

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Time-Bound Programme

The aim of the Time-Bound Programme is to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labour within a defined period of time. The objective is to eradicate these forms of child labour within a period of 5-10 years, depending on the prevalence of child labour and its complexity in each country.

The Time-Bound Programme aims at accelerating the process of eradicating the worst forms of child labour as an entry point to eradicate all other forms of child labour. Through the Time-Bound Programme, IPEC will assist countries in identifying priorities and policy options and in mobilizing local and external resources to combat child labour within a determined period of time.

The new IPEC approach thus combines sectoral, thematic, and geographically based approaches and links action against child labour to the national development effort as a whole, including economic and social policies, from macro-economic performance to population dynamics, education and labour market policies. It is also characterized by a strong emphasis on mobilizing society, and on engaging the leadership of each country.

Indeed, the most critical element of the Time-Bound Programme is that it is activated and led by the country itself. Official commitment sets it in motion, creates the structure is

through which it will be implemented, and provides a proportion of the resources.

The implementation of the Time-Bound Programme will require:

- strong political will and a commitment to policy reforms that address the root causes of the worst forms of child labour;
- public accountability of progress made towards the implementation of national policy to combat the child labour problem;
- building innovative partnerships and synergy with governments, international organisations and financial institutions
- social mobilization and campaigns on the effects of the worst forms of child labour on children and society, and on the issues of child rights, protection and education;
- rapid response measures for prevention, withdrawal and rehabilitation of the victims of the worst forms of child labour;
- links to poverty alleviation and quality education that will blend with the policies and objectives of eliminating child labour;
- gender mainstreaming to ensure that gender inequality is recognized and addressed as a potential cause of the worst forms of child labour, as a forgotten factor when “harm to children” is determined, and as an opportunity for long-term change in the process of rehabilitation of children;
- strengthening national capacity, for ownership and as part of sustainability, to analyse, design and implement further inter-

ventions in response to changing circumstances.

The Time-Bound Programme is designed primarily to assist the ILO member states in implementing ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour. The Convention specifies standards requiring immediate action for the effective elimination of the worst forms of child labour and aims to ensure that these forms are the priority for national and international action.

1.2 Nepal: Pioneer of the Time-Bound Programme

The Time-Bound Programme is the new flagship programme of ILO/IPEC. Nepal is one of the first three countries on the globe (and the only country in Asia) selected for the development and implementation of the IPEC Time-Bound Programme for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour. Nepal pledged its commitment during the Washington Conference on “Advancing the Global Campaign Against Child Labour: Progress Made and Future Actions” in May 2000 and at the International Labour Conference in Geneva in June 2000.

According to a national sample household survey, initiated by ILO/IPEC in 1998, the number of working children aged 5 to 14 years old in Nepal is estimated at 2,596,000, which is 41.7 percent of the total population of that age group.

Correlation analysis based on district data shows that districts with a high child labour rate tend to have a high child illiteracy rate, and districts with a high poverty incidence tend to have a high child labour rate. This implies that poverty compels children to participate in

the labour force, which in turn deprives children from their right to education. Yet, this linkage between child labour, education and poverty, especially when it related to the worst forms, is very complex and there can be no short cuts or easy fixes to solve the problem.

The worst forms of child labour have been identified in a series of rapid assessments commissioned recently by the IPEC in Kathmandu. The rapid assessments estimate that there are 42,000 children working as porters transporting goods and construction materials on rugged country trails. Another estimated 17,000 Nepalese children, born into the kamaiya system of bonded labour in western Nepal, are forced to work on farms, in brick kilns, stone quarries and as domestic servants. Some 4,000 children are eking out a living as rag pickers, and 55,000 children work as domestic servants in the urban areas of Nepal. Estimates also show that 12,000 girls under the age of 18 are trafficked for labour and sexual exploitation each year.

These are alarming figures and the launching of the Time-Bound Programme comes at a very opportune moment. As stated by the Right Honourable Prime Minister during the inaugural session of the Consultation, the Time-Bound Programme offers a new ray of hope in the country’s battle against the worst forms of child labour.

During the past five years, since 1995, the IPEC programme has gained considerable experience in implementing various activities in Nepal directly relating to the elimination of child labour.

IPEC has provided support to various actions programmes, which widely covered the issues surrounding child labour and child abuse.

During the past five years more than 73 action programmes have been implemented, for the benefit of more than 13,500 children and their families. The details of the IPEC Programme are given in Box 1.

His Majesty's Government of Nepal signed a memorandum of understanding with the ILO in 1995 for extending the work of IPEC to Nepal. Nepal ratified the ILO Minimum Age

Convention No. 138 in May 1997. Based on this Convention, Nepal promulgated the "Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act" in June 2000. In addition, the government is taking initiatives to ratify the ILO Conventions on Forced Labour (No. 29), Abolition of Forced Labour (No. 105), and on Worst Forms of Child Labour (No.182). ILO/IPEC should receive due credit for placing the issue of child, their work, and their rights on the national agenda.

Box 1. International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour, Nepal

Nepal was the 11th country to implement an IPEC country programme. In February 1995 a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMG/N) and the ILO on IPEC to the effect that: "The aim of such cooperation (between HMG/N and the ILO) will be to promote conditions to enable HMG progressively prohibit, restrict and regulate child labour with a view to its ultimate elimination; and increase awareness in the national and international community of the consequences and solutions to the child labour problem."

Accordingly in May 1995, the Ministry of Labour constituted a National Steering Committee for IPEC. The main function of the Committee is to work jointly with the ILO on the nature and scope of IPEC activities to be undertaken in the context of national policy and approve the specific programmes.

A national workshop on policy and programming on child labour was jointly held by the Ministry of Labour and the ILO in August 1995 with a view to analysing the magnitude and the nature of the problem of child labour in the country, the response to the problem and the areas in which action should be initiated or strengthened to make an impact on the problem. The workshop recommended four principal areas of action:

- a. formulation of appropriate policies and programmes by the government and NGOs;
- b. review of legislation and enforcement machinery;
- c. programmes for direct intervention with child workers; and,
- d. awareness raising and community mobilisation.

Since its inception in 1995, 73 action programmes and 52 mini-programmes have been implemented through IPEC in Nepal. The programme has reached 13,500 children and 6,160 families. Including the ILO's constituents (government, employers' organization and workers' organizations), IPEC/Nepal works in partnership with 58 organisations, including non-government organisations, educational institutions, research organizations, media and district and municipal bodies.

The IPEC programmes are being implemented in 29 districts. Awareness raising, educational, capacity building, income generating and information base establishment activities have been supported. Although bonded labour (Kamaiya), carpet and trafficking have been the major sectors, activities have also focused on child domestic labourers, child porters, brick kiln and stone quarry child workers, tea estate children, children of sweeper community, children working in quartz and coal mines, etc.

On July 17, 2000, His Majesty's Government of Nepal made a landmark decision to outlaw the practice of Kamaiya who for generations have been working as bonded labourers trying to pay off debts drawn by their ancestors. The ILO has provided assistance in drafting the bill on bonded labour, which is being considered by the Parliament. Similarly, the Government had requested ILO to provide support in drafting of legislation on minimum wage in agriculture, which led to the establishment of the minimum wage in this sector. The joint ILO-IPEC/Declaration project on bonded labour will provide effective assistance for the sustainable elimination of this worst form of child labour.

The ILO continues to provide assistance to the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare in drafting a National Plan of Action to combat trafficking in women and children for sexual exploitation. The Nepalese Government is at present considering enacting a bill regarding the "Prevention of Trafficking in Women and Children". IPEC is also providing support to the Ministry of Labour in formulating a Master Plan of Action for 2001 – 2010, which will aim at eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2005 and all forms of child labour by 2010 based on ILO Conventions 29, 105, 138 and 182.

In addition, IPEC in Nepal has been entrusted to implement a number of sub-regional and inter-regional programmes on child labour such as: Italian Social Partners' Initiative on Child Labour, Sub-Regional Programme to Combat Trafficking in Children supported by US-DOL and Mobilising Teachers and Educators Programme supported by the Government of Norway.

Nepal ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Child (1989) on 14 September 1990. Furthermore, Nepal endorsed the Declaration of the World Summit for Children held at the United Nations in September 1990. As a member of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Nepal has also signed the Colombo Resolution (1992) and the Rawalpindi Resolution (1996) for the progres-

sive and accelerated elimination of worst and hazardous forms of child labour by 2010. The SAARC summit in 1997 expressed grave concern at the trafficking of children within and between the countries.

Some of the legal provision in the Nepalese Constitutions and Acts are given in Box 2.

Box 2 Nepalese Perspective: Legal Provisions

The Constitution of Nepal (1990) seeks to protect the interest of children by conferring on them certain fundamental rights and imposing certain duties of the state in the form of the “directive principles and policies of the State”. Special provisions may be made by law for the protection and advancement of the interests of children. The State shall make necessary arrangements to safeguard the rights and interests of children and shall ensure that they are not exploited and shall make gradual arrangements for free education.

The Labour Act 1992 and the Labour Rules 1993 contain specific provisions for the prohibition of employment of children below the age of 14 years. The Children’s Act was enacted in 1992 to protect the rights and interests of children and to ensure their physical, mental and intellectual development. It also contains a number of provisions on child labour and it has recently been amended to make the Act more abuse specific especially in relation to sexual abuse against girl and boy children.

The District Development Committee Act (1992), the Village Development Committee Act (1992) and Municipality Act (1992) requires that priority be given to income and skill oriented programmes for children in formulation of local level plans. The Municipality Act includes responsibility for providing compulsorily education for children aged between six and ten years old.

Other legal provisions restricting child labour and trafficking in the country include: Citizen Rights Act (1955), Begging Prohibition Act (1962), Prison Act (1962), Common Law Code (1963), the Foreign Employment Act (1985), the Flesh Trafficking Control Act (1986), etc.

Since the Seventh Plan (1985-1990), HMG/N has included issues of child development in its five-year plans. The Eighth Plan (1992–1997) encouraged NGOs to disseminate information on children living in very difficult conditions. The Ninth Plan (1997–2002) gives high priority to child development issues and towards the elimination of child labour in Nepal.

In addition HMG/N has formed a number of commissions and bodies, namely the Child and Women Development Section in the National Planning Commission and the Central Child Welfare Committee under the coordination of the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare. Under the coordination of the Chief District Officer, District Child Welfare Boards have been set up at the district level. These agencies are responsible for coordinating policy planning and formulating action programmes related to child welfare, development and rehabilitation of children working in difficult situations.

2. National Stakeholder Consultation

2.1 Introduction

The three-day National Stakeholder Consultation was organized by the International Labour Organization's (ILO) International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) in Kathmandu from 8 to 10 May 2001. The Right Honourable Prime Minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala, inaugurated the National Stakeholder Consultation.

The overall strategic objectives of the National Stakeholder Consultation were:

- a. to build national ownership of the time-bound programme,
- b. to enlist political and technical support of national and international organisations in the development of the time-bound programme,

- c. to identify priority target groups and target areas for the implementation of the Time-Bound Programme
- d. to prioritise effective and practical strategies for the time-bound programme,

The Consultation was actively participated by Honourable Ministers, Honourable Members of Parliament and the National Planning Commission, HMG/N Secretaries, as well as representatives of the employers' and workers' organizations, educational institutions, NGOs, financial institutions, police, and the media. The participants included Chairpersons of the District Development Committees and Mayors of Municipalities. Representatives of the United Nations agencies, diplomatic missions, donor agencies and international non-governmental agencies also attended the Consultation. A list of participants of the Consultation is attached as Annex A.



The programme of the National Stakeholder Consultation included presentations by national experts and IPEC officials as well as thematic group work sessions and plenary discussions. The agenda for the Consultation is attached as Annex B.

The representatives from the United States Department of Labour took active part in all the forums during the Consultation, as did the IPEC Director of Operations and other representatives from ILO-IPEC Geneva. The Regional Director, ILO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific addressed the inaugural ceremony. Staff members from ILO-IPEC and national experts served as resource persons.

The group discussions focused on identifying the priority target groups and the geographical area for the Time-Bound Programme. Discussions were also held on the various strategies and interventions, which will form part of the programme of action. Finally, the roles and responsibilities for the various stakeholders to be involved in the battle against the worst forms of child labour were defined.

At the conclusion of the Consultation the participants reached consensus on the seven target groups, geographical area and the overall strategic framework of the Time-Bound Programme. A press conference was held after the Consultation to inform the media about the consensus reached and on the objectives of the Time-Bound Programme.

2.2 Preparatory Activities

Prior to the National Stakeholder Consultation and in preparation for the Time-Bound Programme, the ILO has been very active in consulting with its social partners right from the field level to the capital. In preparation for the Time-Bound Programme on the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, a number of activities have been initiated in Nepal, with the active involvement of all stakeholders.

Five rapid assessments on child porters, child rag pickers, trafficking in children, child bonded labour and child domestic labour have been completed by CDPS and NLA. This exercise has provided for the first time benchmark data about the target groups and the worst forms of child labour in Nepal.

Three policy analyses on education, legislation, poverty and decentralisation have been commissioned. A partner capacity and training needs assessment has been carried out. An overview of the major child labour related projects in Nepal, including identifying bilateral and multilateral initiatives relevant to the Time-Bound Programme, has been initiated. A documentation of the lessons learned from the past IPEC initiatives in Nepal has been completed.

Yet, preparatory activities for the Time-Bound Programme have also included policy dialogues with key government ministries, as well as seminars to generate greater awareness among constituents and civil society. In consultation with the partners at the centre and regional levels, the five worst forms of child labour were tentatively identified in the summer of 2000.

Furthermore, five regional consultation workshops have been concluded in different parts of the country, in which the problems associated with the issue of child labour were extensively discussed and advice was sought, from the participants at the district levels, on the possible solutions towards the elimination of worst forms of child labour. This exercise culminated with an extensive one-day meeting of the IPEC National Steering Committee.

A workshop to assure gender mainstreaming in the Time-Bound Programme was also organised, with participation by all stakeholders from the field to the centre level institutions. For the first time, working girl children participated in such workshop, which allowed the participants to be heard by the voices of the most marginalized children.

Immediately prior to the National Stakeholder Consultation, two pre-consultation meetings were held with employers' and workers' organisations to incorporate their recommendations in the design of the Programme. This allowed IPEC and the ILO's constituents to speak with one voice and with one heart on the issue of this battle against the worst forms of child labour at the ensuing National Stakeholder Consultation. Such consultative processes have been and will continue to be the modality of operation of the ILO/IPEC programme.

2.3 Statements of Hope

The opening session of the National Stakeholder Consultation took the form of a traditional conference opening in Nepal, including lighting of the lamp.

Ms Leyla Tegmo-Reddy, Director, ILO, Kathmandu welcomed the participants and the guests. She said that from the past five years of experience in Nepal, we know how complex and challenging it is to work for the abolition of child labour. She urged all the participants to actively search for new partnerships and new solutions to promote the elimination of child labour and to improve the situation of Nepal's children.

In his inaugural address, the Right Honourable Prime Minister Mr. Girija Prasad

Koirala, expressed that the Nepalese Government has always been concerned about the state of the children, because they being the future of the country, the children should be given the opportunity to realize and enjoy their rights today so that they may grow up to become conscious citizens of tomorrow. He further stressed that until and unless the nation and its people own the programme, no concrete achievements can be expected. He assured that this Master Plan will link the activities of all concerned line ministries, build linkages with the upcoming Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and that it will also ensure that the issue of child labour will be fully integrated into the forthcoming five-year plan of Nepal.

His Excellency Mr. Ralph Frank, United States Ambassador, was of the opinion that Nepal has sensibly become one of the first three nations to have the Time-Bound Programme. The Ambassador stated that the world would be watching to see how well the first programme succeeds. Although eliminating the worst forms of child labour will be a daunting task, it is a worthy task, and the future of these children depends on how successfully we work together to eliminate child labour in Nepal.

On the similar note, the Coordinator for Education and Child Labour Initiative at the US Department of Labour, Ms. Eileen Muirragui, looked forward to a time, in the foreseeable future, when children wake up in the morning not to another hopeless and exhausting day at work, but to learning opportunities at school.

Making the keynote speech, Mr. Nodera, Regional Director, ILO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific, stated that the vicious circle of poverty leading to child labour, which in turn

perpetuates poverty, must be broken. Adults must find improved incomes and decent jobs. The new Convention No. 182 and its accompanying Recommendation sets a clear goal and direction for policy-makers world-wide. This is an opportunity for all of us to prove that the worst forms of child labour can indeed be eliminated and examples can be set. The world now is looking at Nepal and hoping to learn from her experience.

The Honourable Minister for Labour and Transport Management, Mr. Palten Gurung, expressed his hope that this Consultation will concentrate on all causes and effects of the child labour problem and that it will identify appropriate strategies and activities, including identifying policy gaps for the design of the Time-Bound Programme.

Speaking from the Chair, Mr. Prithivi Raj Legal, Vice Chairman, National Planning Commission pointed out the need for commitment from all sections of the society as well as for a practical and holistic approach, accommodating for the socio-economic and cultural context in Nepal.

Mr. Ng Gek-Boo, Director of Operations, IPEC Geneva, added that if the labour market consists of a significant number of youths and adults who were previously child labourers characterized by low literacy, poor health and low skills, it will be extremely difficult for any society to improve labour market performance, to alleviate poverty and to promote economic reform and growth. Therefore, he stressed that in IPEC we talk about Convention No. 182 not only as an issue of “rights” but also as an issue of development substance.

The speeches delivered at the inaugural session are found in Annex C.

2.4 Presentation of Background Information

A. IPEC and the Worst Forms of Child Labour

The Rapid Assessments and policy analyses conducted on the nature and extent, structure and factors, contributing to the worst forms of child labour in Nepal provided a basis for the preparation of the Time-Bound Programme. Using this information, as well as suggestions from the regional consultative workshops, Mr. Yadav Amatya and Mr. Casper Edmonds from IPEC-Nepal made a state-of-the-art power-point presentation on IPEC and the worst forms of child labour in Nepal. The presentation included the findings regarding the five targeted sectors for the Time-Bound Programme, namely rag pickers, bonded labour, trafficking, child domestics and child porters as well as video clips with child labourers telling their stories of working in the worst forms of child labour.

a. *Child Rag Pickers*

There are about 4,000 child rag pickers in Nepal and about 1,000 of them are in Kathmandu. They are called *khathe*, i.e. rag pickers, because they pick rags and other rubbish out of garbage dumps and sell what they find to get the money they need to survive. They come from rural areas where there are schools available. The average age of rag pickers is 11.7 years. About half the boys are literate, but only one in four of the girls is literate. Most rag pickers work about six hours a day and earn about Rs.150 a day. Usually they spend what they make each day because they have no way to keep it safely. On days when they make no money, they often go hungry.

b. Kamaiya, Child Bonded Labourers

In the Terai five districts of western Nepal there are 57,000 children who have been born into the Kamaiya system of bonded labour. Of them, 17,000, which is 30 percent, live in slave-like conditions, tending cattle, tilling the land, or working as domestic servants to pay their parent's debts. More than half of them started working before they were ten years old. One in seven of them put in 12 or more hours of hard labour every day. Only one in five have ever attended school at all. Although this form of bonded labour is no longer legal in Nepal, circumstances have not yet changed for these children.

c. Child Trafficking

Every year an estimated 12,000 Nepalese girls are trafficked, often to brothels in India. Sometimes they are coerced, sometimes they are deceived and sometimes their own families and friends cooperate. Trafficking is a process that often starts from and leads to the worst forms of child labour. Trafficking takes place all over Nepal and involves all castes and ethnic groups. Their working day is, on average, about 13 hours, serving 14 clients. Yet, some girls report that they must work 24 hours a day and serve 40 clients. In most cases there is no protection from sexually transmitted diseases, no protection from HIV/AIDS.

d. Child Domestic Workers

In Kathmandu, one in five households employ children. It is believed that at least one in every ten domestic child labourer is bonded to pay parental debts. Although most child domestics work 14 to 15 hours a day, most employers, as well as the children's own families, do not regard the work of these children as hazardous or exploitative. Most of them are fed, sheltered and clothed, and often in better living environments than in their own homes. Yet cases of isolation, confinement and physical or sexual abuse are known to occur. When the work is paid, an adult member of the family often collects the wages. But a few of the child domestic labourers attend school.

e. Child Porters

On remote mountain trails, porters are part of the Nepalese way of life and a way to transport goods. It is estimated that there are 42,204 child porters working on long distance routes and 3,570 at market centres and 255 at bus parks. The more a child carries, the more a child earns, and sometimes the load weighs more than the child. Only one in five child porter goes to school but most of them are drop-outs. On long distance routes, child porters carry 35 kg, while at bus parks and markets they carry up to 56 kg.



B. The Time-Bound Programme in Nepal

In continuation of the IPEC presentation, Dr. Mohan Man Sainju presented a discussion paper entitled “Need of a Time-Bound Programme to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour”. Dr. Sainju expressed a strong need for national ownership and for the people of Nepal to fully endorse the Time-Bound Programme. The presentation was conducted in Nepali. The summary of the paper has been extracted in Box 3 below, and the detailed paper is attached as Annex D.

C. Panel Discussion

A panel discussion followed the above presentations, which provided the participants with a possibility to ask questions and to raise key concerns. Five panellists expressed their views, which was followed by a plenary discussion.

Mr. Stewart McNab, Resident Representative of UNICEF-Nepal made a strong point on the need to build strategic alliances for the benefit of the thousands of Nepalese children trapped in worst forms of child labour. In direct reference to the new global UNICEF initiative entitled “Say Yes to Children”, Mr. McNab stated, “Say YES, to children. Say NO, to the worst forms of child labour”.

The necessity of joint action through partnership among all the stakeholders was the central theme of the discussion. As so often action plans “evaporates” when it comes to the implementation stage, the participants stressed on the need for designing a sustainable, effective and efficient strategy, which assures local ownership and build on the active participation of all levels of society.

Box 3. Excerpt from
“Need of a Time-Bound Programme to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour”

The future of Nepal rests on the children of today. The question of the development of these children stands before us as a primary need. From this perspective, as the worst forms of child labour give a dismal picture of Nepal’s future, it is indisputable that the prevention and regulation of child labour is an urgent need.

The guidelines given by the Constitution have not only pointed out the challenge of protecting the rights and welfare of the child, but have also shown the need to provide for their development and protection. Commitments made by Nepal in the international arena, and the enactment of laws thereof, has put forth both challenges and opportunities.

Poverty alleviation, legal matters, education and public awareness, and partnership are important aspects within the framework of the Time-Bound Programme. There is a need to integrate the Time-Bound Programme into the overall national development plan, thereby pursuing the policy of integrating these programmes into the next two Five-Year Plans.

All the concerned parties should be partners in the development efforts of Nepal. Any matter of national challenge cannot be met in the democratic system without the active participation of the people. Therefore the active contribution of households, society, local bodies, the private sector and non-governmental sectors and civic society, as well as the government sector, is of critical importance. The contribution of donor nations and agencies is of vital importance. If there is national commitment, political commitment can be expected to follow, as well as responsible and accountable behaviour. The policy and thinking of Nepal, vis-à-vis the children of Nepal, should be part of the portrait of 21st century Nepal.

D. Promotional Materials

In order to disseminate information and increase awareness in the general public about the worst forms of child labour, an extensive amount of promotional materials have been prepared, and these were displayed at the Consultation. These materials included videos, posters, photographs, brochures, hording boards, etc. In the weeks following the National Stakeholder Consultation, an opinion poll

on various aspects relating to worst forms of child labour has been carried out, and TV spots has informed the public on the social evils of child labour. A selection of the promotional material and research reports in preparation for the Time-Bound Programme will also be presented at the International Labour Conference in Geneva, where the Prime Minister of Nepal will be the guest of honour at the opening on June 12, 2001.



3. Time-Bound Programme Formulation

3.1 Identification of the Target Group

Based on the results of rapid assessment and other IPEC research, four groups were formed and asked to deliberate on the target groups tentatively identified for the Time-Bound Programme. The participations were divided into groups on the informal service sector, trafficking and sexual exploitation, agriculture production and bonded labour, and on hazardous work.

The Consultation reached a consensus on the selection of the five sectors where child labour is prevalent in its worst form, as recommended by IPECs social partners and reiterated at the five regional workshops. Furthermore, the participants at the Consultation added two more sectors to be included among the priority target groups, namely children in small scale mining and in the carpet sector. This highlights the importance ILO-IPEC places on the consultative process, and how important it is to work with and seek advice from the social partners.

During the group work a variety of other forms of child labour were also identified as the worst forms. Yet, the Consultation agreed that as the Time-Bound Programme is an open door programme, these could be incorporated at later stages. More importantly, the four groups also recommended specific activities to be included in the action programmes when designing the Time-Bound Programme.

Categories of the World of Work	Sectors (Five + Two)
Agriculture and Bonded Labour	1. Bonded child labourers in agriculture
Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation	2. Trafficking for labour and sexual exploitation
Informal Service Sector	3. Domestic workers
Hazardous Work	4. Child rag pickers
Hazardous Work	5. Child porters
Hazardous Work	6. Children in mining
Hazardous Work	7. Children in carpet sector

a. Child rag pickers

To the extent possible the Programme should help these children to return to their families and learn alternative ways to earn a living. The Programme should also assist in developing rights based rehabilitation centres that can offer quality counselling that these children need to start a new life.

b. Bonded child labourers in agriculture

The Programme should focus on exploitative farm labour arrangements that lead to child bonded labour in rural areas, as well as on debt bondage identified in other sectors targeted under the Time-Bound Programme. The overarching goal of the Time-Bound Programme should be to build a safety net for poor rural households through means such as unionisation of farm workers, micro-finance, and health services.

c. Trafficking for labour and sexual exploitation

To break the processes of trafficking, prevention is essential. The Programme should build awareness through social mobilisation. Inno-

vative new tools should be developed to help NGOs and police to intercept and rescue more victims. The Programme should also strengthen rehabilitation efforts and work for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and rehabilitation of its victims. The participants stressed on the need to recognise that trafficking is a *process* that often starts from, and leads to, the worst forms of child labour.

d. Domestic workers

In case of domestic child workers, prevention may be the best solution. The Programme should mobilise both sending communities and employers to improve the circumstances of these children. In cases where abuse is documented, there must be schemes for quick rescue and then rehabilitation.

e. Child porters

Alternative income strategies should create jobs and increase agriculture production in the districts where the child porters come from. Relevant, quality and free education is essential so that the children have an opportunity to go to school. Through unionisation, minimum wages should be set and working conditions improved. Existing laws should be enforced especially regarding weight limits.

3.2 Identification of the Geographical Area

With the support of all the stakeholders, including the government and donors, an overview map of districts affected by the worst forms of child labour (and the VDCs, if possible) will be prepared. The experience of the employers' organisations, workers' organisations, NGOs and INGOs will be included in

preparing the map and the activities of agencies working on child labour related issues will also be mapped out. This will provide further information for the implementation of the Time-Bound Programme.

It seems that the children in the worst forms of child labour come not from the poorest of districts, but also from districts where there is access to road and employment in urban centres. The group work recognised the need to take into account the issue of migration patterns in identifying the specific areas of activities.

Further refinement in the selection of the geographical areas will continue to take into account the above information as well as information provided in other documents, including the Nepal Labour Force Survey, the 1991 National Census, Human Development Index, Nepal Living Standards Survey and data on dropout and enrollment from the education sector. The information from IPEC's own five rapid assessments and the five regional workshops will be equally important as they provide specific sectorwise data on the worst forms of child labour.

Based on the geographical distribution of the selected target groups and of the research findings, a short graphical presentation was made about the geographical distribution of the worst forms of child labour in Nepal. One of the groups discussed the prioritisation of the geographical area for the programming of the Time-Bound Programme. The consultation reached a consensus on the selection of the following specific districts or geographical areas for the implementation of the Time-Bound Programme:

During the forthcoming programme formulation mission, the list of geographical target areas will be finalised, taking into consideration the suggestions received during the Consultation.

3.3 Strategies and Interventions

Following a brief presentation of the multi-pronged IPEC approach in combating child labour and on the challenges of building linkages between the Time-Bound Programme and existing policies and programmes, especially in the areas of education, legislation, poverty alleviation as well as gender and social mobilization, six groups were formed for group work. Following group discussion, presentation and plenary discussions, the Consultation reached consensus on the following points and specific suggestions:

a. Labour and Social Policy

- i. mobilise awareness and public opinion against violation of laws and encourage judicial action when necessary
- ii. focus policy attention towards the worst forms of child labour
- iii. implement minimum wage scheme and labour standards

Sector (Five + Two)	Geographical Area
1. Child rag pickers	Urban centers
2. Kamaiya, child bonded labourers	Five Kamaiya districts and other districts in eastern Terai (to be identified)
3. Child trafficking	Districts prone to trafficking, urban centers, transit points
4. Child domestic workers	Kathmandu valley and main urban centers
5. Child porters	Eastern and central hill districts, Surkhet and Bajhang
6. Children in mining	To be confirmed
7. Children in carpet sector	Urban areas

- iv. establish social safety nets in agriculture
- v. promote social justice through social dialogue process (decent work)
- vi. formulate codes of conduct and implement affirmative action
- vii. promote gainful employment for youths and adults
- viii. focus social and labour welfare schemes towards vulnerable groups specially poor farm families
- ix. activate the role of the District Child Welfare Board
- x. develop social security system to cover the informal sector.

b. Legislation and Enforcement

- i. review deficiencies and contradictions in the law, rules and regulations, including the



- need to raise admission for hazardous work to 18 years
- ii. assure more effective birth registration system in cooperation with UNICEF
- iii. strengthening capacity, level of awareness of key actors (including NGOs and community groups) in the legislative system and various aspects of the worst forms of child labour through sensitisation, orientation, interaction seminars and programmes
- iv. establish a supervisory system to ensure effective enforcement and implementation of the law and sensitise the judiciary, police and administrative units in charge of enforcement
- v. encourage ratification of Convention 182
- vi. implementation birth registration system
- vii. “justice delayed, justice denied”

c. Poverty Reduction

- i. incorporation of child rights as a policy issue in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Plan and in the 10th National Development Plan
- ii. in cooperation with other donor agencies scale up the poverty alleviation efforts for the poorest of the poor
- iii. design programmes to reach families and children in rural areas and informal sector, i.e. focus on improvement in the districts where children in worst forms of child labour come from
- iv. provide support to holistic and integrated programme activities including:
 - o savings and credit, micro-finance schemes for the target groups
 - employment promotion schemes for youth and adults including labour intensive works
 - training to enhance skill and efficiency
 - access to resources to augment income sources

- management and effective use of community resources/assets
- provision of land
- programmes related to health
- v. create poverty alleviation fund by mobilising support from all agencies concerned

d. Social Mobilisation and Awareness Building

- i. build national and international strategic alliances and search for new partnerships and new solutions,
- ii. establish, strengthen and mobilise educational institutions, teachers’ associations, media, CBOs, political institutions, religious institutions, etc.
- iii. create mass awareness among all stakeholders to mobilize public opinion against child labour issues as well as to bring the situation of the worst forms of child labour to the public
- iv. support activities to put into effective use the awareness component

e. Education and Training

- i. through programme interventions assure that education is relevant, easily accessible and affordable in order to reduce drop-outs and enrol new groups
 - make appropriate arrangement to close the gap between end of primary education and minimum age for employment
 - use NFE for rehabilitation and transition to formal school or vocational training
 - focus education support programmes not only on supply but also on demand side including free and compulsory education
- ii. develop appropriate skill development training
- iii. promote community based monitoring

f. Mainstreaming Gender

- i. through the use of media and other promotional activities and materials increase awareness about women's and children's rights
- ii. increase and improve access to legal aid, e.g. through legal literacy, legal helpline, family court and sensitize judicial enforcement bodies
- iii. support programmes to increase enrollment and school retention, e.g. through mid-day meals, scholarships, OSP classes, alternative/flexible schooling, outreach programme, functional literacy
- iv. promote minimum wage in agriculture sector and equal wage for equal value
- v. support income generating activities for families
- vi. design specific targeted programmes for girls
- vii. develop mechanisms for social protection of children especially girls who work in hidden sectors
- viii. promote positive portrayal of women and girls in the media
- ix. eliminate harmful traditional practices, e.g. child marriage, deuki, jhuma, badi.

Other issues mentioned during the group discussions were as follows:

- i. encourage participation in the programme by DDC, VDCs, municipalities and the District Child Welfare Board
- ii. provide support for strengthening the capacity of the partner Ministries
- iii. conduct regular tripartite consultation and social dialogue
- iv. develop measurable indicators for all activities
- v. develop mechanism for regular monitoring and evaluation of activities.

3.4 Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders

Combating child labour is a concern for all of us. The discussions during the Consultation stressed that only through the participation of all key stakeholders in the society can we achieve a solution to a child labour problem. There must be partnerships and understanding among all the concerned parties. Considering the comparative advantage of different institutions, the group discussions outlined the following roles and responsibilities:

a. Government

- formulate appropriate policies, laws and rules/regulations and ensure effective enforcement
- assure decentralisation (both administrative and financial) of responsibilities to the local levels and
- provide leadership (steering) in the all stages of the programme implementation
- assure coordination between organisations and between activities and components particularly at the district, municipality and village levels
- assure participation in the programme by all decentralised levels
- allocate resources for the programme in the budgets at national, DDC and VDC levels
- assure that the child labour is included in the policy statements in the National Plans and other relevant strategy documents

b. Employers' Organisation

- utilize the existing strength of employers' organization (at the district level) and FNCCI to sensitise employers on the worst forms of child labour

- formulate and enforce codes of conduct and issue national directives to all affiliates for immediate ban on the worst forms of child labour
- contribute to and mobilize resources for the establishment of a “child labour elimination fund”
- act as a pressure group to the government for sound labour practices



- enforce social security measures for adult workers and ensure minimum wages for adult employees
- develop enterprises utilizing local resources and workforce through public/ private partnership
- replicate in other locations good practices from direct action programme experience
- actively participate in the National Steering Committee for the formulation of national policies and programmes

c. Workers’ Organisations

- monitoring incidence of child labour and take appropriate action

- utilize the existing strength of workers’ organizations (at the district level) to sensitise workers on the worst forms of child labour.
- formulate and enforce codes of conduct and issue national directive to all affiliates for immediate ban on the worst forms of child labour
- act as a pressure group to the government for sound labour practices
- enforce social security measures for adult workers and ensure minimum wages for adult employees
- replicate good practices from the implementation of Action Programmes in other locations
- actively participate in the National Steering Committee for the formulation of national policies and programmes

d. NGO and the Civil Society

- implement direct action programmes including, awareness raising, training, income generating, asset generation, etc. for both prevention and rehabilitation activities for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour
- mobilize resources for the implementation of the programme and in establishing a “child labour elimination fund”
- act as a pressure group to the government on child labour issues
- develop enterprises utilizing local resources and work force through public/ private partnership
- assure coordination with all stakeholders and district/village authorities during programme implementation
- replicate in other locations good practices from direct action experience
- networking at local, national and international levels

e. Donor Community

- mobilisation of resources for the implementation of the programme
- prepare a map (district and if possible VDC level) of current child labour related projects being implemented and assure coordination (and avoid activity duplication and conceptual contradiction) in future programming
- assure programme effectiveness and synergy through regular donor consultation in theme group meetings and at the implementation level
- share programme document among each other

3.5 Guiding Principles

During the group works a number issues came up, which are of a crosscutting nature and have broader policy implication. These general criteria would be useful in guiding the formulation of the operational strategy and implementation of the Time-Bound Programme:

- a. **Transparency, accountability:** It is important to have financial and administrative transparency in order to maintain public confidence in policy and hinder corruption.
- b. **Participation, ownership:** Combating child labour is something that concerns all of us and therefore, active participation by all stakeholders must be assured. The children themselves must be included as stakeholders in their own right. Until and unless the nation and its people own a programme, no concrete achievements can be expected.
- c. **Decentralisation:** In order to assure that the programme is most effective, the de-centralised levels of all partners' organisations must be actively involved.
- d. **Networking:** Innovative partnership and strategic alliances among the partners will enhance the synergy effect and mutual benefits from action programme outcomes.
- e. **Commitment and socio-cultural sensitivity:** Child labour is so pervasive and its causes so deep-rooted and diverse that commitment to the issue from all stakeholders is essential. At the same time, sensitivity to the local socio-cultural context in the programme formulation and implementation stages must be assured.
- f. **Incentive compatibility:** Policymakers need to assess whether interventions cause not only the right response in relation to the target groups but also that these also do not result in unwanted responses in other groups. It is essential not to drive the problem of the worst forms of child labour further underground.
- g. **Cost effectiveness:** The Time-Bound Programme must determine how efficiently programme resources are being spent with regard to what will be achieved. Action must be provided accordingly.
- h. **Sustainability:** It is necessary to guarantee the financial and political stability of programmes and their achievements, as well as to ensure that children withdrawn from dangerous conditions do not return to work when the programme is over.
- i. **Consistency:** This refers to the holistic approach of the Time-Bound Programme. It will aim to harmonize policy interventions and partnerships, by ensuring proposed projects, programmes and policy aims do not conflict.

3.6 Statements of Commitment

During three days of intense deliberations and brainstorming, the National Stakeholder Consultation achieved its aim of enlisting political and technical support of national and international organisations for the development of the Time-Bound Programme.

Similarly, consensus was reached on the target groups that need to be addressed by the Time-Bound Programme. These are bonded child labourers in agriculture, trafficking for labour and sexual exploitation, child porters, rag pickers, domestic workers, children in mining and in the carpet sector. The operational strategies as well as the roles and responsibilities of the key stakeholders – the government, employers' and workers' organizations, NGOs and the donor communities, were also outlined so as to make the Time-Bound Programme successful.

At the inauguration of the National Stakeholder Consultation, the Right Honourable Prime Minister Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala stated that the Government of Nepal is to put its commitment in action as it is in the process of drafting a Master Plan for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour by 2005 and all forms of child labour by 2010.

The Prime Minister further expressed satisfaction that Nepal has been selected by the ILO as one of the first three countries on the globe in which to implement the Time-Bound Programme for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour. While expressing that the Time-Bound Programme offers new hope in the battle against child labour, the Prime Minister also stated his belief that the Programme will succeed in its objectives to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in Nepal within the time frame set forth.

The Honourable Minister for Labour and Transport Management, Mr. Palten Gurung, reiterated the commitment of His Majesty's Government of Nepal in supporting the Time-Bound Programme for the achievement of its objectives through active consultations and coordination among the stakeholders. He further stated that the Ministry of Labour and Transport Management is highly committed and fully support the Time-Bound Programme for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in Nepal, and welcomed partnerships of national and international agencies for achieving this common and important goal". The Secretary at the Ministry of Labour and Transport Management, Mr. Poshan Nepal, further assured that the Ministry would extend all possible support to make the Time-Bound Programme a success in Nepal.

Mr. Prithivi Raj Legal, Vice Chairman, National Planning Commission, expressed the need for commitment from all sections of the society with practical and holistic approach incorporating the socio-economic and cultural context. Other members of the National Planning Commission wished success during the implementation of the Time-Bound Programme.

The support for the Time-Bound Programme also came from the Government of the United States. His Excellency Ambassador Mr. Ralph Frank mentioned that the IPEC approach, the Time-Bound Programme, offers new hope for the thousands of children trapped in the worst forms of child labour. The Coordinator for Education and Child Labour Initiative at Ms. Eileen Muirragui, stated that the US Department of Labour intends to continue support for ILO/IPEC on projects that remove children from exploitative work and provide them education and their families with viable economic alternatives.

Mr. Y. Nodera, Regional Director, ILO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific mentioned that there has been much positive against child labour, of which we can be very proud. However the current efforts are simply not enough. Therefore, he called on everyone to join in this struggle so that together we can make a decisive breakthrough against the global scourge of child labour and together we can restore childhood to millions of children throughout the world. The commitment we receive must be transformed into a sustainable programme.

Ms. Leyla Tegmo-Reddy, Director, ILO, Kathmandu, thanked all the participations for the valuable suggestions and critical thoughts shared during the Consultation. She further stressed that we all have a stake to make the Time-Bound Programme a success and that the active participation by everyone during the Consultation has laid the strong foundation on which to build the Programme and make it Our Programme.

3.7 Steps Ahead

As pointed out in the remarks of Mr. Ng Gek-Boo, Director, Department of Operations, ILO, Geneva in the National Stakeholder Consultation, we have reached consensus on the strategic framework and on the road ahead. The next step is to finalise the operational planning, and to design the document for the implementation of the Time-Bound Programme on the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Nepal.

During the next few weeks further detailed consultations will be made with the stakeholders of the Time-Bound Programme, by the ILO/IPEC team, regarding the valuable suggestions and critical thoughts that have been received during this Consultation. A major task will be to prepare a map of the ongoing activities related to the elimination of child

labour in the country through the efforts of all the stakeholders, as recommended during this Consultation. In order to improve the knowledge base, additional baseline surveys, a national child labour survey, action research on the carpet sector and mining sector needs to be conducted. The key stakeholders will be involved in identification of the presence and incidence of the seven target groups of children in the worst forms of child labour.

The Time-Bound Programme Formulation Mission will be in Nepal from mid-June to prepare a first draft project document and to refine the strategic framework set out during the National Stakeholder Consultation. Intensive activities are foreseen for this period and the ILO/IPEC looks forward to the continued support and participation from all its partners in Nepal.

As suggested a number of times by the participating at the Consultation, during the coming months, the IPEC team and the forthcoming Programme Formulation Mission will assure that the Time-Bound Programme is closely integrated with the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, the Master Plan being formulated by the Ministry of Labour and Transport Management, the Tenth National Development Plan being prepared by the Planning Commission, the BPEP programme, and the UNDAF for developing a coherent programme.

Details about the preparatory activities and the ILO's consultative process for the planning of the Time-Bound Programme will be presented to the world during the annual ILO International Labour Conference in Geneva in June 2001. The Right Honourable Prime Minister will be a Guest of Honour, and participate in the special Time-Bound Programme session on June 12 along with the Presidents from Tanzania and El Salvador.

ANNEXES

Annex A

National Stakeholder Consultation on the Time-Bound Programme against the Worst Forms of child Labour Kathmandu, 8 – 10 May 2001

LIST OF INVITEES

1. Rt. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala, Office of the Prime Minister
2. Mr. Hari Sharma, Principal Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister

Presiding Officers of the Parliament

3. Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Ms. Chitra Lekha Yadav, The House of Representatives, Parliament House, Singha Durbar

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION:

4. Hon'ble Chairman, Mr. Nayan Bahadur Khatri

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Finance Committee, Singha Durbar

5. Hon'ble Chairman, Mr. Smriti Narayan Chaudhari

Foreign Relations & Human Rights Committee, Singha Durbar

6. Hon'ble Chairman, Mr. Som Prasad Pandeya
7. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Bijaya Kumar Gachhadar
8. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Bijaya Subba
9. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Chandra Bahadur Shahi
10. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Eknath Ranabhat
11. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Govinda Bikram Shah
12. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Krishna Prasad Bhattarai
13. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Madav Kumar Nepal
14. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Narayan Man Bijukchhe
15. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Narayan Singh Pun
16. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Nava Raj Subedi
17. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Pashupati Chaulagain
18. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Phatik Bahadur Thapa
19. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Prem Lal Singh
20. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Romi Gauchan Thakali
21. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Shiva Prasad Humagain
22. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Suresh Kumar Karki
23. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Sushil Koirala
24. Hon'ble Member, Ms. Urmila Aryal
25. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Jaganath Khatiwada

Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs Committee, Singha Durbar

26. Hon'ble Chairman, Mr. Mahendra Yadav

Social Justice Committee, Singha Durbar

27. Hon'ble Chairman, Mr. Jeevan Prem Shrestha
28. Hon'ble Member, Ms. Ambika Panta
29. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Bijuli Kumar Bishwokarma
30. Hon'ble Member, Ms. Bishweshwora Dahal
31. Hon'ble Member, Ms. Chanda Shah
32. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Ganga Dutta Joshi
33. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Lal Bahadur Bishwokarma
34. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Mahendra Kumar Mishra
35. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Prakash Man Singh
36. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Rabindra Shrestha
37. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Rishi Babu Pariyar
38. Hon'ble Member, Ms. Shanta Manavi
39. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Surendra Prasad Pandey
40. Hon'ble Member, Mr. Kaiya Chaudhari
41. Hon'ble Member, Dr. Ram Man Shrestha

Member of Parliament, Government Ministries and Line Agencies

42. Hon'ble Member, Ms. Bidhya Devi Bhandari, Member of Parliament
43. Hon'ble Minister, Mr. Govinda Raj Joshi, Ministry of Local Development
44. Hon'ble Minister, Mr. Amod Prasad Upadhyay, Ministry of Education & Sports
(Hon'ble State Minister, Mr. Dilendra Pd. Badu, Ministry of Education & Sports)
45. Hon'ble State Minister, Ms. Kamala Pant, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
46. Mr. Poshan Nath Nepal, Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Transport Management
47. Ms. Moti Shova Shrestha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Transport Management
48. Mr. Rabindra Adhikari, Under Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Transport Management
49. Mr. Deep Basnyat, Director General, Department of Labour & Employment Promotion
50. Mr. Sharadananda Baidya, Director, Department of Labour & Employment Promotion
51. Ms. Urmila Shrestha, Secretary, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
52. Mr. Pratap Kumar Pathak, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
53. Ms. Ishwori Bhattarai, Under Secretary, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
54. Mr. Udaya Raj Soti, Secretary, Ministry of Local Development
55. Mr. Keshav Raj Rajbhandari, Secretary, Ministry of Land Reforms and Management
56. Mr. Punya Pd. Oli, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Land Reforms and Management
57. Mr. Rudra K. Shrestha, Director General, Department of Revenue and Land Reforms
58. Mr. Sundar Shrestha, Acting Secretary, Ministry of Education & Sports
59. Mr. Ram S. Dube, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Education & Sports
60. Mr. Chuman Singh Basnyat, Director General, Department of Education
61. Mr. Mohan Bhandari, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs
62. Mr. Keshab Karmacharya, Deputy Director, CBS
63. Mr. Binod Devkota, Secretary, Nepal Law Reform Commission
64. Mr. Sindhu Nath Pyakurel, President, Nepal Bar Association
65. Ms. Seema Luitel, AP Programme Officer, Ministry of Labour and Transport Management
66. Mr. Keshav Koirala, Section Officer, Ministry of Labour and Transport Management

DDCs & Municipalities

67. Mr. Ramesh Chandra Poudel, Mayor, Biratnagar Sub-Metropolitan City
68. Mr. Khem Pd. Lohani, Chairperson, DDC Dhading
69. Mr. Ganesh Pd. Timilsina, Chairperson, DDC Parbat

70. Mr. Om Prakash Jung Rana, Chairperson, DDC Banke
71. Mr. Krishna Pd. Jaisi, Chairperson, DDC Achham
72. Mr. Narayan Dutta Mishra, Chairperson, DDC Kailali
73. Mr. Rishi Raj Lumsali, Chairperson, DDC Kanchanpur
74. Mr. Keshav Sthapit, Mayor, Kathmandu Metropolitan City
75. Mr. Buddhi Raj Bajracharya, Mayor, Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan City
76. Mr. Prem Suwal, Mayor, Bhaktapur Municipality
77. Mr. Sanu Kumar Shrestha, Chairperson, District Development Committee, Kathmandu
78. Mr. Madav Prasad Poudel, Chairperson, District Development Committee, Lalitpur
79. Mr. Govinda Duwal, Chairperson, District Development Committee, Bhaktapur
80. Mr. Krishna Prasad Sharma, Chief District Officer, District Admin. Office, Kathandu
81. Mr. Kul Chandra Shrestha, Chief District Officer, District Admin. Office, Lalitpur
82. Mr. Ram Prasad Khatiwada, Chief District Officer, District Admin. Office, Bhaktapur
83. Mr. Madan Krishna Shrestha, Chief, Madhyapur Thimi Municipality, Thimi, Bhaktapur
84. Dr. H. D. Ranjitkar, Head, Social Welfare Department, KMC

Police Headquarters

85. Mr. Pradip Shumsher Jung Bahadur Rana, Inspector General of Police, Police Headquarters
86. Mr. Govinda Thapa, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Police Headquarters
87. Ms. Parbati Thapa, D.S.P., Women Cell, Police Headquarters

Financial Institutions

88. Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha, Chief Executive Officer, Rural Micro-Finance Development Centre (RMDC), Nepal Rastra Bank
89. Mr. Devendra Pratap Shah, General Manager, Agriculture Development Bank
90. Mr. Dakshya Prasad Shrestha, General Manager, Rural Development Bank, Janakpur

Embassies

91. H.E. Mr. Crispin Conroy, Ambassador, Australian Embassy
Ms. Rajju Malla – Dhakal, PSU Manager, Australian Embassy
92. H.E. Mr. Ronald Peter Nash, Ambassador, British Embassy
93. H.E. Mr. Wolf Ruediger George Lemp, Ambassador, German Embassy
94. Mr. Lars Hormann, Charge' d' Affaires, Royal Danish Embassy
95. H.E. Ms. Ingrid Ofstad, Ambassador, Royal Norwegian Embassy
96. H.E. Mr. Mitsuaki Kojima, Ambassador, Embassy of Japan
97. Ms. Carla Hogan Rufelds, Consular, Canadian Consulate
98. Ms. Eileen Muirragui, Department of Labour, United States of America
99. Ms. Ami Thakkar, Department of Labour, United States of America
100. Mr. Subodh Singh, Political Specialist, American Embassy
101. Mr. John Robertson, Political Officer, American Embassy
102. Mr. John Dyson, Political/Economical Officer, American Embassy
103. Mr. A. Mitchell, First Secretary, British Embassy

UN & International Aid Agencies

104. Mr. Henning Karcher, Resident Representative, UNDP
105. Mr. Nigel Fisher, Regional Director, UNICEF ROSA
(Ms. Kiran Bhatia & Mr. Bidhya Sagar)
106. Mr. J. Bill Musoke, Representative, UNFPA
107. Dr. Klaus Wagner, Representative, WHO

108. Mr. Winsten Ruthven Rudder, Representative, FAO
109. Mr. Douglas Casson Coutts, Representative/Country Director, WFP
(Mr. Deepak Raj Shakya, Sr. Programme Officer)
110. Mr. Michael Hahn, Country Programme Adviser, UNAIDS
111. Mr. Michel DuPoizat, Representative, UNHCR
112. Mr. Y. Kitamura, Representative, UNESCO
113. Ms. Sangeeta Thapa, National Programme Officer, UNIFEM
114. Ms. C. Bakker, Chief, Child Protection Unit, UNICEF
115. Ms. Meena Poudyal, Programme Manager, OXFAM
116. Mr. Jan de Witte, Director, SNV/Nepal
117. Mr. Ken Hasegawa, Resident Representative, JICA
118. Mr. Peter Rhode, Director, GTZ
119. Ms. Charlotte Addy, Team Leader, ISCL, GTZ
120. Mr. Naresh Sharma, Programme Officer, ISCL, GTZ
121. Ms. Sue Wardell, Head, DFID
122. Ms. Joanne T. Hale, Mission Director, USAID
(Ms. Donna Stauffer, Chief, General Dev. Office, USAID)
123. Ms. Pankaja Bhattarai, Programme Officer, The Asia Foundation
124. Mr. Shibesh Chandra Regmi, Country Director, ACTIONAID
125. Mr. Durval Martinez, Country Director, PLAN International
126. Mr. Neil Walton, Country Director, HELVETAS
127. Mr. Richard Vokes, Resident Representative, Asian Development Bank
128. Mr. Kenichi Ohashi, Country Director, World Bank
129. Dr. Tirtha Rana, Health Sector Specialist, World Bank
(Ms. Samjana Thapa, Social Sector Specialist)
130. Mr. Hakon Bjornes, Coordinator, Donor's Group on Education, World Bank
131. Mr. Keith D. Leslie, Representative, Save the Children Alliance
132. Ms. Susan Durston, EU Coordinator, BPEP

Employers', Workers Organisations and NGOs

133. Mr. Pradeep K. Shrestha, President, Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry
134. Mr. Rajendra Khetan, Ex-officio Vice-President, and Chairman of the Employer's Council, FNCCI
135. Mr. Badri Nath Ohja, Secretary General, Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry
136. Mr. Megh Nath Neupane, Deputy Secretary General, Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry
137. Mr. Basanta Udas, President, Pokhara Chamber of Commerce and Industry
138. Mr. Keshav Shrestha, President, Makwanpur Chamber of Commerce and Industry
139. Mr. A.G. Sherpa, President, CCIA
140. Mr. Mukunda Neupane, President, General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions GEFONT
141. Mr. Bishnu Rimal, Secretary General, General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions (GEFONT)
142. Mr. Laxman Basnet, President, Nepal Trade Union Congress (NTUC)
(Mr. Rajendra Kumar Acharya, President of Nepal Carpet Workers' Union)
143. Mr. Indra Deo Mishra, Vice President, NTUC
144. Mr. Rajendra B. Raut, President, Democratic Confederation of Nepalese Trade Unions (DECONT)
145. Mr. Khilanath Dahal, General Secretary, DECONT
146. Mr. Ganesh Shah, President, NTUF
(Mrs. Kalpana Rana, Chief Women's Department & Mr. Mohammad Abbas, International Department)
147. Mr. Bijaya Bisfot, President, NTUF
148. Mr. Keshab Bhattarai, President, Nepal Teachers' Association (NTA)

149. Mr. Krishna Prasad Poudyal, AP Coordinator, Nepal Teachers' Association (NTA)
150. Mr. Madhav Adhikary, President, Nepal National Teachers' Association (NNTA)
151. Mr. Madhav Neupane, AP Coordinator, Nepal National Teachers' Association (NNTA)
152. Mr. Bijaya Sainju, Executive Coordinator, Concern for Children & Environment-Nepal (CONCERN)
153. Dr. Shanta Thapaliya, Chairperson, Legal Aid and Consultancy Center (LACC)
154. Ms. Anjana Shakya, Coordinator, Beyond Beijing Committee
155. Ms. Anuradha Koirala, Director, Maiti Nepal
156. Mr. Gyanendra Tuladhar, Chairman, National Society for Protection of Children & Environment (NASPEC)
(Mr. Rajendra Shrestha, General Secretary, NASPEC)
157. Mr. Sarba Raj Khadka, Executive Director, Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN)
158. Ms. Sujata Koirala, Chairperson, Sushma Koirala Memorial Trust
(Mr. Tejhari Ghimire, Executive Director, Sushma Koirala Memorial Trust)
159. Dr. Renu Rajbhandari, Chairperson, Women Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC)
160. Dr. Durga Ghimire, Chairperson, ABC Nepal
161. Dr. Shiva Sharma, Ex Director, INSEC
162. Mr. Sharad Sharma, President, CDS
163. Representative, IDEA
164. Mr. Sharad Babu Shrestha, Director, READ
165. Dr. Bhogendra Sharma, Director, CVICT
166. Mr. Yubaraj Sangraula, Coordinator, CeLRRd
167. Dr. Chiranjibi Nepal, Industrial Enterprise Development Institute (IEDI)
168. Ms. Tulasa Lata Amatya, President, Community Action Centre
169. Mr. Mahesh Bhattarai, General Welfare Prathisthan
170. Ms. Shilu Pyari Karmacharya, President, Network against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children and Women.

Universities and Educational Departments

171. Fr. Charlie Law, Dean, Faculty of Social Work (FSW), St. Xavier's Campus
172. Prof. Prithu Charan Baidya, Dean, Faculty of Education, T.U.
173. Dr. Ram B. Yadav, Executive Director, National Centre for Education Development (NCED)
174. Mr. Satya B. Shrestha, Chief, NFE Council
175. Dr. Yagya P. Adhikari, Executive Director, LDTA
176. Dr. H. R. Bajracharya, Executive Director, CERID

Media Agencies

177. Dr. Durga Nath Sharma, General Manager, Nepal Television
178. The Editor-in-chief, Rastriya Samachar Samiti (RSS)
179. Mr. Baikuntha Maskey, Correspondent, Reuters Television
180. Chief Editor, Radio Nepal
181. Mr. Mangal Man Shakya, President, NEFEJ
182. Mr. Gokul Pokhrel, President, Nepal Press Institute
183. Mr. Ramesh Lamsal, Reporter, The Rising Nepal
184. Mr. Ram Kumar Kamat, Correspondent, The Gorkhapatra
185. Mr. Ameet Dhakal, Reporting Coordinator, The Kathmandu Post
186. Ms. Rama Parajuli, Correspondent, Kantipur Daily
187. Mr. Rajendra Raut, Correspondent, Kantipur Diary
188. Mr. Deepak Rijal, Correspondent, Nepal Samacharpatra
189. Mr. Upendra Aryal, Programme Anchor, Sagarmatha FM
190. Mr. Rajan Sharma, Deshantar Saptahik

191. Mr. Mohan Singh Lama, Himalaya Times
192. Mr. Rajendra Aryal, Correspondent, Communication Corner
193. Mr. Chirendra Satyal, Reporter, UCAN News Services, SAR News
194. Mr. Mukul Humagain, Correspondent, Himal Khabar Patrika
195. Ms. Hemlata Rai, Correspondent, Nepali Times
196. Mr. Kosmos Biswokarma, Nepal, Kantipur Publications
197. Mr. Susil Sharma, Correspondent, BBC
198. Ms. Sangeeta Lama, Correspondent, Himal
199. Mr. Prashant Aryal, Reporter, Space Times
200. Representative, RPA Films & Research Centre
201. Mr. Prakash Rimal, Director, Medialine
202. Correspondent, Xinhua Agency

Chairpersons, Resource Persons and Panelists

203. Hon'ble Vice Chairman, Mr. Prithvi Raj Ligal, National Planning Commission
204. Hon'ble Member, Dr. Hari Shankar Tripathy, National Planning Commission
205. Hon'ble Member, Dr. Nirmal Prasad Pandey, National Planning Commission
206. Hon'ble Member, Dr. Shankar Sharma, National Planning Commission
207. H.E. Mr. Ralph Frank, Ambassador, US Embassy
208. Hon'ble Minister, Mr. Palten Gurung, Ministry of Labour and Transport Management
209. Mr. Poshan Nath Nepal, Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Transport Management
210. Mr. Stewart McNab, Representative, UNICEF
211. Dr. Bal Gopal Baidya, Senior Research Associate, New Era
212. Dr. Arzu Deuba-Rana, Chairperson, SAATHI
213. Mr. Gauri Pradhan, Director, Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre (CWIN)
214. Dr. Shiva Sharma, Executive Director, National Labour Academy
215. Dr. Bal Kumar K.C., Chief, Central Department of Population Studies (CDPS), TU
216. Mr. Murali Sharma, Vice Chairman, CLRS
217. Mr. Dinesh Chapagain, Executive Director, BISCONS

Workshop Presentor/Rapporteur/Facilitator

218. Dr. Mohan Man Sainju, Executive Director, IIDS
219. Mr. Binod Shrestha, Rapporteur
220. Mr. Basu Dev Neupane, Consultant/Facilitator
221. Ms. Patricia Roberts, Consultant

Annex B

National Consultation on the Time-Bound Programme

Against the Worst Forms of Child Labour

8 - 10 May 2001 (25 - 27 Baisakha 2058)

PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 8 May 2001 (25 Baisakha 2058)

INAUGURAL PROGRAMME

Chairperson:	Honourable Vice-Chairman, Mr. Prithivi Raj Ligal, National Planning Commission
Chief Guest:	Right Honourable Prime Minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala
09:00 – 09:05 hrs.	Welcome address by Ms. Leyla Tegmo-Reddy, Director, ILO Kathmandu
09:05 - 09:10 hrs.	Address by Ms. E. Muirragui, Coordinator-Education Initiative, International Child Labour Programme, US Department of Labour
09:10 – 09:20 hrs.	Address by His Excellency Mr. Ralph Frank, U.S. Ambassador for the Kingdom of Nepal
09:20 – 09:30 hrs.	Keynote speech by Mr. Y. Nodera, Regional Director, ILO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific, Bangkok
09:30 – 09:40 hrs.	Inauguration of National Consultation followed by opening remarks by Right Honourable Prime Minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala
09:40 - 09:50 hrs.	Remarks and vote of thanks by Honourable Minister for Labour & Transport Management, Mr. Palten Gurung, Ministry of Labour and Transport Management
09:50 – 10:00 hrs.	Remarks from the Chair - Honourable Vice-Chairman, Mr. Prithivi Raj Ligal, National Planning Commission
10:00 – 10:30 hrs.	Refreshments

Introductory Session

Chairperson:	Honourable Member, Dr. Shanker Sharma, National Planning Commission
Panelists:	Mr. Stewart McNab, Representative, UNICEF Ms. Arzu Deuba-Rana, President, SAATHI Prof. Bal Kumar K.C. Head, Central Department of Population Studies Mr. Gauri Pradhan, Executive Director, CWIN Mr. Geir Myrstad, Senior Programme Officer, IPEC, ILO Geneva
10:30 – 10:45 hrs.	Objectives of National Consultation and IPEC Experience in Nepal - Mr. Yadav Amatya, National Programme Manager, IPEC, ILO and Mr. Casper Edmonds, Associate Expert, ILO, IPEC Kathmandu
10:45 - 12:45 hrs.	Synthesis report of preparatory activities on the development of Time-Bound Programme – Dr. Mohan Man Sainju, Executive Chairman, Institute for Integrated Development Studies (IIDS)
	Panel discussion followed by questions/answers

12:45 - 13:00 hrs	Summing up and remarks from the Chair - Honourable Member, Dr. Shanker Sharma, National Planning Commission.
13:00 - 14:00 hrs.	Lunch
14:00 – 15:00 hrs.	Concept of the Time-Bound Programme - Mr. Ng Gek-Boo, Director for Operations, IPEC, ILO Geneva Poverty and macro-economic context - Mr. Yaw Ofosu, Senior Programme Officer, ILO, IPEC Geneva Question/answers
15:00 – 15:15 hrs.	Group division and briefing notes on target groups for the TBP
15:15 – 16:15 hrs.	Group work
16:15 – 16:30 hrs.	Tea/Coffee
16:30 – 17:30 hrs.	Presentations of group work and plenary
18:00 – 20:00 hrs.	Reception

WEDNESDAY, 9 MAY 2001 (26 BAISAKHA 2058)

Morning Session

Chairperson:	Honourable Member, Dr. Hari Shankar Tripathy, National Planning Commission
09:00 - 09:30 hrs.	Group division and briefing notes on TBP strategies and interventions
09:30 - 11:00 hrs.	Group work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poverty reduction ● Labour and social policy ● Education and training ● Legislation and enforcement ● Social mobilization ● Mainstreaming gender in the TBP
11:00 - 11:30 hrs.	Tea/Coffee
11:30 - 12:30 hrs.	Presentations of group work and plenary
12:30 – 13:00 hrs.	Summing up and remarks from the Chair - Honourable Member, Dr. Hari Shankar Tripathy, National Planning Commission
13:00 - 14:00 hrs.	Lunch

Afternoon Session

Chairperson:	Dr. Bal Gopal Baidya, Sr. Research Associate, New Era
14:00 - 14:15 hrs.	Briefing notes on roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders in the implementation of the TBP
14:15 - 15:30 hrs.	Group work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Government decentralization policy and the balance between national and local government ● Employers and the private sector ● Trade unions ● NGO and the civil society ● Donor community
15:30 - 16:00 hrs.	Tea/Coffee

16:00 - 17:00 hrs.	Presentations of group work and plenary
17:00 – 17:30 hrs.	Summing up and remarks from the Chair - Dr. Bal Gopal Baidya, Sr. Research Associate, New Era

Thursday, 10 May 2001 (27 Baisakha 2058)

Morning Session:

Chairperson:	Mr. Poshan Nath Nepal, Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Transport Management
09:00 - 10:00 hrs.	Synopsis of outcomes of the workshop and consensus building
10:00 – 10:30 hrs.	General discussion and remarks from the Chair – Mr. Poshan Nath Nepal, Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Transport Management
10:30 - 11:00 hrs.	Tea/Coffee

Closing Session:

Chairperson:	Honourable Member, Dr. Nirmal Prasad Pandey, National Planning Commission
Chief Guest:	Honourable Minister for Labour & Transport Management, Mr. Palten Gurung, Ministry of Labour & Transport Management
11:00 – 12:00 hrs.	Remarks from Mr. Ng Gek-Boo, Director for Operations, IPEC, ILO Geneva Remarks from Mr. Poshan Nath Nepal, Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Transport Management Remarks from Chief Guest Honourable Minister for Labour & Transport Management, Mr. Palten Gurung, Ministry of Labour & Transport Management Remarks and vote of thanks by Ms. Leyla Tegmo-Reddy, Director, ILO Kathmandu Closing remarks from the Chair - Honourable Member , Dr. Nirmal Prasad Pandey, National Planning Commission
12:00 - 13:00 hrs.	Lunch
15:00 - 16:00 hrs.	Press conference

Annex C - a

**Welcome Address by Ms. Leyla Tegmo-Reddy, Director, ILO Kathmandu
at the National Consultation on the Time-Bound Programme
against the Worst Forms of Child Labour
8-10 May 2001, Kathmandu**

Chairperson and Honourable Vice-Chairman, Mr. Prithivi Raj Ligal, National Planning Commission
Chief Guest and Rt. Honourable Prime Minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala
Honourable Minister for Labour and Transport Management, Mr. Palten Gurung
His Excellency, Mr. Ralph Frank, US Ambassador to the Kingdom of Nepal
Hon'ble Ministers, Excellencies, Secretaries,
Heads of UN and International Agencies
Representatives of employers' and workers' organizations
Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a great honor to welcome all of you to the ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour's "National Consultation on the Time-Bound Programme against the Worst Forms of Child Labour".

It is no small feat nor is it a coincidence that we embark on the National Stakeholder Consultation on the Worst Forms of Child Labour today. His Majesty's Government has repeatedly stated its commitment to eliminate the worst forms of child labour. As a result, Nepal has been chosen as one of the first three countries on the globe in which to implement the ILO-IPEC Time-Bound Programme, to be funded by the US Department of Labour.

The goal is ambitious, and the stakes are high. Within a short period of time, it is our overarching goal to eliminate the worst forms of child labour from Nepal. And, if we fail,

- what will become of the thousands of Nepalese children who are trapped in intolerable and inhuman working conditions?
- what will become of the Nepalese girls who are continuously being trafficked for commercial sexual and labour exploitation? and,
- will children fall back into bondage for life again in order to pay off parental debts?

From five years of experience in Nepal, we know how complex and challenging it is to work for the abolition of child labour. Yet, we have also learnt how we have - within-our-power- the ability to prevent, rescue and rehabilitate child labour in a wide range of sectors and in all parts of the country.

We have learnt how essential it is that we work together in strategic alliances. From parents to children themselves, from VDC and District leaders, to NGOs, the media, and to the ILO constituents — Government, employers and workers — we know that the only viable solution lies in building new and innovative partnerships at all levels of the country. It is gratifying to see so many of you here today. I thank you and I truly respect you for the invaluable work you have done for the children of Nepal and for your commitment.

In other countries of the region and the world, people are following our work here in Nepal closely — in a search for answers as to how we may improve the situation of children trapped in child labour, in other

countries, all over the globe. Yet, in eliminating the worst forms of child labour there can be no short cuts, nor any easy fixes. The Time-Bound Programme is being implemented on the ground, here in Nepal.

For the past six months the ILO Office in Kathmandu has been working intensively with Nepalese research institutions to learn about the worst forms of child labour as they exist in Nepal. And in developing new solutions and strategies, we have sought the advice of communities, parents, children and ILO social partners and NGOs, in a series of consultations in each of the five development regions of Nepal. On March 8, ILO-IPEC further facilitated a National Workshop on gender issues and child labour with the participation of gender specialists, grassroots women, the ILO constituents as well as girl child labourers.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We all have a stake in the Time-Bound Programme. In the course of the next three days, I hope that we may build consensus on the strategic objectives of the Time-Bound Programme, and that we can find ways for ensuring that the Time-Bound Programme will be owned and implemented by the people of Nepal.

* * * * *

Allow me to recall the specific objectives of this National Stakeholder Consultation. These are:

- to build national ownership of the Time-Bound Programme
- to identify and build consensus on target groups and target areas for the implementation of the Time-Bound Programme
- to enlist political and technical support of national and international organizations in the development of the Time-Bound Programme, and
- to prioritise effective and practical strategies for the Time-Bound Programme.

One day, the Time-Bound Programme in Nepal will end. Before then, it is our common goal to ensure that our consolidated efforts for the plight and lives of the working children of Nepal will be taken further in government programmes and in other support programmes in Nepal. The first steps have been taken already. GTZ, UNICEF, the World Bank, DFID, UNESCO, AusAID, and we -in the ILO- has formed a Child Labour Coordination Group to foster new partnerships in the battle against child labour. One of the current initiatives of the group is to support the Government in drafting a 10-year Master Plan for the elimination of child labour in Nepal.

In the name of collaboration, I urge all of you to actively search for new partnerships and new solutions to promote the elimination of child labour and to improve the situation of Nepal's children. Let's start today. Child labour, keeping children out of school, perpetrates the vicious cycle of poverty. Let us stop that cycle together. The National Stakeholder Consultation offers a unique opportunity to step up our work for the benefit of the children of Nepal and for the future of the country.

Thank you.

Annex C - b

**Inaugural Speech by Right Honourable Prime Minister Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala
National Consultation on the Time-Bound Programme against the Worst Forms of Child Labour Hotel Yak and Yeti, Kathmandu, 8 May 2001**

Chairperson
Honourable Ministers
Honourable Members of the Parliament
Excellencies
Distinguished participants
Ladies and gentlemen

It is my honor and privilege to be here today to inaugurate the National Consultation on the Time-Bound Programme against Child Labour. I truly believe that the IPEC Programme will succeed in its objective to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in Nepal within the time frame it has set for itself.

Being the future of the country, children should be given the opportunity to realize and enjoy their rights today so that they may grow up to become conscious citizens of tomorrow. Unfortunately, the situation of the majority of Nepalese children presents a gloomy picture. It is estimated that there are 2.6 million working children between 5 and 14 years of age, which comes to around 41 per cent of the total number of children in Nepal.

What is even more alarming is the fact that thousands of children are trapped in the worst forms of child labour. In the worst forms, children are sold, trafficked and forced to work under intolerable conditions. Their situation calls for immediate attention.

The Government has always been very concerned about the state of the children in the country and has been making efforts to improve the status and the rights of Nepalese children. The Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal seeks to protect children by conferring on them certain fundamental rights. The government, however, is well aware that despite the commitments and efforts to provide a fair deal for the children of Nepal, there is a lot that needs to be done.

Nepal has resolved to take a phase-wise approach to deal with the issue of child labour, targeting the worst forms first and all other forms later. His Majesty's Government is in the process of drafting a Master Plan for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour by 2005 and all forms of child labour by 2010. The Master Plan will be linking the National Plans of Actions of concerned line ministries, and will ensure that the issue of child labour will be fully integrated into the forthcoming five-year plans.

The government strongly adheres to the ILO principle of "Fundamental Rights and Principles at Work". We are fully committed to eliminate the worst forms of child labour and the government is in the process of ratifying ILO Worst Form of Child Labour Convention No. 182. We have already abolished the bonded labour system, and hence hope to eliminate bonded child labour, one of the worst forms of child labour in Nepal.

We have repeatedly been calling for the need to build national and international alliance's support to combat child labour. It is indeed gratifying to know that Nepal has been selected by the ILO as one of the

first three countries on the globe in which to implement the Time-Bound Programme for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

The government of Nepal is fully committed to provide good education and health care facilities to the children. The ratification in 1997 of the ILO Minimum Age Convention is a symbol of concurrence to the international labour standards set by the ILO, and so is the signing of the two optional protocols of the Convention of the Rights of the Child. The recently formulated “Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act, 1999” will be an important tool in the fight against child labour in the country. With legislation for the prevention and control of child labour in place, what we now need is to step up our efforts to maximize their enforcement.

The Time-Bound Programme offers new hope in our battle against child labour. It will adopt sector-wise, area-based as well as thematic approaches in combating the worst forms of child labour in Nepal. For instance, it is essential to build linkages between Time-Bound Programme and the upcoming Poverty Reduction Strategy Plan (PRSP) in order to have a coordinated approach for an overall socio-economic upliftment of the country, its people, and its children. Such linkages, I am confident, will be very helpful in raising the status of children and in giving them an opportunity for their overall development.

Though ILO-IPEC is implementing the Time-Bound Programme, we should make efforts from our respective positions to make this a success. Until and unless the nation and its people own a programme, no concrete achievements can be expected from it. Therefore, I urge this forum to regard Time-Bound Programme as their very own programme and provide all their support to make it successful so that our children are not forced to work under hazardous conditions, are not exploited and get every opportunity for their overall development.

I once again take this opportunity to wish the National Stakeholder Consultation all success.

Thank you.

Annex C - c

Keynote Speech
by Mr. Y. Nodera, Regional Director
ILO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific, Bangkok
National Consultation on the Time-bound Programme
against the Worst Forms of Child Labour
8 - 10 May 2001, Hotel Yak and Yeti, Kathmandu

Chairperson and Hon'ble Vice-Chairman, Mr. Prithivi Raj Ligal, National Planning Commission
Chief Guest and Rt. Honourable Prime Minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala
Mr. Palten Gurung, Honourable Minister for Labour and Transport Management
Honourable Ministers, Members of the Parliament
His Excellency Mr. Ralph Frank, U.S. Ambassador for the Kingdom of Nepal
Ms. Leyla Tegmo-Reddy, Director, ILO Kathmandu
Honourable Ministers, Excellencies, Secretaries,
Heads of UN and International Agencies
Distinguished participants
Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of ILO Director General Mr. Juan Somavia and on behalf of ILO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific, I would like to welcome you in a three-day national consultation on the Time-Bound Programme against the worst forms of child labour.

The national consultation has been organised in relation to the development and implementation of sustainable programmes of action for achieving the goals set by ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention No. 182, which was unanimously adopted by the International Labour Conference in June 1999, together with Recommendation 190. By the end of March 2001, 71 countries had ratified Convention 182. ILO expects at least 87 countries, 50% of the ILO member States, will ratify the Convention by the end of 2001.

Secondly, this very event has been organised as a follow up action of a conference held in Washington in May 2000 on "Advancing the Global Campaign Against Child Labour: Progress made and future actions", where three countries El Salvador from Latin America, Tanzania from Africa and Nepal from Asia pledged their commitment to implement the Time-Bound Programme (TBP) for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

The Time-Bound Programme approach is designed primarily to assist member States with an integrated approach for implementing ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour. Convention 182 has brought focus and a sense of urgency to the complex endeavour of progressively eliminating all forms of child labour, driven by the ILO Minimum Age Convention (No. 138). Elimination of child labour remains the long-term goal. Elimination of its worst forms, however, is the priority target, and these forms must be dealt with in an integrated and time-bound fashion. To ensure sustainability of success, the withdrawal of children from intolerable work situations must be accompanied by measures to offer them and their family appropriate education, income and employment alternatives, as well as measures to prevent other children from getting involved.

The International Labour Organization has a specific mandate to progressively eliminate child labour. The ILO's millennium priorities set out four strategic objectives. They are:

1. To promote and realise fundamental principles and rights at work;

2. To create greater opportunities for women and men to secure decent employment and income;
3. To enhance the coverage and effectiveness of social protection for all and;
4. To strengthen tripartism and social dialogue.

Under each strategic objective, a number of international focus programmes of high priority, relevance and visibility concentrate and integrate activities for maximum impact and coverage such as International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). Over the last decade, ILO-IPEC has implemented a wide range of multi-faceted projects aimed at the prevention, withdrawal and rehabilitation of child labourers in more than 70 countries.

Ten years ago, much of the world denied or minimised the existence of child labour. Now, in a hopeful sign in the new millennium, governments, employers, workers, international organisations and non-governmental organisations everywhere are actively joining forces to combat this grave injustice done to children. The vicious circle of poverty leading to child labour, which in turn perpetuates poverty, must be broken. Children must be able to move from work into schools and training programmes, and adults must find improved incomes and decent jobs. It can be done, and it must be done.

ILO Convention No. 182 calls for “immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour as a matter of urgency.” The accompanying Recommendation urges ratifying States to declare the worst forms of child labour as criminal offences and to impose penal sanctions on those who would perpetrate them.

The younger the child, the more vulnerable he or she is to hazards at the workplace and to economic exploitation. ILO survey results show that in some areas up to 20 per cent of child workers are under the age of ten. The situation of the girl child also receives particular attention. Many are found in some of the worst kinds and conditions of work. Therefore, ILO feels that a gender perspective is always necessary in dealing with children’s rights and child labour.

Combined with existing standards, the new Convention and Recommendation set a clear goal and a clear direction for policy-makers world-wide: To progressively eliminate child labour and immediately attack its worst forms. There has been much positive action against child labour, of which we can be very proud. But candidly, we must also admit that the problem persists at an enormous scale. Our past and current efforts are simply not enough.

This is what prompted the development of a five-year Time-Bound Programme in Nepal. This is an opportunity for all of us to prove that certain forms of child labour can indeed be eliminated and examples can be set. The world now is looking at you and hoping to learn from your experience. In fact, quite a number of countries have voiced their commitment to provide their assistance for the Time-Bound Programme. Therefore, it is important that we work hard so that we lay the ground for others.

At the beginning of the new millennium, humankind most certainly does not lack for challenges. And the most urgent among them must be the problem of child labour. Let us declare the worst forms of child labour morally abhorrent and intolerable. Let us, at the same time, acknowledge - as ILO has done - that many other forms of child labour need to be urgently addressed, along with the challenges of providing more and better jobs for parents, more access to education for children and greater development possibilities for the countries in which they live.

Join us in this struggle so that together we can make a decisive breakthrough against the global scourge of child labour and together we can restore childhood to millions of children throughout the world. I wish a success of the meeting.

Annex C - d

National Consultation on the ILO Time-Bound Programme

Against the Worst Forms of Child Labour

8 May 2001, Kathmandu, Nepal

Remarks by H.E. Ralph Frank

United States Ambassador to Nepal

Mr. Prime Minister, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen: Good Morning

I am pleased to take part in this National Consultation on ILO's Time-Bound Programme Against the Worst Forms of Child Labour. I hope and expect this event to stimulate the Government of Nepal's progress toward the elimination of exploitative child labour. I would like to thank the Government of Nepal and the ILO for making this Consultation possible.

The growth of Nepali economy and international trade opportunities has brought vast new opportunities for human development, but it also reminds us that basic human rights must be included in the workplace. We all share the challenge of seeking social justice and equality of opportunity in our own countries as we seek to improve living standards not just for our own citizens, but for all the world's people.

And, there is no more fundamental human rights than to be free from forced or exploitative labour. Still, while agreement on these goals is nearly universal, challenges remain, especially regarding children, the world's most precious resource and vulnerable citizens.

Children should be educated, not exploited. The worst forms of child labour rob children of their health, their growth, their education, and even their lives. Child labour is exploitation of the innocent, the weak, and the vulnerable. It is children in hazardous work; it is children in bondage; and it is sexual exploitation of children.

It is no secret that poorer countries are particularly vulnerable to child labour as families struggle to survive.

A variety of exploitative labour practices persist in Nepal, severely affecting the work and lives of thousands of children and their parents. Trafficking of human beings for exploitative labour continues. ILO/IPEC estimates that some 12,000 girls are trafficked to India each year for commercial sexual exploitation.

My government supports ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, which embodies core values of rights of children to be free from exploitative labour. It demonstrates a country's commitment to adhere to international standards on the issue of child labour. I urge the Government of Nepal to ratify Convention 182 at the earliest opportunity.

The identification and elimination of child labour is a daunting task. The International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour approach, the Time-Bound Programme, offers new hope for thousands of children trapped in the worst forms of child labor. Combining sector-wise, area-based and thematic approaches, the Time-Bound Programme aims to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in Nepal within a period of 5-7 years. Nepal has sensibly become one of the first three nations to have Time-Bound Pro-

gramme, the other two being Tanzania and El Salvador. The U.S Department of Labour has committed considerable resources to support this effort in Nepal. The world will be watching to see how well these first IPEC programmes succeed.

The U.S is active in other programmes, as well. Recently, the ILO launched the “In Focus” Programme on Sustainable Elimination of Bonded Labour, aimed at the rehabilitation of bonded labours in the five Kamaiya districts of Nepal. The United States is proud to support that effort, with a donation of \$3.5 million.

The U.S Department of Labour also provided \$110,000 to support the so-called “RAPID” Child Labour Assessment Programme in Nepal. That amount was part of a total of more than \$2 million to support such programmes worldwide.

In addition, the U.S Department of Labour is providing nearly \$1.8 million to fund South Asian Sub-Regional Programme to Combat Trafficking in Children, an IPEC project launched in Nepal on December 14, 2000. More than \$370,000 of this amount will be applied in Nepal.

To eliminate the worst forms of child labour will be a daunting but worthy task. But we must work to protect the child porters, the ragpickers, the domestic workers, the bonded child labourers and the children who are trafficked for exploitative employment. Their futures depend on how successfully we work together to eliminate child labour in Nepal.

By agreeing to take part in the Time-Bound Programme, the Government of Nepal has demonstrated its serious commitment to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in Nepal.

My government is proud to be working with ILO, the Government of Nepal, and the Nepali people to give exploited children a better life.

Thank You.

Annex C - e

National RoundTable on the Time-Bound Programme on the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Nepal Kathmandu, 8 May 2001

Remarks by Eileen Muirragui United States Department of Labour

I am delighted to be here today, on behalf of U.S Department of Labour, as the Government of Nepal takes up the challenge of embarking on a comprehensive and integrated Time-Bound Programme to remove children from exploitative work and provide them educational opportunities with the support of the International Labour Organization's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO/IPEC)

In 1999, the ILO took a significant step in combating child labour when its members adopted Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour. This new Convention calls on countries to assist one another in eradicating the worst forms of child labour, and I am pleased to say that the United States has accepted this challenge. Two years ago, the United States increased its contribution to ILO/IPEC by ten-fold making it the leading donor to the IPEC programme. We renewed that commitment in 2000, and this year, in fiscal year 2001, the United States again made helping the world's children a priority. In FY 2001 the U.S Congress allocated an unprecedented \$45 million to support the work of ILO/IPEC and another \$37 million for a new initiative to promote educational opportunities for working children around the world.

The United States was one of the first countries to ratify ILO Convention 182. We encourage all ILO members to join in supporting the Convention. But, ratification is not an end in itself. It must be the starting point for turning our commitment into action. We look to a time, in foreseeable future, when children wake up in the morning not to another hopeless and exhausting day to work, but learning and developmental opportunities at school.

Given the nature and extent of child labour problem worldwide, we know that even with the substantial level of funding the problems of child labour cannot be solved overnight. We are, therefore, encouraging other governments, international organizations and donor institutions to dedicate resources to follow-up work to ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour. For the new ground-breaking Time-Bound Programme to be a success, we must pool our resources and focus on our common goal. By working together, we have the potential to make a difference in lives of millions of children for generations to come.

The Bush Administration recognizes the importance of promoting international labour standards and reducing child labour throughout the world. Under the direction of Secretary of Labour Eliane Chao, the International Labour Affairs Bureau of the Department of Labour plans to continue working with the ILO on core labour standards, as well as follow-up work to ILO Convention 182. With budgetary requests for FY 2002, the Department of Labour intends to continue support of ILO/IPEC on projects that remove children from exploitative work and provide them education and their families with viable economic alternatives.

In closing, I especially want to recognize the impressive commitment that Nepal has made to the elimination of child labour. Nepal has joined Tanzania and El Salvador as the first three countries to undertake the Time-Bound Programme to eliminate child labour, particularly its worst forms. We are pleased that United States will be working closely with Nepal and the ILO on this new initiative. On behalf of the United States Department of Labour, I want to especially thank the Honorable Prime Minister, Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala, for his personal support for this meeting and the new initiative. I want also to thank Mr. Gek-Boo Ng, IPEC Director of Operations, Ms Leyla Tegmo-Reddy, Director, ILO, Nepal, and of course, all those in Nepal and IPEC who did the work to make this meeting possible.

Thank you.

Annex C - f

**Remarks and Vote of Thanks by
Honourable Minister for Labour and Transport Management
Mr. Palten Gurung
National Consultation on the Time-bound Programme
against the Worst Forms of Child Labour
Hotel Yak and Yeti, Kathmandu, 8 May 2001**

It is a great pleasure and privilege for me to join you this morning to present my remark about my favourite subject - freeing every child of this country from hazardous and exploitative work.

It is a sad reflection of the 21st Century that there are thousands of children in Nepal who have lost their "childhood" by working long hours in difficult and sometimes dreadful situations, carrying loads as porter, working as rag pickers, working under forced situations similar to bondage and working as child prostitutes in squalid brothels. In all cases, they neither have opportunity to attend school or experience a normal childhood.

Following the commitment made by His Majesty's Government of Nepal in International Conference held in Washington in May 2000, and commitment to ratify the ILO Convention No. 182, concerning Worst Forms of Child Labour, the ILO has selected Nepal as one of the sample countries (apart from Tanzania and El Salvador) to launch Time-Bound Programme for the elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour. In this august gathering, I would like to reiterate the commitment of His Majesty's Government of Nepal, in supporting the Time-Bound Programme for the achievement of its objectives through active consultations and co-ordinations with the relevant ministries, international organisations, other UN organisations and non-governmental organisations including employers' and workers' organisations. The Ministry of Labour and Transport Management will extend all possible support to make Time-Bound Programme a grand success in Nepal.

On the other hand, under the government national programme on child labour, Nepal will work to create meaningful standards for the skills and knowledge that a child should possess. Nepal will strengthen its accountability system that makes schools and targeted districts responsible for providing each child with those skills and that knowledge. I am confident that this consultation will concentrate on all causes and effects of the child labour and will identify appropriate strategies and activities including identifying policy gaps for the design of the Time-Bound Programme. On behalf of the Ministry of Labour and Transport Management, I would like to extend best wishes for the success of the National Consultation meeting and commit for all possible support for the implementation of the Time-Bound Programme.

On behalf of all child workers of Nepal, ILO-IPEC and on behalf of the Ministry of Labour and Transport Management, I would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the Right Honourable Prime Minister Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala for inaugurating this national consultation and for his valuable remarks. I would also like to thank to Honourable Vice-Chairman of the National Planning Commission for chairing the opening session and for delivery of thought provoking remarks. Similarly, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to His Excellency Mr. Ralph Frank, US Ambassador for the Kingdom of Nepal for his meaningful address. I would also like to extend our deep appreciation to Mr. Y Nodera, Regional Director, ILO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific and Ms. Leyla Tegmo-Reddy, Director of ILO Office in Kathmandu for their welcome and keynote speech. Last but not the least, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to all participants of this National Consultation meeting for their active participation and creating congenial environment for the support of the Time-Bound Programme. I wish grand success of the programme.

Annex C - g

INTRODUCTORY SESSION

Concept of the Time-Bound Programme

Mr. Ng Gek-Boo, Director for Operations, IPEC ILO Geneva

In this fifteen-minute power point presentation, I would like to focus on the broader perspectives of the Time-Bound Programme on the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in Nepal.

Indeed, according to our estimates, two-thirds of the children trapped in the worst forms of child labour are found in hazardous sectors, including the agricultural sector. We also see that rural areas are the major source of supply of child labour in Nepal, Tanzania, and in many other countries in which we work. Thus, when we are talking about the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, we are very concerned about the rural areas of the country.

As we work to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, we have to take into account the dynamics of the child labour market. The children are going to grow up – today they are 5, soon they are going to be 15, and they will stay in the labour market until they retire. Consider the large population of children today below 18 years of age, and then how they will grow up to become part of the rapidly growing labour force. The consequence is clear: a labour market with a considerable segment of the labour force characterized by low skills, low productivity, low income, low wages and low mobility. This will seriously hamper labour market performance.

Such a scenario will not be beneficial for the country. It will not be good for the private sector employers, as former child labourers will not be the types of labour force they look for if they want to increase productivity and to improve competitiveness in exports. For workers' organizations, certainly child labour is a disaster as it is near impossible to improve the welfare of many workers with low productivity and low levels of skill.

A related point is that when people talk about poverty, it is often pointed out that where people are poor, we have a problem of child labour. Effective measures are called for to break this vicious cycle, and the Time-Bound Programme is one of the major options. In a sense it is true that when children work there is a serious problem of poverty, not least because children contribute to the generation of low-income jobs and low incomes of households. But it is also true that these children will continue to stay at the very bottom of the labour market, and that they will grow up to remain the poorest of the poor. This is the vicious cycle of poverty and child labour.

The policy implication is straightforward. When we want to alleviate poverty, child labour is a critical target group. We have to prevent children entering the labour market, to become immobile, illiterate, and low-skilled child labourers. The adjustment of the labour market to new opportunities, to economic reform, to structural adjustment, will be severely hampered due to the existence of large number of child labourers, who do not possess the skills, training and education needed to remain productive in the labour market for the next 20 to 30 years. The penalty of child labour — on the economy and on the society as a whole — is heavy, as many workers will not be able to meet the demand of the labour market for skilled and semi-skilled jobs. A large portion of the labour market will not be able to perform in ways that economic growth would demand.

In the long run, for the ILO and IPEC, when we talk about the worst forms of child labour, and when we talk about ILO Convention no. 182, we are not only thinking in terms of rights which are of vital importance to a UN organization like the ILO. But we are also thinking in terms of economic and social substance. When we work to eliminate child labour, we are concerned that this is a strategic issue of crucial importance for economic growth and development of Nepal.

Further to this, I would like to explain why we want to work on the worst forms and why it should be time bound. To work on the worst forms means to work at the very bottom of the labour market. We have found that combating the worst forms is the best strategic entry point to attack the employment of children in the labour market. We consider that by eliminating the worst forms in any country, we will be able to get support not only from the government, employers', trade unions and all of our social partners but also from the civil society at large.

ILO Convention No. 182 urges the ILO members to implement the Time-Bound Programmes to eliminate the worst forms of child labour as a most urgent measure within a set time frame. In Nepal, we have to assure that there is accountability and that baseline surveys are conducted. We need to put in place a carefully designed system of indicators for monitoring our progress to eliminate the worst forms of child labour and to make sure that we are on the right track. In this time-bound approach, we all have to work closely together to monitor progress and to achieve our common goals.

The first requirement for developing a Time-Bound Programme is political commitment. Next, the issue of social foundation is extremely important. We firmly believe that child labour is very complex, very old, and that it requires solutions that go beyond economic measures. This is why, in the Time-Bound Programme, we emphasize social mobilization. The support of the civil society and the many communities of Nepal is indispensable for the success of the Time-Bound Programme.

We are very fortunate that through the support from the Government of Germany, the IPEC Country Programme has been implemented. In the course of the last five years or so, we have worked with many of you, including His Majesty's Government, non-government organizations, workers, employers, academics, and many other stakeholders. Thus, we have developed a certain level of capacity in Nepal to launch the Time-Bound Programme.

A related point concerns the financial resources. Here we must thank the Department of Labour of the US Government. The contribution received is a significant one. During the next few days, we will be meeting other donors and UN Agencies to see how we can work together for the formulation and implementation of the Time-Bound Programme.

The idea of the Time-Bound Programme was conceived in May 2000, when Nepal pledged to support. During our first mission in August, and since then, we have tried hard to understand what are the worst forms of child labour in Nepal, where do they come from, in what condition do they work, and how many are they. Yet, we still have to study more carefully the reasons for the worst forms of child labour, and we have to assess the socio-economic causes and conditions. In turn, our policy interventions have to be carefully targeted. Due to resource constraint, we cannot introduce every policy intervention in every area of equal importance. We must get our priorities right.

We hope that during the National Stakeholder Consultation, we will be able to identify more carefully the target groups and the areas in which we shall intervene. In the following group work session, we need to know a lot more about what you think, what are the sectors in which we should really intervene, and then also what are the gaps in terms of information.

As for the basic policy pillars of the Time-Bound Programme, we very much hope that a conducive macro-economic environment will support the implementation of the programme. Also, where labour and social policies are of critical importance to the Time-Bound Programme. Similarly, education and training policies are essential. We know that if children stay in school until they are 15 or so, child labour will be significantly reduced. Conversely, if we have much child labour in the labour market it is extremely difficult for any society to achieve universal education.

In this regard, it is gratifying to hear from the Prime Minister that there will be a direct link between the Time-Bound Programme and the poverty reduction measures of Nepal. Unlike the World Bank, the ADB, and many other donors who are present here, the ILO does not have a special fund for poverty reduction. We thus need to explore in which ways, the Time-Bound Programme initiative can be linked to poverty reduction initiatives to be carried out by His Majesty's Government of Nepal and by other donors in the country.

As mentioned earlier, national ownership is a top priority. We see child labour as national issue, and I would like to urge the government and the civil society to take ownership of the programme. We need to build broad, strategic alliances, and the ILO is only one of many players in the Time-Bound Programme. Finally, we need to explore the possibilities for raising significant amount of resources needed to create an impact of the Time-Bound Programme.

Thus, when we talk about the Time-Bound Programme, we would like to see that this is considered as an integral part of the national development strategy - a national strategy for poverty reduction and a national strategy to promote social justice. We see the Time-Bound Programme in a much broader and long-term perspective.

Further, when we mention the worst forms of child labour, it does not mean that we are going to limit our work to the worst forms only. We remain committed to improve the work and lives of the whole spectrum of working children. We have to keep in mind the entire labour market and the entire issue of poverty reduction. In ILO, we work for social justice, to ensure that there is decent work for every citizen in the society.

Annex D

Need of a Time-Bound Programme to Eliminate The Worst Forms of Child Labour

A Discussion Paper
Prepared for National Consultation on the Time-Bound
Programme against the Worst Forms of Child Labour
8 - 10 May 2001, Kathmandu

By

Dr. Mohan Man Sainju

Need of the Time-Bound Programme to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour

A decade has passed since the restoration of democracy in Nepal. The 1990 Constitution of the Kingdom of Nepal guarantees the equality of all citizens under the law. It also provides fundamental rights, with clearly stated provisions for the protection and development of women, children, the aged, the physically and mentally handicapped, and also the socially, economically and educationally disadvantaged.

The Constitution seeks to protect the interests of children by conferring certain fundamental rights and imposing certain duties in the form of the “directive principles and policies of the state”.

Article 11 guarantees equality before the law to all citizens and equal protection of the law to all persons, and states that these provisions will not prevent the state from making special provisions for the protection and advancement of children.

Article 26 (8) of the Directive Principle and Policies of the State obligates the state to make necessary arrangements to safeguard the rights and interests of children and to ensure that they are not exploited. The state is also directed to make gradual arrangements for free education.

Similarly, the Constitution prohibits actions such as human trafficking, slavery, and serfdom, or forced labour. The chapter on fundamental rights also guarantees the prohibition of child labour in factories, mines or in hazardous work. Part IV provides directives to ensure the rights and welfare of children and to provide free basic education, thereby protecting the children from exploitation.

In order to implement the provisions made under the Constitution, His Majesty’s Government has created the Ministry of Labour and Transport Management (MOLT) to address the issue of child labour and to enforce all concerned laws, rules and regulations thereof. In addition, the Ministry of Women and Social Welfare has been renamed as the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MWCSW), with a mandate to raise the status of children. Furthermore, the National Council on Women and Children has been formed under the chairpersonship of the Prime Minister.

The 1990’s can truly be called the decade of international commitment to prevent child labour, and to ensure the rights and welfare of children. During this time, many laws, rules and regulations were enacted to execute the constitutional provisions regarding child labour, including the Labour Act, 1991, and the Children’s Act, 1992. In addition, the existing Civil Code, Foreign Employment Act, and Human Trafficking Act were directed against child labour and in favour of child welfare. Ratification of the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the commitment for the ratification of International Labour Organisation Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (1999) were other major steps. Furthermore, Nepal introduced the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act, 1999, for prevention and regulation of child labour.

It is an undeniable fact that the work of preventing and regulating child labour is as necessary and essential as it is difficult and complicated. In an underdeveloped country like Nepal, with weak socio-economic conditions, this poses a major challenge. Mainstreaming the problem of child labour into the context of national development, by the Government, was limited to the efforts that it put towards transforming the socio-economic pattern of the Nepalese society.

To make legal provisions and to translate them into action are not the same thing. In a country like Nepal, which has witnessed a wide gap between planning and implementation, is not a small thing to expect effective execution of the laws and to translate the provisions of the laws into action. Besides this,

the absence of the knowledge of actual status of child labour, its structure, factors involved in it and obstacles and problems experienced in course of the execution of the concerned legal provision, remains a strong drawback and weaknesses. In such circumstances, an effective solution of this problem seems impossible. In order to continue efforts for political and administrative commitment, an analysis of these matters is not only necessary but also compulsory. Only then the Time-bound Programme should be formulated, and an effective implementation mechanism created.

Taking this fact into consideration, working in partnership with International Labour Organization (ILO) in a national effort to prevent and regulate child labour is considered to be relevant and necessary. The ILO decision to improve the situation of the worst forms of child labour in three countries on three different continents, and the selection of Nepal as one of the three chosen countries will prove to be a blessing.

The estimated population of children in Nepal between six and fourteen years of the age is nearly 4.7 million. The most current population figures will become available in the upcoming census of 2058 (2002). Data indicates that 25.5 per cent of Nepal's children are economically active, yet only 4.4 per cent of these children receive remuneration for their work. Children who should be in school are being used as domestic servants, porters and bonded labourers. Some of them work just to meet their daily needs and some are even sold.

The Time-Bound Programme is being formulated on the basis of the rapid assessments commissioned to examine various aspects of child labour in Nepal. Those studies have helped to identify the worst forms of child labour and the obstacles standing in the way of its elimination. Nepalese experts involved in this study deserve appreciation. The Rapid Assessments have assessed the situation of children working in five sectors: bonded labour, trafficking, porters, domestics and ragpickers.

The studies clearly indicate that in order to prevent, regulate and eliminate child labour, attention must be paid to both policies and programming, as follows:

1. The main cause of child labour is poverty and poor socio-economic conditions.
2. The rural areas constitute the major source of child labour in Nepal.
3. The attraction towards modernization and desire to experience city life creates an inflow of children to urban areas.
4. Family environments, such as domestic violence and unfavourable family atmosphere are another factor.
5. The lack of alternative income opportunities in rural areas, especially among disadvantaged ethnic groups such as the Dalits, is an underlying cause.
6. Lack of quality education and lack of access to educational opportunities, either formal or non-formal, perpetuates the situation.
7. There is a lack of awareness about the consequences of child labour and the long-term impact, and lack of insight into the responsibilities and duties towards children.
8. Existing laws and rules to prevent and regulate child labour particularly in the worst forms are not effectively implemented.
9. There is inadequate understanding and operation of policies, laws and rules regulating child labour, due to the absence of good governance, i.e., lack of responsibility in making legal and policy arrangements; perpetuation of the atmosphere of corruption; and lack of coordination among concerned parties working against child labour.
10. The efforts of donor countries and agencies are not properly coordinated, due to Nepal's weak financial sector, and lack of clear-cut guidelines for foreign aid policy.
11. In order to promote awareness and create pressure for change, a policy is needed to encourage government to work in partnership with non-government organisations, social service sectors, and

the private sector.

12. Measures should be taken to rehabilitate the children involved in the worst forms of child labour and integrate them in the mainstream of society. These measures may require such programs as counseling, rehabilitation and programmes to integrate families and society.
13. In view of the fact that girls are exploited more than boys, it is both necessary and urgent to give attention to the gender aspect of efforts to prevent and regulate child labour.

Keeping in mind the aforesaid points, the Time-Bound Programme needs to be structured in such a way that it has the following components:

1. Policy reform
2. Legislation and enforcement
3. Poverty alleviation
4. Education, training and public awareness
5. Partnership

Policy reform

In order to control and eliminate child labour, it is necessary to integrate policies and national targets of the Time-Bound Programme with the national plan during the next ten years, that is, during the coming Tenth and Eleventh Plans. It is also necessary to integrate the Time-Bound Programme as an integral part of the ten-year Master Plan against child labour being formulated jointly by the National Planning Commission and the Ministry of Labour and Transport Management in collaboration with the ILO/IPEC, UNICEF, GTZ and the World Bank.

By taking the directives of the Constitution of Nepal, the fundamental law of the realm, and fundamental rights as the main policy of preventing child labour, it is necessary to adopt an action policy in line with the directive principles of the state. That policy must involve all concerned parties and must be multi-pronged. Aspects such as gender equality and good governance must be integrated.

Legislation and enforcement

Priority must be given to understanding existing laws and rules, to promote public awareness, to mobilize public opinion against the violation of laws, and to encourage judicial action when deemed necessary. The police, judiciary and administrative units in charge of enforcement must be encouraged to be aware and conscious of their duty. In addition to these efforts, it would be beneficial to sensitise the police, administrators and courts with the various aspects of worst forms of child labour, and to organize the orientation programmes, interaction programmes and seminars to sensitise them to the task of eradicating these problems.

Poverty alleviation

Poverty and socio-economic deprivation are the principle factors responsible for the generation of child labour. Therefore there is a serious need to expand and intensify poverty alleviation programmes in the governmental, non-governmental and private sectors by prioritising poverty alleviation and empowerment of the poor. Similarly, steps should be taken to fully and actively involve disadvantaged groups in poverty alleviation through programmes implemented in the governmental and non-governmental sectors, and to empower them through social mobilization. Saving and credit programmes should be integral part of this effort, as well as additional programmes based on local needs and their feasibility.

As the majority of disadvantaged groups are concentrated in rural areas, steps must be taken to create employment opportunities, training and other programmes to enhance their skill and efficiency. Employment programmes should emphasize occupations and activities that utilise local raw materials, technology and labour.

In order to expand the poverty alleviation programme, poor women should be organized in group, and programmes to promote their access to resources and augment their income sources must be encouraged.

His Majesty's Government must create a poverty alleviation fund by enlisting and mobilising the non-government sectors that support poverty alleviation programmes.

Education, training and public awareness

Education is an effective means of improving behavioural traits. Primary education, non-formal and job-oriented education and training programmes both promote awareness and help reduce child labour. However, cooperation from all sectors is required in order to make basic and primary education relevant, easily accessible, available and affordable.

The child of today is the pillar of tomorrow. The future of Nepal rests on the shoulders of the child. It is necessary to create awareness among households, guardians and the society of the importance of bringing up children in an atmosphere of good education and good habits. Some guardians and households may receive immediate gains through the exploitation of child labour, but there is so far no correct information about the magnitude of loss the households and the society are suffering.

There is an urgent need to make the government machinery, the civil society, mass media, household and guardians aware of the fact that children working in the streets are not only subject to physical insecurity, but are also victims of the misuse of liquor, drugs and sexual abuse. The media can play an important role to mobilise public opinion against child labour as well as to bring the situation on the worst forms of child labour to the public.

As the children take shelter in the street, and become victims of worst forms of child labour due to the unhealthy atmosphere in the households, wrangling and inhuman treatment by their guardians, counselling is needed along with other training programmes.

Partnership

The elimination of the worst forms of child labour is not as easy as it seems. This problem is both difficult and delicate. A solution cannot be achieved simply by means of constitutional provisions, laws and the government's commitment on paper. The experiences of the past have taught this lesson. If there is discussion, interaction, and consensus among all the concerned parties on the magnitude of the problem, factors involved and possible solutions, a solution can be found. But a one-sided effort will not be adequate. There must be partnership and understanding among all the concerned parties.

If the government, the private sector, the workers organizations, the civil society and donor agencies are committed to this goal, success is ensured. Local governments, in line with the policy of decentralisation, can play a vital role in the identification as well as solution of the problem. The expanding private sector can also make a direct contribution in the task of preventing and regulating worst forms of child labour, by increasing employment opportunities through the establishment of industries and new enterprises, and by making educational and other creative opportunities accessible. Workers organizations can act as watchdogs in the factories and monitor the incidence of child labour.

The print and electronic media can also make a substantial contribution in the task of awakening public consciousness, monitoring the enforcement of the existing laws, drawing attention towards evil doers and creating public demand for correct policy and action.

The role of the government sector is vital because it prevents and regulates child labour by formulating policy required for eliminating and regulating child labour, framing laws and rules and regulations thereof, and ensuring the effective enforcement of these laws and rules and regulations. In this regard, the judicial sector and police administration are indispensable.

The role of donor countries and agencies in development as partners is indisputable. As Nepal is one of the least developed countries, there is a need of concrete support of donor agencies and groups in order to face the challenging task of eliminating and regulating the worst forms of child labour. As this problem cannot be solved simply through the enactment of laws, and as this problem can be solved only through development of concepts and approaches, the contribution of donor organizations in different aspects of development is vital.

It is also evident that the donor agencies could contribute to programmes for poverty alleviation, education, public awareness, institutional development, good governance, skill development, decentralization, monitoring and evaluation, etc. These programmes will also help to ensure sustainability as well as to achieve the desired goal by integrating the Time-Bound Programme into the national policy.

Summary

The future of Nepal rests on the children of today. The question of the development of these children stands before us as a primary need. From this perspective, as the worst forms of child labour give a dismal picture of Nepal's future, it is indisputable that the prevention and regulation of child labour is an urgent need.

The guidelines given by the Constitution have not simply pointed out the challenge of protecting the rights and welfare of the child, but have also shown the need to provide for their development and protection. Commitments made by Nepal in the international arena, and the enactments of laws thereof, have put forth both challenge and opportunity.

Moreover, the selection of Nepal as one of the three countries of the world by the International Labour Organization with commitment to eliminate the worst forms of child labour is a very welcome opportunity.

The Rapid Assessment and policy analyses conducted on the nature and extent, structure and factors contributing to the worst forms of child labour in Nepal provide a basis for the preparation of the Time-Bound Programme. Using this data and information, as well as suggestions from the regional consultative workshops and ILO Convention 182, the Time-Bound Programme should be targeted towards bonded labour, child domestics, child trafficking, child porters and ragpickers.

Poverty alleviation, legal matters, education and public awareness, and partnership are important aspects within the framework of the Time-Bound Programme. There is a need to integrate the Time-Bound Programme into the overall national development plan, thereby pursuing the policy of integrating these programmes into the next two Five-Year Plans.

All the concerned parties should be partners in the development efforts of Nepal. The contribution of donor nations and agencies is of vital importance. Therefore, the creative step taken by International Labour Organizations stands as a great opportunity for Nepal.

Any matter of national challenge cannot be met in the democratic system without the active participation of the people. Therefore the active contribution of households, society, local bodies, the private sector and non-governmental sectors and civic society, as well as the government sector, is of critical

importance. If there is national commitment, political commitment can be expected to follow, as well as responsible and accountable behaviour. The policy and thinking of Nepal, vis-à-vis the children of Nepal, should be part of the portrait of 21st century Nepal.

(The information in the following sheets is from the ILO-IPEC initiated rapid assessment studies conducted by the CDPS.)

1. SITUATION OF KAMAIYA CHILD LABOURERS

Table 1.1: Distribution of child labour respondents by district & sex

District	Boys		Girls		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Dang	17	13.5	17	14.9	34	14.2
Banke	8	6.3	10	8.8	18	7.5
Bardia	48	38.1	41	6.0	89	37.1
Kailali	33	26.2	35	30.7	68	28.3
Kanchanpur	20	15.9	11	9.6	31	12.9
Total	126	100.0	114	100.0	240	100.0

Table 1.2: Distribution of child labour by age group

Age group	Boys		Girls		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Up to 10 year	14	11.1	22	19.3	36	15.0
11 to 14 year	62	49.2	63	55.3	125	52.1
15 to 18 year	50	39.7	29	25.4	79	32.9
Total	126	100.0	114	100.0	240	100.0

Table 1.3: Starting Age of Work

Age range (years)	Boys		Girls		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
5 to 10	73	57.9	58	50.9	131	54.6
11 to 14	46	36.5	50	43.9	96	40.0
15 to 18	7	5.6	6	5.3	13	5.4
Total	126	100.0	114	100.0	240	100.0

Table 1.4: Educational status of the child labour

Place	Boys		Girls		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Illiterate	81	64.3	56	49.1	137	57.1
Just literate	16	12.7	40	35.1	56	23.3
Primary	27	21.4	18	15.8	45	18.8
Lower secondary	2	1.6	-	-	2	0.8
Total	126	100.0	114	100.0	240	100.0

Table 1.5: Distribution of child labour by working hours

Working Hours	Boy		Girl		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
< 12 hours	40	31.7	31	27.2	71	29.6
12-14 hours	59	46.8	58	50.9	117	48.8
14-16 hours	25	19.8	21	18.4	46	19.2
16 and more	2	1.6	4	3.5	6	2.5
Total	126	100.0	100	100.0	240	100.0

Table 1.6: Reasons for not recommending another Kamaiya Child Labour

Reasons	Boy		Girl		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Bad treatment	69	75.8	55	76.4	124	76.1
Bad food	9	9.9	9	12.5	18	11.0
High work load	80	87.9	63	87.5	143	87.7
Other reasons	11	12.1	15	20.8	26	16.0
Total*	91	100.0	72	100.0	163	100.0

* Total does not tally due to multiple responses

2.TRAFFICKING GIRLS IN NEPAL WITH SPECIAL REFERENCETO PROSTITUTION

Figure 2.1: Hard Trafficking

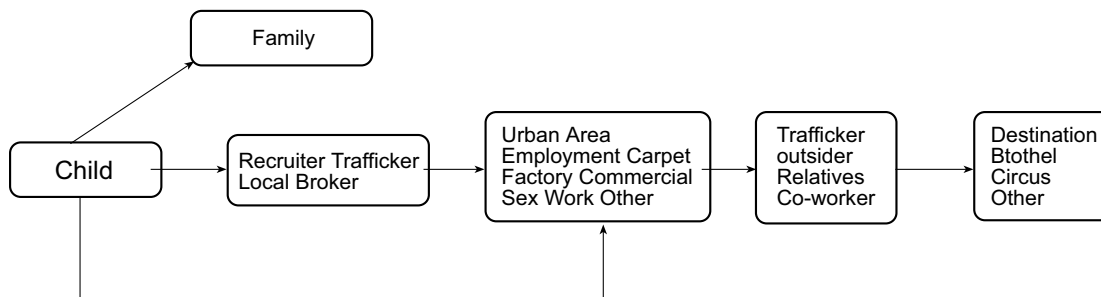


Figure 2.2: Soft Trafficking

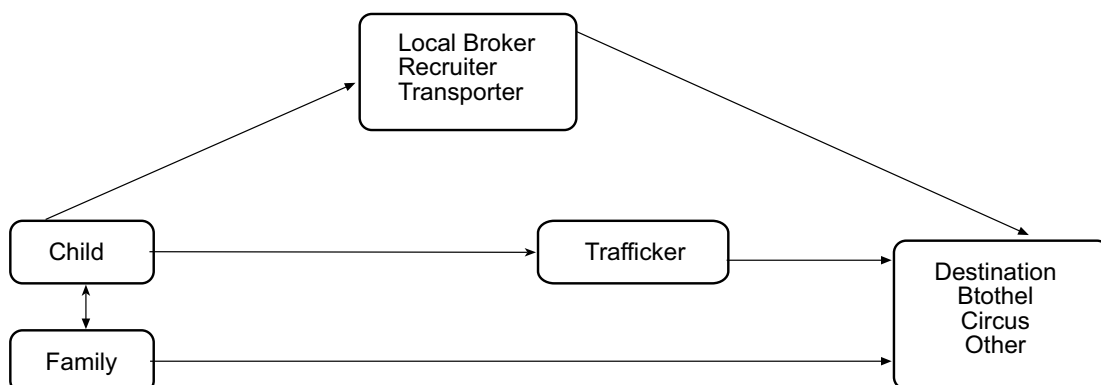


Figure 2.3: Sending Areas and Trafficking Routes to India Located



3. CHILD PORTERS IN NEPAL

Table 3.1: Distribution of Child Porters by District and Place of Origin by Job Distance, 2001

Type and Rural Urban Districts by Regions	Long Distance Porters			Short Distance Porters			Both		
	Rural	Urban	L. Total	Rural	Urban	S. Total	Rural	Urban	All Total
Eastern Hill/ Mountain	97.1	2.9	91.2	100.0	—	14.0	97.8	2.2	39.3
Central Hill/Mountain	100.0	—	1.8	99.1	0.9	46.4	99.1	0.9	31.8
West+Mid-West Hill	100.0	—	7.0	65.3	34.7	30.6	68.8	31.3	22.9
Terai Districts	—	—	—	89.5	10.5	8.1	89.5	10.5	5.4
India	—	—	—	100.0	0.0	0.9	100.0	—	0.6
TOTAL %	97.4	2.6	100.0	88.1	11.9	100.0	91.1	8.9	100.0
Total (N)	111	3	114	207	28	235	318	31	349

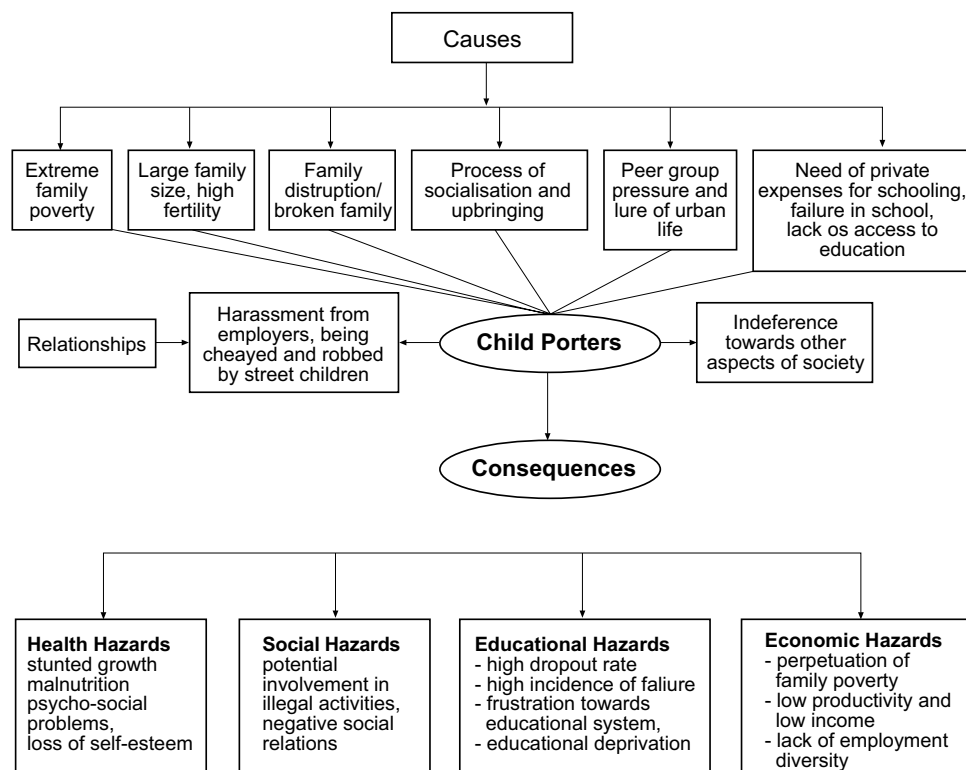
Box 3.2: The Lure of Urban Life

Focus group discussions and informal talks with adult and child porters at Chatara, Beltar, Gaighat and Jiri revealed that children become porters to see such urban sights as markets, motor vehicles, and cinemas. Those who do not become porters may have to wait for years to see those things.

Box 3.3: Carrying Contraband

One porter at Teku of Kathmandu did not want to talk about his loads, saying 'We do not have to disclose secrecy of the type and timing of work'. This statement hinted at the possible involvement of child porters in transporting contraband goods.

Chart: 3.4



4. DOMESTIC CHILD LABOUR IN NEPAL

Table 4.1: Estimate of DCL in Kathmandu

	Total Wards	Total	Surveyed	DCL in Surveyed	Estimated DCL
		Households	Households	Households	in wards
Core Urban	14	29,333	345	38	3,231
Urban	10	41,363	771	171	9,174
Semi Urban	11	46,679	1,121	211	8,786
Kathmandu	35	117,375	2,237	420	21,191

Source: CBS, unpublished and Field Survey.

Table 4.2: Households with DCL by Caste and Occupation

Caste/Ethnicity	Kathmandu		Occupation	Kathmandu	
	No.	%		No.	%
Brahmin	176	43.8	Service (employees)	190	47.3
Chhetri	65	16.2	Trade	102	25.4
Newar	85	21.1	Grihathi	53	13.2
Terai	15	3.7	Retired	18	4.5
Thakuri	13	3.2	Wage Earner	10	2.5
Praja/Chepang	2	0.5	Agriculture	8	2.0
Janajati*	33	8.2	Student	5	1.2
Marwari	4	1.0	Social Service	2	0.5
Others	4	1.0	Politician	3	0.8
Not stated	5	1.2	Not stated	11	2.7
Total	402	100.0	Total	402	100.0

* Includes Gurung, Magar, Rai, Limbu, Tamang etc.

Table 4.3: Distribution of DCL by Age and Sex

Age	Boy		Girl		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<10 years	1	0.5	7	4.1	8	2.1
10 to 14 years	128	62.1	127	73.8	255	67.5
15 to 18 years	77	37.4	38	22.1	115	30.4
Total	206	100.0	172	100.0	378	100.0

Table 4.4: Literacy Status of DCL

Literacy Status	Boy		Girl		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Illiterate	19	9.2	50	29.1	69	18.3
Just Literate	9	4.4	30	17.4	39	10.3
Primary Level	115	55.8	86	50.0	201	53.2
Lower S. Level	48	23.3	5	2.9	53	14.0
Secondary Level	14	6.8	1	0.6	15	3.9
Higher	1	0.5	0	-	1	0.3
Secondary Level						
Total	206	100.0	172	100.0	378	100.0

Table 4.5: Influences in becoming a DCL

Reason	Boy		Girl		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Friends Counselling	5	2.4	2	1.2	7	1.9
Own Choice	33	16.0	11	6.4	44	11.6
Parents Advice	160	77.7	152	88.4	312	82.6
Step Mother/Father	2	0.9		-	2	0.5
Others	6	2.9	7	4.0	13	3.4
Total	206	100.0	172	100.0	378	100.0

5. Situation of Child Ragpickers in Nepal

Table 5.1: Estimates of Child Ragpickers

Sample Site	Source	Number
Kathmandu	Estimate from survey data	960
Valley	CWIN: Contact Center, Bus Park	1,000
Pokhara	Estimate from survey data	392
	Research: CWIN	125
	UBS, Pokhara Municipality	150
Butwal	Estimate from survey data	248
	Child Contact Center, survey	250
Bharatpur	Estimate from survey data	261
	Narayanghat Youth Club	60
	Adult ragpickers	70
Biratnagar	Estimate from survey data	315
	Child Protection Center	250
Dharan	Estimate from survey data	861
	UPCA	300
	Police	100
Total	Estimate for survey sites	2,969
	Estimate for Total Nepal	3,965

Note: UBS – Urban Basic Services (a section of Municipality);

UPCA – Underprivileged Children Association, Dharan.

Kathmandu valley includes three cities Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, and Lalitpur.

Table 5.2: Distribution of Ragpickers by Origin

Place of Origin	Boys	Girls	Total	N
Hill/Mountain	48.0	30.8	46.9	90
Tarai	33.5	23.1	32.8	63
India'	14.5	38.5	16.1	31
Don't Know	3.9	7.7	4.2	8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	192
Total N	179	13	192	

Table 5.3: Literacy Rate of Respondents

Background	Literate	Illiterate	N
Sex of Children			
Boys	51.9	48.1	264
Girls	27.8	72.2	36
Age group			
5-9	28.8	71.2	52
10-14	53.0	47.0	200
15-17	54.2	45.8	48
Ethnicity			
Brahmin/Chhetri	62.3	37.7	53
Dalits	47.6	52.4	63
Tamang	56.4	43.6	39
Magar	58.3	41.7	36
Other Hill Ethnic	56.0	44.0	25
Tarains	32.5	67.5	80
Don't Know			4
Total	49.0	51.0	300

Note: Other Hill Ethnic includes Newar, Gurung, Rai, Limbu, and Bhujel. Dalit includes Kami, Damai, and Sarki.

Table 5.4: Economic Status of Family

Status	Boys	Girls	Total	N
Have a home				
Yes	66.3	77.8	67.7	203
No	33.7	22.2	32.3	97
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	300
Have farm land				
Yes	45.1	47.2	45.3	136
No	54.9	52.8	54.7	164
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	300
Family Activities				
Own farming	9.8	5.6	9.3	28
Agriculture labour	6.1	2.8	5.7	17
Non-agriculture activity	59.8	47.2	58.3	175
Junk/Ragpicking	20.5	41.7	23.0	69
Don't Know	3.8	2.8	3.7	11
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	300
N	264	36		300