

<sup>138</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Angola," section 5.

<sup>139</sup> Ibid.

<sup>140</sup> Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006. See also ECOWAS and ECCAS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006.

<sup>141</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Angola," sections 6c and 6d. See also U.S. Embassy-Luanda, *reporting 5301, February 3, 2009*, para 3.

<sup>142</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Angola," section 5.

<sup>143</sup> Ibid.

<sup>144</sup> Christian Children's Fund and World Learning Inc., *Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education in*

*Angola (ONJOI)*, Project Document, Richmond, October 15, 2008, 22.

<sup>145</sup> ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 18, 2008. See also ILO-IPEC, *Tackle Child Labor through Education: Moving Children from Work to School in 11 Countries*, Geneva, 2008; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ipecinfor/product/viewProduct.do?productId=8511>.

<sup>146</sup> Khulisa Management Services, *Child Labor Assessment in Benguela and Kwanza Sul*, 59.

<sup>147</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Angola (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/>.

<sup>148</sup> U.S. Embassy- Luanda, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, para 6B. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Angola," section 6d.

## Argentina

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In rural areas of Argentina, some children work in family and third-party farms in the production of tobacco, cotton, garlic, grapes, blueberries, olives, yerba mate, tomatoes, and strawberries, often handling pesticides without proper protection. There is also evidence that some children work in the production of lemons, potatoes, sugar, onions, raspberries, jojoba, and flowers.<sup>149</sup> In urban areas, some children engage in domestic service, work in street sales, work as street performers, shine shoes, wash cars, and collect and sort trash for recycling.<sup>150</sup> According to Government of Argentina sources, they produce bricks, matches, fireworks, shoes, cables, and garments, often in small workshops. Some children have also been found working in the mining, fishing, and construction sectors.<sup>151</sup>

Incidences of child sex tourism occurred particularly in the Buenos Aires city and triborder area with Brazil and Paraguay. Paraguayan children have been reported to be trafficked to Argentina for the purpose of sexual exploitation.<sup>152</sup> According to Government of Argentina sources, child pornography and the recruitment of children for illicit activities, such as

drug trafficking, are problems.<sup>153</sup> Bolivian children have been reported to be involved in the forced production of garments in Argentina.<sup>154</sup>

### Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

In June 2008, Argentina raised the legal minimum age for employment from 14 to 15 years, and this will subsequently increase to 16 years in May 2010.<sup>155</sup> In addition, the law specifically prohibits the employment of children under 16 years in domestic service.<sup>156</sup> Children 15 to 16 years may work up to 3 hours daily and 15 hours a week during the morning or afternoon, as long as the work is within a family business, is not hazardous, and does not interrupt schooling.<sup>157</sup> Families must first request special authorization from labor authorities and must demonstrate that they are not contractors or suppliers for other companies.<sup>158</sup> Children 16 to 18 years are prohibited from working more than 6 hours a day and 36 hours a week, and between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. In some authorized cases, however, children 16 to 18 years can work between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.<sup>159</sup> Argentine law sets the minimum age for volunteering for the Argentine Armed Forces at 18 years.<sup>160</sup>

***Selected Statistics and Indicators  
on Child Labor***<sup>161</sup>

Population, children, 5-14 years:	-
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:	15
Compulsory education age:	18
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	112.3
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	98.5
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2004:	89.7
ILO Convention 138:	11/11/1996
ILO Convention 182:	2/5/2001
CRC:	12/4/1990
CRCOPAC:	9/10/2002
CRCOPSC:	9/25/2003
Palermo:	11/19/2002
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

Argentine law prohibits forced or compulsory labor.<sup>162</sup> The law provides for 4 to 10 years of imprisonment for facilitating the prostitution of children under 18 years of age and 6 to 15 years when it involves children under 13 years of age. The penalty increases to 10 to 15 years of imprisonment for the facilitation of prostitution by means of deception, violence, threats, abuse of authority, or other forms of intimidation or coercion, or by a family member or guardian.<sup>163</sup> The use of children in pornographic shows or the production or publication of pornography that features minors carries penalties of 6 months to 4 years of imprisonment. The distribution or trading of child pornography carries penalties of 4 months to 2 years of imprisonment.<sup>164</sup> In April 2008, Argentina passed legislation prohibiting trafficking in persons both domestically and internationally for purposes of forced labor or sexual exploitation. The trafficking of minors carries penalties of 4 to 10 years in prison.<sup>165</sup> For children under 13 years of age, the penalty is 6 to

15 years in prison. Penalties increase to 10 to 15 years imprisonment if the crime is committed through abuse of authority or by family members of the victim.<sup>166</sup>

USDOS reports significant progress in Argentina's efforts to combat trafficking, but corruption at the provincial and local levels remains a concern. According to USDOS, authorities conducted 138 raids, made 161 arrests, and rescued 181 trafficking victims during the reporting period.<sup>167</sup> In 2008, the First Responders Office for the Rescue and Immediate Assistance of Trafficking Victims took the lead in coordinating the efforts of four federal law enforcement agencies to combat trafficking.<sup>168</sup>

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

The National Commission for the Eradication of Child Labor (CONAETI) continued with the implementation of the National Plan to Combat Child Labor, which calls for the national consolidation of data, awareness raising, inter-institutional collaboration, stronger inspection mechanisms, mainstreaming of child laborers into the formal education system, research, coordination of child labor laws, and a national program for the prevention and eradication of child labor in rural and urban settings.<sup>169</sup> CONAETI conducted seminars with the 19 provincial commissions for the eradication of child labor, which are responsible for enforcing labor laws and raising awareness regarding exploitive child labor.<sup>170</sup> CONAETI also provides technical assistance to NGOs combating child labor in the tobacco and trash-picking sectors and organizes workshops with tobacco producers to promote corporate social responsibility to fight child labor.<sup>171</sup> In September 2008, the Government of Argentina, along with the General Workers' Confederation (CGT) and the Argentine Industry Association (UIA), signed a memorandum of understanding with the ILO to implement its "Decent Work" initiative, which includes efforts to prevent and eradicate child labor.<sup>172</sup>

The Government works with several NGOs in addressing commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in the triborder area with Brazil

and Paraguay. A trilateral network involving local government and civil society coordinates the efforts to combat trafficking.<sup>173</sup> The Government provided training on issues related to trafficking in persons to law enforcement officials during the reporting period. In addition, the Government's Ministry of Justice funded an awareness-raising campaign in the state of Misiones to prevent trafficking.<sup>174</sup> The city of Buenos Aires requires that the tourist industry comply with codes of conduct to prevent child sex tourism.<sup>175</sup>

The Ministry of Education, through its National Program for Educational Inclusion (*Programa Nacional de Inclusión Educativa*), provides scholarships to withdraw children from work and reintegrate them back into school.<sup>176</sup>

The Government of Argentina is currently participating in a project funded by IDB for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor in Migrant Families. The project, implemented by IOM, works with families engaged in garbage scavenging and recycling, providing them with services and regularizing their immigration status.<sup>177</sup> IDB is also funding a regional project to combat the trafficking and sexual exploitation of children in Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay. The project aims to strengthen local organizations that work in prevention, detection, and victim assistance.<sup>178</sup> Argentina participates in a USD 2.1 million regional ILO-IPEC child labor survey funded by Canada.<sup>179</sup> The Government also collaborated with IOM in a USD 100,000 five country regional project funded by USDOS to provide return and reintegration assistance to trafficking victims.<sup>180</sup>

The Government of Argentina and other associates and member governments of MERCOSUR are carrying out the "Niño Sur" ("Southern Child") initiative to defend the rights of children and adolescents in the region. The initiative aims to raise awareness of commercial sexual exploitation, improve country legal frameworks, and exchange best practices to tackle issues related to victim protection and assistance.<sup>181</sup> Argentina's Secretariat of Tourism is part of the Joint Group for the Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism, which conducts prevention and

awareness-raising campaigns to combat the commercial exploitation of children in Latin America. It was created in 2005 and includes the Ministries of Tourism from Chile, Ecuador, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela.<sup>182</sup>

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<sup>149</sup> CONAETI, *Trabajo infantil rural*, [online] [cited January 29, 2009]; available from [http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/conaeti/que\\_es/rural.htm](http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/conaeti/que_es/rural.htm). See also Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Social Security, *Por una niñez sin trabajo infantil*, 2005, 49; available from [http://www.pronino.com.ar/futuro\\_hoy/Archivos-de-programa/Materiales-de-trabajo/Materiales-de-trabajo/poruna\\_ninassintrabajo-infantil.pdf](http://www.pronino.com.ar/futuro_hoy/Archivos-de-programa/Materiales-de-trabajo/Materiales-de-trabajo/poruna_ninassintrabajo-infantil.pdf). See also ILO, *Infancia y Adolescencia: Trabajo y otras actividades económicas, Primera encuesta, Análisis de resultados en cuatro subregiones de la Argentina*, Buenos Aires, 2006, 53; available from [http://white.oit.org.pe/ipec/documentos/simpoc\\_argentina.pdf](http://white.oit.org.pe/ipec/documentos/simpoc_argentina.pdf).

<sup>150</sup> Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Security, *Por una niñez sin trabajo infantil*, 51-53.

<sup>151</sup> *Ibid.*, 50.

<sup>152</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Argentina (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2009*, Washington, DC, June 16, 2009; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2009/123135.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Paraguay (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/105501.pdf>. See also Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Security, *Por una niñez sin trabajo infantil*, 55. See also ILO and IOM, *La trata de Personas en el Paraguay*, Buenos Aires, 2005, 49-54; available from <http://oimconosur.org/archivos/descarga.php?id=../imagenes/archivos/75.pdf&name=La%20trata%20de%20personas%20en%20el%20Paraguay>.

<sup>153</sup> CONAETI, *Trabajo infantil urbano*, [online] [cited January 29, 2009]; available from [http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/conaeti/que\\_es/urbano.htm](http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/conaeti/que_es/urbano.htm). See also Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Security, *Por una niñez sin trabajo infantil*, 55.

<sup>154</sup> Ignacio Arana Araya, "Prolifera la exportación de trabajo esclavo boliviano," *El Mercurio* (Santiago), August 27, 2006. See also Ismael Bermúdez, "Trabajo esclavo: dicen que las marcas son responsables igual que los talleres," *Clarín* (Buenos Aires), September 13, 2006. See also Tanja Bastia, *Child Trafficking or Teenage Migration? Bolivian Migrants in Argentina*, IOM, Oxford, 2005, 65-66; available from [http://www.childtrafficking.com/Docs/bastia\\_2005\\_teenage\\_migration\\_0108.pdf](http://www.childtrafficking.com/Docs/bastia_2005_teenage_migration_0108.pdf).

<sup>155</sup> Government of Argentina, *Prohibición del Trabajo Infantil y Protección del Trabajo Adolescente*, 26.390, (June 4, 2008), article 2; available from <http://www.infoleg.gov.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/140000-144999/141792/norma.htm>.

<sup>156</sup> Government of Argentina, *Decreto Ley 326/56*, article 2; available from [http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/asesoramiento/files/decreto\\_%20ley%20\\_326\\_56.doc](http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/asesoramiento/files/decreto_%20ley%20_326_56.doc).

<sup>157</sup> Government of Argentina, *Prohibición del Trabajo Infantil y Protección del Trabajo Adolescente*, article 8.

<sup>158</sup> Ibid.

<sup>159</sup> Ibid., article 9.

<sup>160</sup> Government of Argentina, *Ley del Servicio Militar Voluntario*, (1994), article 8; available from <http://www.resdal.org.ar/Archivo/d000000a.htm>.

<sup>161</sup> For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Introduction. For minimum age for admission to work, see Government of Argentina, *Ley de Contrato de Trabajo*, Ley No. 20.744, (May 13, 1976); available from <http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/legislacion/ley/index.html>. For age to which education is compulsory, see U.S. Department of State, "Argentina," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2008*, Washington, DC, February 25, 2009, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/wha/119145.htm>. For free public education, see Government of Argentina, *Ley de Educación Nacional*, No. 26.206, (2006), article 67; available from [http://www.me.gov.ar/doc\\_pdf/ley\\_de\\_educ\\_nac.pdf](http://www.me.gov.ar/doc_pdf/ley_de_educ_nac.pdf).

<sup>162</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Argentina," section 6c.

<sup>163</sup> Government of Argentina, *Código Penal* Law 25.087, (May 7, 1999), article 6; available from <http://infoleg.mecon.gov.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/55000-59999/57556/norma.htm>.

<sup>164</sup> Government of Argentina, *Código Penal*, (June 24, 2008), article 2; available from <http://infoleg.mecon.gov.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/140000-144999/141790/norma.htm>.

<sup>165</sup> Government of Argentina, *Código Penal* Law 26.364, (April 29, 2008), article 11; available from <http://infoleg.mecon.gov.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/140000-144999/140100/norma.htm>.

<sup>166</sup> Ibid.

<sup>167</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2009: Argentina," U.S. Department of State, "Argentina (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/105501.pdf>.

<sup>168</sup> Government of Argentina, *Resolución*, 2149/2008, (August 6, 2008); available from <http://infoleg.mecon.gov.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/>

140000-144999/143388/norma.htm, U.S. Embassy- Buenos Aires, reporting March 17, 2009

<sup>169</sup> CONAETI, *Plan Nacional para la Prevención y Erradicación del Trabajo Infantil*, October 31, 2002; available from [http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/conaeti/actividades/files/plan\\_nacional\\_consensuado.doc](http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/conaeti/actividades/files/plan_nacional_consensuado.doc).

<sup>170</sup> Ibid.

<sup>171</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Argentina."

<sup>172</sup> ILO, La Unión Industrial Argentina, Confederación General de Trabajo, and Employment Ministerio de Trabajo, and Social Security, *Memorandum de Entendimiento para la Puesta en Marcha en la República Argentina del Programa de Trabajo Decente*, 2008; available from <http://www.oit.org.ar/documentos/MoU%20y%20PTDP.pdf>.

<sup>173</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Argentina."

<sup>174</sup> Ernesto Azarkevich, "El Gobierno se compromete a combatir la trata de personas," *El Clarin*, October 17, 2008; available from <http://www.clarin.com/diario/2008/10/17/sociedad/s-01783034.htm>. , U.S. Embassy- Buenos Aires, reporting, March 17, 2009.

<sup>175</sup> "Contra la explotación sexual infantil," *El Clarin*, August 24, 2008; available from <http://www.clarin.com/suplementos/viajes/2008/08/24/v-01744155.htm>. , U.S. Embassy- Buenos Aires, reporting, March 17, 2009.

<sup>176</sup> Ministry of Education, *Programa Nacional de Inclusión Educativa*, [online] [cited January 29, 2009]; available from [http://www.me.gov.ar/todosaestudiar/inclusion\\_novedades.html](http://www.me.gov.ar/todosaestudiar/inclusion_novedades.html).

<sup>177</sup> IDB, *Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour in Migrant Families*, [online] 2009 [cited January 29, 2009]; available from <http://www.iadb.org/projects/Project.cfm?project=AR-T1031&Language=English#>.

<sup>178</sup> IDB, *La Trata y el Tráfico de Niños y Adolescentes para fines Explotación Sexual*, [online] 2009 [cited January 29, 2009]; available from <http://www.iadb.org/projects/Project.cfm?language=Spanish&PROJECT=RG%2DT1266>.

<sup>179</sup> ILO-IPEC, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 18, 2008.

<sup>180</sup> USDOS, *U.S. Government Funds Obligated in Fiscal Year 2007 for Anti-Trafficking in Persons Project*, [February 26, 2008]; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/c12606.htm>, U.S. Department of State, "Chile (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, DC, June 12, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82806.htm>.

<sup>181</sup> Argentine Ministry of Justice, Security, and Human Rights, *XII Reunión de Altas Autoridades Competentes en Derechos Humanos y Cancillerías del MERCOSUR y Estados Asociados*, [[cited April 7, 2009];

available from <http://www.derhuman.jus.gov.ar/mercosur/>. See also Argentine Committee of Pursuit and Application of the International Convention on the Rights of Child, *La Iniciativa Nin@Sur, una Instancia Regional que se Afirma*, April 2008; available from [http://www.casacidn.org.ar/news\\_abril/nota1.html](http://www.casacidn.org.ar/news_abril/nota1.html).

<sup>182</sup> Brazilian Ministry of Tourism, *Equador Assume Direção de Grupo Latino-Americano para a Proteção Infante-Juvenil*, November 26, 2008; available from

<http://www.jornaldeturismo.com.br/noticias/7-governo/20432-equador-assume-direcao-de-grupo-latino-americano-para-a-protecao-infante-juvenil.html>. See also Ministry of Tourism, *Ecuador Asume Liderazgo en Suramérica para la Protección de Menores Jóvenes*, 2008; available from [http://www.turismo.gov.ec/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=885&Itemid=43](http://www.turismo.gov.ec/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=885&Itemid=43).

## Armenia

### *Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor<sup>183</sup>*

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:	15
Compulsory education age:	14
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	98
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	82
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO Convention 138:	1/27/2006
ILO Convention 182:	1/2/2006
CRC:	6/23/1993*
CRCOPAC:	9/30/2005
CRCOPSC:	6/30/2005
Palermo:	7/1/2003
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No

\*Accession

### **Incidence and Nature of Child Labor**

Children in Armenia work primarily in agriculture but also in small enterprises performing work such as car service, the operation of vehicles, construction, and the

gathering of waste metal and bottles.<sup>184</sup> Children in Armenia also work in family-run businesses. Children can be observed selling flowers and drawings on the streets of Yerevan and working in local marketplaces, usually after school.<sup>185</sup> There have been reports of increasing numbers of children begging on the streets and dropping out of school to work in the informal sector, especially in agriculture.<sup>186</sup> In rural areas, children work in fishing and as shepherds.<sup>187</sup> Children work in trade and construction in urban areas. Some children work in heavy manual labor as laborers and loaders.<sup>188</sup>

Reports indicate that children are trafficked internally for labor and sexual exploitation. There were two reports of minors being trafficked internally for forced begging and one report of an individual pimping a minor.<sup>189</sup>

### **Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The minimum age of employment is 16 years, but the law allows children 14 to 16 years to work with written permission from a parent or guardian. Children under 14 years are prohibited from working.<sup>190</sup> Children under 16 years may work up to 24 hours per week, and children 16 to 18 years may work a maximum of 36 hours per week.<sup>191</sup> Employers should require proof of a medical examination from any employee under 18 years.<sup>192</sup> Children under 18 years are also prohibited from working overtime, at night, or in hazardous conditions and cannot be required to work on holidays.<sup>193</sup> Armenian law prohibits engaging children in the production, use, or sale of alcoholic drinks, narcotics and psychotropic