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<sup>2903</sup> Government of Oman, *Royal Decree No. 126/2008: Law Combating Trafficking in Persons*, (November 23, 2008), article 9. See also U.S. Embassy- Muscat, *reporting*, January 21, 2009, para 3. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Oman," section 6d.

<sup>2904</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Oman (Tier 3)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/index.htm>.

<sup>2905</sup> ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labor*.

<sup>2906</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Oman." See also U.S. Embassy- Muscat, *reporting, March 3, 2008*.

<sup>2907</sup> ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labor*.

<sup>2908</sup> Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Oman," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008; available from <http://www.childsoldiers>

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[globalreport.org/files/country\\_pdfs/FINAL\\_2008\\_Global\\_Report.pdf](http://globalreport.org/files/country_pdfs/FINAL_2008_Global_Report.pdf). See also Central Intelligence Agency, *The World Factbook - Oman*, [online] January 22, 2009 [cited January 29, 2009]; available from <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/files/2024.html>.

<sup>2909</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Oman," section 6d.

<sup>2910</sup> U.S. Embassy- Muscat, *reporting*, January 21, 2009, para. 6.

<sup>2911</sup> U.S. Embassy- Muscat, *reporting*, August 23, 2004.

<sup>2912</sup> Sultanate of Oman- Ministry of Education, *National Report on Quality Education in Oman*, Muscat, 2004, 16, 25-28, 41; available from <http://www.ibe.unesco.org/International/ICE47/English/Natrep/ports/oman.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Oman." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Oman," section 5.

<sup>2913</sup> U.S. Embassy- Muscat, *reporting, January 21, 2009*, para 6.

## Pakistan

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Pakistan work in agriculture, manufacturing, construction, transport, and domestic service.<sup>2914</sup> Children of Afghan refugees, who live along the borders of Pakistan, are especially susceptible to hazardous child labor.<sup>2915</sup>

Many of the activities in which children are employed are hazardous, including rag picking, leather tanning, coal mining, deep-sea fishing, brick making, carpet weaving, and manufacturing surgical instruments and glass bangles.<sup>2916</sup> Children working in the glass bangle sector are exposed to high temperatures, unstable material, fumes, and sharp objects.<sup>2917</sup> Children working in the tannery sector are exposed to toxic chemicals, and those working in the brick sector lift heavy loads.<sup>2918</sup> Children working in carpet-weaving suffer eye and lung diseases due to unsafe working conditions.<sup>2919</sup> Child miners, child domestics, and other working children who are far from their families are particularly vulnerable to sexual abuse.<sup>2920</sup>

Bonded child labor reportedly exists in the coal, brick, and carpet industries.<sup>2921</sup> Some children working in mining, domestic service, and agriculture are from families who are bonded or indebted to their employers.<sup>2922</sup> Commercial sexual exploitation of children continues to be a problem.<sup>2923</sup> Children are trafficked within Pakistan for the purposes of sexual exploitation and bonded labor.<sup>2924</sup> Girls are trafficked internationally for forced labor.<sup>2925</sup>

There are reports of children being kidnapped, maimed, and forced to work as beggars.<sup>2926</sup> There also reports of children under the minimum voluntary recruitment age of 17 years being involved in armed conflict.<sup>2927</sup>

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

In Pakistan, children of any age may be employed, provided that employers adhere to restrictions. It is illegal to employ children under 14 years in mines or other hazardous occupations or processes.<sup>2928</sup> Among the 4 occupations and 34 processes considered illegal for children to work are mixing and manufacturing pesticides and

insecticides; fumigation; working at railway stations or ports; carpet weaving; construction; and manufacturing of cement, explosives, and other products that involve the use of toxic substances.<sup>2929</sup> Children may work in non-hazardous occupations, provided they do not work more than 7 hours per day (with a mandated 1-hour rest every 3 hours), do not work between 7 p.m. and 8 a.m., and do not work overtime.<sup>2930</sup>

work in mines as long as they have a certificate of fitness and are allowed 12 consecutive hours of rest per day, at least 7 of which must be between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.<sup>2932</sup> Employers are required by law to maintain minimum standards of health and safety in a child's working environment.<sup>2933</sup> Children working for their families or in public schools are exempt from these provisions. Violations can result in a fine, a 1-year prison term, or up to a 2-year prison term for repeat violations.<sup>2934</sup>

Not all factory work is considered hazardous, and the Factories Act permits children 15 to 17 years to work in factories up to 5 hours per day, provided they do not work between 7 p.m. and 6 a.m. and have been granted a certificate of fitness.<sup>2935</sup> Children may work in shops and establishments for no more than 7 hours per day (with a 1 hour break after 3.5 hours of work) and for no more than 42 hours per week. Further, they may work only between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.<sup>2936</sup>

Bonded labor is prohibited by law; employers found in violation face 2 to 5 years of imprisonment or a fine.<sup>2937</sup> The Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking and Smuggling Ordinance prohibits trafficking of children internationally for exploitive activities and carries a prison term of 7 to 14 years and a fine.<sup>2938</sup> The Penal Code prohibits importing, exporting, trafficking, or dealing in slaves; non-compliance is punishable by life imprisonment.<sup>2939</sup>

The purchase or sale of a person for the purpose of prostitution or any unlawful and immoral purpose is punishable by imprisonment for life and a fine.<sup>2940</sup> The procurement of a minor for prostitution is punishable by a prison term of up to 3 years.<sup>2941</sup> Parents or guardians who cause or encourage the prostitution of a girl under 16 years are subject to imprisonment for up to 3 years and a fine; males who commit this crime may also be liable to whipping.<sup>2942</sup> The punishments for importing or keeping a girl for prostitution are a fine and prison term of up to 3 years; males who commit this crime may be punished with whipping in lieu of or in addition to imprisonment.<sup>2943</sup> The law does not specifically prohibit child pornography but outlaws the circulation of any obscene material, with

*Selected Statistics and Indicators  
on Child Labor*<sup>2931</sup>

Population, children, 10-14 years, 1999-2000:	13,550,151
Working children, 10-14 years (%), 1999-2000:	16.4
Working boys, 10-14 years (%), 1999-2000:	15.8
Working girls, 10-14 years (%), 1999-2000:	17.2
Working children by sector, 10-14 years (%), 1999-2000:	
- Agriculture	78.1
- Manufacturing	7.1
- Services	13.4
- Other	1.4
Minimum age for work:	14 in specified hazardous occupations
Compulsory education age:	Varies by province
Free public education:	No
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	92.0
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	65.6
School attendance, children 10-14 years (%), 1999-2000:	64.9
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2004:	69.7
ILO Convention 138:	7/6/2006
ILO Convention 182:	10/11/2001
CRC:	11/12/1990
CRCOPAC:	No
CRCOPSC:	No
Palermo:	No
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

Various restrictions apply to the work of children, 14 years and above, in these hazardous occupations. Children 14 years and older may

violations subject to fines or up to 6 months of imprisonment.<sup>2944</sup>

Pakistan does not have military conscription, and the minimum voluntary recruitment age is 17 years.<sup>2945</sup>

Child labor and forced labor laws are enforced by provincial governments through the labor inspection system.<sup>2946</sup> USDOS reports that enforcement of these laws is weak due to the lack of inspectors assigned to child labor, lack of training and resources, corruption, and the exclusion of many small workplaces and informal family businesses from the inspectorate's jurisdiction.<sup>2947</sup> While authorities cite employers for child labor violations, the penalties imposed are generally too minor to act as a deterrent.<sup>2948</sup> The Government's National Labor Inspection Policy encourages the involvement of private sector monitoring groups in labor inspection, such as the Independent Monitoring Association for Child Labor, which monitors child labor in the sporting goods industry.<sup>2949</sup>

The Anti-Trafficking Unit of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) is the lead agency responsible for enforcing trafficking-related laws.<sup>2950</sup> The provincial governments are responsible for internal anti-trafficking efforts. The Government of Pakistan and NGOs have stated that local law enforcement of anti-trafficking efforts is hampered by lack of funding, training, and awareness, as well as corruption.<sup>2951</sup> Statistics on the numbers of trafficking-related arrests are limited due to the fact that trafficking victims are not differentiated from victims of other crimes.<sup>2952</sup>

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

In 2008, the Government of Pakistan's National Action Plan for Children was adopted.<sup>2953</sup> This plan aims to harmonize Government and donor child labor programs to eliminate child labor and expand anti-trafficking efforts to include the protection of children.<sup>2954</sup>

Since 2000, the national and provincial-level governments have been implementing a National

Policy and Action Plan to Combat Child Labor (NPPA) that calls for immediate eradication of the worst forms of child labor, progressive elimination of child labor from all sectors, educational alternatives to keep children out of work, and rehabilitation of children withdrawn from work.<sup>2955</sup> The Government's current Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper reiterates the Government's commitment to the NPPA and incorporates the reduction of child labor into its target-setting process.<sup>2956</sup> The Government's Poverty Alleviation Strategy provides preferential access to micro-credit loans for the families of working children.<sup>2957</sup> The National Commission for Child Welfare and Development oversees the National Project on Rehabilitation of Child Labor, implemented by *Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal*, an autonomous body established by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education. The project withdraws children 5 to 14 years old from hazardous labor in the brick, carpet, mining, tannery, construction, glass bangle, and agricultural sectors, as well as from domestic service and begging.<sup>2958</sup> The project also provides them with non-formal education, and clothing, and gives stipends to the children and their families.<sup>2959</sup>

FIA cooperates with other governments on trafficking cases, operates a hotline for victims, and publishes information on anti-trafficking efforts on its website.<sup>2960</sup> The Ministry of Foreign Affairs works on diplomatic missions to rescue, protect, and repatriate Pakistani trafficking victims.<sup>2961</sup> The Government operates 276 shelters that provide legal assistance, vocational training, and medical care to Pakistani trafficking victims, including children.<sup>2962</sup>

The provincial Punjab Government has established Child Protection Bureaus in five districts to protect and rehabilitate street children, in particular beggars, and has budgeted USD 1.8 million for these programs.<sup>2963</sup>

The Government of Pakistan participates in a number of projects to address child labor implemented by international organizations and NGOs. USDOL funded a 5-year USD 4 million ILO-IPEC Timebound Program that ended in September 2008 and withdrew 10,217 children

and prevented 1,834 children from work in the glass bangle, surgical instrument, tanning, coal mining, scavenging, and deep-sea fishing industries.<sup>2964</sup> The Government is participating in an ILO-IPEC implemented 4-year USD 1.5 million USDOL-funded project to provide education and training programs for children in Balakot, North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) left vulnerable to hazardous child labor by the earthquake of October 8, 2005. The project targets 500 children for withdrawal and 2,000 children for prevention from hazardous work.<sup>2965</sup> Save the Children-UK is implementing a 5-year USDOL-funded USD 4 million project that aims to withdraw 7,300 children and prevent 8,420 children from hazardous work in the provinces of Balochistan, NWFP, and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas.<sup>2966</sup>

In May 2008, the Government of Denmark funded a USD 1 million Phase II project that ends in December 2009.<sup>2967</sup> With the support of the Government of Norway, the Government of Pakistan is participating in a USD 1.2 million ILO-IPEC project to engage the media in combating the worst forms of child labor, ending in July 2009.

The International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) is supporting the Government through a USD 700,000 ILO-IPEC project targeting children in the soccer ball industry in Sialkot, ending in August 2009.<sup>2968</sup> The Government of Germany is funding a USD 600,000 ILO-IPEC project to support country programs in Pakistan until December 2009. The Government of Pakistan will continue to participate in the Pakistan Carpet Manufacturers' and Exporters' Association-supported USD 900,000 ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor in the carpet industry until September 2009.<sup>2969</sup> The Government of Switzerland is supporting a USD 3.6 million ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor in the country through education and training until December 2009.<sup>2970</sup>

The Government is participating in a 5-year USD 1.3 million program (2008-2013), funded by the EU and implemented by ILO-IPEC, to combat abusive child labor.<sup>2971</sup> The Government is participating in a USD 1.4 million regional ILO-

IPEC project, funded by the Government of Italy, to prevent and eliminate child labor in South Asia until March 2009.<sup>2972</sup>

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<sup>2914</sup> Government of Pakistan, *Information on Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (July 25, 2005) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Islamabad, August 15, 2005, 3. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports-2008: Pakistan," section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy-Islamabad, *reporting, December 13, 2007*, para 7.

<sup>2915</sup> Save the Children- UK, *Mitigating Child Labour Through Education in Pakistan*, Project Document, London, September 2005, 3.

<sup>2916</sup> ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-Bound Programme on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Pakistan*, Final Technical Progress Report, Geneva, September 14, 2008, 7. See also Save the Children- UK, *Mitigating Child Labour in Pakistan*, Project Document, 3. See also ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour and Zafar Mueen Nasir, *A Rapid Assessment of Bonded Labour in the Carpet Industry of Pakistan*, Geneva, 2004, 9; available from [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms\\_082029.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_082029.pdf).

<sup>2917</sup> Karachi ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour with Collective for Social Science Research, *A Rapid Assessment of Bonded Labour in Hazardous Industries in Pakistan's Glass Bangle-Making, Tanneries, and Construction* Geneva, March, 2004, 9-10; available from [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms\\_082031.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_082031.pdf).

<sup>2918</sup> ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour and the Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research, *Unfree Labour in Pakistan: Work, Debt and Bondage in Brick Kilns*, Geneva, March 2004, 7; available from [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms\\_082028.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_082028.pdf). See also ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour with Collective for Social Science Research, *Bonded Labour in Glass Bangle-Making, Tanneries, and Construction*, 31.

<sup>2919</sup> ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour and Zafar Mueen Nasir, *Bonded Labour in the Carpet Industry*, 9.

<sup>2920</sup> UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Concluding Observations: Pakistan*, October 27, 2003, para 69; available from <http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/ae8223e67667611fc1256df1002eac>

68/\$FILE/G0344662.pdf. See also ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour with Ahmad Saleem, *A Rapid Assessment of Bonded Labour in Pakistan's Mining Sector*, Geneva, March 2004, 15; available from [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms\\_082032.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_082032.pdf).

<sup>2921</sup> ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour and the Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research, *Unfree Labour in Brick Kilns*, xiv. See also ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour and Zafar Mueen Nasir, *Bonded Labour in the Carpet Industry*, 18-20. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Pakistan," section 6d. See also ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour with Ahmad Saleem, *Bonded Labour in Pakistan's Mining Sector*, 3, 10, 14. See also Gulmina Bilal, "Death in Mines," *Newsline* (April, 2006); available from <http://www.newsline.com.pk/newsApr2006/exposeapr.htm>.

<sup>2922</sup> ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour with Collective for Social Science Research Karachi, *A Rapid Assessment of Bonded Labour in Domestic Work and Begging in Pakistan*, Geneva, March 2004, 19; available from [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms\\_082030.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_082030.pdf). See also ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour et al., *Bonded Labour in Agriculture: A Rapid Assessment in Sindh and Balochistan, Pakistan*, Geneva, March 2004, 16, 28; available from <http://se2.isn.ch/serviceengine/FileContent?serviceID=RESSpecNet&fileid=797155EE-C168-B10D-BF92-269976AFCCD6&lng=en>. See also ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour with Ahmad Saleem, *Bonded Labour in Pakistan's Mining Sector*, 14.

<sup>2923</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Pakistan," section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting*, March 1, 2008, para 2b.

<sup>2924</sup> U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, March 1, 2008*, paras 2a-2b. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Observation, Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Pakistan (ratification: 2002) Published 2006*, [online] 2006 [cited January 9, 2009], 1; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=8880&chapter=6&query=Pakistan%40ref&highlight=&querytype=bool>.

<sup>2925</sup> U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting*, February 19, 2009, para 3b.

<sup>2926</sup> ILO- Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour with Collective for Social Science Research Karachi, *Bonded Labour in Domestic Work and Begging*, 4.

<sup>2927</sup> Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Pakistan," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008, 266-267; available from [\[soldiers.org/\]\(http://www.child-soldiers.org/\). See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Pakistan: Child soldiers in Swat Valley", IRINnews.org \[online\] 2008 \[cited April 6, 2009\]; available from <http://www.globalsecurity.org/wmd/library/news/pakistan/2008/pakistan-080526-irin01.htm>.](http://www.child-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

<sup>2928</sup> Government of Pakistan, *Constitution of Pakistan*, article 11(3).

<sup>2929</sup> Government of Pakistan, *Employment of Children Act*, (June 4, 1991, as amended December 20, 2005), section 3, Schedule; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/22707/64834/E91PAK01.htm>.

<sup>2930</sup> Government of Pakistan, *Employment of Children Act*, (June 4, 1991), sections 6-7; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/22707/64834/E91PAK01.htm>.

<sup>2931</sup> For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Introduction. For minimum age for admission to work, see Government of Pakistan, *Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan*, (1973), article 11; available from <http://www.pakistani.org/pakistan/constitution/>. For age to which education is compulsory, see U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting*, December 13, 2007. See also UNESCO, *Education- National Legislation*, [online] [cited January 5, 2009]; available from [http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=12388&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=12388&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html). For free public education, see U.S. Department of State, "Pakistan," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2008*, Washington, DC, February 25, 2009, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/sca/119139.htm>.

<sup>2932</sup> Networking Project on Hazardous Child Labour, *Background Document: Policy and Legal Context in Asia Regarding Hazardous Child Labour*, June 16, 2005, 61; available from [hard copy on file].

<sup>2933</sup> Government of Pakistan, *Employment of Children Rules, 1995*, rules 6-15; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/44242/65005/E95PAK01.htm>.

<sup>2934</sup> Government of Pakistan, *Employment of Children Act*, 3 and 14.

<sup>2935</sup> Government of Pakistan, *The Factories Act, 1934 (as amended to 1997)*, (January 1, 1935), articles 2, 50, 52, 54; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/35384/64903/E97PAK01.htm>.

<sup>2936</sup> Networking Project on Hazardous Child Labour, *Policy and Legal Context*, 61.

<sup>2937</sup> Government of Pakistan, *Constitution of Pakistan*, article 11(2). See also Government of Pakistan, *Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act of 1992 (abstract)*, accessed January 9, 2009; available from

[http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex\\_browse.detail?s?p\\_lang=en&p\\_country=PAK&p\\_classification=03&p\\_origin=COUNTRY](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.detail?s?p_lang=en&p_country=PAK&p_classification=03&p_origin=COUNTRY).

<sup>2938</sup> Government of Pakistan, *Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking and Smuggling Ordinance (2002)*, as cited in ILO- Regional Project on Combating Child Trafficking for Labour and Sexual Exploitation, *Anti-child Trafficking Legislation in Asia: A Six-country Review*, ILO, Bangkok, 2006, 35; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/library/download/pub06-03.pdf>. See also U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, March 1, 2008*, section 2a. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Pakistan," section 5.

<sup>2939</sup> *Penal Code (1860)*, section 371, as cited in ILO- Regional Project on Combating Child Trafficking for Labour and Sexual Exploitation, *Anti-child Trafficking Legislation in Asia*, 38.

<sup>2940</sup> Government of Pakistan, *The Offence of Zina (Enforcement of Hudood) Ordinance*, No. VII, (February 10, 1979), sections 13 and 14; available from [http://www.punjabpolice.gov.pk/user\\_files/File/offence\\_of\\_zina\\_ordinance\\_1979.pdf](http://www.punjabpolice.gov.pk/user_files/File/offence_of_zina_ordinance_1979.pdf).

<sup>2941</sup> Government of Pakistan, "Pakistan," in *Legislation of Interpol Member States on Sexual Offences Against Children*, 2007, 3-4; available from <http://www.interpol.int/public/Children/SexualAbuse/NationalLaws/csaPakistan.asp>.

<sup>2942</sup> *Ibid.*, 3.

<sup>2943</sup> *Ibid.*, 4.

<sup>2944</sup> Government of Pakistan, *Pakistan Penal Code*, (1860), article 292; available from [www.punjabpolice.gov.pk/user\\_files/File/pakistan\\_penal\\_code\\_xlv\\_of\\_1860.pdf](http://www.punjabpolice.gov.pk/user_files/File/pakistan_penal_code_xlv_of_1860.pdf).

<sup>2945</sup> Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Child Soldiers Global Report 2008: Pakistan," 266.

<sup>2946</sup> Government of Pakistan, *Information on Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 1.

<sup>2947</sup> U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, December 13, 2007*, paras 7 and 11. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Pakistan," section 6d.

<sup>2948</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Pakistan," section 6d.

<sup>2949</sup> U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, December 13, 2007*, para 10.

<sup>2950</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Pakistan," section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, para 4b.

<sup>2951</sup> U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, paras 4b and 4c.

<sup>2952</sup> *Ibid.*, para 4d.

<sup>2953</sup> Mohammad Ali Fahim, *Pakistan Launches a National Campaign Against Child Abuse*, [online] [cited January 9, 2009]; available from [http://www.unicef.org/pakistan/media\\_4705.htm](http://www.unicef.org/pakistan/media_4705.htm).

<sup>2954</sup> Government of Pakistan- Ministry of Social Welfare and Special Education, *National Plan of Action for Children*, Islamabad, May 24, 2006; available from <http://www.nccwd.gov.pk/newsfiles/NPA%20for%20Children.pdf>.

<sup>2955</sup> Government of Pakistan- Ministry of Labour Manpower and Overseas Pakistanis, *National Policy and Action Plan to Combat Child Labour*, Islamabad, May 20, 2000, 11. See also Government of Pakistan, *Information on Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 2.

<sup>2956</sup> ILO, *National Legislation and Policies Against Child Labor in Pakistan*, [online] March 21, 2005 [cited January 9, 2009]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipec/responses/pakistan/national.htm>. See also Government of Pakistan- Ministry of Finance, *Accelerating Economic Growth and Reducing Poverty: The Road Ahead (Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper)*, Islamabad, December 2003, 119; available from [http://poverty2.forumone.com/files/15020\\_Pakistan\\_PRSP.pdf](http://poverty2.forumone.com/files/15020_Pakistan_PRSP.pdf).

<sup>2957</sup> U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, December 13, 2007*, para 5.

<sup>2958</sup> Pakistan Bait-Ul-Mal, *National Centre(s) for Rehabilitation of Child Labour*, [online] [cited January 12, 2009]; available from [http://www.pbm.gov.pk/new/Introduction\\_Links.html](http://www.pbm.gov.pk/new/Introduction_Links.html) and <http://www.pbm.gov.pk/new/Projects/Ongoing/NCRCL/Introduction.html>. See also ILO-IPEC, *National Legislation and Policies Against Child Labour in Pakistan*, [online] March 21, 2005 [cited January 12, 2009], 3; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipec/responses/pakistan/national.htm>.

<sup>2959</sup> ILO-IPEC, *National Legislation and Policies Against Child Labour in Pakistan*, 3.

<sup>2960</sup> U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, paras 5g and 7a.

<sup>2961</sup> *Ibid.*, paras 5g and 6k.

<sup>2962</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Pakistan," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008, 203; available from <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/105501.pdf>.

<sup>2963</sup> U.S. Embassy- Islamabad, *reporting, February 18, 2009*.

<sup>2964</sup> ILO-IPEC, *Time-Bound Programme, Final Technical Progress Report, September 2008*, cover page, 7, 45.

<sup>2965</sup> ILO-IPEC, *Pakistan Earthquake - Child Labour Response*, Project Document, Geneva, September 14, 2006, i, 25.

<sup>2966</sup> Save the Children - UK, *Mitigating Child Labour Through Education in Pakistan*, project document, London, October 2006, 1 and 2. See also Save the Children- UK, *Mitigating Child Labour Through Education in Pakistan*, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, September 20, 2008, G-43.

<sup>2967</sup> ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 19, 2008.

<sup>2968</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2969</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2970</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2971</sup> Ibid.

<sup>2972</sup> Ibid.

## Panama

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i> <sup>2973</sup>	
Population, children, 10-14 years, 2003:	319,968
Working children, 10-14 years (%), 2003:	5.1
Working boys, 10-14 years (%), 2003:	7.7
Working girls, 10-14 years (%), 2003:	2.2
Working children by sector, 10-14 years (%) 2003:	
- Agriculture	57.6
- Manufacturing	3.1
- Services	38.1
- Other	1.2
Minimum age for work:	14
Compulsory education age:	14
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	112.6
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	98.3
School attendance, children 6-14 years (%), 2003:	93.8
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2006:	90.0
ILO Convention 138:	10/31/2000
ILO Convention 182:	10/31/2000
CRC:	12/12/1990
CRCOPAC:	8/8/2001
CRCOPSC:	2/9/2001
Palermo:	8/18/2004
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

\*In practice, must pay for various school expenses

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in rural areas of Panama work in the production of melon, tomato, onions, sugarcane, and coffee.<sup>2974</sup> The number of indigenous children working in agriculture is particularly high.<sup>2975</sup> In urban areas of Panama, children work as street vendors, collecting garbage, packing bags at

supermarkets, shining shoes, washing cars, and assisting bus drivers. Children also work in personal services, as stylists, cooks, and manicurists.<sup>2976</sup> Children from indigenous communities in Panama migrate with their families to work, interrupting their schooling. These children sometimes cross into Costa Rica to work in agriculture.<sup>2977</sup> Many children, mostly girls of indigenous or Afro-Panamanian descent, work as domestic servants in third party homes where they are vulnerable to physical, psychological, or sexual abuse. According to the most recent child labor census in 2000, approximately 3,000 children and adolescents work in domestic service in Panama.<sup>2978</sup>

Children, principally girls, in Panama are trafficked internally for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation. The commercial sexual exploitation of adolescent girls takes place in the remote Darien province and in Panama City.<sup>2979</sup> In addition, some children from rural areas may be trafficked to urban areas for labor exploitation, including for domestic servitude.<sup>2980</sup> Children work in domestic service, sometimes under conditions that amount to forced labor.<sup>2981</sup>

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The Constitution of Panama, the Family Code, and the Labor Code set the general minimum age for employment at 14 years.<sup>2982</sup> According to Panama's Labor Code, however, children who have not completed primary school may not begin work until they reach 15 years.<sup>2983</sup> Similarly, the Law on Education notes that children under 15 years cannot work or participate in other activities that deprive them of their right to attend school regularly.<sup>2984</sup> The