

*Emergency Response to Child Labour, Technical Progress Report, March 2006, 5.*

<sup>3202</sup> ILO-IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour in Selected Tsunami Affected Areas, project document, 15, 38.*

<sup>3203</sup> ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, March 14, 2008. See also ILO-IPEC, *Prevention and Reintegration of Children Involved in Armed Conflict: An Inter-Regional Program, Project Document, ILO, Geneva, September 17, 2003.*

<sup>3204</sup> ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication USDOL official, January 23, 2008.

<sup>3205</sup> U.S. Embassy- Colombo, *reporting, November 29, 2007, para 11.*

<sup>3206</sup> *Ibid.*, para 10. See also ILO- IPEC, *Emergency Response to Child Labour, Technical Progress Report, September 2006, 2.*

## Suriname

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor<sup>3207</sup></i>	
Working children, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working boys, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working girls, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	14
Compulsory education age:	12
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	120
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	94
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Associated
* Must pay for miscellaneous school expenses	

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Suriname work in agriculture, rice production, and as street vendors, packers, and shop assistants.<sup>3208</sup> Children work in sawmills, in gold mining areas in the interior, and in the commercial sex industry.<sup>3209</sup> Trafficking of minors is a problem. Reports have indicated an increase in

sex tourism leading to a higher incidence of sexual exploitation of children, particularly young boys.<sup>3210</sup>

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years, although children from 12 to 14 years may work in family or special vocational settings if the work is not too physically or mentally demanding or hazardous.<sup>3211</sup> Children under 15 years are prohibited from working on fishing boats.<sup>3212</sup> Children under 18 years are prohibited from night work, which is defined as the hours between 7:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., and hazardous work, which is defined as work that endangers life, health, and decency, or as determined by the Minister of Labor.<sup>3213</sup> Employers are required to maintain a Register of Young Persons that includes each employee's name, address, date of birth, and the occupational starting and ending dates.<sup>3214</sup> Employing a child under 14 years is punishable by fines and up to 12 months in prison. Parents who permit their children to work in violation of child labor laws may be prosecuted<sup>3215</sup>

The law prohibits forced labor, slavery, and practices similar to slavery.<sup>3216</sup> The penalty for trafficking children under 16 is a minimum of 10 years imprisonment.<sup>3217</sup> Procuring, using or offering a girl under 12 years of age for prostitution, pornography, or pornographic performances is punishable with 12 years imprisonment, and 8 years imprisonment for the same offense against girls ages 12 to 14. There is no specific penalty for those ages 14 to 18.<sup>3218</sup> The law

also prohibits brothel operation.<sup>3219</sup> Military service is not compulsory, although the minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the Armed Forces is not available.<sup>3220</sup>

The Ministry of Labor's Department of Labor Inspections enforces laws relating to the minimum age for employment and hazardous work through its 40 inspectors in the formal sector.<sup>3221</sup> Police officers are responsible for enforcing child labor laws in the informal sector. USDOS reports that there were no investigations of exploitive child labor cases conducted in rural areas during 2007.<sup>3222</sup> USDOS reports that both Government action and necessary resources need to increase in order to expand beyond urban areas and into the hinterland.<sup>3223</sup> The laws consider the worst forms of child labor crimes and, as such, they are enforced by the Ministry of Justice and Police, in conjunction with the Youth Police Department. The Youth Police are authorized to remove children from the worst forms of child labor and prosecute offenders.<sup>3224</sup> Although USDOS reports that the country's law against brothels is not enforced, a special police anti-trafficking unit of 5 members has conducted limited investigations and raids, including random checks of brothels, to ensure that minors are not working on those premises.<sup>3225</sup> Although there are no Government social programs to prevent and withdraw children from the worst forms of child labor, the Government does support vocational programs for children who are no longer in school.<sup>3226</sup>

### **Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

The Ministries of Labor and Social Affairs refer to reducing child labor in their annual policy documents.<sup>3227</sup> In January 2007, the Government of Suriname installed a working group to address child labor, consisting of representatives from various ministries, labor unions, the private sector, and NGOs. The objective of the working group is to establish a National Commission on child labor, which is tasked with guiding the Government on the issue of child labor, reviewing labor legislation, making recommendations, and developing a list of worst forms of child labor.<sup>3228</sup> In early 2007, the Government's trafficking in persons working group launched a new awareness-raising campaign

and hosted informational meetings in border areas where trafficking is significant.<sup>3229</sup>

The Government of Suriname participated in the second phase of a USD 750,000 regional project to combat the worst forms of child labor in the Caribbean, funded by the Government of Canada and implemented by ILO-IPEC.<sup>3230</sup>

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<sup>3207</sup> For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For data on ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Executive Summary. For minimum age for admission to work, age to which education is compulsory, and free public education, see U.S. Department of State, "Suriname," in *Country Report on Human Rights Practices- 2007*, Washington, DC, March 11, 2008, section 5, 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100654.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, December 6, 2007. See also Government of Suriname, *Constitution*, articles 38-39; available from <http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/Constitutions/Suriname/english.html>.

<sup>3208</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Suriname," section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, December 6, 2007. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, December 21, 2006.

<sup>3209</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Suriname," section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, December 6, 2007. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 24, 2008.

<sup>3210</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Suriname," section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo official, E-mail communication, July 24, 2008.

<sup>3211</sup> Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname- A Guide to Legislative Reform*, ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, June 2005, 25. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Suriname," section 6d.

<sup>3212</sup> Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname - a Guide to Legislative Reform*, ILO Subregional Office for the Caribbean, June 2005, 25.

<sup>3213</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Suriname," section 6d. See also Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 27.

<sup>3214</sup> Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 27.

<sup>3215</sup> U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting*, August 27, 2004.

<sup>3216</sup> Government of Suriname, *Constitution*, article 15. See also Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 29.

<sup>3217</sup> Government of Suriname, *Written Replies by the*

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*Government of the Suriname Concerning the List of Issues Received by the Committee on the Rights of the Child Relating to the Consideration of the Second Periodic Report of Suriname*, CRC/C/SUR/Q/2/Add.1, November 29, 2006, 31; available from <http://daccessdds.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G06/458/35/PDF/G0645835.pdf?OpenElement>. See also Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 29.

<sup>3218</sup> Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 29.

<sup>3219</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Suriname," section 5.

<sup>3220</sup> Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Suriname," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from [http://www.child-soldiers.org/document\\_get.php?id=837](http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=837).

<sup>3221</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Suriname," section 6d. See also Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 33. See also U.S. Embassy-Paramaribo, *reporting, December 6, 2007*.

<sup>3222</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Suriname," section 6d.

<sup>3223</sup> U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting, December 6, 2007*.

<sup>3224</sup> Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 33.

<sup>3225</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Suriname," section 6d. See also U.S. Department of State, "Suriname," in *Country Report on Human Rights Practices- 2006*, Washington, DC, March 6, 2007, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2006/78906.htm>. See also Government of Suriname, *Written communication*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (November 8, 2007) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, DC, February 8, 2008, 4.

<sup>3226</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Suriname," section 6d. See also Clive Pegus, *A Review of Child Labour Laws of Suriname*, 33.

<sup>3227</sup> U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting, December 6, 2007*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Suriname," section 6d.

<sup>3228</sup> U.S. Embassy- Paramaribo, *reporting, December 6, 2007*. See also Government of Suriname, *Written communication*, 2.

<sup>3229</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Suriname (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, DC, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82807.htm>.

<sup>3230</sup> ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 12, 2007.

## Swaziland

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Swaziland work in agriculture, particularly in the eastern region, as well as in herding and domestic service.<sup>3231</sup> Children are also found working on the streets as traders, hawkers bus and taxi conductors, load bearers, and car washers.<sup>3232</sup> There are reports that Swazi girls engage in commercial sexual exploitation within Swaziland and are trafficked to South Africa for domestic labor and commercial sexual exploitation.<sup>3233</sup>

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law provides children with the right to be protected from work that jeopardizes their health, education, or development.<sup>3234</sup> The law distinguishes between a "child" (under 15 years

and a "young person" (between 15 and 18 years), but does not establish a standard minimum age of employment.<sup>3235</sup> Children under 15 years are only allowed to work in industrial enterprises where family members are employed or in technical schools under supervision.<sup>3236</sup> The law prohibits children and young persons under 18 years from working in mines, quarries, or underground, in premises that sell alcohol for consumption on site, or in any sector that is dangerous to their safety, health, or moral development.<sup>3237</sup> The law prohibits children under 15 years from working during school hours and limits children's work to less than four continuous hours, and six hours per day or 33 hours per week. Children and young persons may not work between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m., unless a young person is engaged in an apprenticeship or vocational training activity approved by the