

Committee on the Application of Standards

Date: 18 May 2026

If they so wish, Governments appearing on the preliminary list of individual cases have the opportunity to supply on a purely voluntary basis, written information before 18 May 2026.

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

Brazil (ratification: 2000)

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

The Government has provided the following written information, as well as an Information Note from the Labour Inspectorate regarding to the application of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No.29), and the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No.138).

Article 3(a)

The Government has strengthened efforts to prevent child trafficking and ensure thorough investigations and adequate penalties. Regarding the Fourth National Plan for Combating Trafficking in Persons, approved by Decree No. 12,121/2024, the primary strategic instrument addressing this crime, the following updated information is provided:

- Implementation status: During the first monitoring cycle (July 2024–July 2025), 25 per cent of the plan's activities were in progress, and 4.6 per cent were completed.
- Prioritized actions: The Government prioritized 25 activities for 2025, focusing mainly on Protection and Assistance to Victims (44 per cent) and Policy Structuring (20 per cent).
- Specific research: To better understand the phenomenon, the Ministry of Justice and Public Safety (MJSP) launched a public call in 2025 for federal universities to research child and adolescent trafficking trends and recruitment methods.

Law enforcement and penalties:

- As reported by the MJSP, the Government is actively monitoring Bill No. 234/2018, which aims to increase criminal penalties for the exploitation of children in the worst forms of labour.

Institutional Strengthening and Prosecution

- Specialized units: The Federal Public Prosecutor's Office established the National Unit for Combating International Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling to specialize in identifying and repressing these crimes.
- Judicial specialization: The National Council of Justice (CNJ) is actively fostering the specialization of court chambers to process trafficking cases more effectively.
- Governance: The National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Persons was restructured to increase civil society participation and ensure biannual monitoring of the National Plan.

Prevention and inspection results

- Targeted campaigns: The Government distributed over 6,000 units of a specialized comic book ("A Dangerous Dream") to 32 institutions to educate children and educators on identifying recruitment risks.
- Labour inspection rescues: In 2025 and 2026, labour inspections rescued three adolescents trafficked for sexual exploitation, as mentioned in the report. These victims were integrated into the National Flow of Assistance to ensure immediate support, healthcare, and school reintegration.
- Reporting systems: The IPÊ Child Labour System was launched, providing a public channel to report violations and automating prioritization for cases involving the worst forms of labour. It classifies and prioritizes complaints, giving greater weight to those related to the worst forms of child labour, enabling faster, more targeted responses from inspection authorities.

Legal and strategic coordination

- Flows of assistance: The National Commission for the Eradication of Child Labour approved a specific National Flow of Assistance for Child and Adolescent Victims of Sexual Exploitation to coordinate protection across different government levels.
- Sanctions: The Ministry of Labour imposes administrative penalties and adds identified exploiters to the "Dirty List" as a dissuasive measure. This process strictly adheres to the due process of law, ensuring the right to defence and respecting judicial secrecy where applicable.
- Currently, granular data is not publicly available because Brazilian law allows publishing specific criminal details only after a final judgment. However, partnerships with universities are expected to bridge this gap, enabling more sophisticated data analysis and greater transparency while maintaining legal compliance. For instance, the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) reported data will help design new public policies on the matter, with the participation of MJSP and CNJ.

Articles 3(d), 5, and 7(1)

First, the Government wishes to clarify that the Committee of Experts misinterpreted the information available on the "Radar SIT" website, a statistical and informational panel of the Labour Inspection related to combating child labour.

The panel works with three distinct and complementary indicators: (i) the total number of inspection actions that found child labour; (ii) the total number of children and adolescents

removed from child labour – including both cases related to the worst forms of child labour and those not classified in that category; and (iii) the number of children and adolescents specifically identified in the worst forms of child labour.

Data for 2024 indicate the following: 1,357 inspection actions identifying child labour; 2,784 children and adolescents removed from child labour; and 2,229 children and adolescents found in activities classified as dangerous under Decree No. 6,481 of 12 June 2008, which regulates the List of the Worst Forms of Child Labor (TIP List).

Therefore, it is necessary to correct the information contained in the report.

Another aspect that deserves highlighting is the evolution of the number of children and adolescents identified in the worst forms of child labour over the last few years. The observed data are as follows:

Number of children and adolescents identified in the worst forms of child labour:

2021: 1,615

2022: 2,090

2023: 2,297

2024: 2,229

The data show that between 2021 and 2024, the identification of children in the worst forms of child labour increased by about 38 per cent, not a “tripling” as the report states. The Government also requests correction of this information.

It is also important to highlight that the increase in the identification of cases does not necessarily stem from an increase in the incidence of the worst forms of child labour in the country, but rather results primarily from the institutional, technical and operational strengthening of the actions developed by the Brazilian Labour Inspectorate in confronting this serious violation of rights.

In this context, the following innovations and improvements implemented to combat the worst forms of child labour stand out:

- Planned and data-driven inspections: Inspection actions now use data intelligence, information cross-referencing, and strategic targeting, significantly expanding capacity to identify the worst forms of child labour compared to reactive models.
- Training and specialization of labour inspectors: Technical training for combating child labour has enabled more accurate and efficient identification of complex and hidden exploitation cases.
- Institutional prioritization: The Brazilian Labour Inspectorate prioritizes actions targeting the worst forms of child labour, contributing to greater detection of these violations.
- The IPÊ Child Labour System now assigns greater importance and urgency to communications about the worst forms of child labour, enabling faster, more targeted inspection responses.
- Development of integrated service protocols and flows: Labour inspection now reaches the informal economy in a structured way, an area traditionally marked by invisible violations. Meanwhile, the National Commission for the Eradication of Child Labour (CONAETI) has developed national care flows for specific child labour situations, some of which involve the

Labour Inspectorate playing a central role. CONAETI Resolution No. 7/2025 is a key reference in this regard.

Therefore, it is clear that the increase in the number of cases identified in the worst forms of child labour reflects not an increase in the worst forms of child labour but rather the improvement of the Brazilian State's institutional capacities for detection, monitoring, and response, in a context of strengthening public policies and strategies to combat child labour.

Article 7(2)

Regarding the request for information on measures to facilitate school access and retention for vulnerable groups (Afro-Brazilian, indigenous, and rural children) to prevent the worst forms of child labour, the Government provides the following details:

Strategic programmes for school retention and access

The Government has advanced three strategic pillars to address school dropout and promote full-time protection for children and adolescents:

- **Pé-de-Meia Programme:** The programme specifically prioritizes families in the Social Assistance Register (Cadastro Único), reaching the Afro-descendant youth identified by the Committee of Experts as the most vulnerable.
- **Full-time education expansion:** This strategy fills students' time with pedagogical and cultural activities, reducing their exposure to labour exploitation risks. In 2025, 25.8 per cent of students in public basic education were enrolled in full-time school in Brazil, up from 15.1 per cent in 2021.
- **Professional Apprenticeship (Law No. 10.097/2000):** This provides a safe transition to the labour market by requiring school enrolment and attendance to maintain employment. In 2025, a record 715,000 young apprentices were registered.

Specific Measures for Afro-descendant, indigenous and rural populations

Policies have been updated to include specific actions for these groups to ensure equitable protection:

- **IV National Plan for the Eradication of Child Labour:** Developed with the Ministry of Racial Equality, the plan includes 15 specific actions aimed at reducing child labour among Afro-descendant children.
- **CONAETI recommendations:** A specific recommendation was published regarding child labour among traditional peoples and communities, including riverine and Quilombola populations.
- **Vulnerability priority:** Decree No. 11,479/2023 establishes priority for the inclusion of socially vulnerable youth – such as those rescued from child labour or beneficiaries of income transfer programmes – into apprenticeship programmes.
- **Social protection (SUAS):** The Ministry of Development and Social Assistance (MDS) restarted federal co-financing for PETI (Programme to Eradicate Child Labour) in 2025, covering 1,038 federal entities based on criteria such as child labour prevalence and violence indices.

Statistical Data and Results (2025)

The Pé-de-Meia Programme has already shown significant impacts on educational indicators in public schools:

Indicator	Reduction
School dropout	43%
Failure	33%
Age-grade distortion	27.5%

Additionally, the Jovens Defensores Populares Project (a joint initiative between the MJSP and Fiocruz) currently trains 1,000 young leaders in territories affected by high levels of violence, with a profile consisting of 84.28 per cent Black or brown youth and 51.81 per cent women.

On Article 7(2), clauses (a) and (b), specifically concerning the rescue, rehabilitation and long-term social integration of child victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, the Government provides the following technical updates:

Integrated protection and service flows

The Government has focused on creating structured national protocols to ensure coordinated responses among state agencies:

- National flow for victims of sexual exploitation: CONAETI has approved a specific national flow to streamline the identification of and assistance to child and adolescent victims of sexual exploitation. This instrument aims to strengthen the coordination between the Labour Inspectorate, the Social Assistance Network, and the Judicial System.
- National flow for child labour victims: A formal protocol was published to assist children removed from labour situations where an exploiter is identifiable, which now explicitly includes child domestic and care work.
- Strategic actions of the Programme for the Eradication of Child Labor (AEPETI): In 2025, the Ministry of Development and Social Assistance resumed federal co-financing for 1,038 municipalities and states to implement strategic actions against child labour, specifically prioritizing children in situations of sexual exploitation.

2. Direct Assistance and Rehabilitation Measures

Victims removed from the worst forms of child labour, including trafficking and exploitation, receive comprehensive support:

- Social protection network: Assistance is provided through Specialized Reference Centers for Social Assistance and the Specialized Service for Families and Individuals, which focus on family monitoring and social reintegration.
- Immediate support: Rescued victims receive healthcare, immediate housing and food if needed, school re-enrolment, and access to protected work programmes.
- Financial security: Victims rescued from conditions analogous to slavery (including those under 18) are entitled to three instalments of a special unemployment insurance benefit.

Article 7(2)(d)

On the Government's efforts to combat child domestic work in 2026 and 2027, the following initiatives stand out:

- Within the National Care Plan, specific actions target labour inspection, especially in Axis 3 – Decent Work for Domestic and Paid Care Workers.
- Action Strategy EA3.3 promotes fundamental principles and rights at work in the care sector, focusing on combating child labour and work in conditions akin to slavery.

Among the planned actions are the following:

- Action A058: Broaden the debate on child labour in the care sector, focusing on domestic child labour, through awareness campaigns and publication of informative materials.
- Action A059: Reinforce inspection actions to combat child labour in the care sector, especially domestic work, through specific operations.

Within CONAETI, specific initiatives to combat domestic child labour have also been developed. In this regard, the publication of Resolution No. 7 of 2 October 2025, which approved the National Flow for Assistance to Children and Adolescents Victims of Child Labour with an Identifiable Exploiter, is noteworthy. The regulation now expressly includes child domestic and care labour, as provided for in Article 3, paragraph 2, in the following terms: "The National Flow for Assistance to Children and Adolescents Victims of Child Labor with an Identifiable Exploiter includes domestic and care child labour performed in the residential setting of third parties by a child or adolescent, provided, for non-profit purposes, to a person or family, whether remunerated or not."

In 2026, a specific resolution on the Flow of Care for Children and Adolescents in Child Labour within Family Settings is expected. This will cover domestic work performed within families.

Additionally, CONAETI included seven specific actions to combat child domestic labour in the IV National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour, reinforcing institutional commitment to prevent, identify and eradicate this serious rights violation.