

# National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour



REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF  
LABOUR



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This set has been prepared by the Republic of Turkey Ministry of Labour and Social Security Directorate General of Labour Department of Employment Policies with the support of all the relevant institutions and organizations as an easy-to-understand and comprehensive source which includes visual messages in order to guide the activities to be carried out by the individuals, institutions and organizations working on the subject of child labour.

We would like to thank Ankara Metropolitan Municipality Center of Working Children in Ankara Streets, ILO, UNICEF and Fişek Institute, which provided support through their picture archives during the preparation of the "National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour".

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## **NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR**

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# “NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR”

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## INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN COOPERATION ON THE PREPARATION OF THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME

Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Family and Social Policies, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Development, Ministry of National Education, Ministry of Health, Turkish Statistical Institute, Turkish Employment Agency, Social Security Institution, Training and Research Center for Labour and Social Security, Religious Affairs Administration, Municipalities, Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey, Confederation of Turkish Tradesmen and Craftsmen, Confederation of Turkish Trade Unions, HAK-IS Trade Union Confederation, Turkish Confederation of Employer Associations, Union of Turkish Chambers of Agriculture, NGOs, Universities.



**MoLSS**



Our Ministry, attaching special importance to elimination of child labour, has been actively combating against child labour since the beginning of 1990s and provides coordination and cooperation between public institutions and organizations, workers' and employers' organizations, non-governmental organizations working on child labour.

Our country has approved the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which is one of the most widely accepted human rights documents in the world today, in 1994, the ILO Conventions which are the fundamental conventions of the International Labour Organization, No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment in 1998 and No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in 2001.

"National Time-Bound Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of the Child Labour (2005-2015)" was prepared in 2005 in accordance with the ILO Convention No.182 by our Ministry with the contributions of all relevant institutions and organizations and implemented. The policy and programme framework, which was completed in 2015, was updated for the 2017-2023 period and the National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (2017-2023) was prepared.

The primary target groups of National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (2017-2023) were determined as Working on the Streets, Working in Heavy and Hazardous Works in Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, Working in Mobile and Temporary Agricultural Labour Except for Family Business.

This programme aims to carry out activities for the elimination of child labour, which have serious adverse effects on the physical, corporal, mental, social and moral development of children, within the framework of a holistic and participatory national programme. Within the framework of the programme, basic strategies and activities for the elimination of child labour and the institutions and responsible organizations have been determined.

With this programme, it has been determined as a basic objective to eliminate child labour, especially the worst forms of child labour, with comprehensive measures such as eliminating the poverty, increasing the quality of education and accessibility, increasing social consciousness and sensitivity, which are the main reasons for children to take part in the working life.

We believe that Turkey is a country that has the source and power to overcome the issue of child labour. Our children who are abused in working lives and whose futures are endangered, also means the lost potential of this country. Eliminating child labour will increase the employment opportunities for adults, as well as that our children who are put away from abuse and directed to the education will increase the economic efficiency of our country as a better educated and skilled human resource in the future.

**Jülide SARIOĞLU**

Minister of Labour and Social Security

## ABBREVIATIONS

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- CoHE:** Council of Higher Education
- ÇASGEM:** Training and Research Center for Labour and Social Security
- ECHO:** European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
- EEC:** European Economic Community
- ESRP:** Employment and Social Reform Programme
- EU:** European Union
- FAO:** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- FSSP:** Family and Social Support Programme
- HAK-İŞ:** HAK-IS Trade Union Confederation
- IDDG:** Workplace Supervision and Consulting Groups
- ILO:** International Labour Organization
- IPA:** Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance
- IPEC:** International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
- İŞKUR:** Turkish Employment Agency
- KOSGEB:** Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization
- MoFAL:** Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock
- MoLSS:** Ministry of Labour and Social Security
- MoNE:** Ministry of National Education
- NGO:** Non-Governmental Organization
- RTÜK:** Radio and Television Higher Council
- SSI:** Social Security Institution
- ŞESY:** Conditional Education-Conditional Health Aid
- TBMM:** Grand National Assembly of Turkey
- TESK:** Confederation of Turkish Tradesmen and Craftsmen
- TİSK:** Turkish Confederation of Employer Associations
- TOBB:** Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey
- TURKSTAT:** Turkish Statistical Institute
- TÜRK-İŞ:** Confederation of Turkish Trade Unions
- TZOB:** Union of Turkish Chambers of Agriculture
- UN:** United Nations
- UNDP:** United Nations Development Programme
- UNFPA:** United Nations Population Fund
- UNHCR:** United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- UNICEF:** United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
- USA:** United States of America
- WFP:** United Nations World Food Programme
- WHO:** World Health Organization

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**APPENDIX: ACTION PLAN OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR**

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Child labour, which negatively affects the mental, physical, psychological and generally the social development of the child, is still one of the most important problems in the global and national scale. Children often fail to attend school or leave the compulsory education and thus lack the necessary qualifications for their future working lives. This situation not only affects the adult life of the child negatively, but also lowers the productivity level of the country. Especially making children work for long times under difficult conditions has a negative impact on their psychological and physical health and causes these children to turn into individuals who need help and support instead of becoming productive individuals in the long run. Therefore, child labour, which is seen as cheap labour force today, becomes a very expensive labour for the country in the long term.

Although it is not possible to say for the certain number of child workers, according to the International Labour Organization's (ILO) "Global Estimates and Trends 2000-2012" report, there are around 264 million children who are economically active in the age group of 5-17 in the world as of 2012 and it is predicted that 168 million of them can be considered as child workers. Among the child workers, 85 million children work in hazardous jobs. According to the results of 2012 Child Labour Force Survey conducted by the Turkish Statistical Institute (TURKSTAT), the employment rate of children in the age group of 6-17 working in economic activity in Turkey is 5.9%, with a total of 890 thousand child workers.

Since the early 1990s, our Ministry has been carrying out intensive activities on the elimination of child labour. Turkey became one of the first six countries participated in ILO's "International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)" in 1992. Following the IPEC Protocol, a unit was established within Directorate General of Labour of our Ministry to provide cooperation and coordination between public institutions and organizations, employee-employers organizations and non-governmental organizations working to prevent child labour. Since its foundation, the unit has been involved in the coordination of over a hundred projects, contributing greatly to the prevention of child labour.

In Turkey, important steps have been taken in eliminating child labour; related know-how and experience have been gained. In the light of the experience gained, that a national programme and action plan on the elimination of child labour is needed, in particular for those working in the worst forms, was discussed at various meetings and creating a time-dependent plan and programme for eliminating child labour and thus, determining the priorities in the short run and preparing an international action plan for long-term objectives have been foreseen.

In this context, "National Time-Bound Policy and Programme Framework for the Elimination of Child Labour" was prepared by our Ministry in 2005 for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour by the contributions of all relevant institutions and organizations in line with the ILO Convention No. 182.

With this programme, by means of comprehensive measures such as eliminating poverty which constitutes the main reason for the children to enter working life, increasing the quality and accessibility of education and improving social awareness and sensitivity; eliminating child labour within a period of 10 years (2005-2015), especially the worst forms of child labour, has been determined as the main objective.



“Working on the Streets”, “Working in Heavy and Hazardous Works in Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises” and “Working in Mobile and Temporary Agricultural Labour Except for Family Business” have been determined as the worst forms of child labour in Turkey.

Projects developed by public institutions, confederations of workers and employers and non-governmental organizations to support the implementation of the Time-Bound Policy and Programme Framework on the Elimination of Child Labour have been put into practice in many provinces since the beginning of 2005. By taking important steps in elimination of child labour through the activities carried out, know-how, experience and a significant amount of social awareness have been formed.

In order to take the achievements obtained further, the Time-Bound Policy and Programme Framework on the Elimination of Child Labour, which was completed in 2015, has been planned to be updated. In this framework, the preparatory work for the “National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour” has been initiated by the Department of Employment Policies of Directorate General of Labour of our Ministry. In the context of update works, workshops have been carried out with the participation of the representatives of relevant institutions and organizations in order to ensure the parties providing support to the development and implementation by having them participate in the national programme preparation and planning stages.

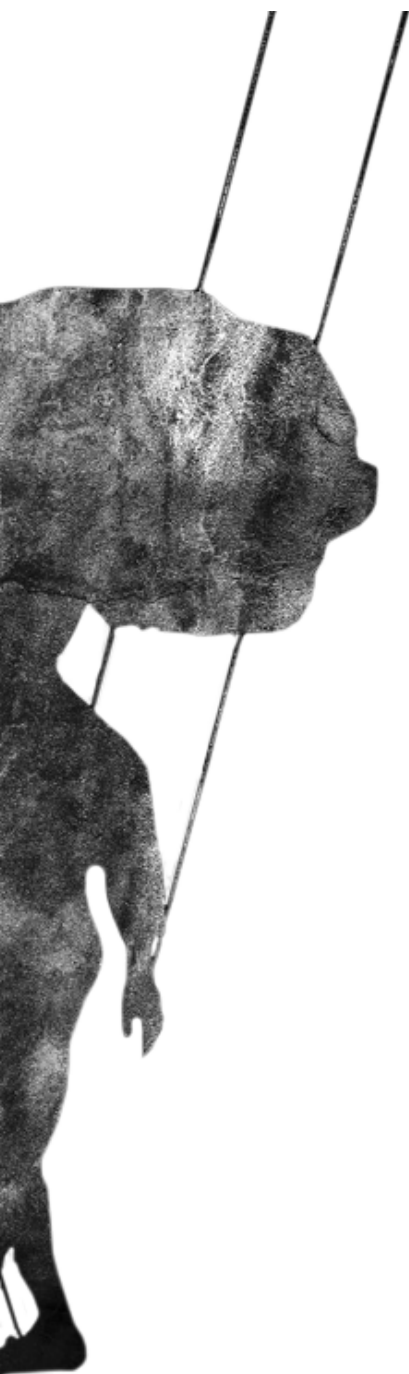
Prior to the two-day workshop, which the representatives of all public institutions and organizations, workers’ and employers’ organizations, professional organizations and non-governmental organizations were invited to, the participants have been requested information on the definition of the duty of institutions eliminating child labour and strategy and activity recommendations for the action plan on the elimination of child labour.

On the first day of the two-day workshop held on August 17-18, 2016, general information on child labour has been presented to the participants and activities were conducted on the action plan to be prepared on the elimination of child labour. On the second day, the activities carried out on the action plan on the elimination of child labour were presented to all participants and their opinions were taken.

After the first workshop, the national programme prepared by all public institutions and organizations, employee and employers’ organizations, professional organizations and non-governmental organizations and experts, and the action plan on the elimination of child labour emerged at the end of the first workshop were shared with the relevant parties and opinions of institutions and organizations on draft texts and their recommendations were taken.

The second workshop, held on November 8, 2016, resulted in the finalization of the National Programme Document and Action Plan.

In line with the activities conducted in our country so far aiming to prevent child labour and also in line with the 2023 vision of the Government, “National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour” including the implementation of the ILO Conventions No. 138 and 182, was established to prevent the worst forms of child labour. This programme proposal aims to implement a child labour policy that is an integral part of the Government’s national development efforts.



***“Those who are in the age of primary education but do not attend compulsory primary education institutions cannot be employed in paid or unpaid in any public or private workplaces or in any other places where working is required.”***

*Primary Education and Training Law: Article 59/1*



## 2. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

### 2.1. DEFINITION AND SCOPE OF CHILD LABOUR

Child labour is a very common concept on a global scale. However, the fact that the historical and social structure of each country is different makes it difficult to make a common definition of child labour. For this reason, the definitions contained in internationally recognized documents are highly guiding and accepted.



**Article 1 of the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child which Turkey approved well defines each person under the age of 18 as a "child".**

According to ILO, the term child labour is defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity and that is harmful to physical and mental development.

In addition, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) has defined child labour as "work that exceeds a minimum number of hours, depending on the age of a child and on the type of work. Such work is considered harmful to the child."

In our regulation, the definition of child labour was made in Article 4 of the Regulation on the Procedures and Principles of Employing Children and Young Workers, which was issued on the basis of Article 71 of the Labour Law No. 4857. According to this article; a child worker is defined as the person who completed the age of 14, has not completed the age of 15 and completed primary education, and a young worker is defined as the person who has completed the age of 15 but has not completed the age of 18. In addition, a light duty definition has been made in the same article and it has been ensured that children and young workers may be employed in light works that will not prevent their success at school and the preparations to be made for the choice of profession, or the participation in vocational training, whose qualifications are accepted by the competent authorities.

With the amendment made in 2015 in the Article 71 of the Labour Law, that under the condition of making written contract and getting permission for each of the activities, the children under the age of 14 may be employed in arts, culture and advertising activities that do not impede their physical, mental, social and moral development and their attendance to school has been ensured.

In the Occupational Health and Safety Law No. 6331, those who have completed the age of 15 but have not completed the age of 18 are defined as young employees.



Photograph: Ibrahim PEYINCI

## 3. MAIN REASONS OF CHILD LABOUR

When the social and economic situation analyses, child labour surveys conducted in the years of 1994, 1999, 2006 and 2012, data obtained from projects aimed at eliminating child labour in Turkey and the results of the field researches of labour inspectors are evaluated, it is seen that there is a general consensus on the main reasons of child labour. Obtained results largely overlap with the results of international studies on the reasons of child labour.

The problem of child labour has a multi-causal and multi-dimensional structure. The factors that cause child labour are all closely related to one another. These factors are mainly poverty and unemployment. Unemployment of parents and inadequate household income cause children to work. Besides, that the families whose income sources are scarce avoid sending their children to school and the families' lack of education results in child labour.

The main reasons for child labour are given below in details:

### 3.1. POVERTY

All research and studies show that poverty is the main reason of child labour. The fact that families do not have enough economic incomes and the economic difficulties they are experiencing cause families to take their children out of school and force them to work. Especially insufficiency of families to afford the school expenses or loss of income due to the withdrawal of the child from work is the most important reason for children to leave the school.

The results of the TURKSTAT Child Labour Force Survey for 2012 also support this situation. According to the results, 49.8% of working children attend school and 50.2% do not go to school. In addition, 41.4% of the children in economic activities in the age group of 6-17 are working for "contributing to household income" and 28.7% are working for "helping the household's economic activity".

Under the main heading of poverty, sub-factors such as unemployment, unfair income distribution, and economic crisis, inefficient use of country resources, rapid population growth, migration, unplanned and unregulated urbanization and informal economy are among the reasons of child labour.

Therefore, in the policies to be applied for the activities to prevent child labour are permanent and effective in the long run, it is necessary to give priority to the measures that will eliminate the poverty and all the sub-factors leading to poverty together with their reasons.

### 3.2. ACCESS TO EDUCATION

According to research conducted in Turkey, there is a direct relationship between child labour and education. Limited access to education is one of the most important elements that should be emphasized among the reasons of child labour.

Studies show that working children usually cannot continue to study and children who are both working and studying are not able to show adequate success at school and thus leave their compulsory education. They lack the necessary qualifications for their future working life.

**Raising the compulsory education to 8 years in 1997 has a great impact in reducing child labour in Turkey. According to TURKSTAT data, the ratio of children in the age group of 6-17 years and working in economical works has fallen to 10,3% in 1999 while it was 15,2% in 1994. It is clear that in this fall, compulsory education has a great impact.**

The fact that compulsory education was raised to 12 years in 2012 is also considered to have a decreasing effect on child labour, but since the child labour survey has not been repeated since 2012, the effects are not clearly known.

Such factors as the difficulties in accessing educational facilities, the inadequacy of physical conditions in educational institutions, the inadequacy of being educated alone to enter the labour market, especially the poor families seeing children's education as an additional cost, the unconsciousness of the families in terms of education are the other parameters that trigger entering the working life in childhood and decrease the school attendance.



### 3.3. MIGRATION FROM RURAL TO URBAN

In Turkey, the process of transition from rural settlement to urban settlement and from agricultural economy to industrial economy continues. Migration from rural areas and small towns to large industrialized cities is one of the reasons that affect child labour.

Because the family members who migrate from the rural areas to the urban areas are in the position of unskilled labour force in the cities, unemployment problems, household income decline and inadequate educational levels of these families cause the economic and social imbalances between the classes to grow and the children to be pushed to the labour markets.



Photograph: Sebahattin ÖZVEREN

### 3.4. UNEMPLOYMENT OF ADULT FAMILY MEMBERS

Unemployment of family members is a result of all the elements that are seen as reason of child labour. There are a number of reasons behind that the adults cannot find employment opportunities such as the general economic conditions in the country, as well as the lack of education, knowledge and skills that will enable individuals to be employed. In addition, the entry of children into working life reduces the need for the adult labour force and narrows the employment areas of adults.

Collaborating employment opportunities for adults in the family, making them acquire knowledge and skills about income-generating activities and providing economic opportunities are of indispensable importance to withdraw children from work and prevent child labour.

### 3.5. TRADITIONAL PERSPECTIVE

In particular, the socio-cultural perspective of the early industrialization period, with the approach peculiar to agricultural society, considers the child labour as an ordinary situation or sometimes finds it necessary. Because in the family tradition, the understanding of children to work, young people to gain sense of responsibility and support their families financially prevails. Changing the mentioned perspective has a great importance in eliminating child labour.

### 3.6. DEFICIENCIES IN REGULATION AND INEFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

There are numerous regulations on child labour both at national and international level. In our country, all international agreements, the European Union (EU) directive and recommendation decision have been passed on to our national regulation and our regulation has generally been harmonized with the regulations in the world.

However, due to the fact that workplaces of agriculture and forestry works in which children commonly hired and 50 or less workers are employed, domestic work and the workplaces where three people work in accordance with the description of Article 2 of the Tradesmen and Craftsmen Law No. 507 being excluded from Labour Law, the aforementioned workplaces being excluded from inspections is a drawback in eliminating child labour. However, since the Occupational Health and Safety Law No. 6331 include all the works and workplaces both in public and private sectors, the employers and employers' representatives of these workplaces, including the apprentices and interns, regardless of their area of activities, it should be considered that Article 4 of Law No. 4857 regulating the exceptions should be reexamined in terms of children and the young to be protected especially from the risks related to occupational health and safety and the inspection of the workplaces and legislation studies should be conducted in order to improve the effectiveness in the implementation.

In addition to the deficiencies in the regulation, regulation not to be implemented is another reason that makes it difficult to prevent child labour. It is a serious problem in this area that the supervision of the workplaces within the scope of the Labour Law is not carried out specifically for child labour and the sensitivity of the inspection institution and the level of awareness are insufficient.



### 3.7. CHILD LABOUR DEMAND OF EMPLOYERS

The demand for child labour by small informal workplaces is another reason for child labour. Especially in the globalizing world, child labour is an important component for small enterprises seeking to achieve the highest profit with minimum cost.

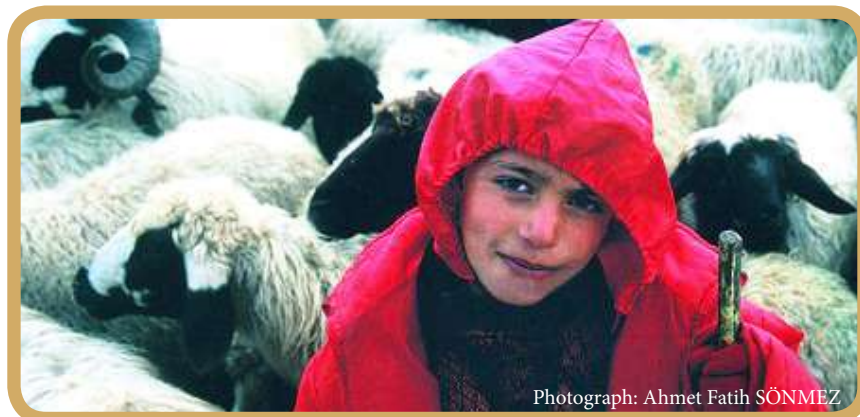
Factors such as economic difficulties experienced by enterprises, inadequate economic and technical opportunities of small enterprises, and demands of some families from workplaces for their children to have profession cause small workplaces to see and use children as cheap and unregistered labour.



### 3.8. IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Particularly since 2011, due to the internal conflicts in many countries and regions, different country citizens migrate to Turkey in order to find international protection. Our country has not been indifferent to external developments, even outside its borders, but has been very generous in providing humanitarian assistance to affected foreigners.

Although our country conduct many activities to improve the living conditions of the foreigners who have to migrate, especially in the southern and eastern regions, families escaped from war have had to direct their children to labour markets because of financial insufficiencies. This has led to the emergence of foreign child workers, seen as cheap labour by small and informal workplaces.



Photograph: Ahmet Fatih SÖNMEZ

## 4. SITUATION ANALYSIS

### 4.1. CURRENT SITUATION IN CHILD LABOUR IN THE WORLD

Child labour still exists as a social problem. When the facts about child labour are revealed with figures, it is obvious that more progress has to be made in this area.

**Table 1. Child Labour in the World by Years (age of 5-17, 2000-2012)**

	Child Labour (Thousand)	Child Labour (%)	Child Labour In the Worst Forms (Thousand)	Child Labour In the Worst Forms (%)
<b>2000</b>	245.500	16,0	170.500	11,1
<b>2004</b>	222.294	14,2	128.381	8,2
<b>2008</b>	215.209	13,6	115.314	7,3
<b>2012</b>	167.956	10,6	85.344	5,4

Resource: Global Estimations and Trends 2000-2012 (ILO-IPEC, 2013)

While the number of children working in the world has declined over the years, there are 168 million child workers by 2012. Child workers account for about 11% of the total child population. More than half of these children, about 85 million work in hazardous works and make up 5.4% of the world's children population.

**Table 2. Distribution of Child Labour by Regions (age of 5-17, 2012)**

Region	Child Population	Child Labour (Thousand)	Child Labour (%)	Child Labour in the Worst Forms (Thousand)	Child Labour in the Worst Forms (%)
<b>Asia and Pacific</b>	835.334	77.723	9,3	33.860	4,1
<b>Sub-Saharan Africa</b>	275.397	59.031	21,4	28.767	10,4
<b>Latin America and Caribbean</b>	142.693	12.505	8,8	9.638	6,8

Resource: Global Estimations and Trends 2000-2012 (ILO-IPEC, 2013)

The regions with the highest number of child labour are Asia and Pacific regions. There are approximately 78 million child workers in these regions, representing 9.3% of the 835 million children population.

Sub-Saharan Africa is the region where child labour is most prevalent among the child population. There are 59 million child workers in this region, and the child workers constitute 21% of the 275 million children population in the region.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, the number of child workers constitutes 8.8% of the children population in the region with 13 million children. In the Middle East and North Africa, there are 9.2 million child workers, and this constitutes 8.4% of the children population.

**Table 3. Distribution of Child Labour by Sectors (age of 5-17, 2012)**

Sector	Child Labour (Thousand)	Child Labour (%)
<b>Agriculture</b>	98.422	58,6
<b>Industry</b>	12.092	7,2
<b>Service</b>	54.250	32,3

Resource: Global Estimations and Trends 2000-2012 (ILO-IPEC, 2013)

The agriculture sector is the most primary sector in terms of child labour. 98 million child workers work in this sector. This number accounts for about 59% of total child workers. The service sector that 54 million child workers works in and the 12 million child workers in the industrial sector are also important contributors to the number of child workers, and most of these children work in the informal economy.

When we look at the distribution of working children between the ages of 5-17 by gender, of the 168 million child workers, 99 million of the figure is boys and 68 million are girls. Of the 85 million children working in the worst forms, 55 million are boys and 30 million are girls.

**Table 4. Distribution Child Labour by Gender (age of 5-17, 2012)**

Gender	Child Labour (Thousand)	Child Labour (%)	Child Labour in the Worst Forms (Thousand)	Child Labour in the Worst Forms (%)
<b>Boy</b>	99.766	12,2	55.048	6,7
<b>Girl</b>	68.190	8,9	30.296	4,0
<b>Total</b>	167.956	10,6	85.344	5,4

Resource: Global Estimations and Trends 2000-2012 (ILO-IPEC, 2013)

Looking at the distribution of child workers by age group, there are about 120 million child workers in the 5-14 age group, 37 million of these children are in hazardous works. All of the 47 million children workers aged 15-17 work in hazardous works.

**Table 5. Distribution of Child Labour by Age, 2012**

Age Groups	Child Labour (Thousand)	Child Labour (%)	Child Labour in the Worst Forms (Thousand)	Child Labour in the Worst Forms (%)
5-11	73.072	8,5	18.499	2,2
12-14	47.381	13,1	19.342	5,3
5-14	120.453	9,9	37.841	3,1
15-17	47.503	13,0	47.503	13,0

Resource: Global Estimations and Trends 2000-2012 (ILO-IPEC, 2013)

## 4.2. CURRENT SITUATION IN CHILD LABOUR IN TURKEY

Diversification of statistical data within the scope of elimination of child labour, which is a very important problem for Turkey, is also vital. In this context, in order to determine the sector and working areas where children are working; their social, economic and demographic characteristics, Child Labour Force Survey has been made in 1994, 1999, 2006 and 2012 by TURKSTAT.

According to the data of 2012, the number of children in the age group of 6-17 in Turkey is 15 million 247 thousand. 66.5% of the children in this age group live in urban areas and 33.5% live in rural areas.

**Table 6. Distribution of Child Labour in Turkey by Age, 2012**

Age Group	Non-Institutional Population	Those who are employed	
	Number (Thousand)	Number (Thousand)	%
0-5 years	7.481	-	-
6-17 years	15.247	893	5,9
6-14 years	11.386	292	2,6
15-17 years	3.861	601	15,6

Resource: TURKSTAT, 2012

According to the results of the 2012 Child Labour Force Survey, 5.9% of children in the age group of 6-17 are working. Of 893 thousand working children, 292 thousand are in the age group of 6-14 and 601 thousand are in the age group of 15-17. 68.8% (614 thousand people) of working children are boys and 31.2% (279 thousand people) are girls.

According to the data of the Child Labour Force Survey in 2012 conducted by TURKSTAT, when the distribution of the children in the age group of 6-17, which are economically active in Turkey is examined in terms of the sectors; it is seen that 44.7% (399 thousand) works in agriculture sector, 24.3% (217 thousand) in industry and 31% (277 thousand) in service sector. When the sector-based results compared to the results of 2006, the share of the agricultural sector among employed children increased by 8.1 points while the share of the industrial sector decreased by 6.6 points and the share of the service sector decreased by 1.5 points.

Child labour in seasonal mobile and temporary agricultural labour, one of the most hazardous sectors in terms of occupational diseases and work accidents, is at the same time one of the worst forms of child labour. According to statistics, it is seen that a very wide range of working children work in agriculture sector.

According to the data of 2012 of TURKSTAT, the number of children working in the agriculture sector since 2006 has increased by 73 thousand, from 326 thousand to 399 thousand, and the ratio of children working in agriculture to the total number of working children has reached to 45% from 37%.

According to TURKSTAT data for the year 2012, according to their occupational status, 52,6% (470 thousand people) of the working children works for wage or daily wage, 46,2% (413 thousand people) works as unpaid family worker and approximately 1% (10 thousand people) works on their own account.

<b>Table 7. Distribution of Children in Turkey by Attending Education and Employment Status, 2012</b>					
<b>Number of Children at the Age of 6-17 15.247 (Thousand)</b>					
<b>Attending School 13.950 (Thousand)</b>			<b>Not Attending School 1.297 (Thousand)</b>		
Working in Economic Activities	Working in House works	Not Working	Working in Economic Activities	Working in House Works	Not Working
445 (2,9 %)	7.000 (45,9 %)	6.504 (42,7 %)	448 (2,9 %)	503 (3,3 %)	346 (2,3 %)

Resource: TURKSTAT, 2012

According to the data of TURKSTAT for the year 2012, 91.5% of the children attend school and 8.5% do not attend school. In terms of age groups, 97.2% of children in the age group of 6-14 and 74.7% of the children in the age group of 15-17 continue to study.

The number of children who study and work at the same time increased by 64% between 2006 and 2012 and increased from 272 thousand to 445 thousand. While 2% of the children in the age group of 6-17 who study were working in an economic activity in 2006, this ratio has reached 3.2% in 2012.

Among these children, the ratio of those in domestic work has also reached 50.2% from 43%. In this age group, the number of children not attending school decreased from 2 million 314 thousand to 1 million 297 thousand, while the ratio of children who do not attend school increased from 27% to 34.5%. Nonetheless, the number of children working in domestic work has fallen from 44% to 39% in this category.

In 2012, 51.2% of the children attending the school are boys and 48.8% are girls.

## 5. LEGAL REGULATIONS

**Table 8. Children Attending and Not Attending Schools According to Reason of Working, 2012**

	Age of 6-14 (Thousand)	Age of 15-17 (Thousand)	Total (Thousand)
<b>Reason of Working/Total</b>	292	601	893
<b>Contributing to the income of household</b>	87	282	370
<b>Helping to economic activity of household</b>	142	114	256
<b>Learning business, having a profession</b>	16	121	136
<b>On family request</b>	35	18	54
<b>Meeting own needs</b>	9	52	61
<b>Other</b>	3	13	16

Resource: TURKSTAT, 2012

According to TURKSTAT 2012 data, when the reasons of the children to work has been examined, it has been seen that 41.4% of the children in the age group of 6-17 works for contributing to the household income, 28.7% for helping the economic activity of the household, 15.2% for learning a job and having a profession and 6% at the request of the family, and 6,8% for meeting their own needs.

Of the working children in the age group of 6-17, 39.3% of the children attending school are working for helping the household with economic activity, 24% working to contribute to household income, and 19.1% working to gain job profession.

Among the working children in the age group of 6-17, the ratio of those working to contribute to the household income is 58.7%. The ratio of children who do not attend school and work to help the household's economic activity is 18.1%. The ratio of children working to learn the job and gain a job profession is 11.4%.

### 5.1. INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS

#### 5.1.1. GENEVA DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Children and women have been suffering a lot in the countries of Europe and the Far East since the First World War. In 1920, a special organization called 'International Children's Aid Foundation' was established in Geneva for the identification and implementation of what should be done in this regard. In addition to its other activities, the given organization has prepared the first International Declaration of the Rights of the Child on the grounds that they should be treated more specifically than adults aiming to emphasize the right of children, the cornerstone of society, to be protected primarily against every form of exploitation. This Declaration was accepted on September 26, 1924 at the General Assembly of the League of Nations. In the declaration, children to live develop and being protected have been discussed as the basic principle for the first time in the international context.



In the declaration, children to live develop and being protected have been discussed for the first time as the core principle in the international context. It has been stated in the declaration that children to be allowed to develop in a natural way, children that are hungry to be fed, children that are sick to be nursed, the waif to be sheltered, children to be the first to receive relief in times of distress, children must be protected against every form of exploitation and to be brought up in fraternal sentiments.

Our country has also accepted declaration with five articles. However, the Second World War caused the League of Nations to lose its validity and, consequently, the Declaration on the Rights of the Child.

### 5.1.2. UN DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (UNIVERSAL DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD)

The United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on November 20, 1959.

In the declaration it has been foreseen that children to be protected from all kinds of exploitation, not to be involved in any commercial activity and not be employed before a minimum age and emphasized that the child should not be forced to work in a job or profession that would prevent their education and development and not be allowed to work in such a business.

In Article 1 of the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child, it is mentioned who are considered as children. Every human being below the age of 18 years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier is a child.

In another noteworthy article of the declaration, measures to be taken and protection obligations of the State Parties are mentioned.

Moreover, other regulations on child labour are also included. In these regulations, that the children to be prohibited to work in areas which are considered to be the worst forms is ensured.



### 5.1.3. CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted unanimously by the General Assembly of the United Nations on November 20, 1989 and entered into force on September 2, 1990. Turkey signed this convention on September 14, 1990, which was constituted to secure the rights of child, reserving the right of interpreting Articles 17, 19 and 30 in accordance with the provisions and spirit of Constitution and the Treaty of Lausanne, and put it into force on January 17, 1995.

In the foreword of the Convention, it has been emphasized that there are children living in very difficult conditions all over the countries in the world and for this reason special care needed for them; considering the importance of the inherent traditions and cultural values of each country in terms of protection and balanced development of the child, taking the importance of international co-operation for improving the living conditions of children in all countries, especially in developing countries into account, a need for agreement on some rules emerged. Article 1 of the Convention has been prevailed the provision that every human being shall be considered as a child up to the age of 18 years, except in the case of a younger age relative to the law applicable to the child.

According to the Convention, the State Parties recognize the right of the child to be protected against economic exploitation and being employed in any hazardous work or in a manner that prevent his/her education and may be detrimental to his or her health or physical, mental, physiological, moral or social development and are obliged to take legal, administrative, social and educational measures to ensure that the article is implemented.





## 5.1.4. INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

The Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was enacted by the United Nations on January 3, 1976.

In the convention signed by the Republic of Turkey in New York in 2000, provisions related to providing protection for the family and the mother were set and it is anticipated to take special measures for the protection of children and young people and providing the necessary assistance. It has been emphasized that the children and young people to be protected against economic and social exploitation, in addition, in cases that they are employed in jobs, which would cause demoralization, jeopardize their lives or negatively affect their normal development, it is necessary to punish those who employ children by laws. The declaration also acknowledged that the state should prohibit the paid employment of child labour under a certain age and that a minimum working age for children should be determined.

## 5.1.5. EUROPEAN SOCIAL CHARTER

The European Social Charter was signed by the 13 of the representatives of the 16 Member States of the Council of Europe, in Turin, Italy, on October 18, 1961 and entered into force on February 26, 1965. Turkey adopted the European Social Charter on June 16, 1989 and put it into effect on August 7, 1989.

By the article with the heading of "Protection Right of Children and Young People" brings the obligations to be specifically protected from the physical and moral threats they are subjected to, notably that at least 15 years of minimum working age, except for the cases that they are employed in light works detected not to be harmful for health, morality and education of children, and that the minimum working age should be higher in hazardous and unhealthy works, to prevent children in the age of compulsory education to work in jobs that will restrain their education, to restrict the working hours of those who are under the age of 18 according to their development and primarily vocational training needs; to recognize the right of young workers and apprentices to benefit from a fair wage and other appropriate allowances, to ensure that the duration which the young people spend for vocational training within the normal working hours with the permission of employers to be counted within the daily working hours, to prohibit the those who are under the age of 18 to be employed, except for some work which is determined with providing right to paid leave for at least four weeks per year, to make them go through regular physical examinations to the parties of the convention.

## 5.1.6. EU REGULATIONS

### 5.1.6.1. EU CHARTER (DECLARATION) OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

The European Economic Community (EEC) was established to conduct peace in Europe after World War II and to achieve cooperation and solidarity among European countries. With the establishment of the community, a common market and a common monetary system where the borders are removed have been adopted step by step. As a result of progressive integration, the EU aims to integrate not only in the economic arena but also in the political arena.

The Charter of Fundamental Rights, which was signed by the heads of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on December 7, 2000 at the summit of Nice, was declared by the ceremony, constitutes an important step on this path the EU aims at.

Children have been protected by Article 24 with heading of the "Children's rights" and Article 32 with the heading of "Prohibition of employing children and protection of working youth" of the given Charter. According to Article 32, child worker employment is forbidden. Reserving the rules that may be more favorable to young people, the minimum age for employment cannot be lower than the minimum age determined for the completion of compulsory education except limited exceptions. Recruited young people should be employed in conditions suitable for their age and be protected against economic exploitation and any work that may harm their health or physical, mental, moral or social development, or prevent their education.

### 5.1.6.2. COUNCIL DIRECTIVE 94/33/EC ON PROTECTION OF YOUNG PEOPLE AT WORK

Council of Europe adopted "Council Directive 94/33/EC on Protection of Young People at Work" on June 22, 1994 in order to prevent child labour and protect children and young workers.

According to the Directive, member states will take preventive measures to prevent children from working. In accordance with the conditions laid down in this Directive, Member States shall ensure that the minimum age of employment and working age is not less than the minimum age of full-time education required by national regulation or, in any case, less than 15 years of age. They will also enable employers to ensure that young people's working conditions are appropriate for their age. In addition, employers will take measures to prevent youth from economic exploitations and any work that would put their health and safety, and physical, mental, moral, social development or education at risk.

In the Article 8 of the Directive with the heading of "working hours", the essentials for member states to limit the working hours of children are counted.

In addition, the directive includes regulations for children to work at night, rest, break and their annual leave periods. These regulations emphasize the necessity of protecting children and young people against abuse.

### 5.1.6.3. EUROPEAN COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 2000/581/EC

Another regulation on children working within the EU acquis is Commission Recommendation 2000/581/EC published on September 15, 2000. According to this, the European Commission recommended that Member States to approve the ILO Convention No. 182 on the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, and stated that it is among the long-term objectives of the EU to eliminate the worst forms of child labour.

### 5.1.7. ILO CONSTITUTION



With the establishment of the ILO, it is aimed to develop social justice in the whole world and to establish a working order humanizes working life that will realize the universal peace, improve working conditions and promote international cooperation. In line with this purpose, the ILO sets minimum norms for working life that constitute the major sources of international labour law. International labour norms are mainly ILO convention or recommendations. The ILO emerges international obligations in terms of the countries that adopt the conventions. However, the recommendations are not intended to be an obligation, but merely to be a guide in terms of the governments' policies and activities related to the working life.

In the ILO Constitution; the need to improve conditions for the protection of children, young people and women has been highlighted.



“Because universal and permanent peace can only be based on social justice;

Due to the urgent need to improve these conditions for many people in terms of the existence of working conditions in which injustice, misery and poverty exist, and this leads to a dissatisfaction which will put the world peace and harmony in danger, and for example the regulating the maximum daily and weekly working hours, recruiting workers, eliminating unemployment, ensuring a wage that will provide adequate living conditions, protecting workers from general and occupational diseases and the accidents occur at work, *protecting children, young people and women*, pensioning the old age and disablement wages, recognizing the principle of equal pay for equal work, providing the trade union freedom principle, regulating the technical and vocational education and other similar measures;

Due to the fact that the non-adoption by any nation of a working order with truly humanitarian conditions is an obstacle to the efforts of other nations who wish to improve their employees’ situation in their own countries;

Based on the feelings of justice and humanity, at the same time, the desire to provide a permanent world peace and the High Contracting Parties acting in pursuit of these goals acknowledges the given Constitution of International Labour Organization.”

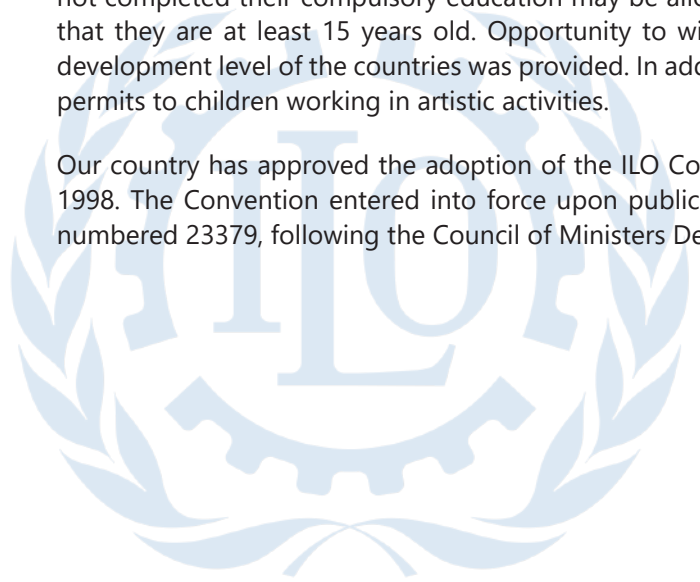
### **5.1.8. ILO CONVENTION NO. 138 CONCERNING MINIMUM AGE FOR ADMISSION TO EMPLOYMENT**

At the 58th session, which was held by ILO on June 6, 1973, it was decided to acknowledge the Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment. With the given convention, every Member State in which this contract is in force is required to follow a national policy that effectively eliminates the child labour and gradually raises the minimum age for acceptance to employment to a level that allows young people to fully develop in the physical and mental aspects. In addition, it is stated that the minimum working age shall not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and, in any case, shall not be less than 15 years. In the continuation of the given article, an exception was prescribed and after obtaining the opinion of the relevant employers and worker organizations of each member country whose economics and educational opportunities are not sufficiently developed, it has been possible to make the minimum age as 14 initially.

Under the Convention, the minimum age for the admission to any employment or work that may jeopardize the health, safety or morality of young people in terms of their nature or circumstances shall not be less than 18 years.

Some exceptions are set in the Convention about the minimum working age. It is ensured by the regulation that young people in the age of 13-15 may be allowed to work in light duties such that their development, health and education are not harmed, by national regulation. Similarly, it is regulated that people who have not completed their compulsory education may be allowed to work under the conditions specified, provided that they are at least 15 years old. Opportunity to withdraw the age limit one year back according to the development level of the countries was provided. In addition, exceptions were set by providing individual work permits to children working in artistic activities.

Our country has approved the adoption of the ILO Convention No. 138 by the Law No. 4343 on January 23, 1998. The Convention entered into force upon publication in the Official Gazette dated June 21, 1998 and numbered 23379, following the Council of Ministers Decision No. 98-11184 and dated May 5, 1998.



## 5.1.9. ILO CONVENTION NO. 182 CONCERNING THE PROHIBITION AND IMMEDIATE ACTION FOR THE ELIMINATION OF THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR

**ILO Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour was adopted on June 17, 1999. Our country approved the adoption of the ILO Convention No. 182 on January 25, 2001 by Law No. 4623. The Convention entered into force upon publication in the Official Gazette dated June 27, 2001 and numbered 24445, following the Council of Ministers Decision No. 2001/2528 dated May 18, 2001.**

It is stated in the Convention that every Member State adopting this Convention is obliged to take urgent and effective measures to ensure that the worst forms of child labour as an urgent problem are prohibited and eliminated, and that the term "child" shall apply to everyone under the age of 18 years.

In addition, the definition of expression "child labour in the worst forms" has been made and it has also been ensured each Member State will determine and implement appropriate action programs to eliminate the child labour in the worst forms in the first place, as well as establishing appropriate mechanisms to monitor the implementation of the provisions of the convention.

On the other hand, the importance of education has been emphasized and the measures to be taken by the countries have been counted. These measures have been stated as to prevent children from being involved in the worst forms of child labour; to take the children away from the worst forms of child labour, to provide direct assistance necessary and suitable for their social adaptation and rehabilitation; to provide free basic education for children to be taken away from the worst forms of child labour and when possible and appropriate, to provide vocational education; to identify and access to the children particularly at risk, and to consider the special case of girls.

## 5.2. NATIONAL REGULATION

Turkey has established its own laws and regulation in line with the country's realities and requirements, as well as the decisions and principles on the child labour of international organizations to which Turkey is a member. In our country, regulations on child labour are included in many different laws.

### 5.2.1. CONSTITUTION

The subject of protecting the children and young people is guaranteed by the Constitution. In Article 50 of the Constitution; it is foreseen that no one can be employed in jobs which do not comply with their age, gender and power and the minors, women, people with physical and mental disabilities will be privately protected in terms of working conditions.



## 5.2.2. LABOUR LAW NO.4857

In the Labour Law, there are penal sanctions for minimum working age of children, prohibition of employment, working hours of children who have completed basic education and are not attending school, working hours of children who are attending school during study period, protection in working life and effective implementation of these provisions.

According to the Article 71 of the Labour Law, it is prohibited to employ children who are not completed the age of 15. However, children who have completed the age of 14 and have completed compulsory primary school period can be employed in light works that will not impede their physical, mental, social and moral development and those continuing education to attend school. Children who have not completed the age of 14 years can be employed in the arts, culture and advertising activities that will not impede their physical, mental, social and moral development and continuation to school on condition that they have a written contract and get permission for each of the activities.

According to the law, in the recruitment of the children and young workers and the jobs they can be employed in, security, health, physical and physiological developments, personal dispositions and skills are considered. Work that the child perform cannot prevent him/her to attend school or to continue his/her vocational training, cannot harm his/her to follow the lectures regularly.

Article 71 of the Law also regulates the working periods of children. According to this; working hours of children who have completed the compulsory primary school period and do not continue their education cannot be more than 7 hours a week and 35 hours a week; working hours of those working in arts, culture and advertising activities cannot be more than 5 per day and 30 per week, and this duration can be increased up to 8 per day and 40 per week for children who have completed 15 years of age. Working hours of pre-school children and children attending school during education period can be up to 2 per day and 10 per week, excluding education hours.

A provision related to the children to be employed in arts, culture and advertising activities has been added to the Law by making amendments in Labour Law on April 4, 2015. According to this; scope of arts, culture and advertising activities, giving work permit to the children to work in these activities, working and resting hours according to the activity types, working environment and conditions, procedures and principles on payment and other aspects will be determined with the regulations made by Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MoLSS) taking the opinions of Ministry of Family and Social Policies (MoFSP), Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Ministry of Health, Ministry of National Education (MoNE) and Radio and Television Higher Council.

“Regulation on the Procedures and Principles of Employing Child and Young Workers” prepared based on the Article 71 of the Labour Law was published in the Official Gazette no. 25425 of April 6, 2004. Regulation issued to determine the principles of working forms and to prevent economic exploitation without jeopardizing the health and safety of children and young workers, their physical, mental, moral and social developments or their education, covers the prohibited works for children and young workers who have not completed the age of 18 and the works permitted for young workers who have completed the age of 15 but have not completed the age of 18 and the light works and working conditions that those who have completed the age of 14 and completed their primary education may be employed in. In addition, in the given Regulation, a classification is made in three different titles as “Light Works for Child Workers”, “Work which young workers can be employed” and “Work allowed for young workers at the age of 16 but did not turn 18 yet”, employment of child and young workers in jobs other than these are completely prohibited except the young workers who have completed the age of 16 and graduated from the vocational and technical training institutions within the scope of the Vocational Education and Training Law No. 3308.

### 5.2.3. LAW OF OBLIGATIONS NO.6098

Provisions related to service conventions of the Law of Obligations are applied to the labour relations of child workers out of the scope of Labour Law. There is a provision in the Law of Obligations No. 6098 related to the annual leave periods of child workers who are under the age of 18. According to Article 422 of the Law with heading "Annual leave"; The employer is obliged to give at least 2 weeks holiday with pay per year for workers who have worked for at least one year and at least 3 weeks paid annual leave for workers less than 18 years old and workers older than 50 years.

### 5.2.4. PUBLIC HEALTH LAW NO.1593

Regulation on child labour has been included in Chapter 7 of Public Health Law, entitled "Workers' Health". In Article 173 of the Law, children under the age of 12 to be employed as worker and apprentice in all kinds of arts and mine works such as factories and plants, and girls and boys between the age of 12-16 to be employed more than maximum of 8 hours a day has been forbidden. There is a difference regarding the minimum age for employment of the children stated in the Labour Law and the Public Health Law, and the provisions of the Labour Law are applicable in practice.

### 5.2.5. LAW OF POLICE DUTY AND AUTHORIZATION NO.2559

Article 12 of the Law on the Duties and Authorization of Police contains provisions concerning the protection of children. According to this; having the legal exceptions reserved, employment of children under 18 years of age in places open to the public or places whose opening is dependent on the permission and carrying the purpose of entertainment, games, drink and similar aims, and in addition, it is forbidden by polices that the minors who have not completed the age of 18 to enter the places where alcoholic drinks are sold such as bars, pavilions, casinos, taverns and coffee houses and similar places where games are played even if they have their parents or conservators with them.



### 5.2.6. VOCATIONAL TRAINING LAW NO.3308

Vocational Training Law No. 3308 introduces regulations for the development of the knowledge and skills of child labour. In the Article 10 of the Law, the conditions being completed the age of 14 but not passed the age of 19 (However, of those who have passed the age of 19, the ones who have not attended apprenticeship training before, can be admitted to apprenticeship training according to the vocational training programmes which will be arranged in accordance with their ages and education levels), being graduated from at least primary school and having suitable body and health condition for performing the works required for the profession they will have, are set. In Article 11 of the Law, it is ensured that the candidate apprentice and the apprentice are in the student status and that he / she is benefiting from his / her student rights and that these people shall not be included in the number of workers working at the workplace.

Vocational Training Law no. 3308 which regulates the principles of the training of apprentices, foremen and craftsmen and the vocational training to be carried out in the schools and enterprises ensured that in the workplaces operating in the provinces and professions within the scope of the Law, people who have not passed the age of 19 cannot be employed in the provinces and field of occupations to be determined by the Ministry without making apprenticeship agreement. Article 18 of the Law obliged workplaces that employ 20 or more employees to give training to vocational high school students in the number not less than 5% but not more than 10% of the personnel number in order to develop their skills. With this obligation, it is ensured that the use of child labour in a way that can only be possible with the condition that sufficient skill is gained. By the Law, apprentices are also given the paid leave for at least one month during the holiday months.

### 5.2.7. PRIMARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING LAW NO.222

Regulations for child labour force are also included in the Primary Education and Training Law No. 222. According to Article 59 of the Law; those who are in the age of primary education and do not attend compulsory primary education institutions cannot be employed for a fee or for free in any official and private workplaces or in other places where working is required anyway. Those who document that they attend primary education institutions can be employed in such places except for the lecture hours provided that the provisions of the law regulating the employment of children are applied. The law also prohibits the acceptance of the children in the age of primary education and attending compulsory primary education institutions, to the private courses and training centers, regardless of the name under which they have established, except those shown in this Law and permitted to be opened by MoNE.

Within the scope of Law No. 222, a Circular on Access of Children of Seasonal Agricultural Workers and Migrant and Semi-Migrant Families to Education was published on March 21, 2016. The implementer of the Circular is Directorate General for Basic Education. It is aimed that children in the age of compulsory education of families that are forced to migrate in certain periods to different regions of the country from the accommodation unit they dwell in as seasonal migrant agricultural workers, migrants or semi-migrants to benefit from the right to education in the places they settle.

### 5.2.8. CHILD PROTECTION LAW NO.5395

The Child Protection Law No. 5395, which regulates the procedures and principles concerning the protection of children who are in need of protection or pushed to crime and assuring their rights and well-being includes provisions for the protection of children who are prone to crime and exposed to many risks, for this reason. In the given Law, the child who is in need of protection is defined as the child whose physical, mental, moral, social and emotional development and personal safety are in danger, neglected or abused, or a child of a crime victim; and the child who is pushed to crime is defined as the child for who security measures are determined because of the action he/she has taken or being indicted or legal proceedings are taken for with the claim of that he/she has taken action. Important provisions are included in the Law in order to protect the working children, notably those who work on the street as well.



## 6. PRIORITY TARGET GROUPS

Within the framework of the regional meetings held in seven selected provinces of Turkey which relevant public institutions, social partners and the representatives of volunteer organizations participated in, the views emerged at the three meetings held at the national level, the results of the projects carried out so far in Turkey and the results of the surveys carried out in Turkey, the ILO Convention No. 182 and Recommendation No.190, the worst forms of child labour in Turkey has been determined as; "Working on the Streets, Working in Heavy and Hazardous Works in Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises, Working in Mobile and Temporary Agricultural Labour Except for Family Business."

### 6.1. WORKING ON THE STREETS

The problem of children working on the streets in Turkey is directly related to the structural problems of the country. Migration from rural areas, rapid urbanization, uncontrolled population growth and inequalities in income distribution are among the main causes of this problem. Due to the massive immigration, large numbers of immigrants have been immigrated to the big cities, and children of these families who have migrated completely unprepared to the cities have found themselves working on the streets under unprotected conditions with the aim of contributing to the family budget.

When the general profile of children working on the streets is examined, it is very clearly seen that these children constitute a group of highly sensitive working children, and even that it is the area in need of primary intervention. It is an observed phenomenon that these children are open to all the risks and dangers on the streets, and are becoming prone to crime over time.

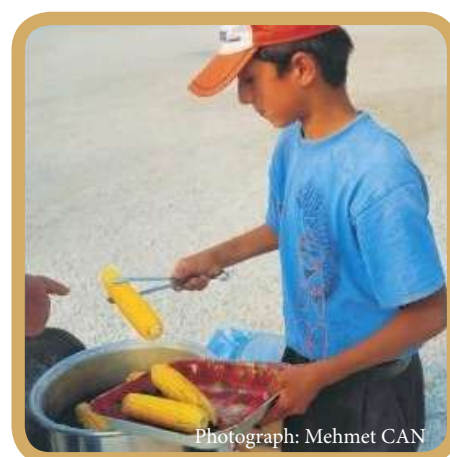
Children in general are in jobs such as shoe polishing, selling materials such as paper tissue, chewing gum, water, bagel, corn, national lottery tickets, stationery supplies, car window wiping, water transportation in cemeteries, grave cleaning, garbage collection, selling flowers, religious books and supplies. Works they do generally requires them to be in crowded city centers and in hazardous environments.

The children cannot take adequate and balanced nutrition and some of them spend the night on the streets or in the garbage dumps.

In addition to the poverty and the obligation to meet the need for daily livelihoods, regulation related to child labour to prevent the employment of children under 15 years particularly in jobs that are more regularly supervised and counted as industrial works, directs children and their families to work and employed on the streets, which do not require any educational background or skill and are a more uncontrolled area where money is earned.

At first glance, besides working on the streets seems as if it was not that heavy and hazardous condition for areas such as selling handkerchiefs, books, vegetables, fruits and so on, when it is investigated in depth; it affects the physical, mental, physiological development of them negatively when the negative effects of working hours up to 14 hours a day for 7 seven days of the week, upper respiratory infections, skin problems caused by pollution and weather conditions, exposure to paint and varnish even in the jobs that seem not to be damaging such as shoe polishing, garbage collection and exposure to the effects of substances such as lead and mercury, inadequate and unbalanced nutrition, exposure to physical violence, sexual harassment, lack of education and lack of compassion as well as facilitating the transition from working on the streets to live on the streets and the use of addictive substances are considered.

The above-mentioned reasons have provided a strong basis for working on the streets to be included in the scope of the worst forms of child labour.



Photograph: Mehmet CAN



## 6.2. WORKING IN HEAVY AND HAZARDOUS WORKS IN SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

Although the industrial sector is not as old as agriculture in the world, it is an important field where child workers take part in. Increasing industrialization and desire to achieve high profits, especially in countries, has led children to be used in this area.

Children working in small industrial enterprises in our country struggle to make money under aggravated conditions.

The recognition of these endangered children working in the industry is more difficult than the children working in other sectors. A child working on the streets is in the public eye more, however, industrial enterprises are in the world of their own and are not open to the public much. For this reason, the detection of such children may only be possible with regular administrative controls.

Children work mostly in small-sized enterprises. These enterprises usually lack the appropriate infrastructure for production purposes. Risk of children to have an accident is high because old and unguarded machines and hand tools are used in such enterprises.

Working children; are exposed to many risks arising from working conditions and workplace environment such as dangerous machines, insufficient thermal comfort conditions (working in cold and hot environment), long working hours, exposure to dust, paint, varnish etc. chemicals, carrying heavy loads, working in noisy environments, staying up while working for long hours, hazardous equipment and operations.



## 6.3. WORKING IN MOBILE AND TEMPORARY AGRICULTURAL LABOUR EXCEPT FOR FAMILY BUSINESS

Among working children, children working in agriculture have a separate place because of the conditions they have. First of all, these children are among the most disadvantaged groups in terms of working and living conditions, relations with environment, education and health problems.

The most common difficulties in child labour encountered in the agricultural sector are the continuation of compulsory primary education, the working age and the application of minimum age at the beginning of the work.

As seasonal agricultural worker families go to work places, they take their children with them as well due to economic and social obligations.

Thus, children work in agricultural jobs that are not suitable for their age to contribute to the family economy. These children are mostly constitutes of those working seasonally for 4-7 months leaving from their village and city to work notably in plant production works such as weeding, cleaning, harvest etc.

They are faced with problems such as fatigue caused by working in extreme hot and humid environments and the dangers caused by the use of chemical substances, especially pesticides and herbicides, bug bites and back pain caused by working by bending for a long time.

Individual to leave education period early causes the poverty and the deprivation to continue; inability to take adequate education causes the child to be unqualified labour force in the future and a vicious cycle of poverty occurs. Negative accommodation and working conditions that are faced in childhood during seasonal migration can lead to chronic health problems throughout life. Working as an agricultural worker or participating in seasonal agricultural migration can also increase the vulnerability of the child in terms of violence, neglect and abuse, thereby negatively affecting his/her emotional and social development.

With the mechanization, risks such as the hazards of machinery and equipment used in agriculture, exposure to pesticides, long working hours, exposure to climate conditions (hot and cold), heavy load lifting - transport, physical strain, obligation to work in isolated environments as in working as cowmen are the reasons for the fact that working in agriculture is included in the scope of heavy and hazardous work. As a result of working in agriculture, children can have accidents, the risk of getting occupational diseases increases, they cannot get adequate education, their physical and cognitive development falls behind. However, it is also true that a large ratio of children working in agriculture work in family enterprises with adults of family and on works to help them. For this reason, works performed in family enterprises were not included in the scope of targeted child labour in agriculture. Working in seasonal commercial agricultural works has been identified as a priority area in the prevention of child labour because it makes it difficult to benefit from education, and working at tender ages and defenselessly.



Photograph: İmren DOĞAN

## 7. DUTY DEFINITIONS OF INSTITUTIONS IN ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR

### 7.1. MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY



The MoLSS, in the name of the Government, signed the Memorandum of Understanding in 1992 to take part in the IPEC programme with the ILO, led Turkey to be one of the first six countries involved in the programme. The Ministry is the institution at the forefront since 1992 in the fight against child labour as a national partner of the ILO and within the duties assigned to it by the law of establishment. The existing organizational structure and the experience gained from the work carried out up to now require the Ministry to play a leading role in the activities on child labour and to maintain performing duties as a coordinator institution.



## 7.1.1. DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF LABOUR

Directorate General of Labour is the main service unit responsible for implementing regulation related to working life, preparing drafts of labour regulation and employment policy, development plans and employment programmes in annual programmes, monitoring developments in employment and taking measures to provide employment, developing policies to increase labour productivity in production.

In this context, in eliminating the child labour;

- a) Ensuring coordination among all institutions and organizations working to prevent child labour,
- b) Determining the country policies for eliminating child labour,
- c) Determining the strategies and methods to be followed for the implementation of the determined policies,
- d) Making necessary regulation works,
- e) Compiling and evaluating the results and statistics of the studies performed on child labour in the country,
- f) Monitoring and contributing to the work carried out outside the Ministry in eliminating child labour,
- g) Performing awareness raising activities,
- h) Informing the public about the activities conducted on child labour in our country and the findings obtained,
- i) In order to obtain the support of international organizations and other countries for the activities to be carried out to prevent child labour in our country, making contacts to provide the cooperation and informing the relevant institutions and organizations about the results.

## 7.1.2. DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Directorate General of Occupational Health and Safety is among the main service units within the structure of the Ministry, which is responsible for carrying out works on investigation, research, training and studies related to regulation in areas related to occupational health and safety and ensuring the implementation of the relevant provisions of the regulation on working life. Carrying out activities related to risk groups, including children, realizing activities aimed at protecting working children in working life and contributing to the regulation activities in this area are among its duties.



### 7.1.3. LABOUR INSPECTION BOARD

In the Article 91 of the Labour Law No. 4857, under the heading "Powers of the State", it is stated that "The State shall follow up, supervise and inspect the implementation of labour legislation governing working conditions. This duty shall be performed by officials of Ministry of Labour and Social Security in sufficient numbers and with the necessary qualifications, specially empowered to exercise supervision and to make visits of inspection." In general, duties of monitoring, inspecting, supervising the working life regulation are assigned to labour inspectors.

The detailed regulations regarding the duties and authorities of the Labour Inspection Board consisting of the labour inspectors are included in Article 8 of the Labour Inspection Board Regulation. Those which are directly related to the problem of child labour from these duties and authorities are;

- a) To conduct scheduled or unscheduled inspections, examinations and investigations within the framework of regulation related to working life,
- b) To eliminate informal employment, to carry out inspections based on sectoral analysis for this purpose and to propose necessary measures to be taken in these matters,
- c) To make a notification to the relevant institutions in cases informality is detected,
- d) To follow the implementation of regulation related to the working life,
- e) To conduct analyzes at workplaces and sectors levels based on risk criteria such as working conditions, working environment, labour relations, occupational accidents and occupational diseases, informality, occupational health and safety violations and etc.; to prioritize the inspection of the workplaces in risky sectors by classifying the sectors to be audited according to the standards to be determined for each year considering the number of inspectors and the other sources of the Board,
- f) To express opinions for social changes, technological developments and changes in international regulation to be reflected in regulation related to working life,
- g) To make recommendations and proposals that will improve the labour force market and increase the life levels of employees according to the inspection results,
- h) To conduct regulation activities related to working life, to prepare General Evaluation Report, when necessary, determining the deflected aspects in the regulation, feasibility, measures to be taken by relevant institutions and organizations, as a result of supervisions and inspections,
- i) To review and follow implementations in workplaces under international conventions,
- j) To keep, compile, evaluate and interpret statistics on inspection results.

Work inspections; expresses the inspection activities carried out on behalf of State and covering the investigation, examination and inspection of the implementation of all regulation provisions concerning working conditions and environments such as working hours, wages, occupational health and safety, welfare of workers, employment of children and young people, informality, unemployment, employment and labour force market practices.

In accordance with the Inspection Guide of the Circular of November 12, 2014 appendix No. 2015/4 of our Ministry; it is regulated that the labour inspection activities to be carried out by our Presidency during the year will be planned as "scheduled inspections" and "non-scheduled inspections consisting of examinations".

Working children are among the priority risk groups of labour inspections just like women workers, people with disabilities, and elderly people. For this reason, in all the scheduled inspections, whether the regulation arrangements related to working children are obeyed is inspected and necessary administrative sanctions are applied in case of disobedience. In addition to the given routine practices, risk-based inspections planned and implemented for sectors in which the number of working children is high and considers the employment of children as the most prior risk can also be performed as well.

#### 7.1.4. DIRECTORATE OF EUROPEAN UNION AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Directorate of European Union and Financial Assistance has been determined as the Authority of Programme to ensure the proper use of funds under the name of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA), which the EU provides to candidate countries. Throughout the IPA I period between 2007 and 2013, these funds were separated into five separate components and the Department was authorized to manage the component entitled "Human Resources Development".

Directorate of European Union and Financial Assistance handles the child's issue with its different aspects (such as child labour, child poverty, children in need of protection) and gives place to them among the priority areas in policy or strategy documentary activities and supports the projects.

The "Employment, Education and Social Policy Sectoral Operational Programme" was prepared by the Department to draw out the general framework for the use of funds in the IPA II period. Along with this programme, some prior activities related to the mentioned sectors were identified. One of these activities deals with the concept of "Decent Works" and clearly states the elimination of child labour among the sub-objectives. In this way, necessary infrastructure has been established to provide funds to various institutions such as universities, non-governmental organizations, municipalities, public institutions that will be active in child labour in our country. These institutions may be supported by IPA funds for activities to strengthen the implementation of existing regulation, increase institutional capacity, develop dialogue among stakeholders, build monitoring mechanisms, raise awareness, build partnership networks and develop all kinds of tools and methods to facilitate eliminating child labour.

The Department closely monitors developments at both the EU level and in the Union member and candidate countries in all issues covered by the duty and responsibility of MoLSS; contributes to the reflection of regulation and implementations to Turkish regulations and implementations adequately. In this context, within the scope of 13 acquis, it is notably stated "social policy and employment" and "free movement of workers". Our Department provides the necessary contributions in cooperation with the relevant departments of the Ministry in order for the negotiation period to be carried out effectively and monitors the process. Child labour is considered as a sub-topic in the activities in the field of social policy and employment.

The EU's policy in the field of social inclusion and social protection covers mainly those who need special attention in society (unemployed, uneducated or under-educated, homeless, disabled, drug addicts, women, children, elderly people etc.) and examines headings such as employment, income distribution and financial poverty, education, housing, health and transportation policies, social services and social assistance policies. Within the scope of the harmonization activities in this area, the Department is responsible for the preparation and monitoring of the Employment and Social Reform Programme (ESRP) with the contributions of all relevant stakeholders.

#### 7.1.5. DIRECTORATE FOR STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

To determine the Ministry's medium and long-term strategies and policies within the context of national development strategies and policies, annual programme and government programme, to perform the necessary works to constitute its objectives, coordinate the preparation of the Ministry's strategic plan and performance programme and to monitor the implementation results are among the tasks of Directorate for Strategy Development. The responsibility area of Directorate for Strategy Development in eliminating child labour; is to provide the necessary support for the problem of child labour to take place in the Ministry's strategy documents and action plans prepared under the coordination of the Directorate.

## 7.1.6. TURKISH EMPLOYMENT AGENCY



İŞKUR is active in employment related fields such as providing adaptation services and unemployment insurance and labour force constitution fields such as creating labour force market information system, adding quality to labour force and on-the-job training, vocational rehabilitation, training services for those who will set up his/her own business and it is the relevant organization of MoLSS. The responsibilities of the institution in eliminating child labour are as follows:

- a) Continuation to activities on eliminating unemployment considering the child labour aspect,
- b) Arrangement of courses set up own business for those in the group that is determined with the detection of those who have the capacity to set up their own business,
- c) Organization of employment-guaranteed courses for parents and adult siblings of children who are working or are at risk of working (In case of sharing official data which provides services to children who are working or are at risk of working and their families and collected by relevant institutions collecting data, with İŞKUR, it will be provided that those in question can be directed to vocational training.),
- d) Cooperation with other institutions and organizations carrying out activities in order to prevent child labour,
- e) Conduction of studies in cooperation with MoNE and international organizations on implementation of modular training programmes.

## 7.1.7. SOCIAL SECURITY INSTITUTION



The SSI is the relevant organization of the MoLSS and is organized autonomously in administrative and financial aspects. The objective of the institution is to realize a social security system based on social insurance principles that is effective, fair, easily accessible, actuarial and financially sustainable, with contemporary standards, which will secure people in terms of social insurance and general health insurance.

Responsibilities of the institution in eliminating child labour are;

- a) To carry out the necessary activities for the working children to be included in the social safety net,
- b) Keeping and publishing statistics on occupational accidents and occupational diseases that children are exposed to,
- c) To train the supervisor staff within the institution on child labour and to ensure that the problems of working children are also taken into consideration in the activities,
- d) To sensitize individuals and organizations receiving service from the institution, notably the craftsmen and merchants, to the issue of child labour.



## 7.1.8. TRAINING AND RESEARCH CENTER FOR LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY



The main function of ÇASGEM, an affiliated organization of MoLSS; is conducting research, investigation and training activities related to working life. It has a certain knowledge and experience in the preparation of training programmes and training documents. In addition to the in-service training of the Ministry staff on child labour, it has the capacity to carry out the training of employees and employers and certain target groups on child labour and to manage the preparation of relevant training materials. ÇASGEM's responsibility areas in eliminating child labour are as follows:

- a) To give support to Directorate General of Labour and the Labour Inspection Board in the training activities to be carried out on child labour,
- b) To give support for the preparation of training programmes for the elimination of child labour,
- c) To give training on child labour to the target groups to be determined.

## 7.2. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE



Ministry of Justice is directly concerned with child labour and crimes committed against children, while not being directly involved in activities on child labour in the framework of the IPEC programme to date. In this context, Ministry of Justice's responsibility areas in eliminating child labour are as follows:

- a) To evaluate statistical information on juvenile delinquency, to investigate the preventive measures by making examinations on the causes of juvenile delinquency and to cooperate with other domestic and foreign institutions engaged in this issue,
- b) To ensure that children are protected in cases they are forced to be employed in areas that will put their health and safety, physical and physiological developments in danger in contradiction with the consent of the children such as domestic violence and being employed by force or against debt, and to take measures that will ensure that by the provisions of the Law on the Protection of the Family, in cases the children are exposed to domestic violence is detected, application will be made to authorized family courts commissioned by Public Prosecutor without delay,
- c) To take necessary measures to ensure co-operation and coordination among the relevant institutions in the implementation of protective and supportive measure decisions made by the courts on children,
- d) To give opinions about the drafts and proposals prepared by the relevant institutions and organizations on the issues that are included or should be included in the international and national regulation on the protection of children,
- e) To take measures to promote the establishment of Juvenile Courts in the provinces and districts in accordance with Article 25 of the Child Protection Law No. 5395.



### 7.3. MINISTRY OF FAMILY AND SOCIAL POLICIES (MoFSP)



It is aimed to carry out the social service intervention and follow-up and to conduct the social services with the principle of ease of access to the services in the framework of the Social Service Centers Regulation entered into force after being published in Official Gazette No. 28554. In this context, studies to prevent child labour are carried out within the structure of Ministry's Social Service Centers. Activities focused on child, family and community are being carried out in order to prevent children from working on the streets, which is determined as one of the worst forms of child labour, to protect them from the risks they face on the streets, to withdraw them from the streets and to support their families. Children working on the streets are ensured to be involved in formal education or vocational training; rehabilitations are provided to them as young people who have completed their education or have a job. Children being worked, being begged, and under risk on the streets constitute the primary working area of the Ministry.

In order to detect the children who are worked/begged on the streets and to make them benefit from the appropriate social services and assistance, a commission has been formed with the participation of the relevant public institutions and organizations, universities and non-governmental organizations working on this field, , under the presidency of the Governors or the Deputy Governors authorized by the Governors in the provinces and under the secretariat of Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Policies.

In the follow-up and supervision of this commission, field researches are carried out by the teams formed by representatives of the relevant institutions in areas where children are being intensely worked/begged. It is ensured that children who are detected to be worked/ begged on the street due to economic deprivation and their families are supported by social assistance.

A commission was established in provinces in order to conduct field researches for Syrian children and to determine their needs and according to the field research brochures and posters prepared jointly with the ILO were distributed to the 81 Provincial Directorates in order to be distributed to Syrian families.

With the brochure prepared with the slogan of "Do not employ child, do not be a party to the crime", it is aimed to create awareness both in local people and in Syrian groups by providing information both in Turkish and Arabic in the direction of consultancy and guidance support can be taken in social, physiological, legal and economic fields by all the needed groups through the ALO 183 Social Service Consultation Line, and to create awareness on the services provided for Syrian children, rights of children and their access to these rights.

The Socio Economic Support Service, one of the important services of Directorate General for Child Services, has been made child-focused.

With the implementation of the Socio Economic Support Service, the protection of the family and the child is a priority social service implementation that needs to be focused on sensitively. With this service model, it is aimed to prevent children from being taken for institutional care due to reasons based only on the economic inadequacy. It is the general policy of the Ministry to protect the integrity of the family, especially by supporting the families and to bring up the child as a healthy individual in the family environment, which is also the basis of child policy.

Within the scope of the Regulation on Social and Economic Support Services, there are two types of assistance which are temporary economic support and periodic economic support. In addition to providing economic support, social service support is also given to the children by professional staff so that they can provide their psycho-social development in a healthy way.

Assistance programme of Conditional Cash Transfer (Conditional Education-Conditional Health Assistance-ŞESY) has been carried out since 2003 within the structure of MoFSP Directorate General for Social Assistance in order to invest in long term in human capital by increasing the access of children of poor families to basic education, health and nutrition services and to reduce especially the intergenerational transition of poverty. It is aimed to reduce the poverty, to decrease the number of children (child labour etc.) not being sent to the schools due to poverty, to prevent early school dropouts and to increase the schooling rate for the poor children at every level through the ŞESY carried out under the Law No. 3294.

Conditional Education Assistance (ŞEY), a subcomponent of ŞESY programme, is an aid programme for families with children who are unable to access basic education services due to economic difficulties and are covered by Social Assistance Solidarity Encouragement Law No. 3294, between the ages of 6-25 and do not receive basic education. Regarding the aid programme, for elementary school students (grades 1-8), monthly payments of 50 TL per month are paid for boys, and 60 TL per month for girls.

Starting from December 2015, MoFSP Directorate General for Social Assistance and other stakeholder institutions (Ministry of Interior Directorate General of Migration Management, European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), Red Crescent, United Nations Refugees High Commissioner (UNHCR) and UNICEF have begun to work together to develop an aid programme targeting the Syrians under temporary protection in our country.

As a result of these collaborations, "Social Adaptation Assistance Programme for Foreigners" has been developed. Syrians with an ID number starting with 99 who reside outside the accommodation centers and meet certain criteria and under temporary protection except for those reside in temporary accommodation centers, and all other foreign nationals and their children who are in our country and meet the conditions can benefit from this aid programme. The infrastructure within the scope of the assistance will be provided by MoFSP and the entire budget of the assistance funds will be covered by ECHO and the monthly payment of 100 TL per person will be made to the target households.

It is also aimed at preventing the employment of children within the scope of this assistance programme with the purpose of that the Syrian citizens who have migrated to our country enforcedly due to the civil war in 2011 and majority of them consists of women and children and are under the temporary protection to fend for them.

## 7.4. MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS



Ministry of Youth and Sports established by Decree Law No. 638 dated June 3, 2011 on the Organization and Duties of Ministry of Youth and Sports does not have a direct duty definition related to child labour, but every individual between the ages of 14-29 is included in the Ministry's duties and responsibilities. In this context; the tasks of the Ministry of Youth and Sports that are considered to be related to the responsibility field of eliminating child labour are as follows:

a) To identify policies supporting the personal and social development of youth, to provide opportunities for young people to make them realize their own potentials by considering the needs of different young groups as well, to make decisions and implementation periods and to develop proposals for their effective participation in all aspects of social life and to carry out activities in this direction, to provide coordination and cooperation in the services of the relevant institutions, regarding youth.

b) To take the necessary measures in order to eliminate any kind of discrimination among young people with the prevention of the abuse and violence against young people and to develop suggestions on these issues,

c) To carry out projects and activities in the fields of youth or sports, to evaluate, participate in and support the projects and activities to be carried out on this field, to inspect the implementation and results and to determine the principles and procedures regarding the projects and studies to be supported,

d) To primarily support the projects for disadvantaged youth and young people's mobility,

e) To carry out examinations or researches about the youth in our country and abroad and to share their results with relevant institutions and organizations,

f) To carry out activities to increase the interest of young people in science, arts and cultural fields and to support the activities carried out in this context.

Issue of child labour is also discussed in some of the policy areas of National Youth and Sports Policy Document prepared by the decision of the Council of Ministers on the basis of Article 18 of Decree Law No. 638 on the Organization and Duties of Ministry of Youth and Sports in order to provide coordination and cooperation between public institutions and organizations carrying out policies and activities that directly or indirectly affect sports and youth. The policy areas and subheadings that are considered as relevant are as follows:

For those covered by the scope of the Education and Lifelong Learning Policy area,

- Facilitating the access of the working youth to the education opportunities including the young people in agriculture section,
- Increasing the access to education and providing equality in opportunities.

For those covered by the scope of the Employment, Entrepreneurship and Vocational Training policy area,

- Creating part-time job opportunities for the young people in the process of education.

For those covered by the Disadvantaged Youth and Social Inclusion policy area,

- Preventing the young people to be abused,
- Ensuring the social inclusion of the youth migrated to cities and has the adaptation problem.

The National Youth and Sport Policy Document regard the relevant public institutions and organizations as responsible in the studies to be performed on the areas in question.

## 7.5. MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK



The majority of the working children in Turkey are employed in rural and in agricultural works, and a large majority of children employed in agriculture are employed in family business or work with their families. In particular, besides the spread of mechanization in agriculture, the widespread use of agrochemicals, points such as that agricultural works are open to seasonal conditions by its nature negatively affect the health and safety of children working in agriculture, especially those with a frame in development phase. Migration from rural areas to urban areas throughout our country also emerges as another phenomenon that nurtures child labour. The most fundamental right of children is education and education is the best means of preventing child labour. The Ministry's study subjects in eliminating child labour are as follows:

- a) Implementing activities and projects aimed at increasing income and employment in the rural areas by activating local potentials within the framework of sustainable development principles,
- b) Conducting activities to improve life quality, to support economic activities that increase income of the rural population and to improve the manpower resources,
- c) Supporting the entrepreneurs in fields such as agriculture, tourism, handicrafts, animal husbandry, textile which has a local potential to increase income of the population living in the rural area and reduce unemployment,
- d) Providing support in cooperation with the responsible organizations to the awareness raising activities aimed at preventing child labour that will be carried out for those living in rural areas and for employees,
- e) Providing support to the activities carried out by Ministry of National Education for bringing all children living in the rural areas to education,
- f) Providing contribution to the implementation of work in line with the goals of reducing child labour by ensuring that all children of families who are seasonal and migrant agriculture workers to benefit from the education opportunities and the opportunities to be increased which will facilitate the children of families who are seasonal and migrant workers, who are under the responsibility of MoNE taking place under the heading of "Education" of the 2012-2016 Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock National Action Plan on Strengthening Women in Rural Areas, to benefit from the education opportunities,
- g) Creating cooperation opportunities related to the subject by providing cooperation and coordination with the necessary institutions in women and children issues in seasonal agricultural work.

## 7.6. MINISTRY OF INTERIOR



Ministry of Interior is the ministry which has the authority to intervene in the areas that child labour and especially buying and selling children and child trade which is regarded as one of the worst forms of child labour specified in the ILO Convention No. 182, all kinds of slavery-like practices including employing them against debt or dependently and military conflicts, forced or compulsory use of children, using children in prostitution, in the production of pornographic publications or in the pornographic shows, procuring or presenting them for these, using children in the illegal activities such as the production and trading of narcotic drugs specified especially in the relevant international agreements, procuring or presenting them for these.

### 7.6.1. GOVERNORATES

The Governor is the representative of the State and the Government in all provinces, and is the agent of each Minister separately, and their administrative and political enforcement means. The Governor is responsible for ensuring that the laws, codes, regulation and Government decisions are published and announced and implemented, and carrying out the Ministries' directives and orders. The Governor has the authority to take all the measures necessary for the realization of these works. Governorates' responsibility areas in eliminating child labour are as follows:

- a) Ensuring the coordination of the works carried out in relation to child labour in provinces,
- b) Leading and coordinating the works of the Provincial Action Committees on each province,
- c) Ensuring the intervention of the relevant units in cases where it is detected that children are employed under the conditions laid down in ILO Convention No. 182.

## 7.6.2. DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SECURITY



Directorate General of Security Children's Branch Office/Department Establishment Duties and Working Regulations; has determined the principles for the implementation of the child police and has been prepared considering the Law of Police Duty and Authorization and all the other regulations, in particular the Article 32 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Duties related to children who are pushed to crime, crime victim or in need of protection / assistance within the framework of the Child Protection Law and related regulation; are carried out by the plainclothes children police who took training in their profession.

Within the scope of its duties of which the legal framework is defined, the responsibility areas of Directorate General of Security in eliminating child labour are as follows:

- a) To inform the relevant institutions and organizations of the findings and complaints related to prohibited child labour within the provisions of the existing regulation,
- b) Keeping the legal exceptions reserved, to control whether those under the age of 18 are employed in places with the purpose of entertainment, games, alcoholic drinks and similar aims and are open to the public or its opening is dependent on the permission,
- c) To carry out procedural acts and to cooperate with the relevant institutions, when necessary, about the parents who do not fulfill their responsibilities or abuse their parental rights or other people legally responsible for the child,
- d) In the in-service training events, providing the training of the relevant personnel on child labour,
- e) To make cooperation with relevant institutions and organizations and to exchange necessary information for the prevention of child labour,
- f) To inform MoLSS Provincial Directorate of Labour and Employment Agency and to start procedural / administrative acts about employers in cases when it is detected that the children are employed under inappropriate conditions within the provisions of Turkish Penal Code, Labour Law and Law of Police Duty and Authorization,
- g) To inform National Education Directorates about the children whose are at basic education age and their education right is prevented due to their employment according to the relevant provisions of the Elementary Education Act.

## 7.6.3. GENERAL COMMAND OF GENDARMERIE



The rights of children to live, develop, protection and to participate in social life are guaranteed by the "United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child", which Turkey is a party to. The obligations arising from the Child Protection Law No. 5395 and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child have been adapted to our domestic law.

Special arrangements made for children in national regulation and actions to be taken for children in gendarmerie units within the framework of international agreements to which we are party; have been stated in General Command of Gendarmerie "Directive on the Duties, Authorities and Responsibilities of the Gendarmerie in Domestic Violence, Violence Against Women and Eliminating Juvenile Crimes", which entered into force on July 4, 2013. Within this scope;

a) People who do not fulfill the obligation to provide care, education or support arising out of family law which is in need of protection or pushed to crime shall be punished with imprisonment upon complaint. In this context, despite the notifications made, a denunciation is made for "Neglect of Liability Arising From Family Law" to Public Prosecution Office about the family of child who are worked on the street by his/her family, abandoned, are not sent to the school despite the notification made and are abused.

b) Notification is made to the families of children who are pushed to crime, are working at a young age and are found not to be sent to the school or to continue the school, by "Declare and Accept Declarations". Despite the notification made, the children who are not sent to the school by their parents are reported to administrative authority, and legal actions to be performed are ensured.

c) To the families of children who are detected to work on the streets; According to the Security Decisions of the Provincial Governorates for the Protection of Children Living or Being Worked on the Streets, that the employment of children under the age of 18 is prohibited to be worked on the streets and legal actions will be taken on the parent, custodian or family members who make their children under the age of (18) work out of the rules regulating the working life, in accordance with the relevant regulation are notified. In addition, information is given by explaining the negative situations that the children may face with on the streets. For legal actions to be taken on the families which make their children work on streets despite the notice, the administrative authorities are being informed.

## 7.7. MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT



Ministry of Development conducts its activities in a wide range of areas in the subjects of economic, social and cultural development for public and private sector use. In this context, the contribution of Ministry of Development on the elimination of child labour will be as follows; to contribute to that the subject of eliminating child labour to be included in politic documents at national and international levels and in the strategic documents, to provide financial support to appropriate projects through the investment programme, to provide technical support and financial contribution where necessary by evaluating the work of the international institutions on this area in our country, in addition, to provide supports such as raising awareness on child labour.

## 7.8. DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES

The duties of Development Agencies on eliminating child labour can be framed as follows;

a) To conduct researches on the current state and structure, fragility and potential of the region/have them conducted,

b) To identify regional priorities and measures,

c) To provide financial and technical support to the development of the capacity in the region and to the projects aiming at resolving problems and developing solution implementations /models in line with the determined Regional Plan priorities,

d) To create co-operation opportunities by providing coordination and cooperation between the public, private sector and NGOs.

## 7.9. MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION



Education is the best tool for the elimination of child labour. To date, MoNE has actively participated in the implementation of many projects aimed at eliminating child labour.



### 7.9.1. DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR BASIC EDUCATION

The most important reflection of the child labour problem in the Ministry is absenteeism. Ensuring that students are at school is an important study area to prevent child labour. The Ministry utilizes laws, practices and projects to ensure that every student has access to education. In this sense, Section 6 of the Primary Education and Training Law No. 222 is related to the attending school and the legal regulations that should be made in case of absenteeism are stated. In addition, compulsory education is raised to 12 years within the scope of the Law on the Amendment of the Some Laws with the Primary Education and Training Law No. 6287. Boarding schools and mobile teaching are also practices put into effect to facilitate the access of students to education.

Among the students child labour emerges intensively in seasonal agriculture area. This issue was included in the 2016 action plan of the 64th Government 2016 due to its importance. Circular No. 2016/5 was issued within the scope of the activity "Bringing the children of seasonal agricultural workers and semi-migrant and migrant families to education", which is included in the action plan and whose responsibility is given to Directorate General for Basic Education.

In addition, Article 59 of the Law No. 222 states that "Those who are at the age of primary education but do not go to compulsory primary education institutions cannot be employed in any paid or free of charge official or private workplaces or in any other places under no circumstances. Those who attend primary education can only be employed in accordance with the provisions of the legislation concerning the employment of children."

## 7.9.2. DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

The duties of Directorate General for Lifelong Learning except the compulsory education are to establish policies aimed at extending education and training in a manner that will last lifelong, to implement, monitor and evaluate these policies; to carry out non-formal education and teaching and distant education services; to provide education and training in general or vocational and technical education areas through non-formal education to citizens who have not entered the formal education system, left or finished any educational level; to prepare education and training programmes, textbooks, educational tools and materials of non-formal education and training schools and institutions or to have them prepared and to present them to the Turkish Education Board; to carry out the services related to the non-formal private education institutions; to provide general and vocational training for candidate apprentices, apprentices, foremen and craftsmen according to the Vocational Training Law No. 3308 of June 5,1986; to perform similar tasks assigned by the Minister.

## 7.9.3. DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR SECONDARY EDUCATION

The duties of Directorate General for Secondary Education in eliminating child labour are as follows:

- a) Determining and implementing policies for the management of secondary schools and institutions and for the education and training of their students,
- b) Meeting the accommodation needs of secondary school students and carrying out the business and operations related to supporting them financially,
- c) Determining and supervising the principles related to opening, transferring, conveying and closing dormitories, pensions and similar institutions to be opened or operated by associations and foundations and real and other legal entities for students at every stage.

## 7.10. MINISTRY OF HEALTH



Ministry of Health provides protective and curative healthcare services throughout the country in line with basic health care principles. Health services at the provincial level are carried out under the supervision of the Governorates. The treatment expenses of those who are not under the guarantee of any social security institution are covered by the state under the Universal Health Insurance. Street children are also covered by this law.

Ministry of Health's responsibilities in eliminating child labour are as follows:

- a) Carrying out social awareness-raising activities in terms of the risks that working children are exposed to in terms of health,
- b) Ensuring that periodical controls of working children are performed and when necessary treatments are made,
- c) Conducting activities for the pediatric patients to investigate the effects of the working environment on the health of children and the examination of these children in a manner that will enable the collection of such data by the health institutions and organizations, notably the hospitals for occupational diseases.





## 7.11. TURKISH STATISTICAL INSTITUTE (TURKSTAT)



TURKSTAT is a public institution with extensive knowledge and experience to conduct field research on child labour. TURKSTAT applied the Child Labour Survey four times in 1994, 1999, 2006 and 2012 in Turkey and published its results.

Within the scope of the TURKSTAT Law No. 5429, five-year official statistical programmes are determined by the Statistical Council formed by representatives of all public institutions and organizations producing statistical data. Accordingly, in order to be able to conduct research on a subject, it must be on the agenda of the official statistical programme. There is no study on child labour in the official statistical programme covering the period 2011-2016. In order to carry out research on the child labour force in the coming period, this issue needs to be taken into consideration in the Official Statistics Programme of 2017-2021.

## 7.12. RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION



Religious Affairs Administration is one of our institutions that can be effective in making the society sensitive about child labour. In this respect, the responsibilities of Religious Affairs Administration in eliminating child labour are as follows:

- a) Assessing the worst forms of child labour under a heading within the framework of the child negligence and abuse programme planned by our Presidency, and increasing the sensitivity on this subject,
- b) Making the society sensitive about the negative effects of child labour on children and society, and contributing to the institutions working on this issue,
- c) Particularly emphasizing the importance of the education of the girls and carrying out awareness-raising activities to prevent the withdrawal of the girls from the education.

## 7.13. MUNICIPALITIES

In Article 77 of the Municipality Law No. 5393 with the heading Voluntary Participation in Municipal Service: the provision of "In order to enable public participation in the services and to increase the efficiency and to carry out the activities in the most economic manner, the Municipality shall prepare programs for the volunteers who are willing to contribute health, training, sports, environmental, cultural and social services, formation of libraries, parks etc. and other services rendered to the old people, women and children, disabled, poor people and to those in destitute."; "takes place. In this framework, municipalities have carried out many projects on child labour to date and had successful examples in eliminating child labour by supporting other successful projects and proved that they are able to be effective.

Areas that the municipalities are responsible for the elimination of child labour are as follows:

- a) Taking measures to prevent children working on the streets to work by municipal policies or special officials to be assigned,
- b) Providing rehabilitation and support services by opening centers for the children working in fields such as industry, commerce, agriculture and service or on the streets,

c) Holding vocational training courses and considering the child labour aspect in these courses to be organized,

d) Taking necessary measures in cooperation with MoFSP for the protection of children in need,

e) Carrying out and develop all kinds of social and cultural services for young people and children and establishing social facilities for this purpose, opening and operating vocational and skill-building courses, or having them operated, cooperating with universities, colleges, vocational high schools, public institutions and non-governmental organizations to operate these services,

f) Opening protection houses for women and children by municipalities with a population of more than 50 thousand and metropolitan municipalities,

g) Being able to perform maintenance and repair of school buildings of the state at all levels, being able to meet the necessary equipment, tools and material needs within the budget opportunities,

h) Providing material to the students, amateur sports clubs when necessary and providing necessary support.

## 7.14. UNION OF CHAMBERS AND COMMODITY EXCHANGES OF TURKEY (TOBB)



TOBB pioneers, implements and supports many projects in the economic, social and cultural fields in our country through its central organization and the Chamber and the Commodity Exchanges. In this context, it is establishing universities, colleges, vocational and technical education institutions and supporting the established ones in order to ensure the qualified labour force that the industry needs is created. In terms of child labour;

a) Activities carried out by public institutions and organizations as well as national and international organizations are participated in and contributions are made to the programmes, projects and activities being carried out,

b) Contributions are made to informing, awareness and awareness raising activities organized for employers and other sections of the society on child labour and its negativities,

c) The regulation works carried out in relation to the subject are participated in, information on legal arrangements and responsibilities are given,

d) Our members are informed about the activities and projects carried out within the scope of eliminating child labour,

e) Contributions are made to the activities of reintegrating the children in the disadvantaged group into the society by reducing child labour,

f) One of the members of the High Advisory Board of UNICEF National Committee of Turkey, which is working to support children's rights in Turkey and to raise funds from individuals and the private sector, is M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, the Board Chairman of TOBB. The purpose of the UNICEF National Committee of Turkey is to mold public opinion awareness on the needs of Turkish and world's children and by cooperating with the private sector, volunteers and groups, collecting donations, selling UNICEF licensed products, to help the activities performed by UNICEF,

g) As being one of the organizations that signed the principles of the United Nations Global Compact, including the "Elimination of all kinds of child labour", contributes to the promotion of the principles and to the increase of the number of signatory enterprises and members and to the development of awareness.

## 7.15. CONFEDERATION OF TURKISH TRADESMEN AND CRAFTSMEN



TESK has put new regulations with vital importance in terms of vocational education system into effect by making education regulations within the scope of Tradesmen and Craftsmen Professional Organizations Law No. 5362.

One of the most important regulations made is the establishment of a special supervision system aimed at improving working conditions of young people who are foremen and apprentices in apprenticeship training. In order to supervise whether the vocational training given in the enterprises is in accordance with regulation from various aspects and to advise the workplace on this issue, with the regulation made, it has been obliged to establish workplace inspection and consultancy groups (IDDG) within the structure of the chambers and associations which are sub-organizations of TESK.

Most of the workplaces included in the apprenticeship education system are TESK affiliated establishments. It is of utmost importance that these enterprises be supported to be able to carry out apprenticeship training and supervised at the same time in order to ensure the appropriateness of the workplaces where the training has been conducted and the working conditions there.

IDDGs are the first inspection units created by a non-governmental organization to improve the working conditions of children working in small enterprises in Turkey. At the same time, IDDGs are an auto-control system in terms of ensuring the quality of vocational education for craftsmen and tradesmen who are members of chambers affiliated to TESK and improving working conditions. This is a milestone for our country in terms of vocational education system and working children.

It is foreseen that it would be possible to eliminate the supervision vacancy based on the existing guidance in the enterprises as a result of improving and strengthening the IDDG model in eliminating child labour.

## 7.16. CONFEDERATION OF TURKISH TRADE UNIONS



Since 1992, TÜRK-İŞ has intensified its work in this area, believing that it has fallen into the labour unions to eliminate child labour, which is seen as an integral part of the struggle for the protection and improvement of workers' rights and freedoms.

Within the framework of ILO/IPEC Project, TÜRK-İŞ has created a Working Children's Bureau within its structure. TÜRK-İŞ Working Children's Bureau realized and continues to realize various projects cooperating with various institutions and organizations in Turkey as well as TÜRK-İŞ and international organizations.

The activities that have been carried out since 1992 as TÜRK-İŞ Working Children's Bureau are as follows: "The Project of Increasing the Activities and Responsibilities of Worker Unions on Working Children" has been realized.

The organization conducted a "Field Study in Wood and Metal Industry in Ankara" to develop the social profile of children working in these two sectors.

It conducted an Empirical Field Study on "Children Working in Leather Industry in İstanbul (Socio-Economic Infrastructure, Future Expectations and Duties Falls to Unions)".

“Strengthening the TÜRK-İŞ Regional and Provincial Representatives, Project of the Administrators’ Training and Action Committees’ Campaigns” has been developed and implemented.

TÜRK-İŞ project has put the Development Plan for the Regional Action Committees into practice and has developed a trade union model that has been formed from ten steps against child labour.

“Improving Working Conditions of Children in the Short Term, Multidimensional Action Programme for Ending the Child Labour in the Long Term” has been developed. For the first time with this project, TÜRK-İŞ worked with UNICEF, as well as ILO, to train children, families and members of the action committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

In 2000, on 23 April, with the other worker confederations, TÜRK-İŞ initiated the “National Walking” in Turkey against child labour and carried out the Development Project.

In the period of 2000-2001, the project of “Bring Children, Who Have the Risk of Life and Living on the Street, to Education” has been carried out in Diyarbakir, Gaziantep, Adana, Bursa, Çanakkale and Edirne with DİSK and HAK-İŞ under the leadership of TÜRK-İŞ.

TÜRK-İŞ, together with HAK-İŞ, carried out “Awareness Raising Project against Child Labour through Media Organization” in 2008.

Together with TÜRK-İŞ and Career Counseling and Human Resources Development Association, the “Project for Directing Children Working on Streets to Science, Technology and Innovation Areas” has been implemented.



## 7.17. HAK-IS TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION



Since 1996, HAK-İŞ has implemented a number of projects to eliminate child labour. The first study in eliminating child labour is the field study conducted in 1996 with the children workers and their employers in the automotive sub- industry sector in the non-organized industrial zones of Sakarya Region. The general purpose of the research has been to determine the problems of the apprentices, who are and cannot be students in Apprenticeship Training Centers and work in the profession areas covered by the Apprenticeship and Vocational Training Law in Sakarya, on the education practices and working life based on their own views.

In 1998, HAK-İŞ carried out a global march within the scope of ILO/IPEC Programme together with other workers and civil servant confederations. The march ended in the ILO General Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland on June 1, 1998. In 2000, HAK-İŞ carried out a national march against child labour within the scope of the ILO/IPEC Programme along with other worker confederations.

In 1999, regional action committees have been established against child labour through HAK-İŞ affiliated union organizations within the scope of ILO-IPEC Project. 20 action committees established in each region have been trained in eliminating child labour.

HAK-İŞ has carried out a Child Labour Research in Gaziantep with the support of MoLSS. In the survey and field research 251 working children has been reached in food, service, textile and industry areas.

In the research, a series of questions were asked about children's workplace conditions, occupational safety, working days and hours, education and cultural rights given to the children, occupational accidents and occupational diseases. Face-to-face interviews with employers and families of the working children were also conducted in the research.

In 2001-2002, in accordance with the ILO/IPEC Programme and the joint protocol with MoNE, HAK-İŞ and other worker confederations, "Taking one thousand six hundred children working on the streets under the age of 15 in elected provinces away from the streets and register them in MoNE-YİBO (Regional Boarding Elementary Schools) and MoNE-PİO (Pensioned Elementary Schools)" project was carried out in the provinces of Adana, Bursa, Gaziantep, Diyarbakır and Çanakkale.

HAK-İŞ implemented the "Children Working on the Streets" project in Çorum under the ILO/IPEC Programme. According to the project, 250 children working on the streets in Çorum were placed in MoNE Boarding Elementary Region Schools in 2002-2003 academic year by HAK-İŞ.

Our Confederation, HAK-İŞ, in partnership with TÜRK-İŞ, realized the "Project for Awareness Raising Against Child Labour through Media Organization" in the framework of NGOs Grant Programme for Strengthening Non-governmental in Pre-Accession to EU Process in 2008.

HAK-İŞ took part as a stakeholder in the project of Elimination of Child Labour in Seasonal Hazelnut Agriculture carried out by the ILO in 2013-2014.

## 7.18. TURKISH CONFEDERATION OF EMPLOYER ASSOCIATIONS (TISK)



TISK is the only authorized organization to represent employers in the presence of ILO. TISK sees its fight against informal employment and child labour among its important fields of activity. In these issues, educational activities are being carried out mainly with the publications and seminars for raising the awareness of the employers. TISK has contributed to the IPEC programme being conducted in Turkey by implementing various projects from the beginning and establishing a sample Working Children's Bureau in 1999 at the İstanbul Pendik Industrial Estate (to provide support to working children, their families and employers in health and education). TISK has made important contributions to the prevention of child labour through the following activities:

- a) Informs the employers about the negative effects of child labour on working life and especially about the worst forms of child labour and related regulation and performs activities for awareness raising.
- b) Cooperates with governmental and worker organizations, other national and international organizations in activities to prevent child labour.

- c) Provides support for education and rehabilitation of children who are withdrawn from the working life and directed to education.
- d) Carries out activities and projects that increase social awareness.
- e) Participates in the reorganization of the national policy and programme according to needs and activities for monitoring and evaluation of implementation.
- f) Cooperates with MoLSS in preparation of regulation.
- g) In international platforms, provides the understanding of the support provided by the Turkish employers to the activities aiming to prevent the informal work and child labour.
- h) Contributes to the promotion of the United Nations Global Compact, including the principle of “effectively eliminating child labour”, and to increase the number of signatory enterprises, as a Member of GC Turkey Board of Directors.
- i) Presents the “TISK Working Children Bureau” which is launched by the United Nations as one of the “best practice” examples of employer’s organizations in the world countries.

## 7.19. UNION OF TURKISH CHAMBERS OF AGRICULTURE



In the Law No. 6964 on Chambers of Agriculture and their Union; purpose and scope of the chambers; the agricultural chambers are the professional organizations with the legal entity and in the nature of a public institution established to provide vocational services in accordance with the principles stated in this Law, to meet the common needs of the farmers, to facilitate their professional activities, to ensure that the farming profession develops in accordance with the general interests, to ensure that the members of the professions maintain integrity and trust in relations with each other and with the public, to watch and observe professional discipline and morality and to protect the professional rights and interests of those engaged in farming.

TZOB has been established as a supreme professional organization with public legal entity in order to fulfill the duties assigned to it by this Law.

The agricultural activities of permanent members are seasonal and they employ seasonal agricultural workers to carry out their activities. Seasonal agricultural workers are compulsorily migrating to the regions with their families. This is a phenomenon that causes child labour. The TZOB can contribute to the areas of responsibility for the prevention of the worst forms of child labour with the following activities;

- a) Realization of educational activities in order to increase the awareness activities by giving priority to prevent child labour for managers of our agricultural chambers, their employees, farmer consultants and registered members of our chambers (our farmers), in the scope of the duties given to our Union under the Law No. 6964,
- b) Integration with awareness raising activities to prevent child labour in the awareness raising and informing training events carried out and to be carried out with the institutions and organizations for seasonal agricultural workers,
- c) Cooperation with the public, institutions and organizations and other national and international organizations in activities to prevent child labour, to carry out the necessary activities in order to implement the agricultural policies in accordance with the general interests,
- d) Conducting pilot project activities and ensuring that sample activities are announced to the provinces,
- e) Rearranging the national policy and programme according to needs and participating in the monitoring and evaluation of implementation,
- f) Conducting activities that will increase social sensitivity,

## 7.20. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Cooperation with international organizations, exchange of information and financial support are of great importance for activities to eliminate child labour. Until today, significant support has been received for child labour particularly from ILO and for the implementation of UN Convention on the Rights of the Child from UNICEF. On the other hand, EU, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Health Organization (WHO) and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) are the organizations that actively involved in a number of projects in Turkey. The World Bank also provides support for many social development projects.

In particular, EU has also importance for our country in terms of acquis, including minimum standards for the elimination of child labour and the protection of children and young people besides the financial support it provides. In the process of membership to EU, it is expected that our country will comply with the mentioned acquis and these arrangements are guiding the legislative preparatory works carried out in our country.

In addition, EU countries, the US and Japanese Embassies, Turkish-Japanese Foundation, British Culture, American Culture, German Culture and French Culture Associations, municipalities of countries with sister cities in Turkey, international NGOs eliminating child labour, international organizations that employers and worker trade unions are their members, multinational international private sector companies are considered to be potential institutions and organizations that can be cooperated.

### 7.20.1. ILO



Established in 1919, ILO is a global organization that regulates and supervises international labour standards. ILO is the only United Nations organization with a “tripartite structure” that forms policies and programmes by bringing government, employer and employee representatives together and works with member states to explore ways to ensure respect for working standards in principle and in practice. ILO’s basic strategic objectives are to develop and achieve standards, fundamental principles and rights in the working life, to create more opportunities for men and women to have decent jobs, to increase the scope and effectiveness of social protection programmes, and to strengthen the triple structure and social dialogue.

Since its foundation, ILO has been working to eliminate child labour and set standards through conventions. Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age and Convention No. 182 concerning the Worst forms of Child Labour are the main ILO conventions constituted in this context. ILO also provides technical support to the practices for the prevention of child labour within the scope of IPEC in 1992. IPEC is basically aiming at the gradual ending of the problem of child labour with a worldwide movement.

Turkey is among the first six countries participated in IPEC. Within the scope of the programme, a number of projects and programmes have been carried out at national level, taking the national priorities, multilateral cooperation with organizations of employers and employees, international organizations, public organizations, private enterprises, community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations and universities. When IPEC ended in Turkey, ILO has continued to provide technical support to other projects and activities to end child labour in Turkey since 2008.

## 7.20.2. UNICEF



UNICEF Turkey Office addresses the elimination of child labour under the main heading of Reducing Differences, Social Inclusion and Protection. The programme "Elimination of Child Labour", structured with an inter-sectoral perspective, has spread to the main fields of activity "social protection", "child protection" and "education". The main mission of UNICEF is to provide technical support and capacity support to the institutions and organizations that are decision-makers and practitioners, particularly the government organizations.

The elimination of child labour is addressed within the scope of Equalization, Social Inclusion and Strength Increase aimed at 2016-2020 Country Programme. Accordingly, child labour is a problem that needs to be tackled in the context of disadvantages. Areas of action included in the UNICEF's working areas,

1. Eliminating child poverty,
2. Increasing access to basic services,
3. Transformation of social norms,
4. Supporting and extending good business practices.

UNICEF Turkey is actively working in giving support and activating social protection networks with poverty reduction strategies based on the schooling of children, such as conditional cash transfers, within the scope of eliminating child labour through the reduction of child poverty.

In the context of access to basic services, public authorities and civil society actors work together in areas such as increasing basic education access, extending childcare and education systems, and reconstructing services in a child-friendly manner.

In the field of transforming social norms, UNICEF Turkey Office supports campaign and awareness raising activities in various sectors.

As part of the development of good business practices, UNICEF is working in UN Global Compact and in support of initiatives performing supply chain management, as well as in increasing awareness and creating norms at various levels.



Photograph: Gülhür BEŞÇELİ



## 8. NATIONAL POLICY AND OBJECTIVES

Believing that child labour constitutes an obstacle to the physical, mental, spiritual and social development of children who are the future of a country, our country has recognized child labour as a social problem to be eliminated. Considering the economic and social conditions in the country and the economic constraints of working children and their families, it has been aimed to carry out these activities in a certain period by giving priority to child labour in the worst forms in order to prevent the activities regarding the elimination of child labour to affect the children negatively.

In this context, eliminating child labour has taken place in the main policy documents prepared in our country and in many strategies. In the Tenth Development Plan, to be implemented within the scope of 2014-2018 period, priority targets have been set to prevent the worst forms of child labour such as working on the streets, working in heavy and hazardous jobs, working in mobile and temporary agricultural labour except for family business.

In addition, within the scope of the National Employment Strategy covering the years 2014-2023 under the MoLSS coordination, it has been aimed to end child labour particularly in the worst forms (working on the streets, in heavy and hazardous works in the industry, working in mobile and temporary agricultural labour except for family business).

Within the scope of the strategy, in 2023, the worst forms of child labour, especially in heavy and hazardous works in the industry, on the streets and in seasonal mobile and temporary agricultural labour, will be completely abolished, while child labour in other areas will be reduced to less than 2%.

Another important document is the National Child Rights Strategy Document and Action Plan to be implemented within the years 2013-2017. Within the scope of the Strategy, the main objective has been determined to prevent child labour and protect the rights of working children.

The National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour has the main objective of removing the poverty which is the main reason for the children to enter the working life in accordance with the mentioned national policies and objectives, increasing the quality and accessibility of education, improving social consciousness and sensitivity and with the comprehensive measures whose details are given in the programme, preventing the child labour notably the worst forms (within the period of 2017-2023 in line with the views of the relevant public institutions and organizations, social partners and international organizations) within a seven-year period of time.

As a result of the civil war in Syria, a lot of refugees including mostly women and children have migrated to our country, since the wave of migration began in 2011. The children of these refugees who are given the "Temporary Protection Status" are also at risk of child labour.

The elimination of foreign child labour problem is performed through the mechanisms that enable immigrants to enter the working life, to support them and to direct their children to education. All the policies and measures in the "National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour" covering the period of 2017-2023 are aimed at all children without discrimination.

## 8.1. IMPLEMENTING AND UPDATING THE REGULATION AND LEGAL ARRANGEMENTS

Our country has become a member of many international organizations and has rapidly adapted to the international decisions taken by these organizations regarding child rights and child employment. Turkey has constituted its own laws and regulations in line with the country's realities and needs with these international decisions. Reviewing the regulations related to the prevention of child labour and making new regulations arrangements when necessary and the implementing the existing regulations and the supervision of the implementation are of great importance in terms of eliminating child labour on a solid legal ground. Strategies and activities determined regarding the regulations and its implementation are indicated in Table-1 within the action plan in the appendix.

## 8.2. STRENGTHENING THE EXISTING ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES AND CREATING NEW ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES

In addition to increasing the capacities of existing institutions for the elimination of child labour, there is also a need to establish new organizational structures in order to prevent child labour, especially the worst forms. Within the framework of the National Programme, it is essential that the public and private institutions and organizations to be structured in a manner that they can eliminate child labour in systematic and sustainable way. The priority strategies in this framework are to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of existing mechanisms and institutions by creating new mechanisms, to extend successful organizational structure models throughout the country and to enrich the national database. Strategies and activities determined in order to strengthen the capacities of the existing institutions which are still working together with the new organizational structures to be formed in the field of eliminating child labour are indicated in Table-2 within the action plan in the appendix.

## 8.3. INCREASING AWARENESS

In order to eliminate child labour, increasing social sensitivity is of great importance. It is necessary to ensure the society to support the activities to be carried out by increasing the sensitivities in particular on the reasons of child labour, its effects on children, the measures to be taken and the activities being carried out and the activities should be carried out under the supervision and guidance of the experienced people and organizations. Strategies and activities identified in this context are indicated in Table-3 within the action plan in the appendix.

## 8.4. ENSURING THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SOCIAL PARTNERS AND THE COMMUNITY

Ensuring the participation of the social partners and the community in the prevention of child labour is an essential factor for the activities that carried out and will be carried out to achieve the intended outcomes. Strategies and activities determined for this purpose are indicated in Table-4 within the action plan in the appendix.



## **8.5. EDUCATION AND IMPROVEMENT**

Education is at the forefront of the most effective solutions to prevent child labour. Taking children out of working life is only possible with the creation of appealing alternatives. This alternative is to direct children to formal or non-formal education institutions within a programme integrated with a poverty reduction strategy.

Apprenticeship and vocational training constitute a very attractive alternative for children who are out of formal education system. Considering in particular poor families cannot afford the cost of long-term education and the need for intermediate staff of the country's industry, measures that encourage vocational and technical education are needed.

In addition, rehabilitation of working children and children who are withdrawn from the working life is an important point for their adaptation to their school life and their new lives and their communication with their peers and for the children to be able to continue their future lives in health.

In working life, children are exposed to various health and safety risks. Ensuring the health and safety of the children who currently take part in working life and envisaged to be withdrawn from working life within a certain period of time within the National Programme should be taken as a precaution. It is also necessary to make the necessary treatments and health checks of the children being taken from work but whose health were negatively affected during the period of their work, to lead a healthy life in their future life and to not be exposed to the adverse health risks preventing them from continuing education.

The strategies and activities to be carried out for the purpose of rehabilitating the working children in order to be directed to education and social life included in the action plan are in Table-5.

## **8.6. ELIMINATION OF POVERTY**

Poverty continues to be the most important reason of child labour. For this reason, it is an economic and social problem that needs to be addressed primarily in order to prevent child labour. Especially economic strengthening of the families is an extremely important factor in eliminating child labour. For this reason, it is necessary to put the projects that will enable more family members to be employed in practice and to give priority to the families whose children are at risk of working in the income-generating, poverty reduction activities and in reaching financing sources. Strategies and actions to be taken towards poverty reduction are listed in Table-6 within the action plan in the appendix.

## **8.7. EXTENSION OF SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SOCIAL SECURITY NETWORK**

The fact that the social security system cannot cover the entire population is an important structural problem. The social security network not to cover all the society leads families to direct to the employment of children and increases child labour. In this respect, it is essential to extend the social security spectrum, to use social security as an effective tool for reducing poverty, and to deliver health care services to all segments of the society in an effective and quality manner. The strategies and activities envisaged in this context are indicated in Table-7 within the action plan in the appendix.



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## 9. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND COORDINATION

The National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour, prepared with the vision of 2023, will be monitored and evaluated through the Board meetings to be held twice a year in June and December under the chairmanship of MoLSS Directorate General of Labour by the Monitoring and Evaluation Board for Eliminating Child Labour through the action plan in the appendix.

Secretariat services of the board are fulfilled by MoLSS Directorate General of Labour. The secretariat prepares the action plan current state document and sends it to the members of the Board before the Board meeting. In the preparation of the current state document, the information from the institutions responsible for the actions is taken as basis.

The board completes the monitoring and evaluation of the action plan for the current year and makes plans for the next year. The meeting notes on which the decisions taken after the meeting take place are sent to all the members by Secretariat and they are published on the MoLSS website.

### **APPENDIX: ACTION PLAN OF NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR**

**Table 1: Measures for Implementating and Updating the Regulation and Legal Arrangements**

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
1. Examining the regulation on preventing child labour and making regulations when necessary	(1.1) Examining the regulation on eliminating child labour in Turkey and determining the shortcomings in implementation and preparing new regulation when necessary	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS
	(1.2) With the compulsory education to be raised to 12 years, handling and evaluating the education and labour regulations together	MoLSS	MoNE, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS
	(1.3) Performing the necessary works on changing the scope of the arrangements in Regulation on Working Conditions in Works Counted as Agriculture and Forestry and Labour Law, in a way that it will cover the children working in seasonal agricultural works and enterprises in which the number of workers is 50 or below	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS
	(1.4) Clearly prohibiting the employment of child workers in seasonal agriculture works for a fee except the family business in agriculture, by making changes in Regulation on the Procedures and Principles of Employing Child and Young Workers	MoLSS	SOCIAL PARTNERS, NGOs
	(1.5) Making harmonization activities on employment age of children between Public Health Law and Labour Law	MINISTRY OF HEALTH	MoLSS

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
2. Implementation of regulation on preventing child labour and taking necessary measures to inspect the implementation	(2.1) Providing the inspection priorities related to child labour in seasonal agriculture to Provincial Directorates of Labour and Employment Agencies / Service Centers and Provincial Employment and Vocational Education Boards	İŞKUR	MoLSS, MoFAL
	(2.2) Making regulation for the inspection of law enforcement on child labour in seasonal agriculture	MINISTRY OF INTERIOR	MoLSS, MoNE, MoFAL
	(2.3) Taking the employers who do not obey the regulation arrangements for non-employment of children to the inspection programme by the MoLSS Labour Inspection Board and SSI Inspection Board Presidency	MoLSS	SSI

**Table 2: Measures for Strengthening the Existing Organizational Structures and Creating New Organizational Structures**

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
1. By creating new mechanisms for eliminating child labour at national and regional levels, increasing the productivity and effectiveness of existing mechanisms and institutions	(1.1) Strengthening the institutional capacity of MoLSS on the elimination of child labour	MoLSS	İŞKUR
	(1.2) Increasing institutional capacity in local to direct and provide coordination between activities on child labour	İŞKUR	GOVERNORATES, RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS
	(1.3) Developing new strategies, policies and "Action Plans on the Elimination of Child Labour" specific to provinces considering the needs of local, by extending the works of eliminating child labour of the Provincial Employment and Vocational Education Boards	İŞKUR	GOVERNORATES, SOCIAL PARTNERS, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
	(1.4) Strengthening the institutional capacity of the provincial organization of the institutions and organizations responsible for improving the working and living conditions of seasonal agricultural workers	İŞKUR	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS
	(1.5) Strengthening institutional capacity of the provincial organization which is working on the education of children of seasonal agricultural workers, in accordance with the Circular No. 2016/5	MoNE	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS



Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
	(1.6) Strengthening the institutional capacity of the provincial organization that carries out activities on the access of children of seasonal agricultural workers to social services	MoFSP	MoNE
	(1.7) Establishment of the school social service units anticipated to be established in the National Rights of Child Strategy Document in the pilot provinces and inclusion of child labour in the field of work	MoNE	MoFSP, MINISTRY OF HEALTH
	(1.8) Making attempts to use the EU IPA and other project support funds in the field of elimination of child labour	MoLSS	MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS
	(1.9) Increasing the capacity of the MoLSS Labour Inspection Board to eliminate child labour through in-service training	MoLSS	GOVERNORATES, SOCIAL PARTNERS, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
	(1.10) Increasing the institutional capacity of İŞKUR for more effective implementation of Regulation on Labour Procurement in Agriculture and for keeping the record of agriculture labour	İŞKUR	MoFAL, TURKSTAT PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SOCIAL PARTNERS
2. Establishing of child labour monitoring and evaluation mechanism	(2.1) Performing regular monitoring activities at the level of children by using the existing e-school system (on the basis of absenteeism)	MoNE	MoLSS, MoFSP
	(2.2) Establishing monitoring (follow-up teams) within the structure of Provincial/District National Education Directorates for following the school absenteeism of all the working children and establishing units for providing attendance and making cooperation on the effective operation	MoNE	MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
	(2.3) Forming a system that the child labour is followed by experts at sectoral base and local level	MoLSS	MoFSP, SSI
	(2.4) Providing the notification of the children of seasonal agricultural workers' families to the Provincial / District National Education Directorates in the settlements where seasonal agricultural works are carried out, through the governorates (law enforcement agencies)	GOVERNORATES	MoNE
	(2.5) Informing the public about the use of 155 police and 156 gendarmerie emergency lines in child labour denunciations	MINISTRY OF INTERIOR	MoLSS, MoNE, MoFSP
	(2.6) Detecting the working children who attend school by the teachers and school counseling services and reporting them to administrative chief	MoNE	MoLSS, GOVERNORATES, İŞKUR, SSI
	(2.7) Establishing Units for Eliminating Child Labour in provinces where child labour is intense	İŞKUR	MoLSS, MoFSP, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, MoNE, MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS
3. Extending good implementation samples in eliminating child labour throughout the country	(3.1) Compiling all the activities performed and being performed on child labour in our country (projects and activities performed by institutions and academic dissertations, books, researches etc.)	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS, CoHE, UNIVERSITIES
	(3.2) Examining the sample implementations performed at international, national and local levels and producing successful implementations	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs.
	(3.3) Revising and implementing ILO/ IPEC projects applied successfully in the past in primary sectors in terms of child employment	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS, CoHE, UNIVERSITIES

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
4. Enriching the national database on Child Labour	(4.1) In certain years, producing data on working and living conditions of working children at national level and publishing statistical data	TURKSTAT	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS
	(4.2) Forming joint data repository and collecting regular and comparable data on administrative record for monitoring the working children	MoLSS	TURKSTAT, MoNE, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, SSI, MoFSP,
	(4.3) Sharing statistical data obtained from the inspections performed by the Labour Inspection Board Presidency with Directorate General of Labour, Department of Employment Policy and Social Security Institution	MoLSS	SSI, MoLSS
	(4.4) Regular and detailed data collection on agricultural workers and their families, including seasonal ones, with an additional module to be prepared in the agricultural enterprise registration system (TIKAS)	MoFAL	PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, CO-Ops

**Table 3: Measures for Increasing Awareness**

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
1. Increasing the awareness-raising activities on elimination of child labour giving priority to child labour in the worst forms	(1.1) Preparing and publishing special informative materials with Guide for Eliminating Child Labour for children, families, teachers, lecturers, employers, workers, labour inspectors, local authorities, local governments, law enforcers, municipal polices, intermediaries in agriculture and visual and written media	MoLSS	SOCIAL PARTNERS, ÇASGEM
	(1.2) Giving training on child labour in seasonal agriculture to employees of MoFAL, TZOB and MoNE follow-up units by MoLSS and universities; awareness raising through giving this training to registered farmers and other relevant actors through agriculture organization and Agricultural Chambers province/district departments	MoLSS	ÇASGEM, MoFAL, MoNE, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, UNIVERSITIES
	(1.3) Increasing the interest to the subject of child labour through meeting/conference/seminar with broad participation, to be organized with the universities	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS, CoHE, UNIVERSITIES
	(1.4) Preparing and distributing written and visual appearance materials that draws attention to child labour for June 12, World Day Against Child Labour	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS
	(1.5) Giving information to employers, unions, intermediaries and agriculture worker families on the regulations on child labour administrative penalties they may be given in cases they do not obey the regulations	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS
	(1.6) Including the elimination of child labour in syllabus of relevant departments of universities	CoHE	UNIVERSITIES, MoLSS

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
	(1.7) Encouraging elimination of child labour to be a subject of dissertation in postgraduate and doctorate programmes	CoHE	UNIVERSITIES, MoLSS
	(1.8) Performing awareness raising activities to prevent child labour through cultural, artistic and sportive activities	MoLSS	MoNE, MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS, MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM
	(1.9) Developing and using encouragement and support towards the publications on elimination of child labour such as documentary/film/book	MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM	MoLSS, MoNE, SOCIAL PARTNERS
	(1.10) Performing training and awareness raising activities to prevent child labour in workplaces and to improve the working conditions of working children under the leadership of employee and employer union and confederations	EMPLOYEE-EMPLOYER UNIONS AND CONFEDERATIONS	MoLSS, MoNE, ÇASGEM, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
	(1.11) Giving information to the groups such as policy-makers, decision-makers, programme and project managers, parliament members, society leaders, non-governmental organizations managers about the causes, results, legal aspect and problems encountered in child labour	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, TBMM, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS,
	(1.12) Creating alternative ways for school principals to contact with families of children (house-ten visits)	MoNE	PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MoFSP, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION, LOCAL AUTHORITIES, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
2. To carry out activities to ensure that national and regional media organizations include child labour in their programmes	(2.1) Preparing and broadcasting informative and awareness raising publications on child labour in national and local TV, radio, newspapers and social media, notably on June 12, World Day Against Child Labour such as public service ad	MoLSS	MEDIA ORGANIZATIONS, RTÜK, SOCIAL PARTNERS, NGOs

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
	(2.2) Increasing the awareness of media organizations in elimination of child labour	MoLSS	MEDIA ORGANIZATIONS, RTÜK, NGOs
3. Increasing the awareness on rights of child	(3.1) Emphasizing on the importance of eliminating child labour under Strategy of Rights of Child	MoFSP	MoLSS, MoNE, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION
	(3.2) Handling the subject of eliminating child labour specially in Rights of Child Committees in Provinces	MoFSP	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, UNION OF TURKISH BAR ASSOCIATIONS
	(3.3) Performing training events, campaigns at national and local levels to increase the awareness of the families on rights of child	MoFSP	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS
	(3.4) Promoting Family Training Programmes of MoNE within the scope of informative activities for families on neglect and abuse of rights of child	MoNE	MoFSP

**Table 4: Measures for Ensuring the Participation of the Social Partners and the Community**

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
1. Integrating the objective of preventing child labour into planning documents such as development plans, long-term national planning strategies	(1.1) Including the subject of elimination of child labour in plans, programmes, regional development strategy documents prepared by Ministry of Development and Specialization Commission Reports carried out under the coordination of the Ministry and contributing to awareness raising	MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, SOCIAL PARTNERS, NGOs
	(1.2) Encouraging to set goals on eliminating child labour in strategy documents and action plans of institutions	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, SOCIAL PARTNERS, NGOs
2. Extending the successful pilot implementation by especially providing broad participation and strengthening of national and international institutions and social partners	(2.1) Preparing "user-friendly guides" for institutions to learn lessons learned and experiences gained from the projects carried out to date	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, SOCIAL PARTNERS, NGOs
	(2.2) Promoting TÜRK-İŞ and TISK Working Children Bureau as sample work and supporting these to encourage similar enterprises	MoLSS	SOCIAL PARTNERS

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
3. Increasing the dialogue between public institutions and organizations, social partners and non-governmental organizations working on the elimination of child labour	(3.1) Making cooperation with institutions for this subject to be discussed in cultural programmes such as theater etc.	MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND TOURISM	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, SOCIAL PARTNERS
	(3.2) Developing professional and sectoral cooperation through sharing the experiences and knowledge and organizing joint meetings on implementation of programmes to prevent child labour with social partners and NGOs	MoLSS	NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS
	(3.3) Supporting the activities of NGOs and professional bodies and employee-employer unions and confederations for preventing child labour	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
	(3.4) Performing activities for reducing the negative effects of child labour with NGOs and social partners working on the rights of child	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
	(3.5) Conducting regular meetings by forming a commission with the participation of non-governmental organizations, social partners and public institutions and organizations working on the elimination of child labour	MoLSS	RELEVANT PUBLIC INSTITUTION AND ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs, SOCIAL PARTNERS, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



**Table :5 Measures for Education and Improvement**

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
1. Integrating the issues related to child labour into educational policies and programmes to ensure harmony between education policies and policies aimed at preventing child labour	(1.1) Ensuring that education inspectors, teachers, provincial and district directorates and principals to be informed about the elimination of child labour and having them receive training through in-service training	MoNE	MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT
	(1.2) Making pre-school education compulsory	MoNE	MoLSS, MoNE, MoFSP
	(1.3) Declaring 2018 as “The Year of Eliminating Child Labour”	PRIME MINISTRY	MoLSS, MoFSP, MoNE
	(1.4) Developing alternative implementations and extending mobile/prefabricated schools and mobile teaching system by Provincial Directorate of National Education to provide the attendance of children of seasonal agriculture workers	MoNE	GOVERNORATES
	(1.5) Preparing and implementing supplementary training programmes for development areas of children who are working and cannot benefit from education	MoNE	MoFSP
	(1.6) Arranging summer schools and camps for the children	MoNE	MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS
	(1.7) Planning remedial education for students who remains behind in gaining acquisitions compared to peers despite attending school, due to various reasons	MoNE	

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
2. Ensuring that working children are directed to vocational training	(2.1) Strengthening the accession opportunities of children under working risk to vocational training and conducting activities to direct the working children to vocational training	MoNE	MUNICIPALITIES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SOCIAL PARTNERS
	(2.2) Developing scholarship and other support mechanisms for children directed to vocational training	MoNE	MoFSP, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
	(2.3) Conducting activities to increase the quality and capacity of apprenticeship training and facilitating the accession of working children to apprenticeship training	MoNE	PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SOCIAL PARTNERS
3. Making the activities aimed at improvement, especially in reducing poverty and in education areas coordinated	(3.1) Supporting the children affected by the physical, physiological risks through Social Care Centers	MoFSP	MoNE, MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS, MINISTRY OF HEALTH

**Table 6: Measures for Elimination of Poverty**

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
1. Taking measures to improve the access to basic services, income and living conditions of children workers' families	(1.1) Increasing the employment opportunities in agricultural and non-agricultural areas in emigrant provinces in seasonal agriculture, creating income areas, supporting enterprises based on the intensive production and labour	KOSGEB	MoFAL, MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT
	(1.2) Developing support and encouragement mechanisms increasing participation in education towards the poor families within the scope of eliminating child labour in education policies	MoFSP	MoNE, GOVERNORATES
	(1.3) Ensuring that child labour is considered in action plans at regional levels and giving priority to child labour in existing support programmes	DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES	MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT, MoLSS, GOVERNORATES, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
	(1.4) Improving the living conditions in places where seasonal agriculture workers go/migrate to (canalization, drinking water, electricity etc.)	MoLSS	GOVERNORATES, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
2. Giving priority to all the groups require special policy, notably the single-parent families (working children, the urban poor, women, migrants, disabled people, children of migrants, etc.) and children who have to work or are at risk of working	(2.1) Facilitating the accession to marketing services and loans and providing the necessary consultation services primarily for the families who has decided to set up their own business and withdraw their child from the working life within the framework of small and medium-sized enterprises	KOSGEB	MoFAL
	(2.2) Concentrating on the projects and vocational guidance programmes on agricultural production operations on and evaluation, which will increase working productivity of population living in rural areas	MoFAL	KOSGEB, DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES, İŞKUR
	(2.3) Giving priority to families of working children in accessing vocational training programmes and finding jobs	İŞKUR	MoFSP, MoLSS, MoNE, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
	(2.4) Promoting programme opportunities for the development of professional skills of seasonal agricultural workers	İŞKUR	MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT, MoNE, KOSGEB, DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES, MUNICIPALITIES PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SOCIAL PARTNERS

**Table 7: Measures for Extension of Social Protection and Social Security Network**

Strategies	Actions	Responsible Organization	Organizations to Support
1. Transmitting social service and social aids to people in need effectively and continuously	(1.1) Creating promotional materials about social aids and social services and sharing them with the school principals	MoFSP	MoNE
	(1.2) Developing cooperation between public institutions providing social services and aids and local governments and taking the contributions from NGOs	MoFSP	MUNICIPALITIES, NGOs
	(1.3) Increasing the capacity and effectiveness of social aid programmes towards children	MoFSP	MoNE
	(1.4) Increasing the capacity of socio-economic support programmes under the authorization of MoFSP, awareness raising on child labour and increasing the capacity of Family and Social Support Programmes (FSSP)	MoFSP	MoNE
	(1.5) Promoting the practices on social services including the consultancy services and social aids as well, in a way that they will contribute to the elimination of child labour	MoFSP	MoLSS
2. Providing children to access quality health services	(2.1) Ensuring that in the places where seasonal agricultural worker children and children who are at risk of working, live/work in, on-site preventive health services to be provided by Community Health Center and affiliated units and registering the children who are not registered to family practice centers	MINISTRY OF HEALTH	MoLSS

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**MoLSS**

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