

Mauritania

During the year, the Government of Mauritania secured a number of child slavery convictions. However, the Government has yet to adequately implement or enforce provisions of its child labor laws, and its social programs do not sufficiently address the needs of vulnerable children. As a result, children continue to engage in the worst forms of child labor in agriculture and herding, as well as indentured servitude in remote areas of the country.

Statistics on Working Children and School Attendance

| Children | Age | Percent |
|---------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Working | 5-14 yrs. | 18.2* |
| Attending School | 5-14 yrs. | 48.6 |
| Combining Work and School | 7-14 yrs. | 10.8 |

* Population of working children: 172,936



Prevalence and Sectoral Distribution of the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Children in Mauritania are engaged in the worst forms of child labor, including agriculture, herding, and indentured servitude.³⁷⁴⁴ In rural areas, children reportedly work on farms growing beans, rice and vegetables and face risks from carrying heavy loads and exposure to dangerous tools and chemicals.³⁷⁴⁵ Children herd and care for livestock, such as cattle and goats, and many work long hours and travel great distances.³⁷⁴⁶ While research is limited, there is evidence that children herd camels and sheep as well.³⁷⁴⁷ Some reports note that children work in the fishing sector, risking drowning while out at sea. Some children also burn wood to produce charcoal, risking injury from burns.³⁷⁴⁸

In urban areas, children reportedly work in the informal sector, as street vendors, garbage collectors, delivery boys, donkey cart drivers and apprentices in fields such as mechanics.³⁷⁴⁹ Boys reportedly engage in all of these activities, many

of them working more than eight hours a day, six days a week and required to carry heavy loads.³⁷⁵⁰ Some apprentices are beaten and forced to work for many years by their master.³⁷⁵¹

Some male street children are former Koranic students, or *talibes*.³⁷⁵² In Mauritania, it is traditional practice to send boys to Koranic teachers to receive education, which may include vocational training or apprenticeship. However, some Koranic teachers, or *marabouts*, force *talibes* to beg for more than 12 hours a day without adequate food or shelter.³⁷⁵³ Most *talibes* in Mauritania are between ages 6 and 10 and come from the Pulaar tribes in the southern part of the country.³⁷⁵⁴

Girls, many of whom are between ages 7 and 12, work as domestic servants in urban households. Many work for 6 to 10 hours a day, often without pay. Some are beaten and sexually abused.³⁷⁵⁵ Many domestic servants in Mauritania reportedly come from the Senegal River Valley and Assaba and work in Nouakchott.³⁷⁵⁶

In Mauritania, children reportedly continue to be exploited in indentured servitude and slave-like practices in remote areas of the country.³⁷⁵⁷ Some of these children herd animals, such as cattle and goats, and perform domestic labor.³⁷⁵⁸

| | | |
|---|--|-----|
|  | C138, Minimum Age | ✓ |
| | C182, Worst Forms of Child Labor | ✓ |
|  | CRC | ✓ |
| | CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict | No |
| | CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography | ✓ |
|  | Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons | ✓ |
|  | Minimum Age for Work | 14 |
| | Minimum Age for Hazardous Work | 18 |
|  | Compulsory Education Age | 14 |
| | Free Public Education | Yes |

Mauritania is a source and destination country for trafficked children.³⁷⁵⁹ Reports indicate that children are trafficked within Mauritania for forced labor in agriculture, herding, domestic labor and fishing.³⁷⁶⁰ In addition, children are trafficked domestically by street gang leaders to sell drugs. Girls are also trafficked for domestic labor and sexual exploitation, and *talibes* for forced begging.³⁷⁶¹ *Talibes* are trafficked from Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali and Senegal to Mauritania for forced begging.³⁷⁶² Girls are trafficked from Senegal and Mali for domestic service.³⁷⁶³

Research indicates that a lack of school infrastructure and limited availability of teachers impedes access to education, which increases the risk of children engaging in the worst forms of child labor.³⁷⁶⁴

Laws and Regulations on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Labor Code sets the minimum age for employment at 14. However, if a child has not completed the required 6 years of education, the child may be restricted from employment until such education is complete.³⁷⁶⁵ At age 12, children may perform light work in establishments where their family members are employed, provided that they have the Ministry of Labor's authorization and maintain their schooling.³⁷⁶⁶ According to the Labor Code, children younger than age 14 are prohibited from night work.³⁷⁶⁷ The Labor Code also bans children younger than age 18 from work that is dangerous, beyond their strength or is likely to harm their safety, health or morals.³⁷⁶⁸ All laws regarding regular work also apply to apprenticeships.³⁷⁶⁹ However, the Government lacks a hazardous labor list.

The Penal Protection Code for Children establishes penalties for sexually exploiting a child and for inciting a child to beg or giving authority to another person to do so.³⁷⁷⁰ The law also prohibits the production of child pornography.³⁷⁷¹ However, the law does not prohibit the use of children in other illicit activities.³⁷⁷²

Law 2007-048 and Law 025/3003 prohibit forced and compulsory labor, as well as slavery and trafficking in persons.³⁷⁷³ The minimum age for both voluntary and compulsory recruitment into the military is 18.³⁷⁷⁴

According to the law, the Government has established the right to free primary education through age 14. However, in practice, the free education provision was not effectively enforced, as children must pay for school-related expenses.³⁷⁷⁵

Institutional Mechanisms for Coordination and Enforcement

During the reporting period, the Government of Mauritania took steps to establish a coordinating

mechanism to combat the worst forms of child labor by creating the Child Trafficking, Smuggling and Labor multistakeholder group, which includes members from NGOs and government and international organizations. The group met informally during the year.³⁷⁷⁶

The Ministry of Social Affairs, Family and Children (MSFC) has primary responsibility for both child labor policy and enforcing all child labor laws, including those related to the worst forms of child labor.³⁷⁷⁷ The Government of Mauritania has 66 labor inspectors who are responsible for following up on child labor violations.³⁷⁷⁸ However, no child labor inspections were performed during the reporting period.³⁷⁷⁹ The Direction of the Judiciary Protection of Children under the Ministry of Justice, the Commissariat for Human Rights and the Special Brigade for Minors under the Ministry of the Interior also undertake activities that protect children and enforce laws, including the worst forms of child labor.³⁷⁸⁰

During the reporting period, the Government convicted three individuals of child exploitation. One convicted individual received a 6-month sentence, of which they served 12 days in prison, and the two other convicted individuals each received a 6-month sentence that was suspended.³⁷⁸¹ It is unclear if the sentences are sufficient to serve as a deterrent.³⁷⁸² In addition, research indicates that a lack of Government funding continues to be an impediment to coordination and enforcement efforts.³⁷⁸³

Government Policies on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

After conducting a study on trafficking and the worst forms of child labor in 2009, the Ministry of Social Welfare and UNICEF determined that the government's policies at that time were not effective due to limited funding and noted that the prevalence of child labor in Mauritania continued to increase.³⁷⁸⁴ Therefore, with additional funding

and technical support from UNICEF, the National Children's Council of MSFC began to implement a national strategy and 3-year plan of action (2009-2012) for the protection of children.³⁷⁸⁵ The strategy and action plan aim to strengthen the legal system, increase access to social services for vulnerable children and establish a system to coordinate, monitor and evaluate service provision.³⁷⁸⁶ The question of whether this policy has an impact on child labor does not appear to have been assessed.

The PRSP 2006-2010 includes plans to increase access to quality education for all children.³⁷⁸⁷ The Government of Mauritania also has a National Program for the Development of the Education Sector (2001-2010), which aims to increase children's access to education, particularly among girls.³⁷⁸⁸ In addition, the Commissariat for Human Rights established a national plan to combat the vestiges of slavery, which includes education as a means to reduce poverty.³⁷⁸⁹ However, the Government has not yet adopted the plan. According to ILO, the Government of Mauritania lacks reliable data to be able to provide the plan's services to all victims of slavery or those at risk.³⁷⁹⁰

Social Programs to Eliminate or Prevent the Worst Forms of Child Labor

During the reporting period, the Government of Mauritania provided minimal support to social programs. The Government participated in a \$500,000 USAID-funded, UNICEF-implemented project to provide support to children engaged in slavery.³⁷⁹¹ The project is scheduled to run through September 2012.³⁷⁹² The project aims to strengthen legal frameworks and provide income-generating opportunities to victims of slavery, targeting women and children.³⁷⁹³ The project targets children engaged in the worst forms of child labor in the domestic service, commercial sexual exploitation and forced begging (*talibes*) sectors, among others.³⁷⁹⁴ In addition, the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training reportedly provided microcredit opportunities to former

slaves in order to re-establish livelihoods.³⁷⁹⁵ Research has not uncovered what impact this project has had on the worst forms of child labor.

The Government of Mauritania continued to provide support to the two National Centers for the Protection of Children in Difficulty, located in Nouakchott, which provides shelter for vulnerable children, many of whom are *talibes*. In 2010, the Government provided a budget of \$307,000 toward the centers' operation.³⁷⁹⁶ MSFC held sensitization and awareness-raising events.³⁷⁹⁷

During the reporting period, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees repatriated over 2,500 Mauritanian refugees living in Senegal and Mali.

The Mauritanian refugees had been displaced by ethnic clashes in 1989, and in 2008, some 19,000 refugees had been repatriated before operations were forced to cease due to civil and political unrest.³⁷⁹⁸ The Government of Mauritania agency responsible for the repatriation process provided refugee children with educational services to ensure that they were protected and did not fall into the worst forms of child labor.³⁷⁹⁹

Research indicates that the scope of the programs to assist children involved in agriculture, herding, domestic service, the informal sector, street work and indentured servitude are not sufficient to meet the total need.

Based on the reporting above, the following actions would advance the reduction of the worst forms of child labor in Mauritania:

IN THE AREA OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS:

- Draft and adopt a hazardous labor list in accordance with international standards.
- Draft and adopt a law that prohibits the use of children in illicit activities in accordance with international standards.

IN THE AREA OF COORDINATION AND ENFORCEMENT:

- Formalize a coordinating mechanism to combat the worst forms of child labor.
- Take all necessary measures to effectively enforce child labor, forced labor and anti-trafficking laws, including labor inspections, investigation, prosecution and conviction of individuals.
- Provide sufficient funding for coordination and enforcement efforts.
- Effectively enforce free public education legal provisions.

IN THE AREA OF POLICIES:

- Assess the impact that existing policies may have on addressing the worst forms of child labor.
- Redouble efforts to implement the plan of action to protect children and collect data to identify children in need of these services.

IN THE AREA OF SOCIAL PROGRAMS:

- Expand the scope of programs to address the worst forms of child labor in agriculture, domestic service, informal sectors and other sectors where children work, as well as children in indentured servitude.

³⁷⁴⁴ Data provided in the chart at the beginning of this country report are based on UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, Child Economic Activity, School Attendance, and Combined Working and Studying Rates, 2005-2011. Data on working children and school attendance are from 2007. Data on children working and schooling from 2007. Reliable data on the worst forms of child labor are especially difficult to collect given the often hidden or illegal nature of the worst forms. As a result, statistics and information on children's work in general are reported in this section, which may or may not include the worst forms of child labor. For more information on sources used, the definition of working children, and other indicators used in this report, please see the "Children's Work and Education Statistics: Sources and Definitions" section of this report.

³⁷⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, February 11, 2011*, section 1, para 1.

³⁷⁴⁶ Ministère des Affaires Sociales, de l'enfance et de la Famille and UNICEF, *Etude sur le Trafic, la Traite et les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants en Mauritanie: Rapport Final*, Nouakchott, January 10, 2010, para 1. See also Haimoud Ramdan, *La lutte contre la Précarité des Enfants en Mauritanie*, Université de Nouakchott, 17. See also Le Quotidien de Nouakchott official, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 15, 2008, 65. See also Ministère des Affaires Sociales and UNICEF, *Etude sur le Trafic, la Traite et les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants en Mauritanie: Rapport Final*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Mauritania," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2010*, Washington, DC, April 8, 2011, section; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2010/af/154358.htm>, *ibid*.

³⁷⁴⁷ Ramdan, *La lutte contre la Précarité des Enfants*. See also SOS-Esclaves official, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 8, 2008. See also U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 9, 2011. See also Ministère des Affaires Sociales and UNICEF, *Etude sur le Trafic, la Traite et les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants en Mauritanie: Rapport Final*.

³⁷⁴⁸ Ministère des Affaires Sociales and UNICEF, *Etude sur le Trafic, la Traite et les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants en Mauritanie: Rapport Final*, 17. See also Ramdan, *La lutte contre la Précarité des Enfants*, 17. See also Le Quotidien de Nouakchott official, Interview, May 15, 2008, 65.

³⁷⁴⁹ Bechir Fall, *Enquete sur le Travail des Enfants et Opportunités d'Insertion a Nouakchott-Version Provisoire*, Ministry of Public Works and Employment and UNICEF, December 2006.

³⁷⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, 29-30, 33.

³⁷⁵¹ *Ibid.*, 29-30, 33. See also SOS-Esclaves official, Interview, May 8, 2008, 13.

³⁷⁵² U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, November 30, 2007*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2010: Mauritania," section 6. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties*, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention, June 17, 2009, 16-17; available from <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G09/430/16/PDF/G0943016.pdf?OpenElement>.

³⁷⁵³ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 12. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2010: Mauritania," sections 6, 7d. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties*, 16-17.

³⁷⁵⁴ Ministère des Affaires Sociales and UNICEF, *Etude sur le Trafic, la Traite et les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants en Mauritanie: Rapport Final*, para 1. See also Ba Samba Hamady, *Rapport Narratif de l'enquête Participative sur la Situation des « almuube » à Nouakchott Association Enfants et Développement en Mauritanie*, Save the Children, November 2006, 12.

³⁷⁵⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2010: Mauritania," section 7d. See also Fall, *Enquete sur le Travail des Enfants et Opportunités d'Insertion a Nouakchott-Version Provisoire*, 19-20. See also Ministère des Affaires Sociales and UNICEF, *Etude sur le Trafic, la Traite et les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants en Mauritanie: Rapport Final*, 57.

³⁷⁵⁶ Ministère de la Justice official, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 7, 2008, 27.

³⁷⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, «Mauritania,» in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2010*, Washington, DC, June 14, 2010; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2010/index.htm#>.

³⁷⁵⁸ *Ibid*. See also UN General Assembly, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, including its causes and consequences, Gulnara Shahinian*, Human Rights Council, 2010, 12; available from http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/slavery/rapporteur/docs/A.HRC.15.20.Add.2_en.pdf.page 12

³⁷⁵⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2010: Mauritania."

³⁷⁶⁰ *Ibid*. See also Association Enfants Développement en Mauritanie (AEDM) official, Interview with USDOL consultant, May 12, 2008, 53.

³⁷⁶¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2010: Mauritania." See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2010: Mauritania," section 6.

³⁷⁶² U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2010: Mauritania." See also Hamady, *Rapport Narratif*

de l'enquête Participative sur la Situation des « almuube » à Nouakchott Association Enfants et Développement en Mauritanie, 12. See also Association Enfants Développement en Mauritanie (AEDM) official, Interview, May 12, 2008, 53.

³⁷⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2010: Mauritania."

³⁷⁶⁴ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott official, E-mail communication, March 9, 2011.

³⁷⁶⁵ Government of Mauritania, *Code du travail*, Loi No. 2004-017, (July 2004), article 153; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=MRT&p_classification=01.02&p_origin=COUNTRY&p_sortby=SORTBY_COUNTRY, *ibid.* See also Government of Mauritania, *Loi n° 2001-054 du portant obligation de l'enseignement*, (July 19, 2001), article 1.

³⁷⁶⁶ Government of Mauritania, *Code du travail. Loi No. 2004-017*, July 2004, articles 153-155, 164; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=MRT&p_classification=01.02&p_origin=COUNTRY&p_sortby=SORTBY_COUNTRY.

³⁷⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

³⁷⁶⁸ ILO NATLEX National Labor Law Database, *Arrêté no. 239 du 17 septembere 1954*, accessed October 11, 2006; available from http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.details?p_lang=en&p_country=MRT&p_classification=04&p_origin=COUNTRY&p_sortby=SORTBY_COUNTRY, *ibid.*

³⁷⁶⁹ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 24, 2011, *ibid.*

³⁷⁷⁰ Government of Mauritania, *Ordonnance 2005-015 portant protection penale de l'enfant*, (December 5, 2005), 25-16, 42.

³⁷⁷¹ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott official, E-mail communication, March 9, 2011.

³⁷⁷² ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Direct Request Worst Forms of Child Labor, 1999 (No. 182) Mauritania (ratification: 2001) Submitted: 2010*, February 17, 2011 2011, para 1; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/iloquery.htm>.

³⁷⁷³ *Ibid.*, para 1. See also Government of Mauritania, *Loi n° 2007- 048 portant incrimination de l'esclavage et réprimant les pratiques esclavagistes* (December 17, 2007), articles 1-3; available from <http://appablog.wordpress.com/2008/01/24/mauritanie-texte-de-la-loi-anti-esclavagiste-adoptee-par-les-deputes-mauritaniens/>. See also Government of Mauritania, *Loi n° 025/3003 portant repression de la traite des personnes*, (2003), articles 1-3.

³⁷⁷⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Mauritania," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/home>.

³⁷⁷⁵ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, February 11, 2011*, section 2.2. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2010: Mauritania," section 6, *ibid.*, *ibid.*

³⁷⁷⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Mauritania," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2011*, Washington, DC, June 27, 2011; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2011/index.htm>.

³⁷⁷⁷ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, February 11, 2011*, section 4.

³⁷⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, section 4. See also U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott official, E-mail communication, March 9, 2011.

³⁷⁷⁹ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, February 11, 2011*, sections 4, 5.

³⁷⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, sections 4, 5.

³⁷⁸¹ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, June 2, 2011. See also U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, February 11, 2011*, section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2011: Mauritania."

³⁷⁸² U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, February 11, 2011*, section 5.

³⁷⁸³ Ministère des Affaires Sociales and UNICEF, *Etude sur le Trafic, la Traite et les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants en Mauritanie: Rapport Final*, para 5. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Direct Request C182: Mauritania (2010)*, para 1.

³⁷⁸⁴ Ministère des Affaires Sociales and UNICEF, *Etude sur le Trafic, la Traite et les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants en Mauritanie: Rapport Final*, para 4.

³⁷⁸⁵ Government of Mauritania, *Written Replies by the Government of Mauritania to the List of Issues Prepared by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in Connection with the Consideration of the Second Periodic Report of Mauritania*, April 22, 2009, 4-5; available from <http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G09/417/29/PDF/G0941729.pdf?OpenElement>.

³⁷⁸⁶ Ministère des Affaires Sociale de l'Enfance et de la Famille and UNICEF, *Strategie Nationale de Protection des Enfants en Mauritanie et Plan d'Action 2009-2013*, August 13, 2009, 51-55.

³⁷⁸⁷ International Monetary Fund, *Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper*, Washington, DC, January 2007; available from <http://www.imf.org/external/np/prsp/prsp.asp#R>. See also Government of Mauritania, *Programme National de Developpement de Secteur Educatif 2001-2010*, 2001; available from http://www.educationfasttrack.org/media/library/Mauritania_Education_Plan.pdf.

³⁷⁸⁸ ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Madagascar (ratification: 2001)*, [online] 2007 [cited May 2, 2011],

paras 1, 2; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>, ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Direct Request C182: Mauritania (2010)*.

³⁷⁸⁹ ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Direct Request C182: Mauritania (2010)*, ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Convention 182*. See also Ministère des Affaires Sociales and UNICEF, *Etude sur le Trafic, la Traite et les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants en Mauritanie: Rapport Final*, para 2.

³⁷⁹⁰ ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Observation concerning Forced Labor Convention, 1930 (No. 29) Mauritania (ratification: 1961) Published: 2010*, March 17, 2011 2011; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/iloquery.htm>. See also Ministère des Affaires Sociales and UNICEF, *Etude sur le Trafic, la Traite et les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants en Mauritanie: Rapport Final*, para 2.

³⁷⁹¹ Ministère des Affaires Sociales and UNICEF, *Etude sur le Trafic, la Traite et les Pires Formes de Travail des Enfants en Mauritanie: Rapport Final*, paras 4, 7. See also U.S. Embassy-Nouakchott official, E-mail communication, March 9, 2011.

³⁷⁹² UNICEF, *Care to Child Victims of Slavery and Trafficking in Mauritania: First Progress Report*, Nouakchott, April 30,

2011, 2. See also U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 21, 2011.

³⁷⁹³ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, February 11, 2011*, sections 4, 7. See also U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott official, E-mail communication, March 9, 2011.

³⁷⁹⁴ UNICEF, *Care to Child Victims of Slavery and Trafficking in Mauritania: First Progress Report*, 14-15.

³⁷⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, 17.

³⁷⁹⁶ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, February 11, 2011*, section 7. See also U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott official, E-mail communication, March 9, 2011.

³⁷⁹⁷ U.S. Embassy- Nouakchott, *reporting, February 11, 2011*, section 7.

³⁷⁹⁸ Integrated Regional Information Networks, “Mauritania/Senegal: Refugee returns resume”, IRINnews.org, [online], 2010 [cited March 12, 2011]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/report.aspx?reportid=90828>.

³⁷⁹⁹ U.S. Embassy- Antananarivo, E-mail communication, March 24, 2011.