

Convention 182

**CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROHIBITION  
AND IMMEDIATE ACTION FOR THE ELIMINATION OF  
THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR**

The General Conference of the International Labour Organization,  
Having been convened at Geneva by the Governing Body of the International  
Labour Office, and having met in its 87th Session on 1 June 1999, and

Considering the need to adopt new instruments for the prohibition and  
elimination of the worst forms of child labour, as the main priority for  
national and international action, including international cooperation and  
assistance, to complement the Convention and the Recommendation  
concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1973, which  
remain fundamental instruments on child labour, and

Considering that the effective elimination of the worst forms of child labour  
requires immediate and comprehensive action, taking into account the  
importance of free basic education and the need to remove the children  
concerned from all such work and to provide for their rehabilitation and  
social integration while addressing the needs of their families, and

Recalling the resolution concerning the elimination of child labour adopted by  
the International Labour Conference at its 83rd Session in 1996, and

Recognizing that child labour is to a great extent caused by poverty and that the  
long-term solution lies in sustained economic growth leading to social  
progress, in particular poverty alleviation and universal education, and

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted by the  
United Nations General Assembly on 20 November 1989, and

Recalling the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work  
and its Follow-up, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its  
86th Session in 1998, and

Recalling that some of the worst forms of child labour are covered by other  
international instruments, in particular the Forced Labour Convention,  
1930, and the United Nations Supplementary Convention on the Abolition  
of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to  
Slavery, 1956, and

Having decided upon the adoption of certain proposals with regard to child  
labour, which is the fourth item on the agenda of the session, and

Having determined that these proposals shall take the form of an international  
Convention;

adopts this seventeenth day of June of the year one thousand nine hundred and  
ninety-nine the following Convention, which may be cited as the Worst Forms of  
Child Labour Convention, 1999.

*Article 1*

Each Member which ratifies this Convention shall take immediate and effective  
measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour  
as a matter of urgency.