

³⁵⁰⁸ Government of Sri Lanka, *Penal Code (Amendment)*, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas in Sri Lanka*, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, March 30, 2006, 4.

³⁵⁰⁹ National Planning Department, *National Plan of Action for the Children of Sri Lanka, 2004-2008*, Government of Sri Lanka Ministry of Finance and Planning, Colombo, 2004, 122-123; available from http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/srilanka/docs/National_Plan.pdf. See also ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas in Sri Lanka*, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, September 12, 2005, 3.

³⁵¹⁰ Government of Sri Lanka, *Report of Sri Lanka on Efforts to Eliminate Worst Forms of Child Labour*, 4. See also U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, January 20, 2009*, para 5.

³⁵¹¹ U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, February 16, 2009*, para 2.

³⁵¹² U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, September 7, 2005*. See also U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, August 23, 2004*.

³⁵¹³ U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, January 20, 2009*, para 6.

³⁵¹⁴ U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, February 16, 2009*, para 19.

³⁵¹⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Child Labour and Responses: Overview Note Sri Lanka*, November 2004, 3; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/newdelhi/ipecc/download/srilanka.pdf>.

³⁵¹⁶ U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, February 29, 2008*, para 4b. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Sri Lanka," section 5.

³⁵¹⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Sri Lanka (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/index.htm>.

³⁵¹⁸ U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, February 29, 2008*, para 4h.

³⁵¹⁹ *Ibid.*, para 3g.

³⁵²⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour, Technical Progress Report, September 2005*, 15 and 35. See also ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas in Sri Lanka*, Final Progress Report, Geneva, March 30, 2008, 32.

³⁵²¹ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 18, 2008.

³⁵²² U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, January 20, 2009*, para 11.

³⁵²³ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 31, 2009.

Suriname

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Suriname work in the informal sector in rural and urban areas. They work in gold mines and the informal urban sector.³⁵²⁴ Maroon children, particularly boys, are often engaged in exploitive labor.³⁵²⁵ Children have been found in the commercial sex industry and trafficking of minors is a problem.³⁵²⁶ There are reports of children being trafficked internally and internationally. Some minors are trafficked into the sex trade associated with gold mining camps.³⁵²⁷ The Government of Suriname acknowledges the lack of information available on the incidence and nature of child labor in Suriname.³⁵²⁸

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. However, children 12 to 14 years may work in family or special vocational settings if the work is not too physically or mentally demanding or hazardous.³⁵²⁹ Children under 15 years are prohibited from working on fishing boats.³⁵³⁰ Children under 18 years are prohibited from night work, which is defined as the hours between 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., and hazardous work, which is defined as work that endangers life, health, and decency, or as determined by the Minister of Labor.³⁵³¹ Employers are required to maintain a Register of Young Persons that includes each employee's name, address, date of

birth, and the occupational starting and ending dates.³⁵³² Employing a child under 14 years is punishable by fines and up to 12 months in prison. Parents who permit their children to work in violation of child labor laws may be prosecuted.³⁵³³

incarceration.³⁵³⁸ Child pornography is punishable with 2 years of imprisonment. Brothel operation is illegal, but the law is not enforced.³⁵³⁹

Military service is not compulsory. Research has been inconclusive regarding the minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the Armed Forces. The ILO Committee of Experts has requested the Government to provide information on the minimum age for enlistment.³⁵⁴⁰

The Ministry of Labor's Department of Labor Inspections implements and enforces labor laws, including child labor laws, through its 40 inspectors. Labor inspectors and police officers investigate allegations of child labor.³⁵⁴¹ USDOS reports that both Government action and resources need to increase in order to expand beyond urban areas and into the hinterland.³⁵⁴²

The laws consider the worst forms of child labor to be crimes, and as such, they are enforced by the Ministry of Justice and Police, in conjunction with the Youth Police Department. The Youth Police are authorized to remove children from the worst forms of child labor and prosecute offenders.³⁵⁴³

The police conduct investigations and raids, including random checks of brothels, to ensure that minors are not working on those premises.³⁵⁴⁴

The Trafficking in Persons Unit of the Police Department has conducted checks on known prostitution locations and has rescued victims of trafficking, including children.³⁵⁴⁵

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

During the reporting period, the Government continued to make up a working group on child labor, which consists of representatives from the Ministries of Labor, Social Affairs, and Education as well as representatives from labor unions, the private sector, and NGOs.³⁵⁴⁶ The Government supports vocational programs for children who are no longer in school.³⁵⁴⁷ The Minister of Labor, the Youth Affairs Section of the Police Force, and the Commission for Child Rights continue to conduct awareness-raising campaigns to combat child labor.³⁵⁴⁸

The Government of Suriname continues to combat trafficking in persons through the Anti-

*Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor*³⁵³⁴

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:	14
Compulsory education age:	12
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	118.7
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	94.1
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2006:	79.7
ILO Convention 138:	No
ILO Convention 182:	4/12/2006
CRC:	3/1/1993
CRCOPAC:	No
CRCOPSC:	No
Palermo:	5/25/2007**
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Associated

*In practice, must pay for various school expenses

**Accession

The law prohibits forced labor, trafficking in persons, slavery, and practices similar to slavery.³⁵³⁵ Trafficking in persons, including for the purpose of sexual exploitation, is punishable with 5 to 20 years of imprisonment.³⁵³⁶ The penalty for trafficking of minors under 16 years ranges from 10 to 20 years of incarceration. The Attorney General's Office may press dual charges against a trafficker for human trafficking and rape.³⁵³⁷ Exploiting a child for the purpose of prostitution is punishable with 6 to 20 years of

trafficking Working Group, which coordinates government efforts to address human trafficking, including the trafficking of children. The Working Group is composed of the Attorney General's Office, the Ministries of Justice, Defense, Foreign Affairs, and Home Affairs, and NGOs.³⁵⁴⁹ The Government has made available a hotline for children and youth to discuss youth-related issues, including trafficking.³⁵⁵⁰

The Government of Suriname participated in Phase II of a 5-year USD 750,000 regional project to combat the worst forms of child labor in the Caribbean, funded by the Government of Canada and implemented by ILO-IPEC.³⁵⁵¹ It also took part in a regional initiative to raise awareness of trafficking in persons, funded by USDOS and implemented by IOM.³⁵⁵² The Police Anti-trafficking Unit participated in training conducted by the Government of the Netherlands on human trafficking.³⁵⁵³

The Ministry of Transport, Communication, and Tourism is part of the Joint Group for the Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism, which conducts awareness-raising campaigns to combat the commercial exploitation of children in Latin America. It was created in 2005 and includes the Ministries of Tourism of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela.³⁵⁵⁴

³⁵²⁴ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties due in 2000: Suriname*, prepared by Government of Suriname, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, November 24, 2005, paras 187-188, 196; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/bb62c614e8a84285c12570b2004036c8/\\$FILE/G0545193.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/bb62c614e8a84285c12570b2004036c8/$FILE/G0545193.pdf). See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Considerations of Reports Submitted by State Parties Under Article 44 of the Convention: Concluding Observations: Suriname*, Geneva, June 18, 2007, para 65 available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/05a8c4df61cb8e4fc125730700506451/\\$FILE/G0742426.pdf](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/898586b1dc7b4043c1256a450044f331/05a8c4df61cb8e4fc125730700506451/$FILE/G0742426.pdf). See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 6d.

³⁵²⁵ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Suriname*, para 65.

³⁵²⁶ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties: Suriname*, paras 185 and 186. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Concluding Observations: Suriname*, para 67. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy-Paramaribo, *reporting*, March 3, 2009.

³⁵²⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Suriname (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/>. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, March 19, 2009.

³⁵²⁸ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Periodic Reports of States Parties: Suriname*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 6d.

³⁵²⁹ Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname - A Guide to Legislative Reform*, ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, June 2005, 25. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 6d.

³⁵³⁰ Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 25.

³⁵³¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 6d. See also Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 27.

³⁵³² Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 27. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, March 3, 2009.

³⁵³³ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, March 3, 2009.

³⁵³⁴ 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 U.S. Department of State, "Suriname," in *Country Report on Human Rights Practices- 2008*, Washington, DC, February 25, 2009, section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/index.htm>. For age to which education is compulsory, see U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 5. See also U.S. Embassy-Paramaribo, *reporting*, March 3, 2009. For free public education, see Government of Suriname, *1987 Constitution with Reforms of 1992*, (1987), articles 38-39; available from <http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Suriname/english.html>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 5.

³⁵³⁵ Government of Suriname, *Constitution*, article 15. See also Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 29. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 25, 2009.

³⁵³⁶ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 14, 2009. See also U.S. Embassy

-Paramaribo, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 25, 2009.

³⁵³⁷ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, E-mail communication, July 14, 2009.

³⁵³⁸ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, E-mail communication, March 25, 2009. See also Government of Suriname, *Written Replies by the Government of the Suriname Concerning the List of Issues Received by the Committee on the Rights of the Child Relating to the Consideration of the Second Periodic Report of Suriname*, CRC/C/SUR/Q/2/Add.1, November 29, 2006, 31; available from [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/501c0bb6865367bcc12572610029b6d6/\\$FILE/G0645835.pdf](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/0/501c0bb6865367bcc12572610029b6d6/$FILE/G0645835.pdf).

³⁵³⁹ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, E-mail communication, March 25, 2009. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, March 3, 2009.

³⁵⁴⁰ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Suriname," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008; available from http://www.childsoldiersglobalreport.org/files/country_pdfs/FINAL_2008_Global_Report.pdf. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Suriname (ratification: 2006)*, [online] 2009 [cited July 15, 2009]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

³⁵⁴¹ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, March 3, 2009. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 6d.

³⁵⁴² U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, December 6, 2007.

³⁵⁴³ Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 33.

³⁵⁴⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 6d. See also Government of Suriname, *Written communication*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (November 8, 2007) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst

Forms of Child Labor", Washington, DC, February 8, 2008, 4.

³⁵⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, October 8, 2008.

³⁵⁴⁶ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, March 3, 2009. See also Government of Suriname, *Written communication*, 2.

³⁵⁴⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 6d. See also Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 33.

³⁵⁴⁸ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, March 3, 2009.

³⁵⁴⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, March 19, 2009.

³⁵⁵⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 5.

³⁵⁵¹ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 18, 2008.

³⁵⁵² U.S. Department of State, *U.S. Government Funds Obligated in Fiscal Year 2007 for Anti-Trafficking in Persons Projects*, February 26, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/101295.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Suriname," section 5.

³⁵⁵³ U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, March 19, 2009.

³⁵⁵⁴ Brazilian Ministry of Tourism, *Equador Assume Direção de Grupo Latino-Americano para a Proteção Infante-Juvenil*, November 26, 2008; available from http://200.143.12.85/turismo/opencms/institucional/noticias/arquivos/Equador_assume_direcao_de_grupo_latino-americano_para_protacao_infanto-juvenil.html. See also Ecuadorean Ministry of Tourism, *Ecuador Asume Liderazgo en Suramérica para la Protección de Menores Jóvenes*, [online] 2008 [cited January 26, 2009]; available from http://www.turismo.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=885&Itemid=43.

Swaziland

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Swaziland work in agriculture, herding, and domestic service.³⁵⁵⁵ In the agriculture sector, children are employed to pick cotton and harvest sugarcane.³⁵⁵⁶ Children also work in street vending and as bus and taxi conductors, porters, and car washers.³⁵⁵⁷ Children are also reportedly employed in textile factories.

Children are reportedly used by adults to steal from homes and sell drugs.³⁵⁵⁸ Some children also engage commercial sexual exploitation and distribute alcohol in liquor outlets.³⁵⁵⁹

Swaziland is a possible source, destination, and transit country for child trafficking.³⁵⁶⁰ Anecdotal evidence indicates that Swazi girls are trafficked to South Africa and Mozambique for domestic