
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

essential to their professional development and when authorized by the Director-General for Labor.⁶⁴⁹ The law specifies that minors may work in movies, dance, and music if parents or legal representatives ensure that the education and physical, mental, and moral development of the child are uninterrupted. Minors may engage in domestic and agricultural work if it contributes to their subsistence or moral and physical development.⁶⁵⁰ The law specifies that parents who exploit their children for labor or abuse the dependence of a minor are subject to a fine equivalent to a year's salary of an adult worker.⁶⁵¹ The legal remedies for violating child labor laws include compensation for victims and criminal penalties from 9 to 19 years of imprisonment if the victim is under 14 years, and 2 to 8 years if the victim is 14 to 16 years.⁶⁵²

with parental consent.⁶⁵⁵ The trafficking of youths under 18 years is illegal, and sentences for trafficking in children have ranged from 2 to 16 years of imprisonment.⁶⁵⁶ Trafficking of children for commercial sexual exploitation is penalized by 12 to 16 years imprisonment.⁶⁵⁷ The Government monitors potential trafficking cases; however, efforts are hindered by inadequate funding of enforcement agencies.⁶⁵⁸ The law prohibits the facilitation and procurement of children under 16 years for the purpose of prostitution, a crime that is punishable by 2 to 8 years imprisonment.⁶⁵⁹ However, according to the U.S. Department of State (USDOS), laws against prostitution are rarely enforced.⁶⁶⁰ Criminal penalties are increased in cases where the perpetrator exploits a victim's economic hardship, uses violence, or abuses a position of authority. More severe penalties are also imposed in cases of procurement that involve pregnancy, the transmission of disease, and suicide or death.⁶⁶¹

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i> ⁶⁵³	
Working children, 10-14 years (%), 2001-2002:	3.2
Working boys, 10-14 years (%), 2001-2002:	3.8
Working girls, 10-14 years (%), 2001-2002:	2.6
Working children by sector, 10-14 years (%), 2001-2002:	
- Agriculture	79.2
- Manufacturing	1.0
- Services	13.7
- Other	6.2
Minimum age for work:	15
Compulsory education age:	11
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	108
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	90
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 2001-2002:	90.1
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2004:	93
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No

The law prohibits forced or compulsory labor.⁶⁵⁴ The compulsory recruitment age for military service is 18 years, but 17-year-olds may volunteer

The Ministries of Justice and Labor, specifically the offices of the Director General and Inspector General for Labor, are responsible for enforcing child labor laws; however, according to the USDOS, such laws are seldom enforced.⁶⁶²

Cape Verde was 1 of 24 countries to adopt the Multilateral Cooperative 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.⁶⁶³ As part of the Multilateral Cooperative 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.⁶⁶⁴

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

The Government of Cape Verde sponsored a study on child labor and publicly released the results of the survey in 2007.⁶⁶⁵ The purpose of the study was to raise public awareness and create a plan of action to prevent child labor and its worst forms.⁶⁶⁶

⁶⁴¹ Gabriel Fernandes, Jose Pina Delgado, Liriam Tiujo Delgado, and Orlando Borja, *Criança e Trabalho em Cabo Verde: Um Estudo Jurídico e Sociológico*, Government of Cape Verde- Ministry of Labor, Family and Solidarity, Cape Verdian Institute of Child and the Adolescent, Praia, July 2007, 28. See also U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 6. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cape Verde."

⁶⁴² Gabriel Fernandes, Jose Pina Delgado, Liriam Tiujo Delgado, and Orlando Borja, *Criança e Trabalho em Cabo Verde*, 28. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cape Verde," section 6d.

⁶⁴³ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Cape Verde (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2007 [cited November 21, 2007]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>. See also Gabriel Fernandes, Jose Pina Delgado, Liriam Tiujo Delgado, and Orlando Borja, *Criança e Trabalho em Cabo Verde*, 52. See also International Regional Information Networks, "Cape Verde: Sex tourism on the rise?" IRINnews.org, [online], August 8, 2007 [cited November 23, 2007]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/printreport.aspx?reportId=73637>.

⁶⁴⁴ Gabriel Fernandes, Jose Pina Delgado, Liriam Tiujo Delgado, and Orlando Borja, *Criança e Trabalho em Cabo Verde*, 53.

⁶⁴⁵ Government of Cape Verde, *Boletim Oficial Suplemento*, article 249, 261. See also U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 2a. See also U.S. Department of State official, E-mail communication, December 14, 2007.

⁶⁴⁶ Government of Cape Verde, *Boletim Oficial Suplemento*, article 27, 249, 252. See also Library of Congress, Letter to USDOL official, March 13, 2008, section II.

⁶⁴⁷ Government of Cape Verde, *Boletim Oficial Suplemento*, article 266.

⁶⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, article 268.

⁶⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, article 238, 267. See also Library of Congress, Letter, March 13, 2008, section II.

⁶⁵⁰ Government of Cape Verde, *Boletim Oficial Suplemento*, articles 261a and 262.

⁶⁵¹ *Ibid.*, article 408.

⁶⁵² U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 3b. See also U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting, September 27, 2007*, para 4a.

⁶⁵³ For statistical data not cited here, please see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For data on ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, please see the Executive Summary. For minimum age for admission to work, age to which education is compulsory, and free public education, see Government of Cape Verde, *Boletim Oficial Suplemento*, 5/2007, (October 16, 2007), article 261.

See also U.S. Department of State official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 14, 2007. See also U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 4d. See also U.S. Department of State, "Cape Verde," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2007*, Washington, DC March 11, 2008, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100471.htm>. See also Government of Cape Verde, *The Constitution of the Republic of Cape Verde*, 1/V/99, (November 23, 1999), article 73; available from <http://www.stj.cv/constituicao.html#>. See also U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 4d.

⁶⁵⁴ Government of Cape Verde, *Boletim Oficial Suplemento*, article 14. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cape Verde," section 6c. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request C182: Cape Verde*.

⁶⁵⁵ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request C182: Cape Verde*. See also U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 2a.

⁶⁵⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cape Verde," section 5.

⁶⁵⁷ U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting, February 29, 2008*.

⁶⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

⁶⁵⁹ Library of Congress, Letter, March 13, 2008, section III. See also International Regional Information Networks, "Cape Verde: Sex tourism".

⁶⁶⁰ U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting, February 29, 2008*.

⁶⁶¹ The Protection Project, "Cape Verde," in 2005 *Human Rights Report on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children: A Country-by-Country Report on a Contemporary Form of Slavery*, Washington, DC, 2007; available from <http://www.protectionproject.org/pub.htm>. See also Library of Congress, Letter, March 13, 2008, section III.

⁶⁶² Government of Cape Verde, *Boletim Oficial Suplemento*, article 394. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cape Verde," section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Praia, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 1b, 3b.

⁶⁶³ See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, technical progress report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006, 2.

⁶⁶⁴ ECOWAS and ECCAS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, *Technical progress Report*, 10-11, ECOWAS and ECCAS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons in West and Central Africa*.

⁶⁶⁵ Government of Cape Verde, *Written Communication*, 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", Washington, DC, January 25, 2008. See also Government of Cape Verde, *MTFS realiza Workshop Nacional sobre Combate ao Trabalho Infantil e suas piores formas* Press Release, November 19, 2007; available from http://www.governo.cv/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=527&Itemid=1. See also Vozdipovo On-line, "Governo e Parceiros

Analisa Plano de Ação de Combate ao Trabalho Infantil", [online], November 20, 2007 [cited November 29, 2007]; available from http://www.vozdipovo-online.com/conteudos/sociedade/governo_e_parceiros_analisa_plano_de_accao_de_combate_ao_trabalho_infantil/.

⁶⁶⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Cape Verde," section 6d.

Central African Republic

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor⁶⁶⁷</i>	
Working children, 5-14 years (%), 2000:	61.1
Working boys, 5-14 years (%), 2000:	60.4
Working girls, 5-14 years (%), 2000:	61.7
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%)	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for admission to work:	14
Age to which education is compulsory:	12-14*
Free public education:	Yes**
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005	54
Net primary enrollment rate (%):	-
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 2000:	38.5
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No
* Must pay for miscellaneous school expenses	
** Compulsory for 6 years, entrance age may vary	

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in the Central African Republic work in agriculture, domestic service, fishing, and mining.⁶⁶⁸ They also reportedly work alongside adult relatives in diamond fields.⁶⁶⁹ It has been reported that

children have been employed in public works projects.⁶⁷⁰

The large number of street children in the Central African Republic is a problem, particularly in the capital Bangui.⁶⁷¹ These children, many orphaned by HIV/AIDS, are engaged in various economic activities including hauling, street vending, washing dishes in small eateries, and begging.⁶⁷²

Some girls in the Central African Republic are reportedly involved in prostitution.⁶⁷³ Children from some indigenous groups are forced into agricultural, domestic, and other forms of labor by other ethnic groups.⁶⁷⁴

Some boys have been reportedly recruited as child soldiers into rebel forces fighting the Government in the northwest and northeast regions of the country.⁶⁷⁵ It is also reported that girls have been abducted as wives for rebel fighters.⁶⁷⁶

The Central African Republic is both a source and destination for children trafficked for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Children are trafficked to and from Cameroon, Nigeria, Chad, the Republic of Congo, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.⁶⁷⁷ Children from Rwanda are also reportedly trafficked to the Central African Republic.⁶⁷⁸ In addition to commercial sexual exploitation, trafficked children work in domestic service and as forced laborers in diamond mines, shops, and other commercial enterprises.⁶⁷⁹ Traveling merchants, herders, and others working in and transiting through the country sometimes