

³⁵⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Uruguay (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, DC, June 12, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/ip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82806.htm>.

³⁵⁶⁶ Government of Uruguay, *Código de la niñez y la adolescencia*, article 162.

³⁵⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, articles 167, 168.

³⁵⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, articles 163, 172.

³⁵⁶⁹ U.S. Embassy- Montevideo, *reporting*, December 7, 2007.

³⁵⁷⁰ Government of Uruguay, *Código de la niñez y la adolescencia*, article 169.

³⁵⁷¹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request*, C138: *Uruguay*.

³⁵⁷² Government of Uruguay, *Código de la niñez y la adolescencia*, article 173.

³⁵⁷³ *Ibid.*, article 176. See also Government of Uruguay, *Código penal de la República oriental del Uruguay*, (1986), article 279B; available from http://www.unifr.ch/erechopenal/legislacion/uy/cp_uruguay.htm.

³⁵⁷⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uruguay," section 6d. See also Government of Uruguay, *Código penal de la República oriental del Uruguay*, article 280.

³⁵⁷⁵ Government of Uruguay, *Poder Legislativo, República Oriental del Uruguay: Violencia Sexual Comercial o No Comercial Cometida Contra Niños, Adolescentes o Incapaces, Ley No. 17.815*, (August 18, 2004), articles 1-3; available from <http://www.parlamento.gub.uy/Leyes/Ley17815.htm>.

³⁵⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, articles 4, 5.

³⁵⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, article 6.

³⁵⁷⁸ U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, *The World Factbook-Uruguay*, [online] November 15, 2007 [cited November 28, 2007]; available from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/uy.html>.

³⁵⁷⁹ U.S. Embassy- Montevideo, *reporting*, December 7, 2007.

³⁵⁸⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uruguay," section 6d.

³⁵⁸¹ IOM, *Trata de personas: Apuntes desde Uruguay sobre un desafío global*, Montevideo, 2007; available from <http://www.oimuruguay.org/Documentos/Trata%20Uruguay.pdf>.

³⁵⁸² U.S. Embassy- Montevideo, *reporting*, December 7, 2007, section d.

³⁵⁸³ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties due in 2007: Uruguay*, July 5, 2007, paras 62, 66; available from <http://www.unhcr.org/cgi-bin/texis/vtx/refworld/rwmain?page=country&docid=469b351d2&skip=&coi=URY>.

³⁵⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Uruguay (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, DC, June 13, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82806.htm>.

³⁵⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uruguay," section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Uruguay."

³⁵⁸⁶ IDB, *Uruguay: Comprehensive Program for At-risk Children, Adolescents and Families*, UR-134, 2002; available from <http://www.iadb.org/exr/doc98/apr/ur1434e.pdf>. See also U.S. Embassy- Montevideo, *reporting*, December 7, 2007. See also IDB, *Approved Projects- Uruguay*, [online] [cited November 28, 2007]; available from <http://www.iadb.org/exr/doc98/apr/lcuru.htm>.

³⁵⁸⁷ UNICEF, *At a Glance: Uruguay*, [online] [cited November 28, 2007]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/uruguay.html>.

³⁵⁸⁸ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, February 4, 2008.

³⁵⁸⁹ Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of Argentina, *Iniciativa Niñ@ Sur*, [online] [cited March 16, 2008]; available from <http://www.derhuman.jus.gov.ar/direcciones/asistencia/ninosur.htm>. See also Child Rights Information Network, *MERCOSUR*, [online] 2007 [cited December 26, 2007]; available from <http://www.crin.org/espanol/RM/mercosur.asp>.

Uzbekistan

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Numerous credible sources report the widespread, compulsory mobilization of child labor in Uzbekistan during the annual cotton harvest. There are no reliable figures on the number of

children involved in the cotton harvest, which is thought to vary considerably from region to region and year to year.³⁵⁹⁰ During the latest harvest in the fall of 2007, schools closed for approximately one month in some rural regions to allow children to pick cotton.³⁵⁹¹ There have been reports indicating

that some children have had to endure poor living conditions during the harvest.³⁵⁹² Although most children involved in the cotton harvest are older than 15 years, there have been reports of children as young as age 11 years participating.³⁵⁹³ Some children from Uzbekistan migrate to south Kazakhstan with their families during the harvest season to work in the cotton industry.³⁵⁹⁴

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i> ³⁵⁹⁵	
Working children, 5-14 years (%), 2006:	4.3
Working boys, 5-14 years (%), 2006:	4.4
Working girls, 5-14 years (%), 2006:	4.1
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	16
Compulsory education age:	12 school years
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2004:	100
Net primary enrollment rate (%):	-
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 2005:	84.1
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Associated
*Must pay for miscellaneous school expenses	

There are also reports that children grow silk worm cocoons in rural areas of Uzbekistan.³⁵⁹⁶ Children also work in street vending,³⁵⁹⁷ services, construction, building materials manufacturing, and transportation.³⁵⁹⁸ In urban areas, children as young as 7 or 8 years routinely work in family businesses during school holidays.³⁵⁹⁹

Girls are engaged in forced prostitution in Uzbekistan and are trafficked internally and externally, including to destinations in the Persian Gulf, Asia, Russia, and Western Europe for sexual exploitation.³⁶⁰⁰ The number of cases registered

with the IOM involving minors trafficked from Uzbekistan for sexual exploitation decreased from 44 cases in 2005 to 27 cases in 2007.³⁶⁰¹

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The Constitution sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years.³⁶⁰² Children 14 to 16 years are required to obtain written permission from a parent or guardian in order to work, as long as work does not interfere with their studies. Children ages 14 to 16 years may only work 12 hours per week while school is in session and 24 hours per week during school vacation. Children 16 to 18 years may only work 18 hours per week when school is in session and 36 hours per week during school vacations.³⁶⁰³ Children must receive an annual medical examination at their employer's expense to be eligible for work.³⁶⁰⁴ A 2001 Government Decree bans children under 18 years from working in unhealthy conditions, including the manual harvesting of cotton; however, the decree was not commonly enforced.³⁶⁰⁵

The law prohibits forced labor, except when fulfilling a court sentence.³⁶⁰⁶ The law prohibits earning money from operating brothels or promoting prostitution, and the penalty is imprisonment from 5 to 10 years.³⁶⁰⁷ The law also prohibits trafficking, with higher penalties when victims are taken out of the country. The penalty for recruitment for trafficking is 6 months to 3 years in prison, and trafficking of children outside the country is punishable with 5 to 8 years in prison.³⁶⁰⁸ The minimum age for military recruitment is 18 years.³⁶⁰⁹

The law does not provide jurisdiction for inspectors from the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection to focus on child labor enforcement.³⁶¹⁰ The Prosecutor General and the Ministry of Interior's criminal investigators are responsible for the enforcement of child labor laws. While enforcement appears effective in deterring child labor in the formal sector, USDOS reports that it is not effective in regulating children's work in family-based employment and in the agricultural sectors; there were no reports of enforcement efforts in the cotton industry.³⁶¹¹

The Ministry of Internal Affairs Anti-Trafficking in Persons Unit and the Prosecutor's Office have

investigated numerous trafficking-related crimes.³⁶¹² At least 250 persons were convicted of trafficking-related crimes in 2006 and 2007.³⁶¹³ As of January 2008, at least 66 traffickers were serving sentences of 6 months to 3 years in prison.³⁶¹⁴ Border Guards have been instructed to look for instances of trafficking, particularly among unaccompanied young women.³⁶¹⁵ Anti-trafficking training was added to the curriculum for young officers at the Ministry of Interior training academy in 2007. There were unconfirmed reports of government officials involved in trafficking-related bribery and fraud.³⁶¹⁶

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

In cooperation with ILO-IPEC and in consultations with a multi-agency working group, the Cabinet of Ministers in 2007 adopted a 4-year (2007-2011) national action plan on securing child welfare in Uzbekistan and combating child labor in agriculture through revising current practices and establishing a child labor monitoring system.³⁶¹⁷ During the reporting period, the Government of Uzbekistan took steps towards the ratification of ILO Conventions 138 and 182 and adoption of a comprehensive anti-trafficking plan.³⁶¹⁸ The Government works with *Mahalla* organizations, a pre-Soviet system of community-based management and social services provision, to protect children at the community level through a neighborhood monitoring mechanism. The Government also has an education campaign through the *Mahallas* to publicize dangers and eliminate hazardous conditions for minors.³⁶¹⁹

The Government of Uzbekistan participated in a USDOL-funded USD 2.5 million sub-regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC. It was intended to enhance the capacity of national institutions to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in Uzbekistan and to share information and experiences across the sub-region, including in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan.³⁶²⁰ The German Government has also provided funding to ILO-IPEC for a USD 1.56 million sub-regional project to combat the worst forms of child labor through education and youth employment in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan.³⁶²¹ Uzbek juvenile delinquency officials

participated in ILO-IPEC trainings and disseminated information within their agencies.³⁶²²

In June 2007, an interim anti-trafficking plan was developed by the Government of Uzbekistan. The Government operates an inter-agency working group to combat trafficking in persons.³⁶²³ Through U.S. Government programs and NGOs, both Uzbek consular officials abroad and domestic law enforcement officials have received training in dealing with trafficking victims.³⁶²⁴ NGOs reported that law enforcement officials are more aware of trafficking issues and sensitive toward victims than in past years.³⁶²⁵

The Government has approved a program under which IOM meets returning trafficking victims at the airport and assists them with entry processing and formulating their preliminary statements for the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Policy, border patrol, and consular officials referred trafficking victims to IOM for assistance.³⁶²⁶ Between 2003 and 2007, with the Government's support, the IOM repatriated 122 children who were trafficked for sexual exploitation and 16 children who were trafficked for labor exploitation.³⁶²⁷ In 2007, the Government, in cooperation with UNICEF, began a program to research internal trafficking of children in Uzbekistan.³⁶²⁸ It also supported a public awareness campaign and broadcast anti-trafficking messages on State-controlled television and radio. In addition to general anti-trafficking information, the campaign promoted the use of 10 anti-trafficking hotlines operated by NGOs.³⁶²⁹ The Government placed awareness-raising posters on buses and in passport offices and consular sections.³⁶³⁰

³⁵⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 24, 2008. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," Section 6d. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Uzbekistan: Focus on Rural Schools", IRINnews.org., [online], August 10, 2004 [cited December 6, 2007]; available from http://www.irinnews.org/report.asp?ReportID=42608&SelectRegion=Central_Asia&SelectCountry=UZBEKIS TAN.

³⁵⁹¹ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting*, June 6, 2008. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," section 6d. See also International Crisis

Group, *The Curse of Cotton: Central Asia's Destructive Monoculture*, February 28, 2005, 17-18; available from http://www.icg.org/library/documents/asia/central_asia/093_curse_of_cotton_central_asia_destructive_mono_culture.pdf.

³⁵⁹² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," Section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, June 6, 2008*. See also International Crisis Group, *The Curse of Cotton: Central Asia's Destructive Monoculture*.

³⁵⁹³ U.S. Embassy-Tashkent official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 24, 2008. See also U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, June 6, 2008*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," Section 6d.

³⁵⁹⁴ U.S. Embassy-Astana, *reporting, December 3, 2007*.

³⁵⁹⁵ 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, "Uzbekistan," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2007*, Washington, DC, March 11, 2008, section 5, 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100623.htm>.

³⁵⁹⁶ U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, June 6, 2008*. See also U.S. Embassy-Tashkent official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 24, 2008. See also Cango.net, *The Situation with Child Labour is Unlikely to Change in the Foreseeable Future*.

³⁵⁹⁷ Najibullah Farangis, *Central Asia: For Many Young Uzbeks and Tajiks, Working is a Way of Life*, [previously online] May 27, 2003 [cited June 15, 2005]; available from [hard copy on file]. See also Legal Aid Society, STATUS, Center for Social and Humanitarian Researches, Business Women Association (Kokand), Mekhri, Beguborlik, SABO, PIASC, KRIDI, Mekhr Tayanchi, UNESCO Youth Club, Kokand Children's Club, Shygiz Children's Club Kukus, Mothers and Daughters, Bolalar va Kattalar Children's Club, Save the Children (UK), and UNICEF, *Supplementary NGO Report on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2001*, [accessed October 22, 2006], 33; available from <http://www.crin.org/docs/resources/treaties/crc.28/Uzbekistan.doc>.

³⁵⁹⁸ Cango.net, *The Situation with Child Labour is Unlikely to Change in the Foreseeable Future*.

³⁵⁹⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," section 6d.

³⁶⁰⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," sections 5, 6d. See also U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007*. See also U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, E-mail communication to USDOL

official, August 1, 2007.

³⁶⁰¹ U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007*.

³⁶⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007*.

³⁶⁰³ U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007*. See also U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, E-mail communication to USDOL Official, August 1, 2007.

³⁶⁰⁴ U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007*. See also U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, E-mail communication to USDOL Official, August 1, 2007.

³⁶⁰⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," section 6d.

³⁶⁰⁶ Government of Uzbekistan, *Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan*, (December 8, 1992), article 37; available from <http://www.umid.uz/Main/Uzbekistan/Constitution/constitution.html>.

³⁶⁰⁷ Penal Code Clauses 121 and 127 as cited by Government of Uzbekistan, "Uzbekistan," in *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offenses Against Children*, 2007; available from <http://www.interpol.int/Public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaUzbekistan.asp>. See also U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007*.

³⁶⁰⁸ U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," section 5.

³⁶⁰⁹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Uzbekistan," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/>.

³⁶¹⁰ U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007*.

³⁶¹¹ Ibid. See also U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, August 26, 2005*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," section 6d.

³⁶¹² U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007*.

³⁶¹³ Ibid.

³⁶¹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Uzbekistan (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/105389.htm>.

³⁶¹⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Uzbekistan (Tier 3)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, DC, June 12, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/>.

³⁶¹⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Uzbekistan."

³⁶¹⁷ U.S. Embassy-Tashkent official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 24, 2008. See also U.S. Embassy-Tashkent, E-mail communication to USDOL Official, August 1, 2007.

³⁶¹⁸ U.S. Embassy-Tashkent official, E-mail

communication to USDOL official, July 24, 2008. See also U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting, June 6, 2008.*

³⁶¹⁹ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007.*

³⁶²⁰ ILO-IPEC, *CAR Capacity Building Project: Regional Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, Project Document, RER/04/P54/USA, Geneva, September 2004, vii.

³⁶²¹ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Central Asia through Education and Youth Employment (EYE): An Innovative Regional Program*, Project Document, Geneva, 2005, cover page, 42.

³⁶²² U.S. Embassy- Tashkent official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 24, 2008.

³⁶²³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," section 5.

³⁶²⁴ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007.*

³⁶²⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Uzbekistan."

³⁶²⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," section 5.

³⁶²⁷ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007.*

³⁶²⁸ Ibid. E-mail communication to USDOL official, August 1, .

³⁶²⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Uzbekistan." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Uzbekistan," section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting, December 20, 2006.*

³⁶³⁰ U.S. Embassy- Tashkent, *reporting, December 4, 2007.*

Vanuatu

*Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*³⁶³¹

Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2004:	100
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2004:	94

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding the incidence and nature of child labor in Vanuatu.*

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

No changes have been recorded since the last reporting period regarding child labor laws and enforcement in Vanuatu.*

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

Research has not identified any policies or programs by the Government of Vanuatu to address exploitive child labor.

* Because of extremely limited information, a determination was made that USDOL would publish full reports on 9 countries and 18 territories, including the country or territory covered here, once every 5 years. For this reason, this report includes shortened profiles for these countries and territories, containing only new information published during the reporting period. For extended profiles on these countries and territories, please see *The Department of Labor's 2005 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*. The next extended profiles on these countries and territories should appear in *The Department of Labor's 2010 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*.

³⁶³¹ For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section.