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[3150] Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *"South Africa," in Child Soldiers Global Report* online, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=797.
[3151] U.S. Department of State, *reporting, January 11, 2008*, para 1b. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: South Africa," section 6d.
[3152] U.S. Department of State, *reporting, January 10, 2007*, para 1d.
[3153] Government of South Africa, *The National Child Labour Action Programme for South Africa, Draft 4.10*, Pretoria, October 2003, 4; available from http://www.labour.gov.za/useful_docs/doc_display.jsp?id=9503.
[3154] U.S. Department of State, *reporting, January 10, 2007*, para 1c. See also, Government of South Africa, *National Child Labour Action Programme*, 19.
[3155] ILO-IPEC, *Towards the Elimination of Child Labor*, technical progress report, Geneva, September 24, 2007, 4.
[3156] U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: South Africa," section 5.
[3157] ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Programme to eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor in South Africa's Child labor Action Programme and laying the basis for concerted action against Worst Forms of Child Labor in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and Swaziland*, Project Document, September 30, 2003, 30.
[3158] ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Programme to eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor in South Africa's Child labor Action Programme and laying the basis for concerted action against Worst Forms of Child Labor in Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and Swaziland*, Project Revision, November 3, 2006, annex 2.
[3159] American Institutes for Research, *Reducing Exploitive Child Labor Southern Africa (RECLISA), Project Document*, Washington September 8, 2005, 17-19.

[3160] U.S. Agency for International Development, *USAID Anti-Trafficking in Persons Programs in Africa: A Review* Washington D.C., April 2007, 63; available from http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDACJ521.pdf. See also

Sri Lanka

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Sri Lanka work in both plantation and small-scale farming, as well as in seasonal family agriculture.[3161] Children also work in the informal sector, family enterprises, small restaurants, stores, repair shops, small-scale manufacturing, and crafts.[3162] Children also work as domestic servants, and some have reported experiencing sexual abuse.[3163]

The prostitution of children is widespread in the country. It is estimated that there are approximately 40,000 children in commercial sexual exploitation in Sri Lanka.[3164] The majority of children in prostitution are exploited by local citizens, though there are reports of sex tourism as well.[3165] Some of these children have been trafficked and many boys are lured from rural areas to southern beach resorts to work in the sex industry, sometimes at the request of their parents.[3166]

Conflict intensified in Sri Lanka during 2007, and the use of children in armed conflict remained a pressing concern.[3167] On January 2, 2008 the Government withdrew from the 2002 ceasefire signed by the Government and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).[3168] Reports indicate that the LTTE, an armed terrorist group fighting for a separate ethnic Tamil state, and the Karuna faction both continue to heavily recruit children as soldiers, often forcibly.[3169] The LTTE recruit and abduct children as young as 11 years to serve in combat and in various battlefield support

functions. Additionally, forcible recruitment of child soldiers by Karuna, a break-off the LTTE faction, continued in 2007. Reports from UNICEF indicate that as of September 2007, 1,460 recruited children remained with the LTTE, while 211 were recruited by the Karuna faction.[3170] There is evidence that the Government security forces are supporting and sometimes participating in the abductions and forced recruitment by the Karuna faction.[3171]

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor[3172]	
Working children, 5-14 years (%), 1998:	15
Working boys, 5-14 years (%), 1998:	17.9
Working girls, 5-14 years (%), 1998:	11.9
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%), 1998:	
- Agriculture	71.5
- Manufacturing	13.1
- Services	14.8
- Other	0.7
Minimum age for work:	14
Compulsory education age:	14
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	108
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2003:	100
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 1998:	97.1
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment in most occupations at 14 years. The minimum age for employment at sea is 15 years.[3173] Children under 14 years may be employed in family-run agricultural enterprises or as part of technical training activities. However, these children may not be employed during school hours; for more than 2 hours on a school day or Sunday; between the hours 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.; or in any activity that jeopardizes health or education. The law limits the work hours of children age 14 to 15 years to 9 per day, and the work hours of children 16 to 17 years to 10 per day.[3174] The law also requires medical certification of children less than 16 years prior to employment in industries.[3175] The maximum penalty for child labor violations is 12 months of imprisonment and/or a fine.[3176]

The law prohibits all children from employment in any hazardous occupation,[3177] and in industrial facilities after 11 p.m., except in certain training or apprenticeship situations.[3178] The Minister of Labor Relations and Foreign Employment prohibits the employment of children in any of forty-nine identified hazardous occupations.[3179] Forty occupations are unconditional and are to be completely prohibited for children ages 14 to 18 years, while the other nine occupations will be conditionally prohibited upon the publication of the relevant regulations.[3180] In 2007, the Bureau of Child Protection of the Sri Lanka police received 106 complaints of child labor violations.[3181]

The law prohibits forced labor, debt bondage, and all forms of slavery by persons of any age. The maximum fine for violating the law pertaining to children is 30 years of imprisonment.[3182] It is illegal for any person to cause or encourage a girl under 16 years of age to be seduced or prostituted. According to the law, offenses may be punished with 6 months imprisonment or a fine.[3183] The law prohibits sexual violations against children, defined as persons under 18 years, particularly with regard to child pornography, child prostitution, and the trafficking of children. Penalties for pornography and prostitution violations range from 2 to 5 years of imprisonment.[3184] Trafficking of children is punishable by imprisonment of 3 to 20 years.[3185] It is also an offense to cause or procure a child for the purpose of begging.[3186]

The law criminalizes the act of engaging or recruiting a child for use in armed conflict.[3187] The minimum age for recruitment into the Armed Forces is 18 years.[3188]

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

The Government has established a Policy and Plan of Action to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor as part of the National Plan of Action for Children (NPA) 2004-2008. The Ministry of Labor Relations and Foreign Employment implements the

child labor components of the plan, which include strengthening child labor laws and enforcement; improving the availability of child labor data; increasing vocational training programs for out-of-school youth; sensitizing the public to child labor issues; and reducing domestic child labor by 30 percent each year.[3189] The Government works with 450 social welfare officers to implement the NPA at the community level and has established 11 coordinating committees to further raise awareness of child abuse issues, including child labor.[3190] In January 2007, the Government adopted the Youth Employment National Action Plan, which was incorporated into the 10 year National Development Plan and recognizes the links between child labor and youth employment.[3191] The Ministry of Labor Relations and Foreign Employment trains labor inspectors, probation officers, and police officers on child labor issues. Training includes trauma and psychosocial counseling, surveillance, legal awareness, as well as training those who train others on these issues.[3192] The Women's and Children's Affairs division of the Ministry of Labor conducted four training programs in 2007 to improve the enforcement capacity of those responsible for combating child labor. The division also conducted awareness-raising programs on the elimination of child labor, and organized a training program to create awareness among parents.[3193]

The Government and the LTTE have a 3-year Joint Plan for Children Affected by War, which will continue through 2007. It was established to help end child recruitment and to demobilize and rehabilitate ex-child soldiers.[3194]

Under the purview of the National Child Protection Authority, the Government is implementing a National Plan of Action to combat trafficking of children for exploitive employment.[3195] The Government supports two rehabilitation centers and five schools that offer counseling, legal assistance, shelter, career guidance, and vocational training to child trafficking victims. In addition, health, judicial and psychological services to children are supported at the local district level.[3196] In February 2008, the Government established a hotline for complaints about child labor, corporal punishment, sexual abuse, and parental neglect.[3197]

The Government also supports a program to monitor the Internet for advertisements soliciting children for child pornography and pedophilia in Sri Lanka.[3198] With support from UNICEF, the Sri Lanka Tourist Board is implementing a 2-year campaign to stop the commercial exploitation of children.[3199] In addition, the Government is participating in an IOM-funded project to train police officers on anti-trafficking.[3200]

The Government continues to provide a number of services to assist tsunami-affected children.[3201] The Government participates in a USDOL-funded USD 562,000 ILO-IPEC project to address the effects of the tsunami on children, and targets 300 children for withdrawal and 2,100 children for prevention from exploitive work. The project will continue through 2008, and aims to strengthen the capacity of government, media, and international organizations to integrate child labor issues into post-tsunami reconstruction policies; monitor the child labor situation in the post-tsunami environment; and provide educational and psychosocial services to tsunami-affected families in Galle and Trincomalee.[3202] The Government also participated in a global USDOL-funded USD 7 million project implemented by ILO-IPEC to prevent the involvement of children in armed conflict and support the rehabilitation of former child soldiers. The project withdrew 4,335 children from child soldiering and prevented 4,560 children from involvement with armed groups in seven countries, including Sri Lanka.[3203] In addition, the Government participated in two UNICEF-supported projects to assist children affected by war, which ended in June and December 2007.[3204] In January 2008, ILO-IPEC commenced youth employment projects in Sabaragamuwa province, an area with many tea and rubber plantations. The project aims to enable rural youth to avoid exploitive work activities by strengthening their employability through providing training in agricultural-related skills, life skills, and entrepreneurship.[3205]

The Ministry of Education initiated a program to improve education for the children of plantation workers, who are considered especially vulnerable to child labor.[3206]

[3161] ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour and Responses: Overview Note Sri Lanka*, November 2004, 1; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipec/download/srilanka.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas in Sri Lanka*, Project Document, Geneva, February 25, 2005, para 10. See also U.S. Department of State, "Sri Lanka," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2007*, Washington, DC, March 11, 2008, section 6d; available from http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100620.htm.

[3162] U.S. Embassy-Colombo, *reporting*, September 7, 2005, para 10. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," section 6d.

[3163] Nayomi Kannangara, Harendra de Silva, and Nilakshi Parndigamage, *Sri Lanka Child Domestic Labour: A Rapid Assessment*, ILO-IPEC, Geneva, September 2003, xvi available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipec/simpoc/srilanka/ra/domestic.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," section 6d.

[3164] ECPAT International, *Global Monitoring Report on the Status of Action Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Sri Lanka*, Bangkok, 2006, 11, 12; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/A4A_2005/PDF/South_Asia/Global_Monitoring_Report-SRI_LANKA.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," section 5.

[3165] U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," section 5.

[3166] Ibid. See also Radhika Coomaraswamy and Ambika Satkunanathan, *Anti-child Trafficking Legislation in Asia: A Six-Country Review*, Report, ILO-IPEC, Bangkok, 2006, 70; available from http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/library/download/pub06-03.pdf. See also ECPAT International, *Global Monitoring Report: Sri Lanka*, 13. See also U.S. Department of State, "Sri Lanka (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington DC, June 12, 2007; available from http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82807.htm.

[3167] United Nations Security Council, *Report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict in Sri Lanka*, New York, December 21, 2007, 2; available from http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N07/634/74/PDF/N0763474.pdf?OpenElement. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," Introduction.

[3168] Secretariat for Coordinating the Peace Process, *Government to Withdraw from CFA*, Press Release, Colombo, January 3, 2008; available from http://www.peaceinsrilanka.org/peace2005/Insidepage/PressRelease/GOSLreleases/GOSLmediaRel030108.asp.

[3169] U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," section 1. See also United Nations Security Council, *Report of the Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict in Sri Lanka*, 2, 7.

[3170] U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, November 29, 2007*, para 12.

[3171] Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, *Statement from the Special Advisor on Children and Armed Conflict*, Press Release, Colombo, November 13, 2006; available from http://www.un.org/children/conflict/pr/2006-11-13127.html. See also Human Rights Watch, *Complicit in Crime*, New York, January 2007, 3, 10; available from http://hrw.org/reports/2007/srilanka0107/srilanka0107webwcover.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," section 1.

[3172] 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 Government of Sri Lanka, *Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children Act of 1956* No. 47 (November 7, 1956), article 13, 34(1); available from http://www.labourdept.gov.lk/Legislations/Emplof%20WomYouPersonsChi.pdf. See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Report of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on Efforts by GSP Beneficiary Countries to Eliminate Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 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", Colombo, December 7, 2007, 6. See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Compulsory Attendance of Children at Schools* Regulation No. 1 of 1997, (November 18, 1997). See also U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting*, November 29, 2007, para 9.

[3173] Government of Sri Lanka, *Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children Act of 1956*, part III, article 13 and 34(1). See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Shop and Office Employees Act of 1954*, No. 19 (August 9, 1954), article 10(1); available from http://www.labourdept.gov.lk/Legislations/Shop%20&%20Office%20Employees.pdf. See also U.S. Embassy-Colombo, *reporting*, August 18, 2003.

[3174] Government of Sri Lanka, *Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children Act of 1956*, section 2. See also U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, August 18, 2003*.

[3175] U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, August 18, 2003*.

[3176] U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," section 6d.

[3177] Government of Sri Lanka, *Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children (Amendment), 2006* Act. No. 24, (August 21, 2006).

[3178] Government of Sri Lanka, *Employment of Women, Young Persons, and Children Act of 1956*, section 2, 3(3), 4(1).
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[3180] U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, November 29, 2007*, para 5.
[3181] U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," section 6d.
[3182] Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment), 2006* Act No. 16, (April 24, 2006), 358(a). See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA Phase II)*, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, March 30, 2006, 4. See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Report of Sri Lanka on Efforts to Eliminate Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 2.
[3183] ECPAT International, *Global Monitoring Report: Sri Lanka*, 23.
[3184] Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment), 1995*, Act No. 22, (October 31, 1995), articles 286A(1) and (2), 360A, and 360B. See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment), 1998*, Act No. 29, (June 6, 1998), article 288A(1) and (2), and 360A(1) and (2) See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment), 2006*, article 268, 358, 360.
[3185] Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment), 2006*, 360(2).
[3186] Coomaraswamy and Satkunanathan, *Anti-trafficking Legislation: Asia*, 88.
[3187] Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment), 2006*. See also ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas in Sri Lanka*, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, March 30, 2006, 4.
[3188] Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Sri Lanka," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/library/global-reports.
[3189] B. Abeygunawardana, Director General, and National Planning Department, *National Plan of Action for the Children of Sri Lanka, 2004-2008*, Government of Sri Lanka Ministry of Finance and Planning, Colombo, 2004, 122-123; available from http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/srilanka/docs/National_Plan.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas, project document*, 3.
[3190] Government of Sri Lanka, *National Child Protection Authority Act of 1998*, No. 50 See also ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour and Responses*. See also Government of Sri Lanka, *Report of Sri Lanka on Efforts to Eliminate Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 4. See also U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.
[3191] ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas in Sri Lanka*, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, September 30, 2007, 7.
[3192] U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, September 7, 2005.* See also U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, August 23, 2004*.
[3193] Government of Sri Lanka, *Report of Sri Lanka on Efforts to Eliminate Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 4. See also U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, November 29, 2007*, para 8.
[3194] U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, August 23, 2004.* See also UNICEF, *Action Plan for Children Affected by War Progress Report January-June 2004*, June 2004, 6; available from http://www.unicef.org/videoaudio/PDFs/plan_progress_june04.pdf.
[3195] U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," section 5. See also ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour and Responses*, 3.
[3196] U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting*, February 29, 2008, para 4b. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," section 5.
[3197] U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, February 29, 2008*, para 4h.
[3198] U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Sri Lanka," section 5.
[3199] UNICEF, *Zero Tolerance for Child Sex Tourism in Sri Lanka,* [online] June 18, 2006 [cited December 18, 2007]; available from http://www.unicef.org/media/media_34596.html. See also UNICEF, *Sri Lanka Campaign Promotes "Zero Tolerance" for Child Sex Tourism,* [online] July 13, 2006 [cited December 18, 2007]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/sri_lanka_34933.html.
[3200] U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, February 29, 2008*, para 3g.
[3201] IRIN, *Sri Lanka: Uneven Progress in Post-tsunami Schools' Reconstruction,* [online] September 6, 2007 [cited December 18, 2007]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/PrintReport.aspx?ReportId=74156#. See also IRIN, *Sri Lanka: Post-tsunami Jobs Increase, Incomes Decline,* [Online] June 28, 2007 [cited December 18, 2007]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=72977. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, *Sri Lanka: Rebuilding Livelihoods in Tsunami-hit, War-torn Vaharai,* [online] June 12, 2007 [cited December 18, 2007]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=72681. See also ILO-IPEC,

Emergency Response to Child Labour, Technical Progress Report, March 2006, 5.
[3202] ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas, project document*, 15, 38.
[3203] ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 14, 2008. See also ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Program*, Project Document, ILO, Geneva, September 17, 2003.
[3204] ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication USDOL official, January 23, 2008.
[3205] U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, November 29, 2007*, para 11.
[3206] Ibid., para 10. See also ILO- IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour, Technical Progress Report, September 2006*, 2.

Suriname

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor[3207]	
Working children, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working boys, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working girls, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	14
Compulsory education age:	12
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	120
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	94
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Associated
* Must pay for miscellaneous school expenses	

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Suriname work in agriculture, rice production, and as street vendors, packers, and shop assistants.[3208] Children work in sawmills, in gold mining areas in the interior, and in the commercial sex industry.[3209] Trafficking of minors is a problem. Reports have indicated an increase in sex tourism leading to a higher incidence of sexual exploitation of children, particularly young boys.[3210]

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years, although children from 12 to 14 years may work in family or special vocational settings if the work is not too physically or mentally demanding or hazardous.[3211] Children under 15 years are prohibited from working on fishing boats.[3212] Children under 18 years are prohibited from night work, which is defined as the hours between 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., and hazardous work, which is defined as work that endangers life, health, and decency, or as determined by the Minister of Labor.[3213] Employers are required to maintain a Register of Young Persons that includes each employee's name, address, date of birth, and the occupational starting and ending dates.[3214] Employing a child under 14 years is punishable by fines and up to 12 months in prison. Parents who permit their children to work in violation of child labor laws may be prosecuted[3215]

The law prohibits forced labor, slavery, and practices similar to slavery.[3216] The penalty for trafficking children under 16 is a minimum of 10 years imprisonment.[3217] Procuring, using or offering a girl under 12 years of age for prostitution, pornography, or pornographic performances is punishable with 12 years imprisonment, and 8 years imprisonment for the same offense against girls ages 12 to 14. There is no specific penalty for those ages 14 to 18.[3218] The law