

Protección del Niño y del Adolescente, articles 96, 98, 99, 104, 105, 108, 110, and 111. See also Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, 252, 262, 265.

³⁶⁴² Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica del Trabajo*, articles 258, 259, 266.

³⁶⁴³ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, article 255-257.

³⁶⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, articles 240-243.

³⁶⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, articles 238-239.

³⁶⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, articles 33 and 258.

³⁶⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, article 255. See also Government of Venezuela, *Código Penal*, 5.494, (October 20, 2000), article 174; available from <http://www.mintra.gov.ve/legal/codigos/penaldevenezuela.htm>.

³⁶⁴⁸ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, articles 231, 232, 266 and 267.

³⁶⁴⁹ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Contra la Delincuencia Organizada*, 38.281, (September 27, 2005), article 16; available from <http://www.asambleanacional.gov.ve/ns2/leyes.asp?id=298>.

³⁶⁵⁰ Government of Venezuela, *Ley de Extranjería y Migración*, 37.944, (May 24, 2004), articles 56-58; available from <http://www.acnur.org/biblioteca/pdf/2867.pdf>.

³⁶⁵¹ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, articles 33 and 258.

³⁶⁵² *Ibid.*, article 264.

³⁶⁵³ *Ibid.*, Article 264.

³⁶⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, article 237.

³⁶⁵⁵ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Contra la Delincuencia*

Organizada, article 14.

³⁶⁵⁶ Government of Venezuela, *Ley sobre Delitos informáticos*, 37.313, (October 30, 2001), articles 24, 27, and 28; available from <http://www.abinia.org/ley-contra-delitos-informaticos.pdf>.

³⁶⁵⁷ Government of Venezuela, *Ley Orgánica para la Protección del Niño y del Adolescente*, article 265.

³⁶⁵⁸ Government of Venezuela, *Ley de Conscripción y Alistamiento Militar*, 2.306, (September 11, 1978), articles 3, 4, 70 and 71; available from http://www.gobiernoenlinea.ve/legislacion-view/view/ver_legislacion.pag.

³⁶⁵⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Venezuela," section 6d.

³⁶⁶⁰ UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, *Eighteenth Periodic Reports of State Parties Due in 2004: Venezuela*, CERD/C/476/Add.4, June 14, 2004, para 139, 140, and 142; available from <http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/Documentsfrset?OpenFrameSet>. See also UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by State Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Concluding Observations: Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)*, CRC/C/VEN/CO/2, October 17, 2007, para 70-71; available from <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G07/44/5/90/PDF/G0744590.pdf?OpenElement>.

³⁶⁶¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Venezuela."

³⁶⁶² UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations, Convention on Rights of the Child*, para 74 and 75.

Yemen

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children living in rural areas of Yemen are more likely to work than are children living in urban areas.³⁶⁶³ A study by Understanding Children's Work, a research project of ILO-IPEC, UNICEF, and the World Bank, estimated that 87 percent of working children work in a family enterprise.³⁶⁶⁴

The majority of working children are found in agricultural sectors, including in the production of *qat* (a mild narcotic found in the region).³⁶⁶⁵

Children working in agriculture are confronted with hazardous conditions and activities, including the use of pesticides and heavy equipment, prolonged exposure to extreme temperatures, and

carrying heavy loads.³⁶⁶⁶ Children also work under hazardous conditions as street vendors, beggars, and domestic servants, as well as in the fishing, construction, textile, and automobile repair sectors.³⁶⁶⁷ Children employed in domestic service and restaurants are particularly vulnerable to sexual abuse and exploitation.³⁶⁶⁸

Children are trafficked internally for commercial sexual exploitation.³⁶⁶⁹ Saudi Arabia is the primary destination for children trafficked out of the country, where children work as street beggars, domestics, unskilled laborers, or street vendors.³⁶⁷⁰ Reports indicate that these children sell such items as flour and basic commodities, as well as *qat*,

which is an illegal substance in Saudi Arabia.³⁶⁷¹ The Child Labor Unit estimates that 10 children per week are trafficked into Saudi Arabia.³⁶⁷²

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i> ³⁶⁷³	
Working children, 5-14 years (%), 1999:	11.1
Working boys, 5-14 years (%), 1999:	11.2
Working girls, 5-14 years (%), 1999:	11
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%), 1999:	
- Agriculture	92
- Manufacturing	1
- Services	6.2
- Other	0.8
Minimum age for work:	15
Compulsory education age:	15
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	87
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2004:	74
School attendance, children 6-14 years (%), 1999:	55.1
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2003:	73
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum working age in Yemen is 15 years.³⁶⁷⁴ Children between 13 and 15 years may perform light work that does not interrupt their attendance at school.³⁶⁷⁵ The law prohibits the exploitation of children, as well as hazardous or socially damaging working conditions.³⁶⁷⁶ The law limits the work hours of children ages 15 to 17 years to 6 hours per day between the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., with a break period of 1 hour after 4 consecutive hours worked.³⁶⁷⁷ Additionally, employers must grant 24 hours compulsory paid rest and must also grant every working child ages 15 to 17 years annual leave, comparable to the terms due other workers for every 12-month period of labor.³⁶⁷⁸ Penalties for non-compliance with child labor laws include fines and up to 3 months of imprisonment.³⁶⁷⁹ Forced or compulsory labor is prohibited.³⁶⁸⁰ Children under 18 years are prohibited from entering the Armed Forces.³⁶⁸¹ However, children are allowed to carry weapons³⁶⁸² and reportedly

participate in ongoing conflicts among tribal groups and in the defense of *qat* fields.³⁶⁸³ The law prohibits the trafficking of children.³⁶⁸⁴ The law also stipulates a prison sentence of 5 to 8 years for anyone who pushes or incites a child to engage in drug trafficking. The prison term may be doubled for repeat offenders.³⁶⁸⁵ Yemen law also stipulates a maximum prison sentence of 10 years for those who force a child into prostitution, and a term of 10 to 15 years for those who buy or sell a child.³⁶⁸⁶ Kidnapping is punishable by up to 7 years in prison; kidnapping cases involving sexual assault or murder are punishable by the death penalty.³⁶⁸⁷ The Government reported 14 arrests for child trafficking in 2007.³⁶⁸⁸

The Child Labor Unit of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs is responsible for implementing and enforcing child labor laws, and has approximately 20 monitors throughout the country.³⁶⁸⁹ According to USDOS, the Government's enforcement of these laws is limited due to a lack of resources, especially in rural and remote areas.³⁶⁹⁰

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

The Government of Yemen is implementing policies to curb child labor, as outlined in the National Strategy to Combat Child Labor.³⁶⁹¹ The 2007 National Policy and Program Framework will guide future Ministry of Social and Labor Affairs' efforts to combat child labor.³⁶⁹² The Ministry of Youth and Sports' National Strategy for Integrating Youth into Development includes strategic actions to combat child labor, such as advocating for the enforcement of laws and legislation that prohibit child labor, and working against any exploitation of young people.³⁶⁹³ Child labor concerns are addressed in the Third Five-Year Plan for Socioeconomic Development (2006-2010), which includes a chapter on child and youth that addresses child labor.³⁶⁹⁴ In 2007, the Ministry of Social and Labor Affairs was establishing a Website which will contain statistics, studies, and research on child labor.³⁶⁹⁵

The Government of Yemen is participating in a USDOL-funded USD 3 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC that aims to promote the collection and analysis of child labor information; strengthen enforcement and

monitoring mechanisms; build capacity; raise awareness of the negative consequences of child labor; and withdraw 4,700 and prevent 3,400 children from engaging in the worst forms of child labor.³⁶⁹⁶ The Government is also participating in a USD 8.4 million sub-regional project, funded by USDOL and implemented by CHF International, to combat child labor through education in Lebanon and Yemen. The project aims to withdraw 4,505 children and prevent 4,195 children from entering exploitive labor.³⁶⁹⁷

In 2007, the Government established a technical committee to combat child trafficking.³⁶⁹⁸ The Yemeni and Saudi Governments cooperated to prevent and address the cross-border trafficking of children through a bilateral governmental committee.³⁶⁹⁹ With the support of UNICEF, the Government trained 80 female police officers on how to work with trafficked children.³⁷⁰⁰ The Government is also conducting an information campaign to raise awareness among parents and community leaders about the dangers of child trafficking.³⁷⁰¹ The Government, in cooperation with UNICEF, operates two reception centers in the Haradh and Hodeida districts which receive, rehabilitate, and educate repatriated child trafficking victims. The centers received approximately 762 children in 2007.³⁷⁰² In 2008, the Government opened an additional reception center in Sana'a.³⁷⁰³

the Middle East and North Africa (ACCESS-MENA) Project Document, Silver Spring, MD, January 2007, 5, 6.

³⁶⁶⁶ ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Understanding Children's Work in Yemen*, 2. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Third Periodic Reports of State Parties: Yemen*, para 319.

³⁶⁶⁷ ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Understanding Children's Work in Yemen*, 2. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Yemen," section 6d. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the National Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Lebanon and Yemen: Consolidating Action against the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, Project Document, RAB/04/P51/USA, Geneva, September 3, 2004, 32. See also CHF International, *Alternatives to Combat Child Labor through Education and Sustainable Services in the Middle East and North Africa (ACCESS-MENA)* 5, 6.

³⁶⁶⁸ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child: Yemen*, CRC/C/15/Add.267, September 21, 2005, para 65(b); available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/1296a4127ff7b38ac1257018002e6633?Opendocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/1296a4127ff7b38ac1257018002e6633?Opendocument). See also ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Understanding Children's Work in Yemen*, 2.

³⁶⁶⁹ U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, February 27, 2008, 1. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Yemen," section 5.

³⁶⁷⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Yemen (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, DC, June 12, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82807.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, February 27, 2008, 1.

³⁶⁷¹ Joseph Risploli, *Feasibility Study on Recovery and Reintegration Schemes for Children Victims of Trafficking: Case Studies of Hajja, Hodeida, and Al Mahweet Governorates*, December 2006, 25; available from http://www.iom.int/jahia/webdav/shared/shared/mainsite/projects/showcase_pdf/ye20061219_rep.pdf. See also U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, February 27, 2008, 1.

³⁶⁷² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Yemen," section 5.

³⁶⁷³ 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, "Yemen," 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/2007/100610.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, November 29, 2007, para 5.

³⁶⁶³ Republic of Yemen, *Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper: 2003-2005*, May 31, 2002, 11; available from <http://www.imf.org/external/np/prsp/2002/yem/01/053102.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Yemen," section 6d.

³⁶⁶⁴ ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Understanding Children's Work in Yemen*, Geneva, March 2003, 3; available from http://www.ucw-project.org/resources/pdf/yemen/Report_Yemen_draft.pdf.

³⁶⁶⁵ Republic of Yemen, *Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper*, 11. See also ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Understanding Children's Work in Yemen*, 2. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Third Periodic Reports of State Parties due in 2003: Yemen*, CRC/C/129/Add.2, December 3, 2004, para 319; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/55f20ff8a72f20c0c1256f8800329002?Opendocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/55f20ff8a72f20c0c1256f8800329002?Opendocument). See also CHF International, *Alternatives to Combat Child Labor through Education and Sustainable Services in*

³⁶⁷⁴ ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Understanding Children's Work in Yemen*, 31. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Third Periodic Reports of State Parties: Yemen*, para 312, 313.

³⁶⁷⁵ Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, *Ministerial Decree No. 56 for 2004*, (December 28, 2004), article 6. See also US Embassy Sanaa official, E-mail communication USDOL official, December 12, 2007.

³⁶⁷⁶ Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, *Ministerial Decree No. 56*, article 8, 21-23.

³⁶⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, article 12.

³⁶⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, article 13.

³⁶⁷⁹ ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Understanding Children's Work in Yemen*, 31.

³⁶⁸⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Yemen," section 6c.

³⁶⁸¹ ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Understanding Children's Work in Yemen*, 2. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Yemen," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=956.

³⁶⁸² UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports of State Parties (Continued): Third Periodic Report of Yemen*, CRC/C/SR.1049, June 1, 2005, para 41; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/43ba7a8950f906ecc125708400311306?Opendocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/43ba7a8950f906ecc125708400311306?Opendocument).

³⁶⁸³ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Global Report- 2004: Yemen." See also ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Understanding Children's Work in Yemen*, 2.

³⁶⁸⁴ Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor, *Ministerial Decree No. 56*, articles 26-28.

³⁶⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, article 27.

³⁶⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, articles 27-28.

³⁶⁸⁷ U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, March 15, 2005, 4a.

³⁶⁸⁸ U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, February 27, 2008, 4.

³⁶⁸⁹ U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, November 29, 2007, para 3. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Yemen," section 6d.

³⁶⁹⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007:

Yemen," section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

³⁶⁹¹ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Third Periodic Reports of State Parties: Yemen*, para 8.

³⁶⁹² ILO- IPEC, *Supporting the National Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Lebanon and Yemen*, Technical Progress Report, RAB/04/P51/USA, March 2008, 8, 9.

³⁶⁹³ Ministry of Youth and Sport Republic of Yemen, *The National Strategy for Integrating Youth Into Development, Second Edition*, 2002, 20.

³⁶⁹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the National Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Lebanon and Yemen*, Technical Progress Report, RAB/04/P51/USA, September 2006, 3, 4. See also U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, November 29, 2007, 6.

³⁶⁹⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the National Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Lebanon and Yemen*, Technical Progress Report, RAB/04/P51/USA, September 2007, 10.

³⁶⁹⁶ U.S. Department of Labor, *Supporting the National Policy and Program Framework for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Lebanon and Yemen: Consolidating Action Against the WFCL*, ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC, 2007.

³⁶⁹⁷ U.S. Department of Labor, *Alternatives to Combat Child Labor through Education and Sustainable Services in the Middle East and North Africa (ACCESS-MENA)* ILAB Technical Cooperation Project Summary, Washington, DC, 2007.

³⁶⁹⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Yemen."

³⁶⁹⁹ *Ibid.*

³⁷⁰⁰ U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, February 27, 2008, 4.

³⁷⁰¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Yemen," section 6d. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Yemen."

³⁷⁰² U.S. Embassy- Sana'a, *reporting*, February 27, 2008, 5.

³⁷⁰³ *Ibid.*