

Child Labour Resource Guide

Further information



UNICEF/HQ01-0301/Shehzad Noorani

Further information: organisations to contact and websites to consult

Glossaries of terms

Several organisations have made glossaries available on the internet of terminology used in the course of establishing corporate social responsibility standards and verifying whether these are being respected. In the UK, a report on Labour Standards for Investors by ETI and Just Pensions includes a “Glossary of Terms” (available from the ETI website, <http://www.ethicaltrade.org/pub/publications/2002/11-justpensdrft/index.shtml>). In the Netherlands, SOMO (the Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations) has issued a glossary focusing on monitoring and verification, developed especially in relation to the garment and textiles industries (“Monitoring and Verification Terminology Guide for the garment and sportswear industries”, available from SOMO’s website, see below).

Organisations to contact

AccountAbility (Institute of Social and Ethical Accountability)

AccountAbility is an international membership organisation that promotes social and ethical accountability and sustainable development primarily through AA1000, a set of standards that emphasise stakeholder engagement. An overview of the AA1000 Framework and Series can be viewed online at:

<http://www.accountability.org.uk/aa1000/default.asp>

Address: Unit A, 137 Shepherdess Walk, London N1 7RQ, UK.

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7549 0400

Fax: +44 (0)20 7253 7440

Email: Secretariat@AccountAbility.org.uk

Website: <http://www.AccountAbility.org.uk>

Abrinq Foundation for the Rights of Children and Adolescents

(Fundação Abrinq pelos Direitos da Criança e do Adolescente)

The Abrinq Foundation is a non-profit organisation dedicated to defending the rights and citizenship of children and adolescents. It runs a Child Friendly Business Programme that grants a social stamp of approval to companies that sign up to ten promises to Brazilian children. These promises cover issues such as combating child labour, guaranteeing healthcare and education to the children of their employees and investing in social initiatives that improve the quality of life for all children and adolescents.

Address: Rua Lisboa 224 - Jardim América, 05413-00 São Paulo/SP, Brazil.

Telephone: +55 (11) 3069 0699

Email: info@fundabrinq.org.br

Website: <http://www.fundabrinq.org.br/index.php?pg=empresas>

Further information: organisations to contact and websites to consult

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BSR (Business for Social Responsibility)

BSR seeks to help companies of all sizes and from all sectors achieve commercial success in ways that respect ethical values, people, communities and the environment. BSR offers a range of services to businesses, including training, an annual conference attended by business leaders concerned with corporate social responsibility, and a website.

Briefing on child labour available at:

<http://www.bsr.org/CSRResources/IssueBriefDetail.cfm?DocumentID=49773>

Address: 111 Sutter Street, 12th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94104 USA.

Telephone: +1 415 984 3200

Fax: +1 415 984 3201

Email: advisoryservices@bsr.org

Website: <http://www.bsr.org>

Business and Human Rights Resource Centre

An independent organisation in partnership with Amnesty International and academic institutions, the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre promotes greater awareness and informed discussion of important issues relating to business and human rights. It runs a website and online library focusing on human rights and business.

The website includes a list of companies whose company human rights policies refer to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

<http://www.business-humanrights.org/Categories/Company policysteps/Policies/Companieswithhumanrightspolicies>

Address: 361 Lauderdale Tower, Barbican, London EC2Y 8NA, UK.

Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7628 0312

Fax: +44 (0) 20 7628 0312

Email: contact@business-humanrights.org

Website: <http://www.business-humanrights.org>

CSR Europe

CSR Europe was set up in 1996 by former European Commission president Jacques Delors. It is a not-for-profit organisation that promotes corporate social responsibility. Their mission is to help companies achieve profitability, sustainable growth and human progress by placing corporate social responsibility in the mainstream of business practice. CSR Europe runs a European Business Campaign on Corporate Social Responsibility.

Address: Rue Defacqz, 78-80 Brussels 1060, Belgium.

Telephone: +32 2 541 1610

Fax: +32 2 502 8458

Email: info@csreurope.org

Website: <http://www.csreurope.org>

Glossary of CSR terms at:

<http://www.csreurope.org/glossary/default.aspx>

Further information: organisations to contact and websites to consult

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Department for International Development (DFID)

DFID is the UK Government department responsible for promoting sustainable development and reducing poverty. For information on DFID's work on corporate social responsibility, please contact Malaika Culverwell (+44 20 7023 1283), Private Sector Advisor on the Business Alliances team or Maria Cushion who works on labour standards. Also, the UK Government has a website dedicated to corporate social responsibility <http://www.societyandbusiness.gov.uk>. It contains the Government Annual Report on corporate social responsibility.

Address: 1 Palace Street, London SE1E 5HE, UK.
Telephone: 020 7023 0000
Email: m-culverwell@dfid.gov.uk
Website: <http://www.dfid.gov.uk>

Eliminate Child Labour in Tobacco Foundation (ECLT)

ECLT was established in 2002 as a joint initiative involving the International Tobacco Growers' Association (ITGA), tobacco importing companies, and the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers Associations (IUF). ECLT's activities focus on 3 areas: developing research on the conditions and level of child labour in tobacco growing; supporting and funding community-based projects; and establishing and sharing best practice.

Address: ECLT Foundation, 28 rue du Village, 1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland.
Telephone: +41 22 306 1444
Fax: +41 22 306 1449
Email: eclt@eclt.org
Website: <http://www.eclt.org>

Ethical Tea Partnership

The Ethical Tea Partnership began work in 1997 as the Tea Sourcing Partnership by a number of UK-based tea packing companies that work to monitor conditions of tea production around the world. Their four core beliefs include responsibility for the social and ethical conditions involved in sourcing tea; a non competitive and apolitical approach; respect for cultural and legislative differences in tea producing countries while aspiring to international standards; and partnership with tea producers. In September 2004 they changed their name to the Ethical Tea Partnership, believing it to reflect more clearly their increasingly proactive role in the ethical trading of tea.

Address: PO Box 2287, Caterham, CR3 0ZW, UK.
Telephone: +44 (0)20 8645 0333
Fax: +44 (0)20 8645 0333
Email: info@ethicalteapartnership.org
Website: <http://www.ethicalteapartnership.org>

Further information: organisations to contact and websites to consult

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Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI)

The Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) describes itself as an alliance of companies, NGOs and trade union organisations committed to working together to identify and promote good practice in the implementation of codes of labour practice. ETI's website provides a glossary of ethical trade terms, available at:

<http://www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/ethtrd/gloss/index.shtml>

It also sets out its base code with accompanying principles of implementation at: <http://www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/lib/base/index.shtml>

Address: 2nd floor, Cromwell House, 14 Fulwood Place,
London WC1V 6HZ, UK.

Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7404 1463

Fax: +44 (0) 20 7831 7852

Email: eti@eti.org.uk

Website: <http://www.ethicaltrade.org>

Fair Labor Association (FLA)

The Fair Labor Association (FLA) represents a coalition of companies, universities and NGOs to promote adherence to international labour standards and improve working conditions worldwide. The FLA conducts independent monitoring and verification to ensure that the FLA's Workplace Standards are upheld where FLA company products are produced. The Workplace Code of Conduct is available at:

<http://www.fairlabor.org/all/code/index.html>

Address: 1505 22nd Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037, USA.

Telephone: +1 (202) 898 1000

Fax: +1 (202) 898 9050

Email: bshubash@fairlabor.org (Barbara Shubash – Administrator)

Website: <http://www.fairlabor.org>

Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International (FLO-International)

FLO is the worldwide Fairtrade standard setting and certification organisation. FLO guarantees that products sold anywhere in the world with a Fairtrade label marketed by a national initiative conforms to Fairtrade standards and contributes to the development of disadvantaged producers. FLO International has issued a set of Generic Fairtrade Standards for Hired Labour.

Address: Kaiser-Friedrich-Strasse 13, D - 53113 Bonn, Germany.

Telephone: +49 228 949 230

Fax: +49 228 242 1713

Email: info@fairtrade.net

Website: <http://www.fairtrade.net>

Further information: organisations to contact and websites to consult

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FAFO (Fafo Institute for Applied Social Science)

Fafo conducts policy-related research at the national and international level in the fields of labour relations, welfare policy and living conditions. One of the topical areas of research is child labour and trafficking, for which further information and publications can be viewed at:
<http://www.fafo.no/ais/topics/childlabour.htm>

Address: Fafo, P.O.Box 2947 Tøyen, 0608 Oslo, Norway.
Tel: +47 2208 8660
Fax: +47 2208 8700
Email: fafo@fafo.no
Website: <http://www.fafo.no/english/index.htm>

FTSE4Good

The FTSE4Good Index Series measures the performance of companies that meet globally recognised corporate responsibility standards to facilitate investment in those companies. For inclusion in the FTSE4Good Index Series, eligible companies must meet criteria requirements in three areas: working towards environmental sustainability; developing positive relationships with stakeholders; and up-holding and supporting universal human rights. To download a copy of the inclusion criteria for the FTSE4Good Index Series, go to:
<http://www.ftse.com/ftse4good/FTSE4GoodCriteria.pdf>
For guidance on FTSE4Good's new Supply Chain Labour Standards criteria, go to: <http://www.ftse.com/ftse4good/SupplyChainCriteria.pdf>

Address: 15th Floor, St Alphage House, 2 Fore Street
London EC2Y 5DA, UK.
Tel: +44 (0)20 7448 1800
Fax: +44 (0)20 7448 1804
Email: info@ftse.com
Website: <http://www.ftse.com/ftse4good/index.jsp>

Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)

The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) is a multi-stakeholder process and independent institution that offers a set of standards for businesses to take part in the UN Global Compact. The GRI's mission is to develop and disseminate globally applicable Sustainability Reporting Guidelines, to be used voluntarily by organisations for reporting on the economic, environmental, and social dimensions of their activities, products, and services. They can be downloaded from its website at:
<http://www.globalreporting.org/guidelines/2002.asp>

Address: Keizersgracht 209, P.O. Box 10039, 1001 EA Amsterdam,
The Netherlands
Telephone: +31 (0) 20 531 0000
Fax: +31 (0) 20 531 0031
Email: info@globalreporting.org
Website: <http://www.globalreporting.org>

Further information: organisations to contact and websites to consult

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International Cocoa Initiative (ICI)

In July 2002, the global chocolate and cocoa industry, in partnership with organised labour unions and NGOs, established the International Cocoa Initiative "Working Towards Responsible Labour Standards for Cocoa Growing" to eliminate abusive child labour practices in cocoa cultivation and processing. The ICI's basis for action and pilot programme launched in 2004 can be viewed online at:
http://www.chocolateandcocoa.org/Labour/Child/Initiative/pr_06_04.asp

Address: 8320 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 300, Vienna,
VA 22182, Austria.
Telephone: 703 790 5012
Fax: 703 790 5752
Email: robert.peck@worldcocoa.org
Website: <http://www.chocolateandcocoa.org/Labour/Child/Initiative/default.asp>

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)

The world's largest trade union organisation, representing trade unions from all around the world, ICFTU runs a campaign against child labour. In the late 1990s, the ICFTU developed a model code on labour standards for companies (available on its website).

Address: Boulevard du Roi Albert II 5, Bte 1, 1210, Brussels, Belgium.
Telephone: +32 (0) 2 224 0211
Fax: +32 (0) 2 201 5815
Email: internetpo@icftu.org
Website: <http://www.icftu.org>

International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)

Part of the International Labour Organization, IPEC focuses specifically on child labour and campaigns for the universal ratification of ILO's Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour. IPEC's website provides information on the worst forms of child labour as well as the various instruments used to combat it.

Address: International Labour Office, CH-1211, Geneva 22, Switzerland.
Telephone: +41 22 799 8181
Fax: +41 22 799 8771
Email: ipecc@ilo.org
Website: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/index.htm>

International Organisation of Employers (IOE)

The IOE represents national employers' organisations at the ILO. The IOE has committed itself and its members to eradicating child labour, and has published the "Employers' Handbook on Child Labour – A Guide for Taking Action", available from
http://www.ioe-emp.org/ioe_emp/pdf/childlabour1.pdf

Further information: organisations to contact and websites to consult

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Address: 26, Chemin de Joinville, 1216 Cointrin, Geneva, Switzerland.
Telephone: +41 22 929 0000
Fax: +41 22 929 0001
Email: ioe@ioe-emp.org
Website: <http://www.ioe-emp.org>

International Save the Children Alliance

The International Save the Children Alliance is a network of all the Save the Child organisations. Members of the alliance deal with many different aspects of child exploitation and abuse. Their collective policy on child labour is available from their website.

Address: Second Floor, Cambridge House, 100 Cambridge Grove,
London W6 0LE, UK.
Telephone: +44 (0)20 8748 2554
Fax: +44 (0) 20 8237 8000
Email: info@save-children-alliance.org
Website: <http://www.savethechildren.net>

Prince of Wales International Business Leaders Forum (IBLF)

The IBLF is a non-profit organisation based in London but with affiliates and representatives across the world, that promotes responsible business practices and partnership action for sustainable development. The Forum has a Business and Human Rights Programme whose website provides general information about what a company can do to be a responsible business, available at:

<http://www.iblf.org/csr/csrwebassist.nsf/content/a1a2a3b4.html>

It provides more specific information about tackling child labour at:

<http://www.iblf.org/csr/csrwebassist.nsf/content/a1a2a3f4.html#3>

Address: 15-16 Cornwall Terrace, London NW1 4QP, UK.
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7467 3600
Fax: +44 (0)20 7467 3610
Email: info@iblf.org
Website: <http://www.iblf.org/>

Bench Marks for Measuring Business Performance:

Principles for Global Corporate Responsibility (BeFSA-CSR)

Bench Marks has been developed to provide a comprehensive set of social and environmental criteria and business performance indicators for corporations developing and monitoring corporate codes of conduct. The purpose of the document is to promote positive corporate social responsibility.

Address: BeFSA-CSR Secretariat, PO Box 1023, Pretoria 0001,
South Africa.
Email: ptabish@cpsa.org.za
Website: <http://www.bench-marks.org>

Further information: organisations to contact and websites to consult

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Save the Children (UK)

Save the Children UK is a leading international children's charity working in more than 70 countries. The organisation supports projects that tackle child labour and its causes – poverty and inequality – in around 20 countries in Asia, Africa and Europe. This involves working with groups of working children, their families, communities, the private sector, unions, governments and international bodies, to find solutions to exploitative child labour. Save the Children UK has published various reports on Child Labour including two specifically intended for businesses: "Big Business, Small hands – Responsible Approaches to Child Labour" (2000) and "Business Benefits: How companies can take positive action on education, child labour and HIV/AIDS" (2003) which can be downloaded or purchased from their website.

Address: 1 St. John's Lane, London, EC1M 4AR, UK.
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7012 6400
Fax: +44 (0)20 7012 6963
Email: supporter.care@savethechildren.org.uk
Website: <http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/>

SGS (Société générale de surveillance)

SGS provides verification, testing and certification services through a network of offices and laboratories around the world. This includes assessment and certification against SA 8000 and other ethical performance standards. Information on SGS as a certifying body on SA8000 is available at: http://www.sgs.com/sa_8000?serviceId=10243&lobId=5554. For further information please contact Jonathan Hall on +44 [0] 1276 697 777 or email jonathan_hall@sgs.com.

Address: Head Office – 1 Place des Alpes, P.O. Box 2152,
1211 Geneva 1, Switzerland.
UK Office – SGS United Kingdom Ltd, SGS House,
217-221 London Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3EY, UK.
Telephone: +44 (0) 1276 697 877
Fax: +44 (0) 1276 697 696
Email: ukenquiries@sgs.com
Website: <http://www.sgs.com>

SOCAM (Service Organisation for Compliance Audit Management)

SOCAM's purpose is to oversee and monitor responsible business standards in merchandise buying on behalf of the C&A, Marca and the Mondial Group. C&A's Code of Conduct can be viewed online at: <http://www.socam.org/pdf/english.pdf>

Address: SOCAM Audit Services, Alcide de Gasperilaan, B-1804,
Vilvoorde, Belgium.
Email: info@socam.org
Website: <http://www.socam.org>

Further information: organisations to contact and websites to consult

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Social Accountability International (SAI)

SAI seeks to improve workplaces and combat sweatshops around the world by developing and implementing socially responsible standards. SAI's social accountability system SA8000 is a voluntary set of standards with an associated verification system that can be applied across a wide range of business workplaces. SA8000 is based on international workplace norms in the ILO conventions and the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Convention on Rights of the Child. An overview of SA8000 can be found at: <http://www.sa-intl.org/SA8000/SA8000.htm>

Address: 220 East 23rd Street, Suite 605, New York, NY 10010, USA.
Telephone: +1 (212) 684 1414
Fax: +1 (212) 684 1515
Email: info@sa-intl.org
Website: <http://www.sa-intl.org>

SOMO Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations

(Stichting Onderzoek Multinationale Ondernemingen)

SOMO, or the Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations, is a Dutch research and advisory bureau that, since 1973, has been investigating the consequences of corporate policies of Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) and the consequences of the internationalisation of business for developing countries in particular. SOMO's field of expertise includes international guidelines, international treaties, and codes of conduct for MNEs, and the implementation of these norms in practice. SOMO specifically specialises in research on labour conditions in developing countries, in cooperation with local organisations and labour unions.

Address: Keizersgracht 132, 1015 CW Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Telephone: +31 (0)20 6391291
Fax: +31 (0)20 6391321
Email: info@somo.nl
Website: http://www.somo.nl/index_eng.php

UN Global Compact

In an address to The World Economic Forum in 1999, Kofi Annan challenged business leaders to join an international initiative – the Global Compact – that would bring companies together with UN agencies, labour and civil society to support principles in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment, and anti-corruption. The Global Compact describes itself as a voluntary corporate citizenship initiative with two objectives: to mainstream the ten principles in business activities around the world and to catalyse actions in support of UN goals.

The Ten Principles can be viewed online at <http://www.unglobalcompact.org/Portal/Default.asp?>

Principle Five asserts that businesses should uphold the effective abolition of child labour. The full text is available at:

<http://www.unglobalcompact.org/content/AboutTheGC/TheNinePrinciples/prin5.htm>

Further information: organisations to contact and websites to consult

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Address: Global Compact, 2 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA
E-mail: globalcompact@un.org
Website: <http://www.unglobalcompact.org>

Verité

Verité is an independent, non-profit social auditing and research organisation whose mission is to ensure that people worldwide work under safe, fair and legal working conditions. Where Verité auditors identify exploitation of workers or health and safety violations in the workplace, they develop steps to correct them through a combination of trainings for management and workers, education programs and remediation programs. Verité's experience and links with NGOs span over 65 countries, with regionally-based operations throughout Asia, Latin America, Africa, the United States and Europe. Verité's Social Audit Program can be viewed online at:
<http://www.verite.org/services/main.html>

Address: 44 Belchertown Road, Amherst, MA 01002, USA.
Telephone: + 1 413-253-9227
Fax: + 1 413-256-8960
Email: verite@verite.org
Website: <http://www.verite.org/>

Worker Rights Consortium (WRC)

The purpose of the Worker Rights Consortium is to assist in the enforcement of manufacturing Codes of Conduct adopted by colleges and universities to ensure that factories producing clothing and other goods bearing college and university names respect the basic rights of workers. Their Model Code of Conduct can be downloaded from their website or viewed online at: <http://www.workersrights.org/coc.asp>

Address: 5 Thomas Circle NW, Fifth Floor, Washington, DC 20005, USA.
Telephone: +1 (202) 387 4884
Fax: +1 (202) 387 3292
Email: wrc@workersrights.org
Website: <http://www.workersrights.org>

World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry (WFSGI)

The WFSGI's Committee on Ethics and Fair Trade developed a Model Code of Conduct for companies committed to ensuring that their operations satisfy the highest ethical standards in the global marketplace. The Code of Conduct can be found at:
http://www.wfsgi.org/_wfsgi/new_site/about_us/codes/Code_Conduct.htm

Address: La Maison du Sport, CH-1936 Verbier, Switzerland.
Telephone: +41 27 775 3570
Fax: +41 27 775 3579
Email: info@wfsgi.org
Website: <http://www.wfsgi.org>

Further information: organisations to contact and websites to consult

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Worldwide Responsible Apparel Production (WRAP)

WRAP is a civil society organisation dedicated to promoting humane, ethical, and lawful conditions and practices in manufacturing facilities all over the world. Their Apparel Certification Program certifies individual factories for compliance with WRAP's principles and procedures concerning, fair pay, workers' dignity, safe and secure conditions, and environmental impact. This can be viewed online at:

<http://www.wrapapparel.org/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=3>

Address: 2200 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 601, Arlington, VA 22201, USA.

Telephone: +1 (703) 243 0970

Fax: +1 (703) 243 8247

Email: info@wrapapparel.org

Website: <http://www.wrapapparel.org>

Other websites and references available on the internet

For details of the 131 countries which have specified a minimum age for entry into employment under the terms of the ILO's Convention No 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1973), and the minimum age specified for each, consult the ILO's website at: <http://webfusion.ilo.org/public/db/standards/normes/appl/index.cfm?lang=EN>