



What does June 12th, World Day against Child Labour MEAN?

It is a day where children all around the world including their families, governments, employers' and workers' organizations, UN agencies, humanitarian organizations and NGOs in addition to all those concerned with tackling child labour celebrate the World Day against Child Labour.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) launched the first World Day against Child Labour on **12 June 2002** to highlight the plight of these children and to focus world attention on the urgent need to eradicate child labour. It is a day to remember the children and to commemorate those who work to bring about a world without child labour.

In 2002, and as part of their joint project to eliminate child labour, ILO and International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) produced **SCREAM** (Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media). It is an education and social mobilization initiative to help educators worldwide, in formal and non-formal education settings, to cultivate young people's understanding of the causes and consequences of child labour. The pack is made up of 14 educational modules and a User's Guide in English, French, Spanish and now in Arabic. It enables young people and adults to express themselves through different forms of artistic media, raise their awareness of the problem and become partners in the social change.

Each year, a theme is dedicated for the celebration of this important event. This year, ILO proposed "**Hazardous child labour**" to provide an opportunity to gain further support of individual governments and ILO social partners, civil society and others, including schools, youth and women's groups as well as the media, in the campaign against child labour.

"On this World Day we call for policy action in three key areas; a renewed effort to ensure that all children below the minimum age of employment are in education and are not exposed to hazardous work, strengthened workplace safety and health systems for all workers, but with specific safeguards for children between the minimum age of employment and the age of 18, and that all countries, in consultation with workers' and employers' organizations, to determine the types and conditions of work to be prohibited to children below the age of 18, and to ensure that lists of such work are regularly reviewed and effective enforcement action taken." said ILO Director-General Juan Somavia.

In line with the Director general's message for 2011 World Day Against Child Labour, ILO in collaboration with IPEC issued a study entitled **"Children in hazardous work: what we know, what we need to do"** for the WDCL. The report analyzes the latest trends and estimates of children in hazardous work, and the risk to their health from such work as agriculture, mining, construction, manufacturing, domestic work and waste-picking. It looks at the issue of children in hazardous work both from a developed and developing country perspective, including the US and Europe. It calls for a renewed effort to ensure that all children are in education, at least until the minimum age of employment, and for countries to establish a hazardous work list as required by ILO child labour Conventions.

On June 27th, Egyptian children and their families, joint by ILO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP) are celebrating the 2011 World Day against Child Labour in Fayoum Governorate.

Events taking place during the day range from public and media events, awareness-raising campaigns, cultural performances and other public activities.

The SCREAM modules that will be used by the children during the day areas follows:

- The first module is 'The image' which involves a printout of images of a child labourer to be distributed among the children in each group and asked to build a profile of a child labourer on the basis of the image they have. This module helps children to think about whom the child is and what sort of environment he/she lives and works in.
- The second module is 'Collage' where children use bits of text, images and photos that have been cut out of various publications such as old newspapers and magazines to create a big picture as a way to create an image representing their creativity.
- The third module is 'Role-Play' during which the children are involved in developing a script for a theatrical play and perform the characters in the play.
- The final module that will be implemented is 'Art Competition' that involves children taking part in and/or organizing an art competition on a child labour theme to stimulate artistic expression and enhance community education and awareness.