



International
Labour
Organization



The World Day Against Child Labour 2009

Give girls a chance: End child labour

The International Labour Organization (ILO) and World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) share a common commitment to pursuing social justice and peace, empowering young people through human rights-based educational programmes and promoting the social dimension of globalisation. Our long-standing partnership was recently strengthened through a renewed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) extending our cooperation in the fight against child labour, earlier this year. You can find a copy of this MoU on WOSM's web-site (link below).

Over the last three years, the enthusiastic participation of young people in jointly planned ILO-WOSM initiatives and events has created a great deal of local and global interest and led to the development of new networks involving IPEC field offices and National Scout Organizations. Seminars and projects led by Scouts and leaders for 'Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media – (SCREAM)', and involving university students, mayors, governments and workers' representatives, have been conducted in many locations around the world, notably in Columbia, Egypt, Kenya, Ukraine, Russia and Zambia. These initiatives have offered young people the opportunity to gain knowledge and take action on important global issues.

This year, the World Day Against Child Labour (WDAKL) on 12 June marks the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the landmark ILO Convention No. 182, which called for urgent action to abolish the worst forms of child labour. While celebrating progress made during the past ten years, the World Day will highlight the continuing challenges, with a focus on the exploitation of girls in child labour. Around the world, an estimated 100 million girls are involved in child labour. Many of these girls undertake similar types of work as boys, but often also endure additional hardships and face extra risks. Moreover, girls are too often exposed to some of the worst forms of child labour, often in hidden work situations.

As we approach the World Day, we encourage both WOSM (NSOs) and ILO/IPEC staff in the field to work together, organize a meeting and discuss potential joint activities and events, such as theatre or music performances, exhibits of photos and artwork, that could serve to raise awareness on child labour both on and beyond 12 June. We would be grateful if you could disseminate this message to all those concerned. As in previous years, the ILO has prepared and translated World Day materials, which this year include a youth orientated version of ILO Convention No. 182 which can be used with Scout groups to focus on the theme of the World Day. You can find activities, leaflets, FAQs, presentations and other useful promotional materials with information on this year's theme '**Give girls a chance – End Child Labour**' and highlights on the situation of girls, to use them in your activities. These resources are available (in English, French and Spanish) on the World Day 2009 section of the ILO website:

<http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Campaignandadvocacy/WDAKL/WorldDay2009/lang--en/index.htm>

You can download the MoU between WOSM and ILO from the following link:

http://www.scout.org/en/about_scouting/partners/united_nations/ilo

In relation with this year's WDACL theme, please find the link below, which gives more information on WOSMs Strategic Priority Number 3 dedicated to Gender balance in Scouting - Girls, Boys, Women and Men:

http://www.scout.org/en/about_scouting/strategy/strategic_priorities/girls_and_boys_women_and_men

The European Scout Region has also produced a useful toolkit on gender which you can download from the following link:

http://www.scout.org/en/around_the_world/europe/information_events/resources/regional_publications

We would also encourage you to use the following useful resources:

The SCREAM Education Pack, which is available in 19 languages and, together with the most recent module on HIV/AIDS and Child Labour, can be downloaded from the ILO website: www.ilo.org/scream.

The postcard on child labour “I want to cry out to the world”, which is available in 12 different languages and can easily be translated into other local languages and disseminated can be downloaded from the following link:

<http://www.ilo.org/ipecc/Campaignandadvocacy/Scream/SCREAMresources/lang--en/index.htm>

The WOSM Guidelines on Scouting for Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances – www.scout.org/reaching_out

Please find here, the new WOSM video clip on Reaching Out, commemorating the 10th anniversary of the ILO Convention 182 and the 20th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The video uses pictures of working children (courtesy: ILO) to contrast and show the positive impact of Scouting on Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances.

http://scout.org/en/information_events/media_centre/audiovisuals/video_clip_u_fund

Please also take the time to familiarise yourselves with the 12 to 12 Community Portal on Child labour - www.12to12.org. The Portal derives its name from June 12th - the WDACL - and aims to bring attention to the issue of child labour year-round, from June 12th to June 12th, until child labourers are finally given the chance to enjoy their rights as children. Please remember to upload details of your activities with any supporting materials, including drawings, stories, writings and photographs on the Portal and/or send the information to scream@ilo.org and worldbureau@scout.org so that we can disseminate this on our respective websites and, by so doing, encourage others to take action as well.

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