

¹²⁶⁶ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting, January 22, 2009*, para 5.

¹²⁶⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Egypt." See also U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting, March 4, 2009*, section 4i.

¹²⁶⁸ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting, March 4, 2009*, section 4e.

¹²⁶⁹ *Ibid.*, section 3c.

¹²⁷⁰ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting, January 22, 2009*, para 7.

¹²⁷¹ *Ibid.*

¹²⁷² U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting, September 1, 2004*, para 7. See also U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting, September 12, 2005*, 12. See also Abu Gazaleh, Bulbul, and Najium, *Gender, Education and Child Labour in Egypt*, 54. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Egypt," section 6d.

¹²⁷³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Egypt," section 6d.

¹²⁷⁴ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting, February 28, 2008*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Egypt," section 6d.

¹²⁷⁵ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting, January 22, 2009*, para 6. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Egypt."

¹²⁷⁶ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting, March 4, 2009*, section 4l.

¹²⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, section 2b.

¹²⁷⁸ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting, June 10, 2008*.

¹²⁷⁹ U.S. Embassy- Cairo, *reporting, March 4, 2009*, section 2a.

¹²⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, section 4e.

¹²⁸¹ *Ibid.*, section 2b.

¹²⁸² *Ibid.*

¹²⁸³ WFP, *Combating Exploitative Child Labor through Education in Egypt*, Technical Progress Report, Cairo, August 31, 2008, 2-3.

¹²⁸⁴ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, USDOL official E-mail communication to, December 9, 2008.

El Salvador

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In El Salvador, children work more often in rural areas than in urban areas.¹²⁸⁵ They work in sugarcane and coffee harvesting, fishing, and mollusk extraction. They also work in the production of fireworks, garments, and garbage scavenging.¹²⁸⁶ Girls work as domestic servants in third-party homes and as street vendors. Some working children assist with family-operated businesses.¹²⁸⁷ Boys are more likely to be paid for their work than girls.¹²⁸⁸

Commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of children, especially of girls, is a problem. El Salvador is reported to be a transit point for girls trafficked internationally.¹²⁸⁹ Some children are trafficked internally from poor areas to urban areas for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation. At-risk groups include girls, children, and adolescents without formal education from poor areas.¹²⁹⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years. Children who have reached 12 years

may be allowed to perform light work if it does not hinder school attendance, health, or personal development.¹²⁹¹ There are also exceptions for artistic performances. Children under 16 years are prohibited from working more than 6 hours per day, 34 hours per week, or 2 hours overtime in one day.¹²⁹² Children under 18 years are prohibited from working at night and are required to have a physical exam to determine whether they are capable of performing a particular job. Employers who hire children must maintain a child labor registry.¹²⁹³ Hazardous or unhealthy work is prohibited for all minors under age 18, including such activities as cutting or sawing; work underground; work with explosives or toxic materials; in construction, mines, or quarries; at sea; or in bars, pool halls, and similar establishments.¹²⁹⁴

Forced labor is prohibited, except in cases of public emergency and in particular cases established by law.¹²⁹⁵ The minimum age for compulsory military service is 18 years. With parental consent, children between 16 and 18 years may volunteer for military service.¹²⁹⁶ The law prohibits trafficking in persons. Criminal

penalties for trafficking range from 4 to 8 years of imprisonment, and might increase by 1 to 3 years if the victim is under 18 years.¹²⁹⁷ The law provides for penalties of 3 to 8 years of imprisonment for the inducement, facilitation, or promotion of sexual acts with a person under age 18.¹²⁹⁸ Forced prostitution of a minor incurs penalties of 8 to 12 years in prison. Production and distribution of child pornography carries penalties of 6 to 12 years of imprisonment.¹²⁹⁹

MTPS reported conducting 608 labor inspections in coffee and sugar plantations, in fireworks factories, and in the fishing and mollusks industry.¹³⁰² However, the Ministry did not report on the number of children found.¹³⁰³ The National Committee against Trafficking in Persons comprises 12 government agencies that are responsible for combating trafficking, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs chairs it. Ten national government agencies, along with the Government of San Salvador, the Community Development Board of the municipalities of Morazan and San Miguel, the National Coordinating Committee of Women in El Salvador (CONAMUS), and the Intervida Foundation are part of the National Roundtable to Combat the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, which coordinates efforts to address this issue.¹³⁰⁴

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

During the reporting period, the Salvadoran Government continued to implement its National Plan for the Eradication of the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2006-2009). In collaboration with NGOs, the Government carried out several initiatives to combat child labor, including an initiative with the Spanish NGO Intervida aimed at withdrawing 500 children from working in agriculture in the departments of San Vicente, La Paz, and Usulután.¹³⁰⁵ The Government launched the National Policy to Combat Trafficking in Persons and the National Strategic Plan to Combat Trafficking in People (2008-2012).¹³⁰⁶ The National Policy aims to eradicate trafficking in people by establishing strategic areas of intervention such as prevention and combating of trafficking in persons, assistance and protection to victims of trafficking, reviewing and updating legislation to combat trafficking in persons, and monitoring and evaluation of government agencies' performance to combat trafficking in people.¹³⁰⁷ The National Strategic Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons seeks to develop a framework for government agencies to combat trafficking and coordinate efforts under the strategic areas of intervention set up by the National Policy.¹³⁰⁸ The Government of El Salvador, along with the Government of San Salvador, the Community Development Board of

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor¹³⁰⁰</i>	
Population, children, 5-14 years, 2003:	1,598,487
Working children, 5-14 years (%), 2003:	10.2
Working boys, 5-14 years (%), 2003:	13.7
Working girls, 5-14 years (%), 2003:	6.5
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%), 2003:	
- Agriculture	51.2
- Manufacturing	12.4
- Services	35.3
- Other	1.1
Minimum age for work:	14
Compulsory education age:	15
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	117.8
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	92
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 2003:	80.4
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2006:	73.7
ILO Convention 138:	1/23/1996
ILO Convention 182:	10/12/2000
CRC:	7/10/1990
CRCOPAC:	4/18/2002
CRCOPSC:	5/17/2004
Palermo:	3/18/2004
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

*In practice, must pay for various school expenses

Enforcement of child labor laws is the responsibility of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MTPS). The Ministry has a monitoring unit for the eradication of child labor that verifies whether children are engaged in the worst forms of child labor and provides information to the labor inspections unit, which investigates child labor cases.¹³⁰¹ It has 159 labor inspectors, but none exclusively cover child labor cases. In 2008,

Morazan and San Miguel, CONAMUS, and Intervida Foundation, agreed to maintain the National Round-Table to Combat the Sexual Exploitation of Children through 2012.¹³⁰⁹

The Ministry of Education set up an online database that provides information about working children, broken down and mapped by school. It published educational materials that include information about child labor, and it conducted awareness-raising activities.¹³¹⁰ Under its initiative to provide health services to poor families in rural areas, the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare gathers information on child labor through the family health cards that those families receive.¹³¹¹

During the reporting period, the Ministry of Labor and Social Security consolidated its child labor efforts at the local and regional levels by designating an official to coordinate child labor activities. In partnership with ILO-IPEC, the Ministry conducted the workshop “Developing a Road Map to Make Central America, Panama, and the Dominican Republic a Child-Labor Free Zone.” Government officials and representatives from trade unions, employers, and NGOs participated in this event.¹³¹² Red Solidaria, the Government of El Salvador conditional cash transfer program, conducted child labor awareness-raising among program beneficiaries, using materials designed by ILO-IPEC and published by UNICEF. The Attorney General’s Office published a guide on how to prosecute cases of human trafficking, including trafficking of children.¹³¹³ Beginning in 2008, the National Household Survey includes questions about child labor. The Government of El Salvador supported the Huellas Foundation in assisting child victims of trafficking during the reporting period.¹³¹⁴

The Government of El Salvador continues to collaborate in an 8-year, USD 7.4 million project that supports El Salvador’s National Timebound Program to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in fishing, sugarcane harvesting, commercial sexual exploitation, and garbage-dump scavenging, funded by USDOL and implemented by ILO-IPEC. The project entered its second phase in 2006, aimed at withdrawing

3,210 and preventing 8,808 children from exploitive child labor.¹³¹⁵

The Government also participated in regional projects funded by USDOL, including a 7-year USD 8.8 million regional project implemented by ILO-IPEC, which concluded in April 2009 and sought to combat commercial sexual exploitation through a variety of activities, including capacity building and legal reform. The project targeted 713 children for withdrawal and 657 children for prevention from commercial sexual exploitation in Central America.¹³¹⁶ In addition, the Government participated in a USD 5.7 million 4-year child labor education project implemented by CARE that worked to strengthen the Government and civil society’s capacity to combat child labor through education. The project ended in March 2009 and withdrew and prevented 4,105 children from exploitive child labor in the region.¹³¹⁷ The activities in El Salvador for both of these projects, however, focus on strengthening legislation, policies, and institutions, and promoting regional cooperation.¹³¹⁸

The Government of El Salvador also participates in a USD 3.3 million regional project to eradicate child labor in Latin America, funded by the Government of Spain and implemented by ILO-IPEC.¹³¹⁹ In addition, IDB, Save the Children, UNODC, USAID, USDOS, and UNICEF support the Salvadoran Government’s efforts in addressing child labor, including the commercial sexual exploitation of children and trafficking in children.¹³²⁰

¹²⁸⁵ Government of El Salvador, *Plan Nacional 2006-2009 para la Erradicación de las Peores Formas de Trabajo Infantil*, Comité Nacional para la Erradicación de las Peores Formas de Trabajo Infantil, March 2006, 32; available from http://www.oit.org.pe/ipecc/documentos/plan_nacional_es.pdf. See also Government of El Salvador, *Unidad Erradicación de las Peores Formas del Trabajo Infantil*, [online] [cited March 16, 2009]; available from <http://trabajoinfantil.mtps.gob.sv/default.asp?id=3&mnu=3>. See also U.S. Embassy- San Salvador, *reporting*, June 12, 2008.

¹²⁸⁶ Government of El Salvador, *Unidad Erradicación de las Peores Formas del Trabajo Infantil*. See also Government of El Salvador, *Plan Nacional*, 32-36. See also U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2008:

El Salvador," section 6d. See also U.S. Embassy- San Salvador official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 25, 2008.

¹²⁸⁷ Human Rights Watch, *Abuses Against Child Domestic Workers in El Salvador*, Vol. 16, No. 1 (B), January 2004, 2 and 9; available from <http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/elsalvador0104.pdf>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: El Salvador," section 6d. See also Government of El Salvador, *Plan Nacional*.

¹²⁸⁸ Government of El Salvador, *Plan Nacional*, 31-32.

¹²⁸⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: El Salvador," section 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "El Salvador (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/>.

¹²⁹⁰ U.S. Embassy- San Salvador, *reporting*, February 20, 2009. See also U.S. Department of State, "El Salvador," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2008*, Washington, DC, 2008, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/index.htm>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: El Salvador."

¹²⁹¹ Government of El Salvador, *Código de Trabajo*, (June 23, 1972), article 114; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/49592/65113/S95SLV01.htm#a104>.

¹²⁹² *Ibid.*, articles 114 and 116.

¹²⁹³ *Ibid.*, articles 116 and 117.

¹²⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, articles 105-108.

¹²⁹⁵ Government of El Salvador, *Constitution*, title 2, chapter 1, section 1, article 9. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: El Salvador," section 6c.

¹²⁹⁶ Government of El Salvador, *Constitution*, article 215. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "El Salvador," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008; available from http://www.childsoldiersglobalreport.org/files/country_pdfs/FINAL_2008_Global_Report.pdf.

¹²⁹⁷ Government of El Salvador, *Decreto No. 210*, (November 25, 2003), article 24 (modified article 367b of Penal Code); available from http://www.oit.or.cr/ipsec/encuentros/documentos/sv_decreto_reforma_esci.pdf.

¹²⁹⁸ *Ibid.*, 12 (modified article 169 of Penal Code).

¹²⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, articles 14 and 18 (modified articles 170 and 173 of Penal Code).

¹³⁰⁰ 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 El Salvador, *Constitution of the Republic of El Salvador*, (1983), title 2, chapter 2, section 2, article 38; available from <http://pdba.georgetown.edu/Constitutions/ElSal/ElSal83.html>. For age to which education is

compulsory, see UNESCO, *EFA Global Monitoring Report 2008*, Paris, 2008, 278; available from <http://www.unesco.org/education/gmr2008/annexes/annex5.pdf>. For free public education, see Government of El Salvador, *Constitution*, title 2, chapter 2, section 3, article 56. See also U.S. Department of State, "El Salvador," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2008*, Washington, DC, February 25, 2009; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/index.htm>.

¹³⁰¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: El Salvador," section 6d. See also Government of El Salvador, *Unidad Erradicación de las Peores Formas del Trabajo Infantil*.

¹³⁰² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: El Salvador," section 6d.

¹³⁰³ U.S. Embassy- San Salvador, *reporting*, January 21, 2009.

¹³⁰⁴ Government of El Salvador, *Decreto No. 114*, (November 30, 2005); available from <http://www.isdemu.gob.sv/documentos/Cr%E9ase%20el%20Comit%E9%20Nacional%20contra%20la%20Trata%20de%20Personas.pdf>. See also Government of El Salvador, *Carta de Entendimiento para la Erradicación de la Explotación Sexual Comercial de los Niños y Niñas y Adolescentes*, San Salvador, November 4, 2004, 4; available from [http://www.rree.gob.sv/sitio/img.nsf/vista/UnidadSocial/\\$file/CARTA%20DE%20ENTENDIMIENTO.pdf](http://www.rree.gob.sv/sitio/img.nsf/vista/UnidadSocial/$file/CARTA%20DE%20ENTENDIMIENTO.pdf).

¹³⁰⁵ Government of El Salvador, *Plan Nacional*, 41-44. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-bound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in El Salvador*, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, September 30, 2006. See also U.S. Embassy- San Salvador, *reporting*, January 21, 2009.

¹³⁰⁶ Government of El Salvador, *Política Nacional para la Erradicación de la Trata de Personas en El Salvador*, May 2008; available from http://www.mspas.gob.sv/comunicaciones/trata_personas/pdf/politica_nacional.pdf. See also Government of El Salvador, *Plan Estratégico 2008-2012*, December 2008; available from http://www.mspas.gob.sv/comunicaciones/trata_personas/pdf/plan_estrategico.pdf.

¹³⁰⁷ Government of El Salvador, *Política Nacional para la Erradicación de la Trata de Personas en El Salvador*, 13.

¹³⁰⁸ Government of El Salvador, *Plan Estratégico 2008-2012*, 12-13.

¹³⁰⁹ Government of El Salvador, *Prórroga a la Carta de Entendimiento para la Erradicación de la Explotación Sexual Comercial de los Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes*, San Salvador, November 5, 2008.

¹³¹⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-bound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in El Salvador*, Technical Progress Report, March 30, 2008, 4. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-bound*

Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in El Salvador, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, September 6, 2007, 11-13. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: El Salvador," section 6d.

¹³¹¹ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-bound Programme*, Technical Progress Report, March 2008, 4.

¹³¹² Ibid. See also ILO-IPEC San Salvador and Geneva officials, Interview with USDOL officials, January 29, 2009. See also Ministry of Labor, *Ministerio de Trabajo y el Programa IPEC/OIT Desarrollaron Taller "Desarrollo para Hacer de Centroamérica, Panamá, y República Dominicana una Zona Libre de Trabajo Infantil"*, March 26, 2009; available from <http://www.mtps.gob.sv/default.asp?id=1&ACT=5&content=433&mnu=1>.

¹³¹³ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-bound Programme*, Technical Progress Report, March 2008, 4. See also ILO-IPEC San Salvador and Geneva officials, Interview, January 29, 2009. See also Government of El Salvador, *Protocolo de Capacitación a las Familias Beneficiarias del Programa Red Solidaria*, 2008. See also Government of El Salvador, *Módulo de Capacitación Niñas y Niños en Riesgo - Trabajo Infantil*, 2008.

¹³¹⁴ ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-bound Programme*, Technical Progress Report, March 2008, 4. See also ILO-IPEC San Salvador and Geneva officials, Interview, January 29, 2009. CARE International, *Primero Aprendo Project: Combating Exploitative Child Labor through Education in Central America and Dominican Republic*, Technical Progress Report, September 19, 2008, 3. See also UNODC, *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, February 2009, 144; available from http://www.unodc.org/documents/Global_Report_on_TIP.pdf.

¹³¹⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Worst Forms of Child Labour in El Salvador 2002-2005*, Project Document, Geneva, July 2001. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Time-bound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in El Salvador - Phase II*, Project Document, Geneva, September 30, 2006.

¹³¹⁶ ILO-IPEC, "Stop the Exploitation" ("Alto a la explotación") *Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic*, Project Document, RLA/02/P51/USA, San Jose, April

2002, 26. See also ILO-IPEC, *Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic*, Project Addendum, RLA/05/P52/USA, Geneva, September 2005, 22, 34, 41.

¹³¹⁷ CARE International, *Primero Aprendo Project: Combating Exploitative Child Labor through Education in Central America and the Dominican Republic*, Project Revision, September 29, 2006. See also CARE International, *Primero Aprendo Project: Combating Exploitative Child Labor through Education in Central America and the Dominican Republic*, Project Revision, April 19, 2007, 1-2.

¹³¹⁸ CARE International, *Primero Aprendo Project: Combating Exploitative Child Labor through Education in Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) and the Dominican Republic*, Project Document, August 16, 2004, 5. See also ILO-IPEC, "Stop the Exploitation" ("Alto a la explotación") *Contribution to the Prevention and Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic* Project Document, 26. See also ILO-IPEC, *Elimination of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children*, Project Addendum, 34.

¹³¹⁹ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 18, 2008. See also ILO, *IPEC Action Against Child Labour 2008: Highlights*, 2009, 56; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ipecinfor/product/viewProduct.do?productId=9471>.

¹³²⁰ Commission for Women, Children, Youth, and Family, *I Plan de Trabajo Regional de la Comisión para Apoyar la Prevención y Eliminación de la Trata de Personas y la Explotación Sexual Comercial de Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes (2008-2010)*, Central American Parliament, July 2008, 12-13. See also U.S. Embassy- San Salvador, *reporting, January 21, 2009*. See also U.S. Department of State, *U.S. Government Funds Obligated in Fiscal Year 2007 for Anti-Trafficking in Persons Projects*, February 26, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/101295.htm>.