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⁵⁹⁹ UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (UNIAP), *COMMIT Process*, [online] 2007 [cited December 13 2007]; available from http://no-trafficking.org/content/COMMIT_Process/commit_background.html#01. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cambodia," section 5.

⁶⁰⁰ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 28, 2008*, 11.

⁶⁰¹ U.S. Embassy - Phnom Penh, *reporting* November 20, 2007, para 3.

⁶⁰² World Education, *OPTIONS: Combating Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation through Education in Cambodia*, Technical Progress Report, September 2007, 3.

⁶⁰³ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 28, 2008*, 17.

⁶⁰⁴ Ministry of Tourism and ILO, *Ministry of Tourism of the Kingdom of Cambodia and ILO Team Up to Advocate Promotion of "Child Safe" Tourism Policies to Prevent Trafficking in Children and Women*, September 22, 2005; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/child/trafficking/downloads/camtourismnews.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Cambodia."

⁶⁰⁵ U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, March 5, 2007*, para 4a. See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, August 30, 2005*, para 27. See also Human Trafficking.org, *Ministry of Women's and Veteran's Affairs (MWVA) Profile*, [online] 2007 [cited December 13, 2007]; available from <http://www.humantrafficking.org/organizations/44>.

⁶⁰⁶ U.S. Department of Labor, *Children's Empowerment through Education Services: Eliminating the Worst Forms of*

Child Labor in Cambodia, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC, 2007.

⁶⁰⁷ ILO -IPEC, *Support to the Cambodian National Plan of Action on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour: A Timebound Approach*, Project Document, Geneva, September 2004.

⁶⁰⁸ Winrock International, *Child Labor Reduction through Community Based Education*, [online] 2007 [cited December 13, 2007]; available from <http://www.winrock.org/fact/facts.asp?CC=5519&bu=>

⁶⁰⁹ U.S. Department of Labor, *OPTIONS: Combating Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation through Education*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC, 2007.

⁶¹⁰ U.S. Department of Labor, *Reintegration of Trafficked Women*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC, 2007.

⁶¹¹ HumanTrafficking.org, *U.S. Promises Funding to Counter Human Trafficking in Cambodia*, [online] October 27, 2006 [cited December 13, 2007]; available from <http://www.humantrafficking.org/updates/442>.

⁶¹² World Education, *OPTIONS: Combating Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation through Education in Cambodia*, Technical Progress Report, March 2007, 3. See also USAID, *USAID Counter Trafficking in Persons Project Summary*, August 2005; available from http://www.usaid.gov/kh/One_Pager/counter_trafficking_in_persons.pdf. See also Asia Foundation, *In Cambodia: Ending Violence against Women*, [online] 2007 [cited December 13, 2007]; available from <http://asiafoundation.org/in-asia/2007/11/21/in-cambodia-ending-violence-against-women/>.

⁶¹³ Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), *Aid Activities in Cambodia*, [online] 2007 [cited December 13, 2007]; available from http://www.ausaid.gov.au/country/cbrief.cfm?DCon=1061_5593_8716_8236_8498&CountryID=34&Region=EastAsia.

Cameroon

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Cameroon work in agriculture and the informal sector. Children work in fisheries, raising livestock, and on family cocoa farms.⁶¹⁴ In urban areas, children work in the informal sector as street vendors (selling goods such as tissues and water),

car washers, and domestic servants.⁶¹⁵ A large number of displaced children reside in urban areas, including Yaoundé, and Douala, and perform work in the informal sector.⁶¹⁶ Children may also work in mines, and a number of girls are forced into commercial sexual exploitation.⁶¹⁷

***Selected Statistics and Indicators
on Child Labor⁶¹⁸***

Working children, 10-14 years (%), 2001:	15.9
Working boys, 10-14 years (%), 2001:	14.5
Working girls, 10-14 years (%), 2001:	17.4
Working children by sector, 10-14 years (%), 2001:	
- Agriculture	88.2
- Manufacturing	2.1
- Services	7.1
- Other	2.6
Minimum age for work:	14
Compulsory education age:	14
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	109
Net primary enrollment rate (%):	-
School attendance, children 10-14 years (%), 2001:	84.6
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2004:	64
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes
* Must pay miscellaneous school expenses.	

Cameroon is a source, transit, and destination country for the trafficking of children for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor. However, most of the trafficking in Cameroon occurs internally.⁶¹⁹ Girls are trafficked from Adamawa, North, Far North, and Northwest provinces to Douala and Yaoundé to work as street vendors, domestic servants, and for commercial sexual exploitation. Boys and girls are trafficked internally for forced labor in restaurants, bars, sweatshops, and on tea plantations.⁶²⁰ Children are trafficked from Nigeria, Chad, the Central African Republic, Congo, Benin, and Niger for forced labor in street vending and agriculture. Cameroon also serves as a country of transit for children trafficked between Gabon and Nigeria, and from Nigeria to Saudi Arabia.⁶²¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for admission to work in Cameroon is 14 years, which is the same minimum age for entering into an apprenticeship.⁶²² Children are prohibited from working at night; moving heavy weights; performing dangerous and

unhealthy tasks; or working in confined areas.⁶²³ Children are prohibited from working longer than 8 hours a day.⁶²⁴ The law specifies that children cannot work in any job that exceeds their physical capacity, and the Labor Inspectors can require child laborers to take a medical exam to determine if such a situation exists.⁶²⁵ Violations of child labor provisions are punishable by fines.⁶²⁶

The law prohibits slavery and servitude.⁶²⁷ The penalty for a person who subjects a child to debt bondage is 5 to 10 years in prison and a fine.⁶²⁸ Cameroon's anti-trafficking law defines child trafficking as the act of moving or helping to move a child within or outside Cameroon to reap financial or material benefit.⁶²⁹ The law requires authorization from a parent in order for a child to travel.⁶³⁰ Under the law, individuals who traffic or enslave a child are subject to the punishment of a prison sentence of 10 to 20 years and a fine; if the child is under 15 years or if the offender is the victim's parent, the punishment increases to 15 to 20 years of imprisonment.⁶³¹

Cameroonian law prohibits procuring prostitutes or sharing the profits from another person's prostitution, and sets the penalty as a fine and imprisonment for 6 months to 5 years, which may double if the crime involves a person less than 21 years.⁶³² Military service is not compulsory in Cameroon. The minimum age for voluntary recruitment is 18 years, although volunteering before 18 years is permitted with parental consent.⁶³³

Cameroon was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons and the Joint Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central African Regions.⁶³⁴ As part of the Multilateral Cooperation Agreement, the governments agreed to use the child trafficking monitoring system developed by the USDOL-funded ILO-IPEC LUTRENA project; to assist each other in the investigation, arrest and prosecution of trafficking offenders; and to protect, rehabilitate, and reintegrate trafficking victims.⁶³⁵

The country has 58 labor inspectors who are responsible for investigating child labor cases.⁶³⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

In May of 2008, the Minister of Social Affairs launched a program to support 150 street children, which also returns them to their families. In June, the Government signed an Anti-Sex Tourism Charter that outlines ethics rules for tourist activity management. The Minister of Social Affairs continued to participate in a project with France and UNICEF that aims to establish a legal protection system for children.⁶³⁷

The Government appoints Child Parliamentarians to provide recommendations on issues related to children. While resolutions by the Child Parliamentarians are not legally binding, in 2007, the Child Parliamentarians passed resolutions to distribute information on legal provisions for children, strengthen infrastructure to support child victims of trafficking, and integrate child rights into school curriculum.⁶³⁸ During 2007, the Government continued its awareness raising activities to prevent child labor. In addition, the Government also continued to work with UNICEF and local and international NGOs to assist trafficking victims by placing them in temporary shelters.⁶³⁹

USAID and the international cocoa industry continued to fund the Sustainable Tree Crops Program in Cameroon, a public-private partnership that promotes sustainable tree crop systems including coffee, cocoa, and cashews, and contains a component to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labor on farms.⁶⁴⁰

⁶¹⁴ Ibid., section 6d.

⁶¹⁵ Ibid. See also Mengue M. Therese, *Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Cameroon*, July 2006, 8; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/pdf/Cameroon/Cameroon_CSEC_Report%20Eng.pdf. See also U.S. Embassy-Yaounde, *reporting*, November 30, 2007, para 21.

⁶¹⁶ International Trade Union Confederation, *Internationally-Recognized Core Labour Standards in Gabon and Cameroon: Report for the WTO General Council Review of the Trade Policies of Gabon and Cameroon*, Geneva, October 2 and 4, 2007, 8. See also U.S. Embassy-Yaounde, *reporting*, November 30, 2007, 21.

⁶¹⁷ U.S. Embassy-Yaounde, *reporting*, November 30, 2007, para 21. See also U.S. Embassy-Yaounde official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 24, 2008.

⁶¹⁸ For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For data on ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Executive Summary. For minimum age for admission to work, age to which education is compulsory, and free public education, see U.S. Department of State, "Cameroon," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2007*, Washington, DC, 2008, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/c25283.htm>.

⁶¹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Cameroon (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, DC, June 12, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82805.htm>.

⁶²⁰ Ibid. See also ILO-IPEC, *La Traite des Enfants aux Fins d'Exploitation de leur Travail au Cameroun*, Geneva, 2005, section 2.2.2; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ipecinfor/product/viewProduct.do?productId=5170>. See also U.S. Embassy-Yaounde, *reporting*, November 30, 2007, para 21. See also International Trade Union Confederation, *Review of the Trade Policies of Gabon and Cameroon*, 10. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cameroon," section 5 and 6d.

⁶²¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Cameroon." See also ILO-IPEC, *La Traite des Enfants* section 2.2.2. See also U.S. Embassy-Yaounde, *reporting*, November 30, 2007, para 21. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Cameroon."

⁶²² Government of Cameroon, *Labour Code*, Law no. 92/007, (August 14, 1992), section 86(1); available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WBTEXT/31629/64867/E92CMR01.htm>.

⁶²³ Ibid., section 82(2). See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cameroon," section 6d.

⁶²⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cameroon," section 6d.

⁶²⁵ Government of Cameroon, *Labour Code*, section 87.

⁶²⁶ Ibid., section 167.

⁶²⁷ Government of Cameroon, *Constitution of the Republic of Cameroon*, Law no. 96-06, (January 18, 1996), article 4. See also Government of Cameroon, *Labour Code*, section 2(3).

⁶²⁸ Government of Cameroon, *Law relating to the Fight against Child Trafficking and Slavery*, Law No. 2005/015, (December 29, 2005), chapter II, section 3.

⁶²⁹ Ibid., chapter I, section 2.

⁶³⁰ Government of Cameroon, *Document d'Information sur les Mesures de lutte contre les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants au Cameroon*, Submitted in Response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (November 8, 2007) "Request for Information on Efforts

by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", April 30, 2008.

⁶³¹ Government of Cameroon, *Law relating to the Fight against Child Trafficking and Slavery*, chapter II, sections 4-5.

⁶³² The Protection Project, "Cameroon," in *2005 Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children*, Washington, DC, 2005; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org>.

⁶³³ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Cameroon," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/home>.

⁶³⁴ Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, September 1, 2006, 2.

⁶³⁵ ECOWAS and ECCAS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006, 5-7. See also ILO-IPEC, *LUTRENA, Technical Progress Report*, 10-11.

⁶³⁶ U.S. Embassy- Yaounde, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 6.

⁶³⁷ *Ibid.*, para 2, 4, 10, 15, and 20. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cameroon," section 5.

⁶³⁸ U.S. Embassy- Yaounde, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 11. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cameroon," section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Yaounde official, E-mail communication, July 24, 2008.

⁶³⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cameroon," section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Cameroon." See also Government of Cameroon, *Response to FRN, April 30, 2008*.

⁶⁴⁰ USAID, *Chocolate Companies Help West African Farmers Improve Harvest*, Washington, DC, September 2005; available from http://www.usaid.gov/press/frontlines/fl_sep05/pillars.htm. See also International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, *Sustainable Tree Crops Program*, [online] n.d. [cited December 13, 2007]; available from <http://www.treecrops.org/index.htm>. See also World Cocoa Foundation, *Sustainable Tree Crops Program - Cameroon*, [online] n.d. [cited December 31, 2007]; available from http://www.worldcocoafoundation.org/difference/STCPCameroon_Summary.asp.

Cape Verde

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in urban areas of Cape Verde, including Mindelo, Praia, and Sal, work primarily in carpentry, auto mechanic workshops, and small shops. They also work as car washers and street vendors.⁶⁴¹ Children in rural areas work in agriculture and animal husbandry and perform domestic work.⁶⁴² Reports indicate that some children are exploited in prostitution, particularly on the island of Sal and in other tourist destinations.⁶⁴³ A recent Government-sponsored study found that children in Cape Verde are used in the sale of illicit substances.⁶⁴⁴

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

In October 2007, Cape Verde adopted a supplement to the existing labor law that states the minimum age for employment is 15 years or upon the

completion of compulsory education.⁶⁴⁵ The minimum age for apprentice contracts is 14 years, and only businesses that have not been convicted of specific child labor violations may take on an apprentice, unless pardoned by the Director-General for Labor. Employment contracts entered into by children under 18 years can be invalidated at the request of the parents or legal representatives.⁶⁴⁶ The normal working hours for youths under 18 years may not exceed 38 hours per week and 7 hours a day, and minors are entitled to a period of 12 hours of uninterrupted rest daily.⁶⁴⁷ Minors between 16 and 18 years may work overtime, not exceeding 2 hours daily and 30 hours annually.⁶⁴⁸

The law prohibits children under 16 years from working in enterprises that produce toxic products or in maritime-related activities. Youths under 18 years are allowed to work at night only when it is