



### The ILO Turin Centre's facilities

Located in an attractive park on the banks of the River Po, the Centre's campus provides a congenial environment in which to live and study.

- It contains 21 pavilions with fully equipped modern classrooms, conference halls and meeting rooms fitted out for multilingual simultaneous interpretation, and a computerized documentation centre linked to various data banks.

The campus has 287 study/bedrooms, all with private bathroom, telephone, free access to internet and cable television. It also has:

- a reception desk open 24 hours a day;

- a restaurant, a self-service canteen and a coffee lounge, all catering for international dietary needs;
- a bank;
- a travel agency;
- a laundry service;
- a post office;
- an internet point;
- a recreation room;
- facilities for outdoor and indoor sports;
- medical service.

Social events are regularly held both on and off campus, so that participants from different cultural backgrounds can make the most of a stimulating international environment.

### For additional information, please contact:

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## UN CRC and ILO Child Labour Conventions: Towards Greater Coherence in Reporting and Action

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# UN CRC and ILO Child Labour Conventions: Towards Greater Coherence in Reporting and Action

## Justification

Around the world, 215 million boys and girls are engaged in child labour. One hundred and fifteen million of these children are exposed to its worst forms (Global child labour developments: measuring trends form 2004 to 2008, ILO 2010). Removing these children from the worst forms and offering them a future without child labour is an urgent priority.

A new momentum is necessary if the world is to attain the goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016 as agreed upon by the ILO tripartite constituents in the Global Action Plan adopted in 2006.

Not all work carried out by children (under-18) means child labour to be eliminated. “Children in employment” is the statisticians’ term signifying “working children” or children that are economically active. “Economic activity” encompasses most productive activities of children: it includes both work that is permissible under the ILO Child Labour Conventions and work that is not suitable for children. “Child labour”, however, is a narrower concept: it signifies work that children should not be doing, either because they are below the legal minimum age (usually 14 or 15 years), or because the nature of the work is such that it is entirely unacceptable for any person under 18 (e.g. hazardous work).

Since its creation in 1919, the ILO has addressed the issue of Child Labour, at first through the formulation of minimum age levels for various types of work. This process culminated in 1973 in the adoption of one consolidated Convention on minimum age for admission to work: Convention No. 138. Since 1999, the struggle against child labour has been reinforced with the adoption of the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention No. 182, which calls for countries to take immediate action to secure the prohibition and elimination of all worst forms of child labour. As for the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Rights and principles at work and its follow up, in 1998, it makes the effective elimination of child labour a core objective for all ILO State members.

Article 22 of the ILO Constitution requires member States to make regular reports on the measures which they have taken to give effect to the Conventions that they have ratified. Two-yearly reports are also requested for the twelve fundamental and priority Conventions, among which the Minimum Age Convention No. 138 and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention No. 182.

## The CRC and its supervisory system:

The fight to eradicate all forms of violence against children including labour requires the concerted effort of a number of key players working in concert: governments, international organizations, employers and their organizations, trade unions, NGOs, local communities, the children themselves and their parents.

It is against this backdrop and in view of the collaborative efforts committed to under the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the ILO and SAIEVAC to reinforce the work of the two bodies on child rights and child protection that the International Labour Organization in cooperation with the South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC) and the Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Violence against Children (SRSG VAC) is organizing a four day training course for multi-stakeholder representatives from the eight South Asian countries.

## Course objective

The training course will seek to increase understanding of the ILO’s two core Conventions which pertain to child labour, ie: the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No.138) and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention(No.182), 1999), and UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and related Protocols with a view to improved coherence in reporting and action.

The workshop will in particular:

- Highlight the obligations that derive from ratification of Conventions, namely periodic submission of national reports and the implementation of legal and policy measures, together with direct action to apply these Conventions;
- Explore opportunities at the South Asia regional level and within the countries to create synergies between the various monitoring, reporting and planning mechanisms;
- Share experience of model interventions for addressing child labour and enhancing child protection;
- Elaborate inputs to a South Asia Child Labour Strategy to be shared at the Third Global Conference on Child Labour (Brazil, October 2013).

## Participants

- Officials of the Ministry of Labour (or relevant ministry) responsible for the drafting of country reports under articles 19 and 22 of ILO Constitution. Ideally, participants should be those officials involved in the preparation and drafting of countries reports that are submitted to the ILO pursuant to its regular supervisory system; and if possible Focal point in charge of child labour issues in the Ministry of Labour (or designated institution);
- Officials of ministries of child development/or other designated ministries responsible for reporting on the Child Rights Convention and related Protocols;
- Representatives of employers’ and of workers’ organizations who already have good knowledge of the ILO, and in particular of its supervisory system and/or are engaged in the formulation and implementation of national policies and plans against child labour/child protection;
- Representatives of non-governmental organizations and/or civil society associated with the National

Below is a preliminary breakdown of participants by country (this excludes ILO staff and the different resource persons):

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Afghanistan | 3 |
| Bangladesh  | 4 |
| Bhutan      | 3 |
| India       | 4 |
| Maldives    | 2 |
| Nepal       | 5 |
| Pakistan    | 4 |
| Sri Lanka   | 4 |

## Content of the training

The workshop will address the following topics:

- Overview of ILO supervisory system including role of social partners
- Overview of CRC supervisory system including role of NGOs/civil society
- Overview of child protection issues and challenges in South Asia
- SAARC/SAIEVAC plan of action
- Child labour concepts and definitions including worst forms of child labour
- The content and obligations deriving from the

ratification of CRC and relevant protocols, ILO C.138 and C.182; including how to better report to the ILO on their implementation; especially how to gather, structure and submit the information necessary for the supervision of the application of these conventions;

- Overview of recent comments of CRC and ILO committee of experts
- Child Report drafting exercises
- How to give greater effect to the implementation of relevant international instruments through improved legislative and policy responses as well as direct action in view of creating a violence free South Asia for children
- The importance of stakeholder coordination
- Way forward: plans of action on how to improve coherence in reporting and action

## Facilitation

The training methodology will be based on a combination of presentations by resource persons, discussions with participants on key issues, group work and practical exercises. It will draw extensively on the experiences of participants.

The facilitation of the course be ensured by resources persons representing the ILO, the Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on Violence against Children (SRSG VAC), SAARCLAW, SAIEVAC, CRC related and SACG members.

Upon completion of the course a questionnaire will be administered to participants in order to obtain their feedback on the workshop’s methodology and contents.

## Materials

As the course unfolds participants will be provided with soft copies of the presentations, handouts and background documents. On the last day of the course each participant will receive a USB containing electronic copies of the training material as well key reference documentation on child protection/child labour, in addition to a certificate of attendance.

## Costs of participation

The ILO will meet the cost of air travel by economy class by the most direct route to Turin as well as meals and accommodation as per ILO procedures. Tickets will be provided by ILO ITC. The ILO will also provide a letter to facilitate with getting an entry visa for Italy.