



DECLARATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE: LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR

Lima, October 14th 2014

We, the Ministers of Labour of the Nations of Argentina, Bahamas, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on the occasion of the Eighteenth American Regional Meeting of the ILO, held in Lima, Peru, from 13 to 16 October 2014;

- i) **Recognising** the progress made by the Latin America and the Caribbean region in the prevention and eradication of child labour and the protection of work permitted for adolescents, embodied, inter alia, in the wide ratification of the fundamental ILO Conventions No. 138 on the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment and No. 182 on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour;
- ii) **Valuing** the cumulative experience in defining and implementing a set of policies, plans and programmes to deal with the situation of working children and adolescents, in the provision of specific services for them, their families and their communities, and in the promotion of increasing social awareness about the risks and consequences that child and adolescent labour entails for the development of our countries;
- iii) **Taking into account** that, despite the progress made, the region shows a worrying stagnation in the reduction of child labour, especially its worst forms, and that this requires an urgent, coordinated and integrated response within each country, among countries and blocks of countries in the continent in order to achieve the goals set to eliminate the worst forms of child labour by 2016 and all forms of child labour by 2020;
- iv) **Considering** that Goal 8, to “promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all,” which includes an indicator for child labour elimination, particularly its worst forms, has been included in the new Millennium Development Goals for 2030;
- v) **Considering** that in the Brasilia Declaration, adopted in the framework of the III Global Conference on Child Labour (October 2013), the commitment was reiterated to eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016, with particular attention to gender-based approaches, education and social protection policies, among others;
- vi) **Considering** the principles of the South-South cooperation, based on equality among peoples, mutual support, local ownership and solidarity among nations;



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HEREBY AGREE TO:

- i) **Reaffirm** that the persistence of child labour, especially its worst forms, is a factor that exacerbates social inequality, depriving millions of children and adolescents in our region of quality education and training necessary for their own development and the progress of their families, communities and nations, thus reinforcing inequality and social and economic vulnerability.
- ii) **Reiterate** our political will and commitment to step up actions in line with the overall goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016 and the regional goal of the Decent Work Hemispheric Agenda (2006-2015) to eliminate all forms of child labour by 2020. To this end, we will pursue policies to promote decent work based on the rights to economic and social development.
- iii) **Strengthen intergovernmental cooperation in the region** through the creation of a Regional Initiative for a Latin America and Caribbean Free of Child Labour, comprised of high-level representatives of the governments of the region. This initiative has the mandate accelerate the pace in the prevention and eradication of child labour and its worst forms through institutional coordination within and among sectors and among the various levels of government, **taking as examples the good practices developed in Latin America and the Caribbean** and seeking that our countries will:
- a) *Have in place* permanent and sustainable mechanisms for coordination of public, private and social actors in the prevention and eradication of child labour and hazardous adolescent labour and the protection of work permitted for adolescents;
 - b) *Strengthen and integrate* the groups that are vulnerable to child labour in their policies and programmes to combat poverty, inequality and exclusion, with a particular emphasis on indigenous peoples and communities;
 - c) *Strengthen and incorporate* the goal of prevention and eradication of child labour and hazardous adolescent labour and protection of work permitted for adolescents in the policies for employment formalisation;
 - d) *Improve* their ability to act locally to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labour;



- e) *Strengthen* the mechanisms for identifying, recording, follow-up, inspection, monitoring and control to ensure compliance with the regulations on the prohibition of child labour and the protection of work permitted for adolescents and guarantee children and adolescents the full exercise of their rights;
 - f) *Increase* social awareness of the risks and hazards of child labour, especially its worst forms, for the present and future development of children and adolescents.
 - g) *Develop* policies for the qualification and protection of the work permitted for adolescents above the minimum age for admission to employment that will help them to achieve a proper and successful transition from education into work.
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- iv) **Entrust** the performance of the functions of the Technical Secretariat of the Regional Initiative to the International Labour Organisation, an institution which has provided ongoing support with the goal of combating child labour and has the expertise and knowledge necessary to accompany this effort by the countries;
 - v) **Call on our development partners** at the regional and global levels, to join us in this new challenge to achieve a Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour, by providing technical and financial assistance to enable us to strengthen our capacities and enhance our responses to the problem.
 - vi) **Invite** other countries that share our strong commitment to achieving the goals of child labour elimination by 2016 and 2020 to join in this collaborative effort.

Sr. Carlos Tomada
Ministro de Trabajo, Empleo y
Seguridad Social

ARGENTINA

Mr. Shane Gibson

Minister of Labour and National
Insurance


BAHAMAS

América Latina e
el Caribe libre de
TRABAJO INFANTIL

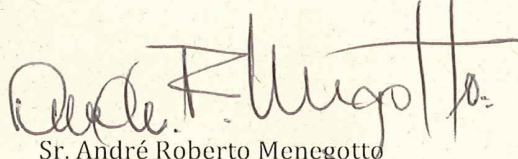
Latin America and
the Caribbean free
OF CHILD LABOUR

América Latina e
Caribe livre de
TRABALHO INFANTIL

América Latina e
el Caribe libre de
TRABAJO INFANTIL



Sr. Daniel Santalla Torrez
Ministro de Trabajo, Empleo y
Previsión Social
BOLIVIA



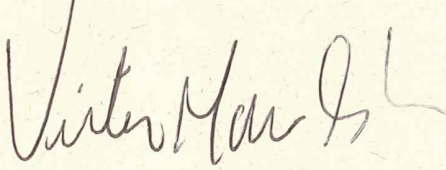
Sr. André Roberto Menegotto
Jefe del Gabinete del Ministro
BRASIL



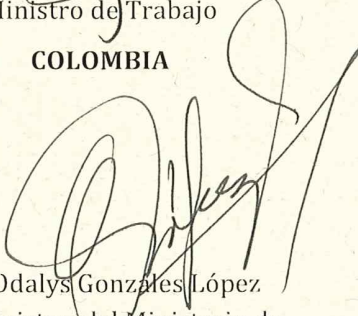
Sra. Javiera Blanco
Ministra del Trabajo y Previsión
Social
CHILE



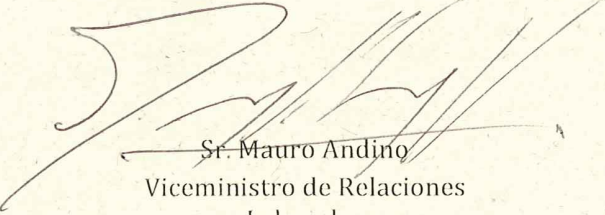
Sr. Luis Eduardo Garzon
Ministro de Trabajo
COLOMBIA



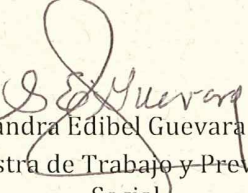
Sr. Víctor Morales
Ministro de Trabajo y Seguridad
Social
COSTA RICA



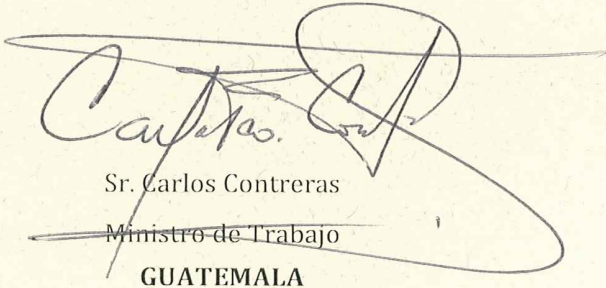
Sra. Odalys Gonzales López
Viceministra del Ministerio de
Trabajo y Seguridad Social
CUBA



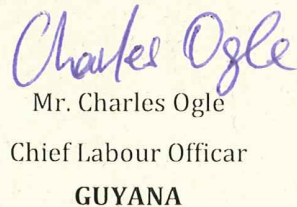
Sr. Mauro Andino
Viceministro de Relaciones
Laborales
ECUADOR



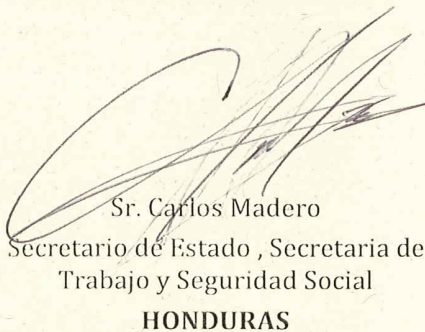
Sra Sandra Edibel Guevara Pérez
Ministra de Trabajo y Previsión
Social
EL SALVADOR



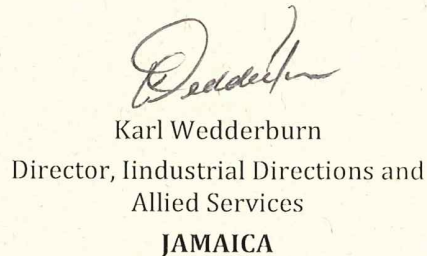
Sr. Carlos Contreras
Ministro de Trabajo
GUATEMALA



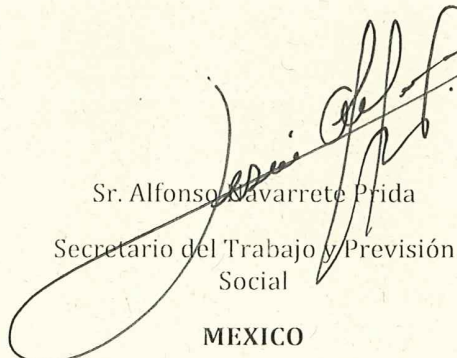
Mr. Charles Ogle
Chief Labour Officer
GUYANA



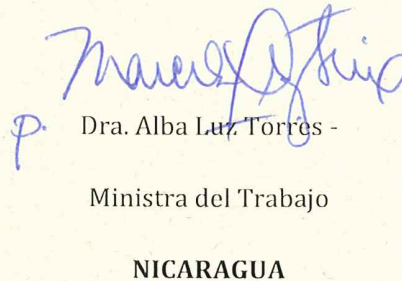
Sr. Carlos Madero
Secretario de Estado, Secretaria de
Trabajo y Seguridad Social
HONDURAS



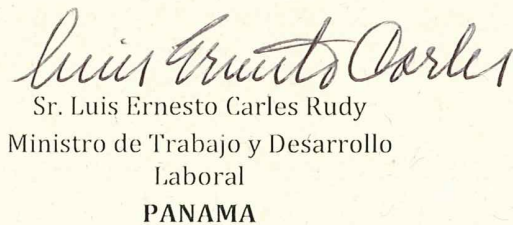
Karl Wedderburn
Director, Industrial Directions and
Allied Services
JAMAICA



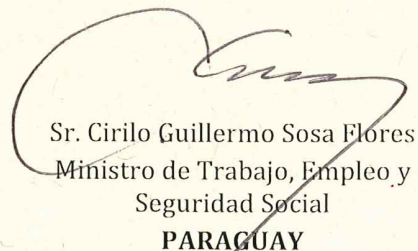
Sr. Alfonso Cavarrete Prida
Secretario del Trabajo y Previsión
Social
MEXICO



Dra. Alba Luz Torres -
Ministra del Trabajo
NICARAGUA



Sr. Luis Ernesto Carles Rudy
Ministro de Trabajo y Desarrollo
Laboral
PANAMA

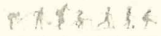


Sr. Cirilo Guillermo Sosa Flores
Ministro de Trabajo, Empleo y
Seguridad Social
PARAGUAY

Sr. Charles Jean Jacques
Ministro de Asuntos Sociales y Trabajo
HAITI



América Latina e
el Caribe libres
de TRABAJO DE NIÑOS



Latin America and
the Caribbean free
OF CHILD LABOUR



América Latina e
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TRABALHO INFANTIL



América Latina y
el Caribe libre de
TRABAJO INFANTIL

Sr. Fredy Otárola Peña
Ministro de Trabajo y Promoción
del Empleo
PERU

Sr. Andrés Valentín Herrera
Gonzales
Director General de Trabajo
REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA

Mr. Michael Miskin
Minister of Labour Technological
Development and Environment
SURINAME

Mr. Errol McLeod
Minister of Labour and Small and
Micro Enterprise Development
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

María Cristina Demarco
Inspectora General del Ministerio de
Trabajo y Seguridad Social
URUGUAY

Sr. Elio Colmenares Goyo
Viceministro para derechos y
Relaciones Laborales, Ministerio del
Poder Popular para el Proceso
Social de Trabajo.
VENEZUELA

Witness of Honour:

Guy Ryder
Director General
International Labour Organization


INITIATIVE RÉGIONALE
Amérique Latine et
les Caraïbes sans
TRAVAIL DES ENFANTS


REGIONAL INITIATIVE
Latin America and
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OF CHILD LABOUR


INICIATIVA REGIONAL
América Latina e
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INICIATIVA REGIONAL
América Latina y
el Caribe libre de
TRABAJO INFANTIL

**ADDENDA À LA SIGNATURE DE LA DÉCLARATION DE CONSTITUTION DE L'INITIATIVE RÉGIONALE
AMÉRIQUE LATINE ET LES CARAÏBES SANS TRAVAIL DES ENFANTS**

En foi de conformité avec le contenu de la Déclaration de Lima, le
2015.

À LA SUITE, LES SIGNATURES DES MINISTRES DE TRAVAIL QUI ONT
FORMELLEMENT ADHÉRÉ À L'INITIATIVE RÉGIONALE AMÉRIQUE LATINE
ET LES CARAÏBES SANS TRAVAIL DES ENFANTS.


M. Victor BENOIT
Ministre des Affaires Sociales
et du Travail

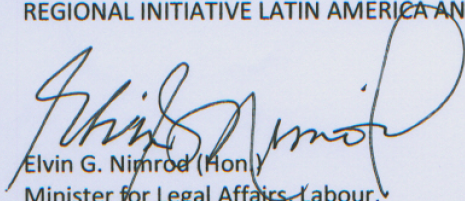


HAÏTI

**ADDENDUM TO THE SIGNATURE OF THE DECLARATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REGIONAL
INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR**

In good faith and in conformity with the content of the Declaration of Lima 2014,

FOLLOWS THE SIGNATURE OF THE MINISTER OF LABOUR WHO HAS FORMALLY ADHERED TO THE
REGIONAL INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elvin G. Nimrod', written over the printed name.

Elvin G. Nimrod (Hon.)
Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour,
Carriacou & Petite Martinique Affairs and Local Government

GRENADA