

Commission: World Trade Organisation (WTO)

Session: National MUN - 2024

Sponsors: Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State Of), Botswana, Brazil, Cote D'Ivoire, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iraq, Madagascar, Nigeria, Mexico, Philippines

**QUESTION OF: FIGHTING AGAINST CHILD LABOUR IN GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS**

The General Assembly,

Fully aware that an estimated 160 million children between the ages of 5 and 17 are subjected to the worst forms of child labor worldwide,

Emphasizing that child labor is a violation of fundamental human rights and is detrimental to the physical, mental, and social development of children,

Grieved by the severe risks and injuries faced by children working in dangerous environments, including agriculture, mining, and manufacturing,

Recognizing the correlation between poverty and child labor, with many families relying on their children's income for survival in underdeveloped and developing countries,

Acknowledging that child laborers often lack access to quality education and awareness about the importance of education and development,

1. Demands that governments enforce their national legislation by:
  - (a) Aligning the minimum age for work with ILO Convention No. 138 on child labor, which applies to all children, including those in the informal sector;
  - (b) Affirming the right to education and the protection of childhood under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
2. Encourages mobilizing resources for the effective implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 8.7 on ending child labor by 2025;

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3. Urges multinational corporations and businesses operating in global supply chains to implement effective due diligence processes to identify, prevent, mitigate, and remediate child labor risks throughout their operations and supply chains;
4. Recommends the development of educational programs and vocational training for children and their families to provide alternative livelihoods and reduce dependency on child labor;
5. Calls for the creation of an international fund, supported by contributions from member and observer countries, to combat child labor;
6. Requests that governments impose stricter laws, such as financial penalties, on businesses found guilty of employing child labor, and provide training to law enforcement officials and labor inspectors;
7. Suggests the implementation of a global certification program for products manufactured without the use of child labor;
8. Encourages the establishment of comprehensive social protection systems to support vulnerable families and prevent the economic necessity of child labor;
9. Invites relevant international organizations, such as the ILO, to develop comprehensive capacity-building programs and technical assistance initiatives for effective measures to eliminate child labor;
10. Further requests the adoption of transparent and traceable supply chain practices to allow companies to gather data against child labor by tracking their supply chains down to the smallest supplier with the help of artificial intelligence (AI) capabilities;

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11. Supports the sensitization of populations in developed countries about the reality of vulnerable children in underdeveloped and developing countries through news, TV shows, and social platforms;
12. Strongly encourages Member States to provide support and assistance to countries in situations of conflict or humanitarian crises to strengthen their capacity to eradicate the exploitation of child labor in global supply chains;
13. Invites WTO members to collaborate with businesses, NGOs, and civil society groups to integrate considerations related to child labor into their trade policies and agreements, ensuring coherence between trade and human rights.