

## Committee on the Application of Standards

Date: 16 May 2025

**Governments appearing on the list of individual cases have the opportunity, if they so wish, to supply written information to the Committee.**

### ► Information on the application of ratified Conventions supplied by governments on the list of individual cases

#### Chad (ratification: 2000)

##### Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)

The Government has provided the following written information.

Article 3(a) of the Convention. All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery. Forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict

The following actions have been taken for the protection of children:

- Order No. 001/PR/2014 prohibiting and punishing the enlistment or use of children in armed conflict;
- Order No. 006/PR/2018 against trafficking in persons.

The following measures have been taken for the protection of children:

- Child protection training has been put in place for military personnel, including those responsible for instructing new recruits.
- Strict penalties have been introduced against any person failing to respect the orders of the child protection services established in each military zone.
- Chad has set at 18 years the official minimum age for recruitment to the armed forces and security forces, and has penalized the recruitment and use of children in armed conflict.
- Checks have been performed on 4,000 military personnel as part of the inspections led jointly by the Government and the United Nations in all the country's military bases.
- Subsequently, in 2014, following the full implementation of the action plan, the Chad armed forces were withdrawn from the United Nations Secretary-General's list of parties that illicitly recruit and use children.

### Debt bondage and serfdom and forced labour

The Government has taken the following measures to investigate, address and resolve the problem:

- Crimes of exploitation are punished under section 15 of Order No. 006/PR/2018 which provides that any person who commits the crime of forced labour or services shall be punished by the penalty provided for in the Criminal Code or the Labour Code.
- Any person who practices, facilitates or makes financial or material profit through the slavery of another person or a similar practice shall be punished by imprisonment of five to ten years and by a fine of between 100,000 and 500,000 CFA francs.
- Any person who uses child labour shall be punished by the penalty provided for in the regulatory and legislative texts pertaining to child labour.
- A national commission to combat trafficking in persons has been set up to prevent and combat all forms of trafficking in persons, ensure protection of victims, collect data on trafficking, and promote cooperation and collaboration to this end.

### Article 3(b). Use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution

The provisions of sections 16 and 22 of Order No. 006/PR/2018 supplement the provisions of sections 335 and 336 of the Criminal Code.

### Article 3(c). Use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities

In this regard, section 23 of Order No. 006 provides for a punishment of imprisonment of 20 to 30 years and a fine of between 100,000 and 2 million CFA francs.

### Article 3(d). Children at special risk. Muhajirin (Talibé) children

Sections 185 and 188 of Act No. 001/PR/2017 of 8 May 2017 issuing the Criminal Code and sections 19 et 23 of Order No. 006/PR/2018 punish begging. While it is true that we must fight against ignorance and teach children to respect the dignity of humankind through the holy scriptures, abuse, torture and exploitation of these children are reprehensible acts.

### Children working as domestic workers

The Minister of Telecommunications and the Digital Economy has prepared a document to support Chad's digital transformation entitled Workforce Management Procedure (PGMO), 2024.

The purpose of the Workforce Management Procedure document is to set out clear procedures to identify and manage all specific and potential problems concerning the work of all workers, in accordance with the provisions of the Labour Code in force in Chad and the requirements of the World Bank Environmental and Social Standard 2 (ESS2) relating to labour and working conditions.

The Workforce Management Procedure document aims to determine the workforce needs and the risks associated with the project. Its main specific objectives are to:

- establish prevention and response measures for sexual exploitation and abuse (and sexual harassment);
- prevent the use of forced labour and child labour;

- promote occupational safety and health;
- protect and promote occupational safety and health by encouraging environments free from sexual harassment, and sexual exploitation and abuse;
- encourage fair treatment, and non-discrimination and equality of opportunity for project workers, including measures to prevent and address discrimination against women;
- protect workers, particularly those who are vulnerable, such as women, persons with disabilities, children (of working age) and migrants, as well as contractual and community workers, and employees of the primary provider, where relevant;
- support the principles of freedom of association and the collective agreements of the project workers, in line with national law.

The domestic labour regulations have not been adopted.

#### Article 3(a). The worst forms of child labour. All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery. Sale and trafficking of children

Act No. 001/PR/2017 of 8 May 2017 issuing the Criminal Code has been adopted; Order No. 006/PR/2018 of 30 March 2018 against trafficking in persons in the Republic of Chad has also been adopted.

The Ministry of Justice announced that it investigated, prosecuted and convicted three possible traffickers.

The courts punished the perpetrators with the following penalties:

- imprisonment of five years and a fine of US\$1,000;
- imprisonment of five years and a fine of US\$200;
- imprisonment of 18 months and a fine of US\$200.

The courts also announced that they sentenced a trafficker who forced several victims to work in the gold mines in the north of the country to three years' imprisonment and a fine of 200,000 CFA francs.

#### Article 3(d). Hazardous work. Children working in the informal economy

Two of our labour inspectors have recently finished training with the African Regional Labour Administration Centre (CRADAT). They will be able to make an effective contribution.

#### Article 7(2). Take effective and time-bound measures. Article 7(2)(a). Prevent the engagement of children in the worst forms of child labour. Access to free basic education

Measures which must be taken in this regard by the Government are the:

- establishment of lifelong training programmes for teachers to strengthen their pedagogical and technical skills, while ensuring decent and motivating working conditions to prevent strikes and ensure continuous learning (to motivate pupils to continue to go to school and to prevent girls from staying at home to carry out household chores);
- modernization of programmes to adapt them to current needs, and to scientific and technological developments;
- equipment of schools with modern learning tools (computers, laboratories, digital libraries);

- building and renovation of school facilities to provide an environment that is conducive to learning;
- establishment of support programmes for pupils in difficulty (tutoring, catch-up classes) and improvement of career guidance so that pupils can choose their study paths in line with their skills and aspirations;
- establishment of a quality control mechanism for education in all regions in the country.

Statistical data unavailable.

#### Article 7(2)(d). Children at special risk. Children working and living in the street

The Minister of State for women and early childhood met with street children on 11 September 2024 as part of a programme to improve their situation. This initiative is part of efforts to reintegrate these children into their families, thereby offering them an alternative to the difficult life they lead on the streets of the capital city. The aim of this meeting was to listen to these marginalized children, while providing them with advice concerning their family reintegration.

The programme is part of the Government's national child protection policy, which focuses especially on the rehabilitation of vulnerable children. The testimonies gathered showed that several among them hope to reunite with their families and to return to a more stable and protected life.

In response to the wishes expressed by the children, the Minister has taken the initiative of personally accompanying some of them to their respective homes. This action is aimed at strengthening family ties while facilitating dialogue between the children and their parents, an essential condition for successful reintegration.

This programme, which has a broader reach, aims to improve the living conditions of vulnerable children. In addition to family reintegration, follow-up measures are planned to ensure the children's long-term protection and support them in their search for a fulfilling and stable life.

The Ministry's approach, which has been welcomed by several observers, is seen as a significant step towards a more inclusive society where each child has the chance to grow up in a loving and safe environment.

#### HIV/AIDS orphans

The Government has taken measures through the provisions of Act No. 019/PR/2007 of 15 November 2007 to combat HIV/AIDS/STI and to protect the rights of persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Section 19: The rights to non-discrimination, equal protection and equality before the law shall be guaranteed for persons living with HIV and for children and orphans made vulnerable owing to AIDS, on an equal footing as for others.

Section 21: The State must ensure the protection and respect of children's fundamental rights in the context of HIV/AIDS.

Section 30: Children and orphans made vulnerable owing to AIDS have the right to a normal education, information, counsel and care. They must not be subjected to any discrimination whatsoever in any school.

#### Article 8. International cooperation. Poverty reduction measures

The Government must envisage helping the most vulnerable children, particularly by giving them access to quality health services, food, water and education, and to ensure that they grow up protected from violence and exploitation wherever they are and wherever they live.