were below the age of 15 and 107.6 million below the age of 12; 126.3 million child labourers were working in hazardous situations or conditions, of which 74.3 million children below 15 years of age.

The problem of child labour is immense. Its elimination requires the concerted effort of a number of key players (governments, international organizations, employers and their organizations, trade unions, NGOs, local communities, the children themselves and their parents). In the most successful instances, these "actors" collaborate together in designing and/or carrying out sustained, long-term and comprehensive approaches to combating the problem.

With its broad mandate to promote social justice and decent work, the ILO has the unique competence to combat Child Labour. Since its creation in 1919, the ILO has addressed the issue of Child Labour, at first through the formulation of minimum age levels for various types of work. This process culminated in 1973 in the adoption of one consolidated Convention on minimum age for admission to work: Convention No. 138. Since 1999, the struggle against child labour has been reinforced with the adoption of the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention No. 182, which calls for countries to take immediate action to secure the prohibition and elimination of all worst forms of child labour.

Article 22 of the ILO Constitution requires member States to make regular reports on the measures which they have taken to give effect to the Conventions that they have ratified. A first report should be submitted during the year after the entry into force in a given country. Subsequent reports are requested periodically on one of the following bases: two-yearly reports for the twelve fundamental and priority Conventions (among which the Minimum Age Convention No. 138 and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention No. 182) and five-yearly reports for all the other ILO Conventions. Reports can also be requested more often if needed. Each detailed report on a ratified Convention has to be supplied on the basis of a report form which is approved by the ILO Governing Body, and which contains the substantive provisions of the Convention and a number of questions on how it is applied, both in law and in practice. Under article

23(2) of the Constitution, copies of all reports on the application of ratified Conventions should be communicated to representative organizations of employers and workers. Workers and employers may send their comments on the report either prior to finalization of the report to the Government for consideration, or directly to the ILO. Where a country has ratified the Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144), governments are obligated to consult workers' and employers' organizations when preparing reports.



Learning objectives

At the end of the training activity, the participants will have increased their capacity to better understand:

- the international labour standards system procedures and, in particular, its supervisory mechanisms;
- the content and obligations deriving from the ratification of C.138 and C.182 and how to better report to the ILO on their implementation;
- the importance of key stakeholders coordination to define and put in place a national policy to better structure and submit the information necessary for the supervision of the application of C.138 and C.182.



Participants' profile

This training is mainly designed for participants with the following profiles:

Officers from relevant ministries, in charge of actions to eliminate child labour, in particular, from the Ministry of Labour but also from Ministries of Education, Social Affairs and Justice and from other government institutions involved in policies, programmes and projects where child labour concerns are included, such as vulnerable groups, migration and local development. Officers from labour inspection, occupational safety and health units and from relevant security forces units.

- Representatives of employers' and workers' organizations involved in child labour elimination actions.
- Representatives of public policy makers, policy planners and advisers; particularly members of national steering committees and those involved in national development planning processes and frameworks aimed at the elimination of child labour.
- Relevant technical staff from development organizations and NGOs, including implementing agencies of the ILO-IPEC programme.
- Practitioners and consultants of national and international development agencies who wish to strengthen, within the area of child labour elimination, their technical expertise

1 Global child labour trends 2000 to 2004 (Geneva, ILO), April 2006

and knowledge of the relevant international labour standards in this area of work.

- Researchers, academics, technical specialists and others where knowledge of the relevant international labour standards on child labour will complement and enhance their respective work related to this field.
- ILO-IPEC staff.



Structure and content of the training

- The main subject areas to be covered in the workshop are:
- The international labour standards system: main characteristics and procedures - from the adoption of standards to their application at national level.
- General introduction to child labour.
- ILO action to eliminate child labour.
- The work of the ILO's supervisory bodies.
- The ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.
- Other international instruments relevant in the fight to eliminate child labour.
- ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No.138), in-depth analysis and reporting requirements: a tripartite view.
- ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), in-depth analysis and reporting requirements: a tripartite view.
- Information compilation and preparation of national reports on ILS on child labour: the role of employers' and workers' organizations and other relevant stakeholders.
- Taking gender into account.
- ILS on child labour as a useful and dynamic tool for action against child labour.



Methodology

The programme will take a highly participatory and practical approach which requires full involvement by all participants.

Training methods will include presentations by specialists from ILO Geneva and Turin Centre trainers, role-plays and practical exercises followed by discussions.

Case-study/role-play training material, specifically developed for this course, will be used to deal with the procedures of the international labour standards system, with a particular focus on the reporting on the fundamental child labour conventions.



Evaluation

Individual and group exercises will generate continuous feedback between trainers and participants. At the end of

each role-play, learning will be assessed by the terminology review method.

At the end of the course, an evaluation form on the training and organizational aspects of the course will be distributed for participants to express their opinions and provide trainers and organizers with suggestions for future activities.

Costs

The total cost of participation in the course is **2,300 Euros** and includes tuition fees and subsistence costs.

Tuition fees 1,340 € cover:

- tuition;
- books and training materials;
- course preparation, implementation and evaluation.

Subsistence costs 960 € cover:

- full board and lodging at the Turin Centre's Campus;
- laundry;
- local study visit (if any);
- minor medical care and emergency medical insurance;
- socio-cultural activities.

The price indicated **does not include** travel costs between participants' home and the course venue. The cost of passports, visas to enter Italy, airport taxes, internal travel in the participant's home country and unauthorized stopovers is not reimbursed.

Payment should be made in advance by bank transfer to:

Account No. 560001
Bank: Intesa-Sanpaolo SPA
IBAN: IT36 B030 6901 1911 0000 0560 001
SWIFT: BCITITMM701
Address: Viale Maestri del Lavoro 10, 10127 Turin - Italy

Note: On the bank transfer form, kindly state your name and the course code (A901313).

Fellowships

Fellowships are available to qualifying candidates.

The employers' organizations and workers' organizations to be granted a fellowship for this activity will be selected by the Secretaries of the Employers' Group and of the Workers' Group of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office.

Applications

Applications to participate should be sent, by e-mail (normesturin@itcilo.org) or by fax (+39 011 693 6906), to the Manager of the Standards and Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Programme.

They should be supported by a curriculum vitae and a nomination letter from the sponsoring/funding institution.

In line with the ILO's mandate to promote social justice and universally recognized human and labour rights, the Turin Centre encourages applications from women.

For further information, please contact:

International Training Centre of the ILO
Standards and Fundamental Principles and Rights
at Work Programme
Viale Maestri del Lavoro 10, 10127 Turin (Italy)

E-mail: normesturin@itcilo.org
Phone: + 39 011 693 6626 / 6946 / 6931
Fax: + 39 011 693 6906
Web site: <http://training.itcilo.org/ils/>