



International Labour Organization

## **World Day Against Child Labour 2015**

### **NO to child labour, YES to quality education!**

Between 2000 and 2012, the number of children in child labour fell by one third. Yet there are still 168 million children in child labour, of whom 85 million are engaged in hazardous work. While significant progress has been made, much remains to be done to eradicate the problem. On World Day Against Child Labour each year, global, national and local partners in the worldwide movement against child labour come together to demand an end to child labour and the realization of children's rights to learn, play and grow in a healthy and safe environment.

For over a decade now, the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) of the International Labour Organization (ILO) have been collaborating to raise awareness about issues of social justice and human rights including, in particular, about child labour.

WOSM and ILO-IPEC are once again calling on National Scout Organizations (NSOs) and ILO Country Offices to join forces in activities and events planned on and around the World Day Against Child Labour on 12 June.

The focus of the World Day this year is on free, compulsory, quality education as the means to make the single biggest difference in combating child labour. It has even greater impact when combined with policies promoting better livelihoods, social protection and law enforcement. On this World Day, we call for:

- free, compulsory and quality education for all children at least until the minimum age for work;
- action to reach those presently in child labour;
- further efforts to improve the impact of national policies on child labour;
- policies that ensure children's access to quality education and that enhance investment in the teaching profession.

WOSM, as a grassroots educational youth movement consisting of over 40 million members in 161 NSOs in 223 countries and territories around the world, has the capacity to make a difference to the lives of these children. By campaigning against child labour and by reaching out to children in or at risk of child labour, Scouts around the world are helping to bring about the changes these children need in their communities and beyond.

Within its own initiatives, WOSM can extend its ***Keeping Scouts Safe From Harm*** policy, training, procedures and good practices throughout the Movement, especially to vulnerable children engaged in Scout programmes. It can also take advantage of more extensive use of World Scout programmes, especially its flagship initiative, ***Messengers of Peace***, and the ***Scouts of the World Award***, to expand the capacity of Scouts to reach out to children in difficult circumstances through regional, national and local projects around the world.

All of us can take action to help end child labour and make sure every child can attend school and receive quality education. Let us all work together to say “**NO to child labour, YES to quality education**” to create a better world for our children and the generations to come.

See the attached “Take Action” note for more information and ideas about how to get involved.

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## Take action against child labour!

What you can do in your Scout group to raise awareness and reach out to children in or at risk of child labour? Here are some suggestions – you can:

- **Be informed:** about the problem and its impact on your local community and beyond. Use the ILO's SCREAM (Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media) Education Pack, which includes activities that can be easily adapted for Scouts of different ages.
- **Raise awareness:** your Scout group can organise an activity in your community to raise awareness about child labour - the SCREAM Education Pack provides many creative ideas. You can also contact the ILO to find out what events and activities are planned in your country for the World Day Against Child Labour and how your Scout group can participate (see contacts below).
- **Reach out:** We seek to mobilise action from each World Day to the next to build the worldwide movement against child labour. More Scouts around the world are getting involved in projects which reach out to children in or at risk of child labour. This is often through Scout programmes such as "Ticket to Life" and "Messengers of Peace" (see the Scout-ILO fact sheet below for examples). The World Day is an opportunity to launch such action.
- **Create a progress badge:** your Scout educational programme can create a progress badge based on individual or group achievements and activities to raise awareness and reach out to children in or at risk of child labour. Again, the SCREAM educational materials can be of use.
- **Join the Music Against Child Labour Initiative:** Scout groups can join this global Initiative by dedicating a concert or composing a song about child labour, which the ILO will feature on its campaign page (see link below).
- **Share your activities and inspire others:** Please let us know what you are doing! The more we share experiences and strengthen our collective action, the greater the difference we will make to the lives of children around the world. Visit the "ILO – join the campaign against child labour" page on <http://www.scout.org/user/45293> or email us. You can also directly share news and photos on scout.org using the hashtags #NOchildlabour and #SCREAMnochilddlabour.

### Links

**Child labour estimates and trends 2000 -2012 Q&A:**

[http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Informationresources/WCMS\\_221881](http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Informationresources/WCMS_221881)

**Scout-ILO fact sheet:** [http://www.ilo.org/pardev/public-private-partnerships/WCMS\\_240149](http://www.ilo.org/pardev/public-private-partnerships/WCMS_240149)

**World Day Against Child Labour campaign information & materials:**  
<http://www.ilo.org/ChildLabourWorldDay>

**SCREAM (Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media) resources:** <http://www.ilo.org/scream>

**Music Against Child Labour Initiative:**  
<http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Campaignandadvocacy/Musicinitiative>

**Videos on child labour, ILO TV on YouTube:**  
<https://youtu.be/-MleeZoolWI?list=PL418A6833A1C5B483>

**WOSM Guidelines on Scouting for Children in specially Difficult Circumstances:** <http://scout.org/node/6033>

**Video on Scouting and Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances:**  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hrcZ5dGEhQQ>

### Contacts

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