

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL
LABOUR ORGANIZATION AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATIVE
REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOUTH-SOUTH
COOPERATION INITIATIVE TO COMBAT CHILD LABOUR**

The International Labour Organization (ILO)

and

The Federative Republic of Brazil
(hereinafter referred to as "Parties"),

Recognizing the importance to promote decent work for all as a way to reduce poverty and social inequalities and to guarantee democratic governance and sustainable development;

Considering the Agreement between the International Labour Organization and the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil on Technical Cooperation with Other Latin America and African Countries, signed in Geneva, on 29th July, 1987;

Considering ILO Convention No. 138, on the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973), and Convention No. 182, on the Worst Forms of Child Labour (1999), ratified by the Brazilian Government respectively in 2001 and 2000;

Considering the Memorandum of Understanding between the International Labour Organization and the Federative Republic of Brazil, signed by the ILO Director-General and the President of Brazil, in Geneva, on 2nd June, 2003, for the Establishment of a Technical Cooperation Programme for the Promotion of a Decent Work Agenda, launched by the Minister of Labour and Employment of Brazil, in Brasilia, in May 2006, which established the elimination of child labour, especially in its worst forms, as one of its priority;

Considering the 2005 World Summit Outcome, approved by the Resolution A/60/1, of the United Nations General Assembly, on 24th October 2005, which requests Member-States to encompass the elimination of the worst forms of child labour amongst the measures to promote decent work and full and productive employment;

Considering that in the VI Conference of Ministers and High Authorities Responsible for Children and Adolescents, held in Madrid in 2005, the countries representatives committed themselves to adopt and promote National Plans for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour with time-bound measures, and, to this end, requested cooperation from the ILO's International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO/IPEC) for their formulation, follow-up and evaluation;

Considering the targets established in the Decent Work Agenda for the American Hemisphere to eliminate the worst forms of child labour until 2015, adopted during the XVI Americas Regional Meeting, held in Brasilia, in May 2006;

Considering the Declaration of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP), in the framework of the Conference on “Combatting the Exploitation of Child Labour in the Portuguese Speaking World”, held in Lisbon, in 2006, when Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs reaffirmed the need to strengthen the exchange of experiences, the dissemination of good practices and the multilateral cooperation on the basis of reciprocity of benefits, with the support of ILO/IPEC and other national, regional, and international governmental and non-governmental organizations;

Recalling the approval by the MERCOSUR Common Market Group of the Resolution 36, in 2006, of the Working Subgroup 10 and of the Following-up Commission of the Social and Labour Declaration, which established the Regional Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in MERCOSUR;

Considering that within the objectives of the MERCOSUR Regional Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour there is one to strengthen the horizontal cooperation institutional mechanisms in order to contribute to the compliance of national and regional norms on the prevention and elimination of child labour;

Recognizing the experience and results achieved by Brazil in the prevention and elimination of child labour with the support of ILO/IPEC and other agencies of the United Nations System;

Reiterating the commitment of the ILO and of the Brazilian Government to promote South-South cooperation as one of the mechanisms for implementing the Decent Work National Agenda with a view to facilitating the dissemination of good practices and initiatives related to the prevention and elimination of child labour among developing countries;

Conscious of the possibility of widening, with ILO collaboration, the Brazilian Government initiative to support the implementation of innovative horizontal technical cooperation projects for the prevention and elimination of child labour in Angola, Mozambique and Haiti;

Considering the role that the existing regional organizations such as the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP), the India, Brazil and South Africa Initiative (IBSA), MERCOSUR and the Andean Pact, *inter alia*, may play in fostering the exchange of information and experiences among countries to prevent and eliminate child labour;

Considering joint United Nations international initiatives, such as the Global Task Force and the Education for All;

Considering the Revised Standard Agreement between the Federative Republic of Brazil and the United Nations, its Specialized Agencies and the IAEA, signed on 29th December 1964;

Considering the United Nations Convention on The Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, of 21st November 1947,

Have reached the following understanding:

Article I

Object

1. The present Memorandum of Understanding is aimed at launching the basis of the South-South Cooperation Initiative to Combat Child Labour (hereinafter referred to as "Initiative") aiming at promoting horizontal technical cooperation projects and activities, that are capable of contributing effectively to the prevention and elimination of child labour, especially in its worst forms, in accordance with the international commitments assumed by each country.

The Initiative shall constitute a cooperation mechanism for strengthening the national capacities of governments, employers and workers in the prevention and elimination of child labour by means of significative advances in sectorial policies.

3. The main objectives of the Initiative are:

- a) to create a platform for discussion between Brazil and other Latin American, Asian and African countries on child labour issues and ways to prevent and eliminate it, taking into consideration regional and sub-regional cooperation fora already established;
- b) to stimulate South-South cooperation notably in the context of existing international initiatives such as the Global Task Force and Education For All;
- c) to foster the research and exchange of information on child labour and other related issues such as youth employment, education, health and vocational training under the perspective of gender, race, ethnicity, etc;
- d) to foster the exchange of experiences and good practices in the prevention and elimination of child labour among developing countries, including conditional cash transfer programmes, labour inspection, training of health professionals, education, among others;
- e) to support the implementation of South-South cooperation projects and activities among developing countries, in partnership with the ILO/IPEC and in coordination with other UN agencies, and
- f) to endeavor to mobilize resources for implementing joint projects and activities.

4. The strategy of the Initiative should take into account the common principles and basic elements of decent work and of South-South cooperation based on the dissemination of successful experiences, good practices and lessons learnt to be replicated and adapted to local needs and realities, as well as on local ownership of the problems and ways of addressing them. This joint learning process and knowledge exchange shall be developed in the spirit of the promotion of equality, mutual support and construction of solidarity amongst Nations.

Article II
Responsibilities of the Parties

1. The Brazilian Government appoints the Brazilian Agency for Cooperation of the Ministry of External Relations (ABC/MRE) as the national institution in charge of the coordination of activities to be developed in the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding.
2. The Brazilian Government shall be responsible to:
 - a) identify and process technical cooperation requests from developing countries in matters related to child labour;
 - b) provide support for the identification and mobilization of partners, including the mobilization of financial resources;
 - c) make the technical cooperation requested available, to the extent feasible, by means of partnerships to be identified;
 - d) follow up the implementation process of the cooperation projects and activities, and
 - e) coordinate the activities of the Initiative according to the areas of cooperation and plans to be developed under the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding.
3. The activities to be developed by the Federal Republic of Brazil under this Memorandum of Understanding does not imply in any commitment of transference of financial resources by the Brazilian Government or in any other costs to the National Treasury.
4. The ILO shall appoint the Brasilia Area Office to be in charge of the coordination of the activities to be developed under the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding, in close collaboration with the ILO in Geneva, in particular its IPEC Programme and Partnership Development Department (PARDEV), and other regional, sub-regional and area offices.
5. The ILO shall be responsible to:
 - a) identify and process, through the Office in Geneva and its regional, sub-regional and area offices, the technical cooperation opportunities related to child labour issues;
 - b) provide support for the identification and mobilization of partners, including the mobilization of financial resources;
 - c) facilitate the identification and mobilization of national stakeholders to respond to technical cooperation demands received in Brazil;
 - d) follow up the implementation process of the cooperation projects and activities, through the ILO Area Office in Brasilia and other area, regional and sub-regional offices, and

- e) work in close cooperation with the Brazilian Government and with the workers' and employers' organizations in the coordination of the Initiative.

6. The Parties shall designate the official responsible in each institution for the coordination of activities to be developed under the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding. The responsible officials shall meet regularly for planning and defining the implementation of the initiatives mutually agreed upon.

Article III Operation

1. In order to allow a better implementation of the activities and guarantee a better effectiveness of the South-South cooperation projects and activities, an inventory will be developed with the experiences, good practices and lessons learnt already systematized, validated and adapted, which will be the object of the cooperation.

2. The inventory will compile information on projects and activities developed by public institutions, employers' and workers' organizations, and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs), in relation to the following cooperation areas:

- a) increasing the knowledge base;
- b) strengthening of legal and juridical aspects of the international and national labour laws and those related to the protection of children and adolescents;
- c) capacity building and human resources development;
- d) raising awareness, developing communication strategies and mobilizing social actors, and
- e) developing pilot projects on the full protection of children and adolescents involved in child labour, in particular in its worst forms.

3. The Initiative will support the following modalities of South-South cooperation, in accordance with the areas identified in the above inventory:

- a) development of studies and research;
- b) technical assistance for designing strategies for mobilization and for the strengthening institutional capacities;
- c) training of public managers and representatives of employers' and workers' organizations and of NGOs in Brazil and in other countries, having as a reference the ILO Turin International Training Centre, and the Inter-American Centre for Knowledge Development in Vocational Training of the ILO (CINTERFOR) in Montevideo;
- d) development of technical missions, and

e) assistance for the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of pilot-projects.

4. For the analysis of the cooperation to be implemented among developing countries, a detailed document shall be elaborated, which shall be based on a different legal instrument other than the present Memorandum of Understanding. The document shall contain a description of the context, justification, objectives, strategies, expected outcomes and beneficiaries, as well as an indication of the technical and financial costs.

5. The ILO and the ABC/MRE shall establish, upon common agreement, and in consultation with national stakeholders, a timeframe for the development of the necessary instruments for the operation of this Initiative.

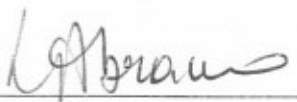
Article IV Duration

1. The present Memorandum of Understanding shall come into force on the date of its signature and shall continue to have effect for three (3) years and shall be automatically renewed for equal and successive periods, unless one of the Parties decides to terminate it.

2. The present Memorandum may be revoked in the whole or in part by the Parties in writing, with at least ninety (90) days notice, and shall not affect any actions already started.

Signed in Brasilia, on 14th December 2007, in two original copies in the English and Portuguese languages.

FOR THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR
ORGANISATION:



FOR THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC
OF BRAZIL:

