REPORT

For the period ending August 31, 2012

Made by the Government of JAMAICA

In accordance with Article 22 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization on the Measures taken in effect to the provisions of the

MINIMUM AGE CONVENTION, 1973 (No.138)

Ratification of which was registered in October 2003

REPLY TO DIRECT REQUEST OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS 2010

Part V of the report for Application of the Convention in practice

The TACKLE Project was launched in Jamaica in 2009 and works closely with the Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) RISE and Children First to provide direct support to over 500 children combined. This support includes remedial education skills training and exposure to Speech Dance and Music as part of the SCREAM methodology to create community awareness. THE TACKLE Project on the observation of World Day against Child Labour (WDACL) listed the following as their major achievement to date.

TACKLE JAMAICA Significant Achievements

Result 1: Legislation/legal framework, policies

- A comprehensive review of all national legislation visa VI conventions 183 and 132 was undertaken. Recommendations have been shared with the government and action has begun. The report will be published and used as an advocacy tool to motivate for harmonisation in the laws and improved enforcement
- Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions establishment of Child Labour Steering Committee; development and adoption of Child Labour Policy
- Jamaica Employers Federation draft Child Labour Policy
- Ministry of Labour and Social Security draft Child Labour Policy
- National Education Policy reviewed, to include child labour
- Poor Relief Department (one of two agencies with responsibility for administering the national social security mechanism, for the poor and indigent) included child labour in their corporate plan and all future activities for 2011-12.

Result 2: Capacity building/training

- Establishment of Project Advisory Board and results based subcommittees
- Stakeholder Consultation for the review of light work and hazardous work lists
- Sensitization of labour inspectorate (local workshops, Turin Centre– labour inspection, and trafficking)
- Training in policy development at Turin Centre (Ministry of Labour and Social Security legal officer)
- Training of staff at the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN) in child labour data management
- A Jamaica delegation consisting of members form the Jamaica Confederation of Trade Union, The Jamaica Employers Federation and the Ministry of Labour and Social Security attended a regional hazardous work workshop, 11-13 October in Grenada.
- 31 Sports coaches and guidance counsellors sensitized to child labour and trained in the use of the SCREAM tool which was used with children in inner city communities
- Training in financial management and reporting training provided to key national stakeholders
- Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions hosted five-day training workshop to sensitize key union leaders to issue of child labour

Result 3: Direct action

Two action programmes were implemented starting in February 2011. RISE Life Management and Children First.

- *RISE Life Management*, an organization with an excellent track record in reaching at risk children, demonstrated their technical and administrative strengths during the period under review.

- *RISE Life Management* undertook work in six inner city communities within the Kingston Metropolitan Area. Their original targets to withdraw 275 children from child labor and undertake prevention activities with 600 children through various in-school and after-school programmes had to be adjusted to accommodate significant challenges in gaining access to working children in tough schools and communities.

- *Children First* undertook work in Spanish Town, a large metropolitan city, Old Harbour Bay, a fishing village, and May Pen, a rural agricultural and mining town.

- *Children First* was successful in meeting its target to withdraw 130 children from child labour and undertake prevention activities with 670 children through the formal and informal education sectors.

- Action programmes have included remedial education, skills building, awareness raising, rehabilitation and helping children and families access social support mechanism. Both Action programmes experienced unexpected challenges which resulted in a slight delay to their implementation schedule. *RISE* completed its programme about March 2012 and *Children First* in about June 2012.

- The Jamaica Employers Federation (JEF) undertook a five-day summer camp for 30 children exposing them to various skills required for successful entry into the formal sector upon leaving school. The summer camp resulted in a lasting relationship between a charity that works to remove child labour, the JEF and the Jamaica Constabulary Force. The group continues to collaborate in supporting the children who participated in the summer camp.

- A Sports Mentorship Programme was undertaken: a football clinic and football league mentorship programme were run for three consecutive months, two days per week, enrolling 400 children aged 8-16 in an inner city community (Maverley).

- 30 children were identified through sports clinics as child labourers and referred to a local NGO and the Ministry of Labour and Social Security. Low literacy printed material (fliers and notices) advertising football clinics and highlighting child labour issues were distributed in schools and throughout surrounding communities. Seventy Six (76) parents/guardians were followed up by Guidance and Counseling staff within one month of the completion of the Sports Mentorship programme to assess attitude and behaviour towards child labour.

Result 4: Enhanced knowledge base, networking and awareness raising

- Jamaican delegation to a labour-related workshop in Brussels presented a progress report and recommendations. Preparatory meetings and consultations held prior to travel.

- The Jamaica Employers Federation highlighted child labour at their annual Convention May 6-9, 2011. Convention hosted approximately 500 participants from the private sector.

- National stakeholders commemorated WDACL 2010, 2011 and 2012. 2011 activities included a three-week long public education campaign in the media supported by 8 local celebrities.

- Knowledge, Attitude, Practice and Behaviour survey undertaken in 30 schools national wide. The data will be used to develop a module on child labour for inclusion in the national education system.

- Knowledge, Attitude, Practice and Behaviour survey undertaken with the Jamaica Constabulary Force. The results of the research have been used to design a training programme on child labour for the police force;

- Supported the development of a Child Labour Handbook for Professionals. The handbook will be published and disseminated along with training to key stakeholders

Article 7 (3) Determination of Light work

Please see list attached.

DRAFT

HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

PRELIMINARY LIST OF LIGHT WORK IN WHICH

CHILDREN ARE PERMITTED TO BE ENGAGED

Child Labour Situations		
	Visible	*Invisible*
	• *Household chores* • *Supermarket packers* • *Hair Braiding* • *Office practice (clerical duties)* • *Newspaper vending (special conditions apply)*	

The list is subjected to periodic review. It was recently reviewed given that it will form part of the New OSH Act. The Draft was recently reviewed in preparation for it submission to the Houses of Parliament for debate.