



ORGANIZATION

Inter-trade union observatory to monitor the application of ILO Conventions
on child labour, Benin
pledges

**Organization, as a webinar, of a subregional
workshop for workers' organizations**

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Name:

Organization, through a webinar, of a subregional workshop of workers' organizations to launch and strengthen the West African Trade Union Network to Combat Child Labour.

Description:

L'Observatoire Intersyndical de Suivi de l'Application des Conventions de l'OIT sur le Travail des Enfants (OBISACOTE) has always followed and taken part in Alliance 8.7 activities. This project thus falls within the scope of 2021 being the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour.

At the end of a subregional workshop held in Cotonou in May 2017, supported by the ILO/ACTRAV, participants - trade union leaders actively working to combat child labour - from TOGO, NIGER, MALI, BURKINA FASO, CÔTE D'IVOIRE and BENIN decided to pool their energies to strengthen the contribution of workers to the fight against the phenomenon in the subregion.

OBISACOTE was instructed to carry out the implementation of this project. We have since set up the West African Trade Union Network to Combat Child Labour whose members share information and experiences through a working group set up on WhatsApp. Unfortunately, for several reasons, it has not been possible to hold the subregional workshop intended to build the bases of the West African Trade Union Network to Combat Child Labour.

On the occasion of activities to commemorate 2021 as the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour, OBISACOTE would like to seek the support of Alliance 8.7 and the ILO to hold a subregional trade union workshop, via a webinar, to launch and strengthen the West African Trade Union Network to Combat Child Labour. We naturally take into consideration the current context marked by the Covid-19 pandemic and the scarcity of financial resources.

2.1 General objective

Launch and strengthen the West African Trade Union Network to Combat Child Labour, by holding a workshop via a webinar.

2.2 Specific objectives

- Highlight the contribution of each stakeholder organization to the fight against child labour in their country;
- Define the terms of the network's operation.
- Draw up a roadmap specifying the main activities to be carried out in the short- and medium-terms.

3. Expected results

- Highlighting the contribution of each stakeholder organization to the fight against child labour in their country is carried out;
- The terms of the network's operation are defined.
- A roadmap specifying the main activities to be carried out in the short- and medium-terms by the network is drawn up.

4. Main beneficiaries

The main beneficiaries of this action are:

- Workers in the countries concerned who will increase their actions to fight child labour and who will share knowledge with their peers through discussions;
- Children, the number of whom are working will fall due to the contribution made by workers;
- The countries concerned who, through the contribution made by workers, will get closer to the objective of goal 8.7, mainly the elimination of the worst forms of child labour by 2025.

5. Main problems we seek to resolve through the action

These are:

- Putting a real end to the lack of collaboration by workers' organizations within the same country and the subregion on the fight against child labour.
- Workers contributing to achieve the objectives of goal 8.7, particularly concerning the elimination of the worst forms of child labour by 2025.

6. Tools to use

- National, regional and international instruments to fight child labour;
- Documents drawn up by Alliance 8.7;
- Documents and experiences of each stakeholder organization

Implementation plan:

7. How do we plan to fulfil the action pledge?

Fulfilling this action pledge will be based on:

- Compliance with the timetable drawn up and appended to this document;
- Collaboration between the various stakeholder workers' organizations;
- Support of the Alliance 8.7 and ILO secretariat;
- Monitoring and evaluation of what is expected.

8. Guidelines of our vision for the coming year

For us, holding the workshop this year to launch and strengthen the West African Trade Union Network to Combat Child Labour is only the starting point of a larger project that will be achieved through the roadmap and the terms of operation of the network. In the coming year, we aim to:

- Expand the network to other workers' organizations in our countries and other countries;
- Increase our capacities and strengthen our presence in all arenas to fight this phenomenon;
- Work in synergy with other stakeholders to fight child labour;
- Be present at all opportunities to share experiences and lessons learned.

Impact:

9. How does the pledge contribute to ending child labour?

This action pledge will contribute to ending child labour insofar as:

- It is not restricted by time or space;
- Workers are an important stakeholder in the fight against child labour;
- The national and international context will strengthen the determination of workers.