

GOVERNMENT

Ministry of Manpower, Egypt pledges to

Build technical capacities to strengthen monitoring, protection and prevention of child labour and update the hazardous child labour list

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Name:

Strengthen monitoring, protection and prevention of child labour and update the hazardous child labour list

Description:

This action pledge consists of two parts. The first pertains to the enhancing technical capacities to strengthen strengthening of monitoring, protection and prevention of child labour. The second part focuses on updating the hazardous child labour list (HCL).

1. Strengthen monitoring, protection and prevention of child labour through building the technical capacities of OSH and Labour inspectors

This pledge responds to the National Action Plan (NAP) for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour that Egypt developed in 2018 and which represents a national committment for Egypt to work on the elimination of child labour.

The Ministry of Manpower, being the responsible partner for the supervision of the NAP implementation, has developed an Action Plan to work on its assigned role in the NAP to eliminate child labour. One of the main tasks that the Ministry is working on is to strengthen the technical capacity of OSH and Labour inspectors to combat child labour.

2. Update hazardous child labour list (HCL) in accordance with the ILO Convention n. 182 - Specification of the nature of work children can perform

The prohibition and the effective elimination of hazardous child labour is a requirement of both of the ILO's fundamental Conventions on child labour: the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182). These Conventions entail concrete legal obligations for action by ratifying ILO member States. Both Conventions require the national determination of a list of hazardous work "by laws or regulations or by the competent authority" that should follow tripartite consultation with the relevant employers' and workers' organizations.

MINISTRY OF MANPOWER, EGYPT

Implementation plan:

- 1. Strengthen monitoring, protection and prevention of child labour
- With the support of the ILO project ACCEL AFRICA, conduct a needs assessment study on 5
 Governorates in Egypt as a pilot phase to assess the capabilities and the training needs for
 the OSH and Labour inspectors
- Develop a training plan based on the needs assessment study
- Implement the training plan
- Assess and evaluate the implemented training plan
- 2. Update hazardous child labour list

The ministry will be taking a key step toward protecting young people from hazardous work by updating the list which will determine what work is to be prohibited due to the danger it poses to their physical, psychological, or moral health and this will be done with the following steps based on the ILO guide "The tripartite process of determining hazardous child labour":

A. Create an operational structure

- Appoint the entity that will manage the Hazardous worklist update
- Involve employers and workers representatives in consultation meetings to ensure tripartite involvement in the information gathering phase
- B. Gathering existing and new information
- Reviewing international standards and assessing existing laws and regulations
- C. Preparing a list of dangerous work that is prohibited for children under the age of 18
- Define criteria for selecting items for inclusion in the list
- Determine work types and activities in hazardous conditions with consultation of employers and workers

D Formalizing the list

- Consulting the social partners in a validation workshop
- After the validation, working on giving the list legal force to be applied

MINISTRY OF MANPOWER, EGYPT

Impact:

1. Strengthen monitoring, protection and prevention of child labour

The training plan will contribute to the elimination of child labour by increasing the awareness and strengthening the technical capacities of OSH and Labour inspectors that are responsible for detecting child labour cases in workplace.

MOM training plan will include:

- Main concepts of Child labour relevant units in the ministry and targted governorated
- Basic and advanced legal training on main laws that contribute to the prevention of child labour for OSH and labour inspectors
- Trainings on the updated OSH and Labour inspection checklists after adding child labour main issues
- Trainings on updated OSH and Labour Procedure manual after adding Child labour main issues
- Skills training for OSH and labour inspectors and relevant units in the ministry and targeted governorate
- 2. Update hazardous child labour list

Even having reached the minimum age, children below the age of 18 years must be protected from hazardous work or other worst forms of child labour (e.g., forced labour, use in commercial sexual exploitation or illicit activities). If a child above the general minimum age is found in hazardous work, it may be possible to change the task he or she is carrying out, or the conditions of work, so that it is no longer hazardous, thereby allowing the young person to keep working.

If the work is inherently hazardous, hazardous work lists are crucial especially for this latter group of children, who are old enough to work, but who still need to be protected as children, including from hazardous work.