

<sup>3393</sup> U.S. Embassy- Freetown, *reporting*, January 27, 2009, para 6.

<sup>3394</sup> Government of Sierra Leone, *Child Rights Act 2007*, section 28. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Sierra Leone," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/home>.

<sup>3395</sup> Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006.

<sup>3396</sup> ECOWAS and ECCAS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006, 5-13; available from [http://www.ceeac-eccas.org/img/pdf/Multilateral\\_Agreement\\_Trafficking-1184251953.doc](http://www.ceeac-eccas.org/img/pdf/Multilateral_Agreement_Trafficking-1184251953.doc).

<sup>3397</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Sierra Leone," section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy-Freetown, *reporting*, January 27, 2009, para 11.

<sup>3398</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Sierra Leone," section 6c, 6d. See also U.S. Embassy-Freetown, *reporting*, January 27, 2009, para 11.

<sup>3399</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Sierra Leone."

<sup>3400</sup> Reuters, "U.N. Court Convicts Sierra Leone Rebels of War Crimes", [online], February 25, 2009 [cited October 8, 2008]; available from [http://www.reuters.com/articlePrint?articleId=USLP688235\\_CH\\_2400](http://www.reuters.com/articlePrint?articleId=USLP688235_CH_2400).

<sup>3401</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3402</sup> U.S. Embassy- Freetown, *reporting*, January 27, 2009, para 5g.

<sup>3403</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Sierra Leone." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Sierra Leone," section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Freetown, *reporting*, January 27, 2009, para 6b.

<sup>3404</sup> U.S. Embassy- Freetown, *reporting*, January 27, 2009, para 7a.

<sup>3405</sup> U.S. Embassy- Freetown, *reporting*, September 30, 2008, para 1. See also U.S. Department of State, "Fiscal Year 2008 Anti-Human Trafficking Programs," Washington, DC, November 3, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/111540.htm>.

<sup>3406</sup> ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 15, 2008. See also ILO-IPEC, *Tackle Child Labor through Education: Moving Children from Work to School in 11 Countries*, Geneva, 2008; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ipceinfo/product/viewProduct.do?productId=8511>.

<sup>3407</sup> International Rescue Committee, *CYCLE, Project Document*, 1-2, 23.

<sup>3408</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3409</sup> International Rescue Committee, *Countering Youth and Child Labour through Education (CYCLE)*, Technical Progress Report, New York, September 2008, 10.

## Solomon Islands

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Government officials have acknowledged reports of children working as cooks and performing other tasks in logging camps and have also reported their involvement in the sale and production of homebrewed alcohol.<sup>3410</sup> Reports indicate that children, both boys and girls, are engaged in commercial sexual exploitation associated with the logging, tourism, and fishing industries in areas near logging camps; on fishing boats; and in Honiara, the capital city.<sup>3411</sup> The use of children in pornography is also indicated.<sup>3412</sup>

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The minimum age for admission to work in Solomon Islands is 12 years. Children under 12 years may participate in light agricultural,

domestic, or other labor if they are employed by and in the company of a parent or guardian, and the work has been approved by the Commissioner of Labor.<sup>3413</sup> Children under 15 years are prohibited from working in industry or on ships, with the exception of approved school or training ships.<sup>3414</sup> It is illegal for children under 16 years to work underground in mines.<sup>3415</sup> Children 16 to 18 years are also prohibited from working underground in mines, though boys over 16 years may obtain a medical certificate clearing them for such work.<sup>3416</sup>

Children under 18 years may not be employed as trimmers or stokers on ships and must obtain a medical certificate for any other work on a ship. The Commissioner of Labor may allow a boy of less than 18 years to begin work on a ship without medical clearance in certain circumstances,

provided that the child is examined and certified at the first port of call where a medical practitioner is available.<sup>3417</sup> Children less than 18 years are prohibited from working at night in any industry, though males over 16 years may obtain written permission from the Commissioner to do so.<sup>3418</sup> Failure to comply with these provisions is punishable by a fine.<sup>3419</sup>

against her will upon any premises with intent that she has sex with any man is a misdemeanor subject to the same sentence. Hiring out or obtaining minors under 15 years with the intent that they be used for prostitution is a crime, again subject to 2 years in prison.<sup>3424</sup> There are no armed forces in the Solomon Islands, but the minimum age for recruitment into the police force is 18 years.<sup>3425</sup>

The Commissioner of Labor is responsible for enforcing child labor laws.<sup>3426</sup> Lack of sufficient capacity and resources in the Labor Department, however, has prevented investigation of violations and enforcement of the laws.<sup>3427</sup> USDOS reports that the Government devotes few resources to investigating child labor cases.<sup>3428</sup>

### 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 Solomon Islands to address exploitive child labor during the reporting period.

<sup>3410</sup> Solomon Islands Central Magistrate's Court official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 23, 2006. See also Solomon Islands Ministry of Labor official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 12, 2006. See also Solomon Islands Department of Home Affairs official, Interview with USDOL official, June 20, 2006. See also Solomon Islands Police Official, Interview with USDOL consultant, September 3, 2006.

<sup>3411</sup> UNICEF Pacific, *Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Child Sexual Abuse in the Pacific: A Regional Report*, Suva, 2008; available from [http://www.unicef.org/pacificislands/Small\\_CESEC.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/pacificislands/Small_CESEC.pdf). See also Solomon Islands Department of Home Affairs official, Interview, June 20, 2006. See also Tania Herbert, *Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in the Solomon Islands: A Report Focusing on the Presence of the Logging Industry in a Remote Region*, Christian Care Center of the Church of Melanesia, Honiara, July 2007; available from <http://www.melanesiangeo.org/resources/Solomons%20Child%20Exploitation.pdf>. See also Solomon Islands Port Authority official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 28, 2006.

<sup>3412</sup> Rory Callinan, "Sold and Abused," *Time* 167, no. 13 (March 27, 2006); available from <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1174745,00.html>. See also UNICEF Pacific, *CSEC in the*

### Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor<sup>3420</sup>

Population, children, 5-14 years:	-
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:	12
Compulsory education age:	Not compulsory
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	100.5
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	61.8
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO Convention 138:	No
ILO Convention 182:	No
CRC:	4/10/1995**
CRCOPAC:	No
CRCOPSC:	No
Palermo:	No
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No

\*In practice, must pay for various school expenses

\*\*Accession

The constitution prohibits forced labor.<sup>3421</sup> Several general provisions in the penal code could be applied to prosecute acts of trafficking.<sup>3422</sup> Procuring or attempting to procure a girl or woman for the purpose of prostitution or using threats, intimidation, false pretences, drugs, or other matter to procure, attempt to procure, or overpower a woman or girl for sex is punishable by 2 years in prison.<sup>3423</sup> Detaining a woman or girl

*Pacific*. See also Solomon Islands National Council of Women official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 23, 2006.

<sup>3413</sup> Government of Solomon Islands, *Labour Act (Chapter 73)*, article 46.

<sup>3414</sup> *Ibid.*, article 47.

<sup>3415</sup> *Ibid.*, article 48.

<sup>3416</sup> *Ibid.*, article 49.

<sup>3417</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3418</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3419</sup> *Ibid.*, article 52.

<sup>3420</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 Solomon Islands, *Labour Act (Chapter 73)*, (1996 Edition), article 46; available from <http://www.paclii.org>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Solomon Islands," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2008*, Washington, DC, February 25, 2009, section 6; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/eap/119057.htm>. For age to which education is compulsory, see U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Solomon Islands," section 5. For free public education, see Solomon Islands Office of the Attorney General official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 12, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy- Port Moresby official, E-

mail communication to USDOL official, February 9, 2009. See also Joanna Sireheti, "Launch of Fee Free Education", [solomontimes.com](http://solomontimes.com) [online] January 16, 2009 [cited January 31, 2009]; available from <http://www.solomontimes.com/news.aspx?nwID=3406>.

<sup>3421</sup> Government of Solomon Islands, *Constitution of Solomon Islands*, (July 7, 1978), article 6; available from [http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol\\_act/c1978167/](http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol_act/c1978167/).

<sup>3422</sup> Government of Solomon Islands, *Penal Code*; available from [http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol\\_act/pc66/](http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol_act/pc66/).

<sup>3423</sup> Government of Solomon Islands, *Penal Code (Chapter 26)*, (Revised 1996), articles 144-145; available from [http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol\\_act/pc66/](http://www.paclii.org/sb/legis/consol_act/pc66/).

<sup>3424</sup> *Ibid.*, articles 148-150.

<sup>3425</sup> Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Solomon Islands," in *Child Soldiers Global Report- 2008*, London, 2008; available from <http://www.childsoldiersglobalreport.org/content/solomon-islands>.

<sup>3426</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Solomon Islands," section 6d.

<sup>3427</sup> Solomon Islands Ministry of Labor official, Interview with USDOL consultant, June 12, 2006.

<sup>3428</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Solomon Islands," section 6d.

## Somalia

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Somalia work in agriculture, herd animals, sell water and cigarettes, wash cars, and shine shoes.<sup>3429</sup> Children market a narcotic plant chewed by adults and young people throughout Somalia.<sup>3430</sup> Children also engage in prostitution and break rocks for gravel.<sup>3431</sup>

It is believed that Somalia is a source, destination, and transit country for child trafficking.<sup>3432</sup> Children are reportedly trafficked for forced labor and sexual exploitation by armed militias. There have also been reports that children are trafficked from Somalia to Djibouti, Malawi, and Tanzania for prostitution and exploitive labor, and to South Africa for prostitution.<sup>3433</sup>

Armed groups and militias continue to recruit and use Somali children from military operations. Some of conscripted children plant roadside bombs, operate checkpoints, and are trained to conduct assassinations.<sup>3434</sup>

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

Three distinct entities have governed Somalia since 1991: the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) in Mogadishu; the self-declared Republic of Somaliland in the northwest; and the semi-autonomous region of Puntland in the northeast.<sup>3435</sup> The 2004 TFG Charter calls on the Government to establish a minimum age for employment and prohibits forced labor and military service for children under 18 years.<sup>3436</sup> According to USDOS, government institutions in Somalia, Somaliland, and Puntland did not