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¹³⁵¹ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Eritrea," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008, 138; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/regions/country?id=66>. See also Amnesty International, *Eritrea: 'You Have No Right to Ask' - Government Resists Scrutiny on Human Rights*, AFR 64/003/2004, Amnesty International, London, May 2004, 25 and 27.

¹³⁵² U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting, February 18, 2009*, para 3A.

¹³⁵³ Government of Eritrea, *The Transitional Eritrean Penal Code*, (1991), articles 605-607. See also Hanibal Goitom, *Eritrea: Child Labor*, Law Library of Congress, February 2008, 3. See also U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting, February 18, 2009*, para 2B. See also U.S.

Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Eritrea," section 5.

¹³⁵⁴ U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting, February 18, 2009*, para 5D. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Eritrea," section 6d.

¹³⁵⁵ U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting, February 18, 2009*, para 19. See also U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting, October 9, 2008*, para 8.

¹³⁵⁶ U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting, October 9, 2008*, para 8.

¹³⁵⁷ UNODC, *Ongoing Projects in Eastern Africa*, [online] December 16, 2008 [cited February 9, 2009]; available from <http://www.unodc.org/easternafrika/en/about-unodc-eastern-africa/ongoing-projects.html>. See also UNODC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, April 2, 2009. See also UNODC and EAPCCO, *Regional Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking in Eastern Africa*, Addis Ababa, August 2008.

Ethiopia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Ethiopia, most children work for their families without pay.¹³⁵⁸ The number of working children is highest in Amhara, Oromiya, Tigray, and Southern Nation, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNPR).¹³⁵⁹ In both rural and urban areas, children often begin working at young ages, with many starting work at 5 years.¹³⁶⁰ The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) has indicated that 2 out of 5 working children in Ethiopia are under 6 years.¹³⁶¹ In rural areas, children work primarily in family-based agriculture¹³⁶² and commercial agriculture.¹³⁶³ Children are known to work in tea, coffee, sugarcane, and cotton production. Children work long hours for low wages on cotton plantations, where they are exposed to environmental toxins, snakes, and disease.¹³⁶⁴

Children in rural areas also work in domestic service.¹³⁶⁵ Children, especially boys, engage in activities such as cattle herding, petty trading, plowing, harvesting, and weeding, while other children, mostly girls, collect firewood and water.¹³⁶⁶ Children also work in illegal gold mining.¹³⁶⁷

Children in urban areas work in construction and manufacturing.¹³⁶⁸ They manufacture clothes and other woven items, shoes, and textiles.¹³⁶⁹ They also work shining shoes, tailoring, portering, leading customers into taxis, and trading, as well as animal herding, which is a common activity both in Ethiopia's urban and rural areas.¹³⁷⁰ As in rural areas, in Addis Ababa, many children, mostly girls, work in domestic service.¹³⁷¹ Child domestics work long hours and are vulnerable to sexual abuse by male employers. Many are unable to attend school and are unpaid, receiving only room and board.¹³⁷² There are a number of street children in Ethiopia, some of whom work in the informal sector.¹³⁷³

The commercial sexual exploitation of children continues to be a problem in Ethiopia, especially in urban areas.¹³⁷⁴ Young girls, some as young as 11 years, have been recruited to work in brothels, where they are sought by customers who believe them to be free of sexually transmitted infections. Girls are also exploited in prostitution at hotels, bars, rural truck stops, and in resort towns.¹³⁷⁵ Girls have also been forcibly sexually exploited by their teachers in exchange for favors, such as better grades.¹³⁷⁶

**Selected Statistics and Indicators
on Child Labor¹³⁷⁷**

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Population, children, 5-14 years, 2005: | 17,722,972 |
| Working children, 5-14 years (%), 2005: | 50.1 |
| Working boys, 5-14 years (%), 2005: | 58.1 |
| Working girls, 5-14 years (%), 2005: | 41.6 |
| Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%), 2005: | |
| - Agriculture | 95.2 |
| - Manufacturing | 1.3 |
| - Services | 3.4 |
| - Other | 0.2 |
| Minimum age for work: | 14 |
| Compulsory education age: | Not compulsory |
| Free public education: | Yes* |
| Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2007: | 90.8 |
| Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2007: | 71.4 |
| School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 2005: | 29.2 |
| Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2006: | 64.4 |
| ILO Convention 138: | 5/27/1999 |
| ILO Convention 182: | 9/2/2003 |
| CRC: | 5/14/1991** |
| CRCOPAC: | No |
| CRCOPSC: | No |
| Palermo: | No |
| ILO-IPEC participating country: | Associated |

*In practice, must pay for various school expenses

**Accession

Within Ethiopia, children are trafficked from Oromiya and SNNPR to other regions for forced or bonded labor in domestic service.¹³⁷⁸ Children are also trafficked from rural to urban areas for commercial sexual exploitation and street vending.¹³⁷⁹ Further, children are trafficked from rural areas to Addis Ababa to work in the weaving industry. Some reports indicate that children in the weaving industry in Addis Ababa face starvation, confinement, physical violence, and long hours of work.¹³⁸⁰

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.¹³⁸¹ The law forbids employers from using “young workers,” defined as children 14 to 18 years, when the nature of the job or the conditions under which it is carried out might endanger the life or health of a child.¹³⁸² Young workers are prohibited from working more than 7 hours per day, or between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., during weekly rest days, and on public holidays.¹³⁸³ Violations of the provisions related to young workers are punishable by a fine.¹³⁸⁴

Children are prohibited from engaging in occupations designated as the worst forms of child labor, such as transporting goods or passengers by road, rail, air, and in international waters; lifting, pushing, or pulling heavy items; working in connection with electrical power plants; engaging in work underground, including in mines and quarries; working in sewers and digging tunnels; working in construction on high scaffolding; working in conditions involving exposure to extreme temperatures; working in night clubs and hotels; working with metal; working with wood using electrical machinery; and mixing noxious chemicals.¹³⁸⁵

The law prohibits the compulsory or forced labor of children.¹³⁸⁶ The law also prohibits child rape; in cases where victims are under 17 years of age, it is punishable by up to 15 years in prison.¹³⁸⁷ The law prohibits all forms of human trafficking for forced labor and sexual exploitation.¹³⁸⁸ Trafficking children for labor or prostitution carries a penalty of 3 to 20 years of imprisonment and a fine.¹³⁸⁹ The minimum age for conscription and voluntary recruitment into the military is 18 years.¹³⁹⁰

MOLSA’s Occupational Safety, Health, and Working Conditions Department employs a staff of 82 individuals charged with enforcing child labor laws in industrial enterprises.¹³⁹¹ In addition, police departments in Addis Ababa, Amhara, Oromiya, SNNPR, and Diredawa have

special Child Protection Units that work to address the worst forms of child labor, including child trafficking.¹³⁹² According to USDOS, the Government's efforts to enforce the minimum age law have not been effective,¹³⁹³ and its capacity to prosecute cases of trafficking is limited.¹³⁹⁴

Current Government Efforts to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Ethiopia has integrated child labor issues into its Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP).¹³⁹⁵ The Government continues to implement its National Plan of Action on Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (2006-2010), which outlines targets for reducing the commercial sexual exploitation of children.¹³⁹⁶

The Government of Ethiopia continued to participate in the 4-year Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) project, which was funded by USDOL at USD 14.5 million and World Vision at USD 5.8 million through March 2009. Implemented by World Vision, in partnership with the International Rescue Committee and the Academy for Educational Development, the project withdrew and prevented a total of 32,823 children from exploitive labor in HIV/AIDS-affected areas of these four countries through the provision of educational services.¹³⁹⁷ The Government also took part in Canada-funded child labor survey activities, implemented by ILO-IPEC through March 2008.¹³⁹⁸

The Government of Ethiopia continued to participate in the 2-year, USD 460,000 regional anti-trafficking technical assistance project implemented by the UNODC's Regional Office for Eastern Africa and funded by Norway and Sweden. The project aims to bolster coordination among the 11 countries involved through the Regional Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking in Eastern Africa and harmonize national legislation in line with the Palermo Protocol.¹³⁹⁹

The IOM, in collaboration with two local NGOs—the Addis Ababa Merkato CPU and Integration of Female Street Children—provides assistance with basic needs to child trafficking victims, including

shelter, counseling, and medical treatment. The police run a similar program for child trafficking victims in one town in the Amhara region without any foreign assistance.¹⁴⁰⁰

In Addis Ababa police stations, Child Protection Units (CPUs) rescued children who had been trafficked and referred them to the IOM and NGOs for care pending their return home. The CPUs also collected data on rescued children to facilitate their reunification with their families, and the local police and administrators helped repatriate these children to their home regions.¹⁴⁰¹ The police use a manual that focuses on educating police officers on the rights and protection of children, including domestic trafficking of children.¹⁴⁰² From January to November 2008, these CPUs reunited 1,180 trafficked children with their families.¹⁴⁰³

¹³⁵⁸ Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, Understanding Children's Work Rome, July 2006, 9; available from <http://www.ucw-project.org/pdf/publications/Youthethiopia.pdf>.

¹³⁵⁹ Tassew Woldehanna, Bekele Tefera, Nicola Jones, and Alebel Bayrau, *Child Labour, Gender Inequality and Rural/Urban Disparities: How Can Ethiopia's National Development Strategies be Revised to Address Negative Spill-over Impacts on Child Education and Wellbeing?*, Working Paper No. 20, London, 2005, 15-17; available from <http://www.savethechildren.org/uk/younglives/data/publications/pdfs/WP20Labour.pdf> [hard copy on file].

¹³⁶⁰ Ibid. See also Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, 6.

¹³⁶¹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Ethiopia," section 5.

¹³⁶² Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio C Rosati, *Child Labor and Youth Employment: Ethiopia Country Study*, The Understanding Children's Work Project, Rome, July 2006.

¹³⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Ethiopia," section 6d.

¹³⁶⁴ U.S. Embassy- Addis Ababa, *reporting*, June 12, 2008 paras 3 and 4.

¹³⁶⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Ethiopia," section 6d.

¹³⁶⁶ Tassew Woldehanna, Bekele Tefera, Nicola Jones, and Alebel Bayrau, *Child Labour, Gender Inequality, and Rural/Urban Disparities: Ethiopia*, 15-17, 30. See also Sonia Bhalotra, *Child Labour in Africa*, OECD Social,

Employment and Migration Working Papers, Paris: OECD, April 28, 2003, 48-49; available from <http://www.oecd.org/cataoecd/28/21/2955692.pdf> [hard copy on file]. See also Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, 6-7.

¹³⁶⁷ U.S. Embassy- Addis Ababa, *reporting, June 12, 2008*, para 3.

¹³⁶⁸ Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, 11.

¹³⁶⁹ U.S. Embassy- Addis Ababa, *reporting, June 12, 2008*, paras 3 and 4.

¹³⁷⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Ethiopia," section 6d.

¹³⁷¹ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Ethiopia: Child Domestic Work Rampant in Addis Ababa", IRINnews.org, [online], June 16, 2004 [cited March 4, 2009]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=50255>.

¹³⁷² Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Ethiopia," sections 5 and 6d.

¹³⁷³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Ethiopia," section 6d.

¹³⁷⁴ Ibid. See also Addis Ababa City Administrative Social and NGO Affairs Office, Save the Children Denmark, and ANPPCAN-Ethiopia Chapter, *Study on the Worst Forms of Child Labour With Special Focus on Child Prostitution- in Addis Ababa*, Addis Ababa, June 2003, 3; available from http://www.redbarnet.dk/Files/Filer/sexuelt_misbrug/ChildProstitutionStudy.doc [hard copy on file]. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Ethiopia*, accessed February 4, 2009; available from http://www.ecpat.net/EI/Csec_onlineDatabase.asp.

¹³⁷⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Ethiopia," section 6d.

¹³⁷⁶ ECPAT International, *Global Monitoring Report on the Status of Action Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: Ethiopia*, Bangkok, 2007; available from http://www.ecpat.net/A4A_2005/PDF/AF/Global_Monitoring_Report-ETHIOPIA.pdf.

¹³⁷⁷ 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 Ethiopia, *Labour Proclamation* (January 20, 1993), chapter II, section 89, article 2; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/31977/64870/E93ETH10.htm>. For age to which education is compulsory and free public education, see U.S. Department of State, "Ethiopia," 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>. See

also Andrew Heavens, "In Ethiopia, Better Education for a Better Future", Ethiopia, June 15, 2006 [cited March 4, 2009]; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/ethiopia_34570.html?q=printme.

¹³⁷⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Ethiopia," section 6d.

¹³⁷⁹ Ibid. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Ethiopia: Campaign Launched Against Child Trafficking", IRINnews.org, [previously online], October 20, 2005 [cited July 7, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=49655> [hard copy on file]. See also IOM, *Trafficking in East and Horn of Africa- At a Glance*, Fact Sheet, 2007.

¹³⁸⁰ World Vision, *Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET)*, Technical Progress Report, September 29, 2008, Section II.B, part 3. See also "Poverty Hits Hard on Ethiopia's Vulnerable Kids," *Angola Press News*, October 21, 2005; available from <http://www.angolapress-angop.ao/noticia-e.asp?ID=385126> [hard copy on file]. See also U.S. Embassy- Addis Ababa, *reporting, June 12, 2008*, paras 3 and 4.

¹³⁸¹ Government of Ethiopia, *Labour Proclamation*, chapter II, section 89, article 2.

¹³⁸² Ibid., chapter II, section 89, articles 1, 3, 4. See also Government of Ethiopia, *The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia*, (December 8, 1994), article 36.

¹³⁸³ Government of Ethiopia, *Labour Proclamation*, chapter II, sections 90 and 91.

¹³⁸⁴ Ibid., part XII, chapter I, section 185.

¹³⁸⁵ Government of Ethiopia, *Information and Measures Taken on Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour in Ethiopia*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (December 19, 2008) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, DC, January 21, 2009, 2-3. See also U.S. Embassy- Addis Ababa, *reporting, June 12, 2008*, para 3. See also Government of Ethiopia, *Labour Proclamation*, chapter II, section 89, articles 1, 3, 4.

¹³⁸⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Ethiopia," section 6c.

¹³⁸⁷ U.S. Embassy- Addis Ababa, *reporting, February 13, 2009*.

¹³⁸⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Ethiopia (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/>. See also Government of Ethiopia, *Information on Eliminating the WFCL in Ethiopia*, 2.

¹³⁸⁹ Government of Ethiopia, *Information on Eliminating the WFCL in Ethiopia*, 3.

¹³⁹⁰ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Ethiopia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London,

2008, 141-142; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/library/global-reports>

¹³⁹¹ Government of Ethiopia, *Information on Eliminating the WFCL in Ethiopia*, 3.

¹³⁹² *Ibid.*, 4. See also U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Ethiopia."

¹³⁹³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Ethiopia," section 6d.

¹³⁹⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Ethiopia."

¹³⁹⁵ Government of Ethiopia, *Information on Eliminating the WFCL in Ethiopia*, 4.

¹³⁹⁶ ECPAT International, *Global Monitoring Report on Status of Anti-CSEC Efforts: Ethiopia*, 14-15. See also Government of Ethiopia, *Written Replies by the Government of Ethiopia Concerning the List of Issues (CRC/C/ETH/Q/3) Received by the Committee on the Rights of the Child Relating to the Third Periodic Report of Ethiopia (CRC/C/ETH/3)*, August 25, 2006, section 10; available from <http://tb.ohchr.org/default.aspx>.

¹³⁹⁷ World Vision, *Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) Initiative*, Project Document,

Washington, DC, July 18, 2005, i, 2, 7, 9, 15-16. See also World Vision, *KURET September 2008 TPR* cover. See also World Vision official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 6, 2008, Revised TPR, 44.

¹³⁹⁸ ILO-IPEC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 18, 2008.

¹³⁹⁹ UNODC, *Ongoing Projects in Eastern Africa*, [online] [cited April 2, 2009]; available from <http://www.unodc.org/easternafrika/en/about-unodc-eastern-africa/ongoing-projects.html>. See also UNODC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, April 2, 2009. See also UNODC and EAPCCO, *Regional Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking in Eastern Africa*, Addis Ababa, August 2008.

¹⁴⁰⁰ U.S. Embassy- Addis Ababa, *reporting, February 13, 2009*, para C5.

¹⁴⁰¹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008: Ethiopia."

¹⁴⁰² U.S. Embassy - Addis Ababa, E-mail communication to USDOL official, July 15, 2009.

¹⁴⁰³ U.S. Embassy- Addis Ababa, *reporting, February 13, 2009*, para E8.

Fiji

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work in agriculture in Fiji, including on tobacco and sugar farms.¹⁴⁰⁴ Children also work in the informal sector, in family businesses, and on the streets, selling snacks, shining shoes, and delivering goods.¹⁴⁰⁵ Children are exploited through prostitution, pornography, and sex tourism.¹⁴⁰⁶ Children are also trafficked within Fiji for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation by Fiji citizens.¹⁴⁰⁷

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets a minimum age for work of 15 years.¹⁴⁰⁸ Children from 13 to 15 years of age may perform "light work" or work with family members or communal or religious group members, provided it is not harmful to their health or development and does not adversely affect their schooling.¹⁴⁰⁹ The law prohibits all children under 18 years of age from working during school hours or for periods prejudicial to their education, except when the employment is

an apprenticeship lawfully entered into by contract.¹⁴¹⁰ Children may not be employed for more than 8 hours a day and must be given 30 minutes of paid rest for every continuous 4 hours worked.¹⁴¹¹ Children may be employed at night under conditions prescribed by the Minister.¹⁴¹²

Children may not work underground in a mine, and the Minister may, after consulting with the National Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Board, declare any employment or workplace unsuitable for children.¹⁴¹³ This may include environments where children work with machinery, hazardous substances, drive motor vehicles, or perform heavy physical labor.¹⁴¹⁴ Employers of children must keep a register of their employment, including ages, dates of employment, and conditions and nature of employment, maintained separate from other registers and available for inspection.¹⁴¹⁵ Individuals who violate the law are subject to fines, imprisonment of up to 2 years, or both, and companies, corporations, or trade unions are