World Day Against Child Labour 2011

Warning! Children in hazardous work - End child labour

On 12 June each year, people around the world join hands to mark the World Day against Child Labour and to raise public and political awareness to build the campaign to end it. To make World Day 2011 a success, we call upon WOSM members (NSOs) and ILO/IPEC field staff to join forces and organise activities and events to raise awareness and mobilise action against child labour.

The 2011 World Day will shine a global spotlight on the problem of children in hazardous work, and will call for urgent action to address it. There are 215 million children in child labour. Of these, 115 million work in hazardous conditions likely to harm their health, safety or morals. In many cases children’s lives are at risk.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) share a common commitment to pursuing social justice and peace, empowering young people through human rights-based educational programmes and promoting the social dimension of globalization. In recent years, our joint efforts have encouraged many young people to become advocates to defend children’s rights and to campaign to end child labour.

The 22nd World Scout Jamboree in Sweden makes 2011 a special year for Scouting. We encourage Scout groups and leaders at the Jamboree to participate in the ILO/IPEC run workshops and activities on child labour at the Global Development Village and Boulevard. World Day 2011 focuses on health and safety risks of child labour and the importance of decent youth employment in all countries. These themes will strike a chord with adolescent Scouts at the Jamboree, many of whom may already be working part-time, or even full-time, and will be concerned about their rights - and those of their peers - in the workplace. Through discussion and activities with SCREAM team leaders, Scouts can explore together ways in which they can play their part in the global campaign to eliminate child labour. Visit the links overleaf for information and ideas on what can be done.

Whether big or small, every action against child labour is important. Together we can mobilise, educate and empower people to exercise their rights. Youth can bring essential energy, ideas and action to reinvigorate global action to end child labour. Let us stand united and work together to make the world a better place for children.

Constance Thomas
Director
International Programme on
the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)

Luc Panissod
Secretary General
World Organization of the
Scout Movement

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1 The ILO-WOSM partnership was reconfirmed in 2009 with the signing of a second Memorandum of Understanding.

2 Supporting Children’s Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media
- Reports and promotional materials on the theme of this year's World Day Against Child Labour:
  www.ilo.org/ipec/Campaignandadvocacy/WDACL/WorldDay-2011

- Tools and initiatives to inspire children and youth to take action to raise awareness on child labour on the Youth in Action section of the ILO/IPEC website. This includes new activities on the theme of this year's World Day:
  www.ilo.org/ipec/Campaignandadvocacy/Youthinaction

- The SCREAM – Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media – Education Pack (available in 20 languages) and the SCREAM Special Module on HIV, AIDS and Child Labour:
  www.ilo.org/scream

- Videos on child labour:
  ILO TV on YouTube – child labour playlist
  http://www.youtube.com/ilotv#v/c/418A6833A1C5B483
  Child to child solidarity concert – images of child labour combined with music played by children
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0BF6y9Hfpm4

- The WOSM Guidelines on Scouting for Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances:
  www.scout.org/reachingout

- The video on Scouting and Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances, prepared in collaboration with ILO/IPEC:
  www.scout.org/en/information_events/media_centre/audiovisuals/video_clip_u_fund

Use the 12 to 12 Community Portal – www.12to12.org – to share pictorial reports, photos and videos on the events you organise for the World Day Against Child Labour. We would also like to hear from you! Please send information, together with any supporting material such as drawings, writings, and photographs, to:

IPEC, 4 Route des Morillons, CH-1211 Geneva 22, Switzerland.
E-mail: ipec@ilo.org

and/or

WOSM, 5 Rue Pré-Jérôme. CH-1205, Geneva
P.O. Box 91, CH-1211 Geneva 4-Plainpalais, Switzerland.
E-mail: worldbureau@scout.org