



THIRD ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Operational aspects of the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)

1. At the 285th Session (November 2002) of the Governing Body, the Committee on Technical Cooperation was apprised of the proceedings of the IPEC Steering Committee's twelfth meeting held on 11 November 2002, and agreed that a written report on the operational aspects of IPEC would be submitted to the Committee's meeting in March 2003, as in previous years.
2. The report on the operational aspects of IPEC is made up of the following appendices:
 - Appendix I: IPEC action against child labour – *Highlights 2002*;
 - Appendix II: Presentation by Executive Director, Mr. K. Tapiola, to the Committee on Technical Cooperation, 11 November 2002;
 - Appendix III: Summary record of the twelfth meeting of the IPEC Steering Committee, 11 November 2002.

Geneva, 4 February 2003.

Submitted for information.

Appendix I

IPEC action against child labour – *Highlights 2002*

Given the need for this section of the document to reflect the most up-to-date results, Appendix I will be presented later as a separate publication.

Appendix II

Presentation by Executive Director, Mr. K. Tapiola, to the Committee on Technical Cooperation (11 November 2002)

The year 2002 has been IPEC's tenth anniversary. In 1992, it began on a small scale with one donor – Germany – and six participating countries. That has increased significantly and there are now 28 donors and 82 participating countries. The work of IPEC has been instrumental in the drafting of the Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

As for the provisional results of IPEC for 2002, total expenditure is likely to exceed the target, and will probably be in excess of US\$40 million. Thus far, 19 new ratifications have been registered in 2002 for the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), and three for the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138). While a total of 132 ratifications for Convention Nos. 182 and 119 for Convention No. 138 has now been registered, the ratification targets for the biennium might not be fully met. The rate of ratification appears to be slowing somewhat, but it is important to note that this is to be expected, as the remaining outstanding ratifications will probably require more concentrated action by the Office.

With regard to the time-bound programmes (TBPs), in addition to the current countries, ten more are being prepared to initiate TBPs. Currently, 32 child labour surveys are under way. Some 500,000 children have directly benefited from IPEC activities, with many more indirect beneficiaries.

IPEC's role is changing, moving from direct implementation of activities, to facilitating and providing advice to countries for formulating concrete policies and programmes to effectively eliminate child labour.

During the discussions in the Steering Committee a concern was raised over the large number of children engaged in hazardous child labour worldwide, an estimated 171 million children. Dealing with this number will be both a necessity and a monumental task. Concerns were also raised over the decreasing rate of ratifications of Conventions Nos. 138 and 182. Members also stressed that now that high levels of ratifications had already been achieved, more emphasis had to be placed on the implementation of the Conventions. Many observations were also made regarding cooperation between IPEC and other departments in the Office, such as, for example, SafeWork, as well as inter-agency cooperation. The Workers' and Employers' groups in particular have stressed the need for increased cooperation with workers' and employers' organizations, to benefit from their experience, as well as with ACT/EMP and ACTRAV. Although the report *IPEC Highlights 2002* was commended by all members, some of them note that they would have appreciated more information about the challenges and constraints faced by IPEC. They called for an increased delivery rate of IPEC activities. Members expressed support for IPEC's decentralization and integration efforts with the field programmes. The Office is encouraged to carry out a global evaluation of IPEC activities, and such an evaluation will be launched in 2003. There were calls for action in the field of HIV/AIDS and child labour; to explore possibilities for new forms of technical assistance; and to promote reference to child labour in PRSPs.

As possible highlights for next year's report, the issue of education and child labour, as well as a cost-benefit analysis of the elimination of child labour are being considered. A full day of discussion would be beneficial to discuss such themes, but it would have to be determined whether this was feasible.

IPEC, in its ten years of existence, has succeeded in placing the fight against child labour high on the international development agenda, through advocacy, research, standard setting and projects. It has nonetheless been decided not to organize any big anniversary event at this time, since 12 June has been designated World Day against Child Labour, which coincided with a debate in the International Labour Conference on the Global Report "A future without child labour". A special lecture will be held on 21 November 2002 in honour of IPEC's anniversary.

IPEC is a rights-based programme in the informal economy with a strong emphasis on poverty reduction. As to the concerns from the Workers and Employers referring to the Workers' statement

made during the debate of the Global Report at the International Labour Conference on 12 June 2002, the Office has endeavoured to follow up on that statement. If the feeling was that the follow-up had not been sufficient, the Office is ready to work on that further. Close cooperation is taking place with ACT/EMP and ACTRAV, and constant progress is being made. "Tripartite-plus" referred to tripartite-plus networks, not to tripartite-plus structures. It explicitly refers to the fortification of broad-based networks for advocacy and action against child labour in a manner that built on the experiences of worker and employer constituents, and helped to strengthen them. No one in the Office is in any way questioning the necessity to work on a tripartite basis. There are several levels of action. For instance, bipartite relations between employers' and workers' representatives underpin functioning tripartite systems. Likewise, there are arrangements in several countries where bodies for economic and social issues include representatives other than the traditional social partners. However, dealing with other organizations can in no way undermine the tripartite decision-making structures and the role of the employers' and workers' organizations in the framework of the ILO and its activities.

There is a need for a systematic follow-up on implementation of Convention No. 182. It is an integral element of the action plan outlined in document GB.285/TC/5. The same concerns cooperation between IPEC and ACT/EMP and ACTRAV. In response to the observation by the Government representative of Germany, five posts have been created in MDTs, and they are about to be filled. IPEC has also benefited from other allocations from regular funds.

Appendix III

Summary record of the twelfth meeting of the IPEC Steering Committee (11 November 2002)

1. The twelfth meeting of the IPEC International Steering Committee was held at the International Labour Office, Geneva, on 11 November 2002 at 10.00 a.m.
2. The meeting was opened and Mr. Kari Tapiola, Executive Director, Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Sector welcomed the participants.
3. *Mr. Tapiola* started by thanking Mr. Gek-Boo Ng for the contribution he had made as Director of IPEC Operations and for the key role he played in taking IPEC forward. Mr. Tapiola also took the opportunity to introduce the new Director of IPEC Operations, Mr. Guy Thijs. Mr. Tapiola went on to note that this was IPEC's tenth anniversary and that since its beginning when there was only one donor, many changes had occurred to bring it to its current position with more than 100 countries taking part in this key programme of the ILO. Altogether, 82 countries are actively working with IPEC in 2002, and 27 donors are providing the much-needed funding for this endeavour. Mr. Tapiola thanked them all for the confidence they place in the ILO, and in the IPEC team, to help combat the scourge of child labour as effectively as possible. Mr. Tapiola invited members to review some of the creative initiatives taken by IPEC partners in all parts of the world, some of which were exhibited at the entrance of the meeting room.
4. Several major events relevant to the struggle against child labour have taken place during the last year. The most important have been the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children (UNGASS), in May 2002. The International Labour Conference debated the subject of child labour on 12 June 2002, celebrating at the same time the World Day against Child Labour. The Conference had an in-depth discussion about the Global Report on Child Labour "A future without child labour" and provided guidance for future action. Mr. Tapiola informed the participants that the current state of ratifications of Conventions Nos. 138 and 182 stand at 119 and 132, respectively, and he hoped that that we can soon register further ratifications by the remaining 56 and 43 States and achieve close to universal ratifications in the near future.
5. *Mr. Tapiola* finished his introduction by stating that this year IPEC celebrates its tenth anniversary. As there had already been the World Day in June 2002, it was decided not to mark the tenth anniversary with pomp and festivities at this time. Mr. Tapiola did however inform the participants of a public lecture on 21 November 2002, jointly organized by the International Institute for Labour Studies and IPEC, by Mr. Jean-Robert Cadet, who suffered for 14 years as a child slave before escaping his terrible plight.
6. The agenda for the twelfth meeting of the IPEC International Steering Committee was approved as proposed.
7. The summary of proceedings of the Eleventh Meeting of the IPEC International Steering Committee (held on Monday, 5 November 2001) was approved without comment. Mr. Frans Röselaers, Director of the InFocus Programme on Child Labour, made a presentation on behalf of IPEC and started by stating that in terms of the programme's performance during 2002, indications are that IPEC will again meet or exceed its performance targets. Mr. Röselaers also thanked Mr. Gek-Boo Ng, who has completed his assignment as IPEC Director for Operations and taken up his appointment as Director for Human Resources, for the great contribution he had made at a crucial moment of IPEC's development. In particular, the drive towards improved programme delivery has been achieved as Mr. Ng led the IPEC Operations Branch. Mr. Röselaers introduced Mr. Guy Thijs, wishing him every success as Director of IPEC Operations and assuring the Committee that he will be given every support in his very challenging new assignment.
8. *Mr. Röselaers* summarized IPEC's achievements in 2002, measured against the objectives and targets in the Programme and Budget for 2002-03. New ratifications of Convention No. 182 stand at 19 since the beginning of 2002 (with a total of 132, or three-quarters of all member States), but only three countries have ratified Convention No. 138 since the beginning of 2002 (total 119). Delivery is again progressing and will be above \$40 million. This represents spectacular progress over the

last three years from \$11 million in 1999 to an estimate of over \$40 million in 2002, i.e. quadrupling expenditure in three years. Some ten more countries are seriously preparing to introduce a time-bound approach to combating child labour. Thirty-two national child labour surveys are at various stages of implementation and a total of 38 qualitative studies, mostly on the worst forms of child labour (WFCL), have been completed, using the rapid assessment methodology. IPEC was hoping to reach 500,000 direct beneficiaries in total and, under a new method of counting, are determining the larger number of children benefiting indirectly from IPEC programmes. Mr. Röselaers also indicated that progress had been made over the last year in substantive and qualitative terms. These include further strengthening of the TBP approach and progress in data collection methods. IPEC's future strategy is geared towards a much more facilitative role, assisting many countries in the strengthening of legislation, legal frameworks and enforcement through labour inspection. IPEC has worked hard to upgrade child labour monitoring systems; and a considerable effort is being put into the identification and treatment of hazardous child labour, using expertise from all relevant professional networks and institutions. Mr. Röselaers highlighted some of the key management aspects that have been implemented, including intensified programme monitoring and evaluation; further improvements in personnel and finance management, in procurement and contracting procedures, and in decentralization and restructuring of operations. On all those subjects, systematic staff training seminars were held in all regions, except Europe, in 2002. New ground was broken in the area of partnerships with employers' and workers' organizations as exemplified for example in the agreement reached with the global cocoa and chocolate industry to combat alleged child labour in some West-African countries. Another area requiring IPEC's attention is the HIV/AIDS crisis and its effects on child labour, affecting especially East and Southern Africa. IPEC continued to enhance its work on gender issues throughout the year by elaborating a plan to mainstream gender in all IPEC activities and programmes; by publishing a good practices guide; and by training of staff and partners in dealing with gender questions.

9. *Mr. Röselaers* mentioned some of the global advocacy work undertaken by IPEC during 2002. Central to this effort have been the publication of the Global Report "A future without child labour" and the Conference debate on this subject, as well as the celebration of World Day against Child Labour. Both took place on 12 June 2002, and both attracted considerable attention in the media. They have also resulted in an action plan on child labour, which will be examined, and hopefully adopted, during the current ILO Governing Body's Committee on Technical Cooperation. Two global awareness campaigns have proven to appeal strongly to the general public, especially children and young people. If resources can be secured, these campaigns called "Red card to child labour" (using the sports world) and "Supporting children's rights through education, the arts and the Media" (SCREAM) will be pursued vigorously over the coming years. In addition, support from well-known personalities from different spheres of life is being mobilized. Those campaigning activities will be carried out in close coordination with the ILO Department of Communication. Mr. Röselaers indicated that the ILO is increasing its regular budget (RB) support to IPEC, especially in the regions, and will hopefully be able to further strengthen IPEC's RB base in the coming years. He concluded by explaining that IPEC is gradually shifting from direct execution of field programmes to facilitating action and advising governments and other partners. It is also moving towards mainstreaming child labour action into national and global development agendas. During the second decade of its existence, IPEC, while constantly pushing delivery, quality and accountability to new limits, is gearing up for action that will achieve a sizeable and sustainable reduction of child labour worldwide and eliminate, to the maximum extent possible, the worst forms of child labour.
10. During the discussion on the report "IPEC action against child labour, Highlights 2002" and on the report of the Director of the InFocus Programme on Child Labour, the issues below were highlighted.
11. *The spokesperson for the Employer* members congratulated IPEC for an informative report. He also congratulated IPEC on its tenth anniversary and thanked Mr. Gek-Boo Ng in particular for his contribution and welcomed his successor, Mr. Thijs. The figures in the Global Report are still very worrying; especially the fact that 170 out of 246 million children work in hazardous situations indicates that ILO member States, workers, employers, and NGOs face a monumental task. He expressed his disappointment at the fall in rate of ratification and was still looking for universal ratification. The shift from advocacy to programming in Convention No. 182 as well as moving from direct action to policy reform, capacity-building and institutional building approach is worth pursuing. He stressed however that IPEC should ensure that its experience of direct action was not lost. Cost sharing at local level for various projects with public and private agencies was worth

exploring and funding diversification for TBP is important. The spokesperson expressed satisfaction with IPEC's work and supported IPEC's move to expand and improve its Design, Evaluation and Database (DED) Unit. He noted development of the Strategic Project Impact Framework, appreciated support of United States Department of Labor (USDOL) for this, and hoped that the experience IPEC gains in this area can be broadly shared with the rest of the ILO. IPEC must monitor carefully its pilot TBPs and document lessons learned so that other countries can learn from this. Decentralization is good and the work on sectoral initiatives like cocoa is commendable. In particular, the spokesperson asked to be apprised of developments on the cocoa initiative and would like ACT/EMP and IOE to be involved. He agreed that child labour should be mainstreamed in the national development agenda and tripartite constituents should be involved in the PRSP process. Partnerships with worker and employer organizations could facilitate this. The spokesperson commented that no real reference was made to problems in the current report. He noted the number of IPEC initiatives with employers in the report and also thanked Norway for funding the ACT/EMP child labour project. Finally, he thanked all the donors for their enormous support and particularly those donors and IPEC programme leaders who have paid attention to the needs of the social partners.

12. *The spokesperson for the Worker members* noted that IPEC started small but that ten years had elapsed since then. As IPEC work expands, he considered that human resources should rise commensurately. This report is very good both in its amount of information and in substance, in particular, thematic highlights were well written. He suggested that the next report, in addition to information on cooperation with workers, employers, could include child labour and basic education for all children and economic costs of eliminating child labour. This report uses the term informal sector, which should be replaced by "informal economy". The spokesperson agreed that although eliminating WFCL is an urgent task we should not forget the other child labourers. The purpose of IPEC is to phase out and eliminate all forms of child labour. He was also concerned with the new method of measuring beneficiaries of ILO – the target figure for IPEC must always represent those children freed from child labour. On ratification, further effort is needed by member States to press ratification and take away legal obstacles that hinder ratification. It is equally important to implement technical assistance in tandem with ratification. Any realistic and comprehensive measures to eliminate child labour must include access to basic education. Once children are freed from WFCL, there needs to be a focus on rehabilitation and reintegration into society. Education is one answer and IPEC must continue to support teachers' organizations. The spokesperson supported work on PRSP; efforts to increase delivery; IPEC's subregional integrated approach and the strategy behind TBPs. Country-specific projects are still important and follow up of completed projects would be useful. Korea was welcomed as a new donor, however, he hoped that donors that had contributed previously would do so again. He requested that the report include as an annex a list of NGOs that work with IPEC and how much each NGO received from IPEC to implement projects. Finally, the spokesperson was keen for IPEC to continue to enhance cooperation with trade unions, and ACTRAV is developing guidelines for IPEC staff on how to deal with them.
13. *The Government representative of Kenya* congratulated IPEC on its excellent and informative report, in which the impact of IPEC is clear for everybody to see, for example: the number of ratifications, the TBP initiative, and an increase in financial contributions by donors. He was concerned that a substantial part of the budget depends on extra-budgetary resources. Kenya greatly appreciates assistance received. Some of the key achievements that demonstrate Kenya's willingness to eradicate child labour are: 67 action programmes implemented by 32 agencies; and the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in 2001 (for another five years). Several measures have already been undertaken in developing policy and legal frameworks, among them the inclusion of child labour issues in the PRSP and the creation of a children's act and a child labour task force in the country. Kenya would like to participate in a TBP. Constitutional revision is ongoing, and child labour might be included in the process. A Child Labour Division has also been created within the Ministry of Labour. Kenya is very pleased to be included in the project to combat hazardous child labour in commercial agriculture, which was launched in March 2002. Until now, baseline surveys have been executed, and the implementation will include different action programmes already developed to start in November 2002.
14. *The Government representative of Switzerland* welcomed the quality of the report, especially for the concrete examples and the thematic parts. The relationship between the economy and child labour could be included in the next report, as mentioned by the representative of the Workers. The OECD report, which is still in draft form, could be useful in this respect. Switzerland welcomed the significant increase in the ratification rate and welcomed the part devoted to the linkages between

child labour and HIV/AIDS, especially the fact that gaps are beginning to be filled. One area that requires more work is to acquire data on children involved in illicit work. Switzerland welcomed the link between child labour and the Decent Work Agenda and the integration of child labour issues in the PRSP process. The representative was happy to be able to announce new commitments by Switzerland, especially in Pakistan, with \$2 million over a 3-year period.

15. *The Government representative of Turkey* observed that Turkey was among the first participating countries of IPEC and thanked Germany, the Director-General, Mr. Tapiola and IPEC for their support. The Government of Turkey's request for membership of the European Union includes data on child labour. The eighth five-year plan also includes child labour issues, as does the Education for All (EFA) Programme. A cooperation Protocol has been signed by many members including the Ministry of Labour. Turkey is determined to fight against child labour, with currently nine IPEC programmes ongoing and amongst them TBP preparation is the most important.
16. *The Government representative of Germany* pointed out that IPEC should be and indeed is one of the development programmes that forms peoples' opinions. At the beginning of the 1990s, when Germany devoted DM50 million and a further DM50 million to fund the programme, in many countries, child labour was almost a taboo subject. Ten years later, the problem of child labour is widely recognized as seen by the high degree of ratifications. Standard setting and ratification activity must be completed by implementation. Germany thanks the many players who have been able to launch programmes in many countries. It is important that social partners and governments of developing countries can participate in these programmes. Germany is pleased that IPEC is increasingly becoming a facilitator in this regard to allow governments and social partners themselves to take on more responsibilities. The German Government is still committed to supporting IPEC. The German delegate reiterated the request for a global evaluation of the IPEC programme; such an evaluation should be carried out by an independent assessment team and Germany would like to be involved. The representative asked how the IPEC evaluations linked to TC-RAM, supported the process of decentralization and finally vis-à-vis future work on HIV/AIDS and child labour. Resources should be quickly invested in concrete measures to assist as many affected people as possible.
17. *The Government representative of South Africa* thanked and congratulated IPEC for the excellent and detailed report, which it was grateful to have received earlier, and thanked IPEC for assistance and support. South Africa was one of the first ten countries to register Convention No. 182 ratification and believes that the goal of universal ratification is now within reach. The ILO chose South Africa as one of the sites to launch the recent Global Report. In addition to Convention No. 182, South Africa has also ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as national employment legislation against child labour. The Government has signed an MOU with IPEC/ILO. However, ratification is not enough – intersectoral collaboration with such as education, social justice and development, employers' and workers' organizations is critical. South Africa has established a child labour intersectoral group in this regard. Issues of child labour should be mainstreamed into poverty eradication and employment strategies. Children's grants have been issued, with a target of 3 million child beneficiaries by 2005. South Africa is grateful to benefit from technical assistance on child labour and strongly supports the strategy to abolish child labour through capacity building and strengthening the global movement against child labour. A situational analysis on activities of young people has been completed and all labour inspectors have participated in an enforcement strategy. A first criminal conviction has been achieved in the agriculture sector. A process is under way to develop a comprehensive framework that will include a national programme of action in consultation with stakeholders. The thematic highlights were welcome as they are appropriate and constitute important pillars for future strategies.
18. *The Government representative of France* congratulated IPEC for the quality of the report and particularly appreciated themes and the concrete description of local achievements. Remarkable progress has been made on ratification and the development of national and local action plans. Progress still has to be made in implementation to continue to improve delivery. Appeal to everyone's responsibility – of all the governments, all stakeholders. The fact that 170 million children are still in the worst forms of child labour demonstrates that much work still needs to be done. France is interested in the proper links between IPEC and the global employment strategy and stressed partnerships and the need for close ties with the World Bank, UNDP, UNICEF and other technical agencies. Standard-setting activities are important as is the promotion of Convention No. 138.

19. *The Government representative of India* congratulated IPEC on its tenth anniversary and for an excellent report. India was among the first countries to join IPEC in 1992. Approximately US\$5.6 million has been disbursed since then on 165 activities and presently 11 are ongoing. Another project that is jointly funded by the Indian Ministry of Labour and USDOL is a US\$40 million project to combat hazardous child labour. This will be a national programme in over 100 districts in 13 states in India, to withdraw child labourers and mainstream them into formal education with poverty alleviation strategies. India is grateful to IPEC for its support but pointed out that the resources provided represent a small percentage of the Government's commitment. It was regrettable that IPEC core funding has been shrinking over time as projects reflect donor priorities in terms of target groups, geographical areas, etc. The SIMPOC survey is at an advanced stage of negotiations and should not be donor driven. Future activities in Asia will focus on how IPEC can facilitate and coordinate activities on child labour working with other departments to mainstream IPEC in ILO country programmes.
20. *The Government representative of the United States* thanked IPEC for a useful report and, on the occasion of its tenth anniversary, commended IPEC's work on combating child labour. The IPEC 2002 Report has demonstrated the considerable experience gained and focuses on key strategies and interventions that can have widespread impact, for instance the TBP development and the United States is pleased to continue to support IPEC in the future.
21. *The Government representative of Indonesia* commended IPEC for the report and thanked donor countries for their generous contributions. The Indonesian Government has extended its agreement with IPEC for a further five years to strengthen national capacity to abolish child labour. A significant part of this is the joint TBP, which will begin in 2003. One province has declared the objective of becoming a child labour free zone and aims to abolish all child labour by 2012. The Government also promises that all children under 18 years will have the chance to study under Education for All (EFA). Decentralization was welcome. The eradication of child labour is the priority issue and one that the world community has a duty to solve. The Government of Indonesia is doing its utmost, however international cooperation would help stimulate national initiative and further collaboration with IPEC is needed.
22. *The Government representative of the United Kingdom* welcomed the forward looking paper and supported the analysis of the child labour problem and evolution of IPEC's strategic approach towards a more facilitative role. Child labour needs to be linked with poverty alleviation, accessible and quality education and alternative livelihoods. Child labour needs to be part of national and international policy frameworks and Millennium Development Goals. There is also a strong case for integration into the Decent Work Agenda and IPEC's experience can help demonstrate how to arrive at an integrated technical cooperation approach.
23. *The Government representative of Egypt* congratulated IPEC for its efforts to abolish child labour and for a high quality report. She also thanked donors without whose support IPEC could not carry out its activities. IPEC was invited to extend the decentralization process and urged ILO and IPEC to continue endeavours in child labour and decent work, in cooperation with organizations such as UNICEF, UNESCO and WHO. Egypt has ratified Conventions Nos. 138 and 182 and is attempting to make this a reality in terms of implementation, through education, training and social protection, legislation and poverty reduction.
24. *The Government representative of Italy* congratulated IPEC for an excellent report that shows the strategic vision of IPEC, with good qualitative and quantitative data. The integration of gender concerns in programme, decentralization and strengthening of national capacities to establish TBP were also welcome. The slowing in the rate of ratification of Convention No. 138 is cause for concern as it is not sufficient to combat only the worst forms of child labour. The change towards a facilitative approach was appreciated, and any effective effort to combat child labour must be embedded in national awareness raising, particularly through basic education programmes. Italy attached importance to this through the SCREAM initiative. Italy was also happy to be associated with the trade union activities in Nepal that have shown such favourable results.
25. *The Government representative of Brazil* thanked IPEC for a detailed activity report and also congratulated it for its achievements over the last ten years. One clear indicator of success is the increase in contributions to IPEC. Brazil is extremely keen to continue to work with IPEC and negotiations to renew the MOU for cooperation are under way. In terms of funding, the IPEC contribution is small compared to internal allocations, however it is still essential. Continued German funding of the Brazil country programme would be greatly appreciated and Brazil thanked the Governments of Germany and the United States who are contributors to IPEC in Brazil.

26. *The Government representative of the Netherlands* congratulated IPEC for an excellent report, the continuous efforts of staff and management and on its 10th anniversary, but as is clear from the Global Report, there is still much work to do. Access to quality education and sufficient income for parents is crucial in addition to withdrawal and rehabilitation. The focus on cooperation with social partners was welcome, although she encouraged greater cooperation with SafeWork. The wider focus on gender was a positive step. Another positive element was linking child labour to the Decent Work Agenda. This linkage also acknowledges the importance of the other core labour standards. It was positive to see increasing focus on HIV/AIDS and the representative emphasized the importance of collaboration with other agencies and NGOs on this. Millennium Development Goals and the link to child labour are important and IPEC needs to be involved in these processes. The Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) trafficking of human beings initiative is important and IPEC has a key role in this. The representative encouraged IPEC to consider a one-day meeting so that there is more opportunity for discussion.
27. *The Government representative of Canada* thanked IPEC for a comprehensive report. ILO through IPEC has been instrumental in raising awareness about child labour through information gathering and research. IPEC identified and disseminated good practices in this regard. Partnerships have been strengthened with relevant stakeholders as well as with other social partners and the ILO's tripartite structure has played an important role in this. It is important that IPEC continues to do this in the future. Canada would like to work with those countries that have made concrete commitments through the TBP, capacity building and provision of legal assistance. The success of this approach will depend on the capacity of programmes to adapt to needs of recipient countries. Canada looks forward to continuing collaboration with IPEC.
28. *The Government representative of Madagascar* thanked IPEC for its support since 1998. The surveys on the worst forms of child labour, and particularly on sexual exploitation, had been extremely valuable. Madagascar is committed to the elimination of child labour, as shown by ratifications of Conventions Nos. 138 and 182.
29. *The Government representative of Norway* congratulated IPEC for a high quality report, especially the thematic highlights. The change of approach towards facilitation was welcome as it will contribute to strengthening national ownership of programmes. IPEC's work with social partners has shown the benefits that can be reaped by working together. There were no references to the joint IPEC/UNICEF/World Bank project in the report. This project, financed by Norway, Sweden and Finland, has produced important results. It should have been mentioned as information for members not familiar with the programme.
30. *The representative of UNICEF* congratulated IPEC for the strategic vision of the programme that the report demonstrates. UNGASS has highlighted the strong interconnection of EFA. This matches UNICEF's approach, which focuses on eliminating child labour within the area of child protection. UNICEF country offices are required to outline what they have done to support ratification or implementation of Convention No. 182. UNICEF is looking forward to working with IPEC in areas such as HIV/AIDS, trafficking and other sectors.
31. *The Employer representative of India*, congratulated IPEC for including child labour in the development process and poverty reduction strategies as there is no use removing children from work without providing alternatives for social integration, including education. Building up partnerships nationally and internationally is essential because the problem will not solve itself. Education and vocational training are crucial for integration within the world of work.
32. *The representative of the Italian Social Partners' Initiative (ISPI)* noted that progress has been made however, as shown in the Global Report, more work is needed. The distance between ratification and implementation is not closing and this is a challenge for ILO as a whole. The increased cooperation between IPEC and other ILO sectors is welcome. The TBP approach is the correct one. Child labour should be seen as a problem that affects the economic development of the countries. The issues of education, employment and income generation are crucial. The promotion of core labour standards should also be a priority. The ISPI recognized the role of civil society, but work with social partners should be strengthened. Working with ACTRAV and ACT/EMP in Geneva and in the field at the planning stage would be beneficial to IPEC. The term "tripartite-plus" needs to be clarified. Private sector support is possible, but the tripartite approach should be a condition for any such agreement. ILO should not allow donors to use IPEC to pursue their own agendas. On financial issues, the representative would like to see overheads reviewed and reduced; and the delivery rate increased further. In the 2001 Steering Committee Meeting it was noted that in Pakistan, problems concerning the lack of freedom of association had affected the implementation

of certain programmes. IPEC missions to Sialkot have brought into light several problems that still need to be addressed. The representative expressed the continuing commitment of ISPI to continue cooperation with IPEC.

33. *The Government representative of Japan* congratulated IPEC on a very good report. In the Asia-Pacific region, the commitment against child labour is very strong. A joint Japan/Korea regional seminar in Chiang Mai on the elimination of child domestic work was held in 2002. This is a good example of how regional activities can have impact and similar activities should be promoted in the future.
34. *The Employer spokesperson* thanked all donors for their cooperation but requested that all child labour activities should reflect national priorities. Furthermore, cooperation with the social partners is crucial as shown by the success of the Norway-funded activities implemented jointly by IPEC and ACT/EMP. He also inquired whether IPEC was sufficiently reporting on problems encountered.
35. *The Government representative of Spain* thanked IPEC for an excellent report that shows strongly that IPEC has made considerable progress in seeking solutions to eradicating child labour worldwide. Spain has been pleased to collaborate with IPEC since 1995 through central government and other institutions within the country. Spain plans to continue to support a second phase of this programme in Latin America to consolidate efforts and continue cooperating in this excellent task.
36. *Mr. Tapiola* thanked everyone for their kind words on the report, as much effort had gone into it to ensure that the report continued to reflect participants' wishes. He agreed that the report could not refer to all specific problems but stressed that the report intended to be as honest as possible. In this respect, the thematic sections could be seen as challenges for the future. On ratifications, Mr. Tapiola recognized that as more countries ratify the remaining countries would require greater effort. The slowing down of the ratification rate served as a reminder that we should not be complacent. He acknowledged that while ratification is an important goal it immediately poses the challenge of implementation, so the ratification campaign needs to be transformed into an implementation campaign. On the question of mainstreaming child labour into the overall work programme of the ILO the IPEC estimate in the Global Report had highlighted that the incidence of the worst forms of child labour is much higher than had been anticipated. In order to take on the challenge IPEC further enhanced in-house cooperation with other ILO departments. He quoted as a specific example the partnership between IPEC and SafeWork in addressing children involved in hazardous work. Mr. Tapiola acknowledged that we should indeed speak about the informal economy and confirmed that the necessary corrections would be made in the final version of the implementation report to be released in February 2003. Regarding IPEC's focus on the worst forms of child labour, Mr. Tapiola noted the important knock-on effects that Convention No. 182 had in raising awareness of the overall issue of child labour and had a significant impact on increasing the ratification of Convention No. 138. He confirmed that IPEC would continue to consider the broader picture when formulating its strategy. On decentralization he affirmed that five child labour specialists would be in place in 2003. This process had unfortunately taken much longer than expected. In response to the question of the German representative he confirmed that ILO is planning to evaluate IPEC as a whole as part of the series of evaluations of the InFocus Programmes of ILO. These evaluations are managed by the Bureau of Programming and Management (PROGRAM) and not by the evaluation unit of ILO/IPEC.
37. *Mr. Röselaers* also thanked everyone for their support and encouragement. He invited participants to address individual concerns to him. Mr. Röselaers reiterated the comment that IPEC sees problems as challenges, of which a major one is the constant crushing workload of the staff. Another challenge IPEC faces is to meet the demands for qualitative improvement by donor and recipient countries alike. The revised design, monitoring and evaluation techniques are a good example, where IPEC has invested a lot of time and energy, which has paid off in terms of better quality and accountability of programmes. IPEC would like to carry out much more by way of developmental activities but has a limited budget to do so. This affects IPEC's ability to go forward and achieve advances in technical development and in the global campaign against child labour. One consequence of the limited resources was that the OECD had used IPEC data and material and carried out its own analysis of child labour and economic development as IPEC was not in a position to do so. Mr. Röselaers pointed out that the OECD was addressing certain shortcomings in its report. There is a definite willingness on the part of ILO to support IPEC. Mr. Röselaers indicated that work on child labour and education and teachers' organizations could be a theme next year and the cost-benefit analysis study could also be part of the thematic section. The 2003 Steering Committee could be for a whole day but this is for the members to decide. As far as IPEC's

work on child labour and education is concerned, IPEC has promoted the link between the global campaign against child labour and Education For All through a number of forums, including UNGASS, G8, UNESCO and the EFA Working Group. This has been done mostly with UNICEF, but also with the World Bank, and UNESCO and IPEC would like to do more with all three. Finally on the link between IPEC evaluations and TC-RAM, IPEC evaluations are aimed to improve performance of the programme, which is a key element of TC-RAM.

38. *The IPEC Director for Advocacy and Policy Development*, thanked participants for their contributions, affirming that the comments voiced at the Steering Committee are an important barometer for the relevance of IPEC's actions. While focusing on implementation, universal ratification of both Conventions Nos. 138 and 182 remains a crucial target. Ms. Ouédraogo asserted that according to the information available, some 30 or more ratifications of Convention No. 182 will remain to be secured by the end of 2003 for universal ratification to take place. This will need tailor-made campaigns that address the specifics of the situation in the respective countries. IPEC has been working with ACTRAV, ACT/EMP, UNICEF and many other partners in such national and regional campaigns. The creation of a World Day against Child Labour is an important opportunity to boost the campaign for universal ratification. New partnerships have been identified, for example with UNESCO and Education International. In order to speed up the process of strengthening national capacities in data collection, analysis and use for policy and planning purposes, SIMPOC is now preparing guidelines and training modules. The first one, a practical guide on child labour survey data processing and storage, is already available in English, French and Spanish. Responding to the Workers' representative, Ms. Ouédraogo pointed out that a thematic study on education and child labour as part of the global cost-benefit study is being finalized. Responding to the Government representative of Germany, she remarked that IPEC did not know much about the linkages between HIV/AIDS and child labour before the study. Efforts are now undertaken systematically to make concrete use of the findings. It is an essential feature of IPEC's research work that it feeds into action and vice versa.
39. *The IPEC Director for Operations*, thanked participants and the ILO for the confidence placed in him and he stressed that he would strive to continue and consolidate the good work of his predecessor, Mr. Gek-Boo Ng. Regarding the question of continuing direct action, IPEC has accumulated a great deal of experience and expertise. The hands-on approach has been a trademark of IPEC and while direct action will continue, IPEC strategy must be to move towards facilitation to ensure that this experience is reflected in the development policies of member States so that impact can be brought to scale. IPEC remains committed to the TBP approach but stressed that future TBPs cannot and need not have the same magnitude of funding. Thematic focal points have been in place for one year within IPEC dealing with core areas of support on child labour and they will continue to enable IPEC to provide the required technical assistance. On the question raised about beneficiaries, IPEC is confident of reaching at least 500,000 beneficiaries through direct action but also needs to find methodologies that can measure the impact of capacity-building and awareness-raising initiatives, that have been integral components of IPEC's strategy. The decentralization process will continue; however, Mr. Thijs stressed that there are limits to how much can be achieved and he counts on the continued support of donors to achieve IPEC's objectives.
40. *The Workers' representative* thanked IPEC for the replies, stressing the importance of partnerships with ACTRAV and ACT/EMP as implementation of programmes against child labour requires as much human resources as possible.
41. There being no other business, Mr. Tapiola thanked all participants again and noted that the technical cooperation meeting of the Governing Body would provide another opportunity to discuss child labour issues.