



**Issue 8: Bulletin on Business & Children  
April 2014**

Welcome to the eighth issue of the *Bulletin on Business & Children*, produced by [Business & Human Rights Resource Centre](#). The purpose of this e-bulletin is to help keep everyone working in this field informed about recent key developments and forthcoming initiatives. Please encourage others to consider signing up. And if you would like to contribute to future issues, let us know. This issue and past bulletins are available on the Centre's [Business & Children Portal](#).

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**1. Summary**

We are pleased to share with you the 8<sup>th</sup> issue of our Bulletin on Business & Children. As with our previous editions, we seek to highlight the on-going vulnerability of children to business activities as well as continued efforts by companies, NGOs and others to help prevent and redress these impacts.

This week in delegates are gathering for the [Global Child Forum](#) in Stockholm. Under the theme “Partnerships for Children’s Rights – Today and in the Future,” the Forum seeks to advance the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child through partnerships across stakeholder groups. Two of the discussion topics are the role of investors and financial institutions, and children’s rights in the digital world. We hope that this bulletin can help keep participants up to date on both on-going abuses by business as well as innovative initiatives by companies.

NGOs and media reports continue to raise allegations about companies’ impacts on children’s rights. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre sought responses from companies to several cases featured in this bulletin. For example, a report on 28 footwear companies’ supply chains by Hivos – Stop Child Labour analysed their progress in addressing child labour. We invited the companies that were criticised in the report to respond – their responses and non-responses are provided [here](#) (Farida, Lotto Sports, Marks & Spencer, Schoenenreus and Wolky responded, and Birkenstock did not). In another case, a petition in the US called on Walmart to stop selling firearms marketed to children, given the high risk of death and injuries. Following our invitation, [Walmart](#)

[responded](#) to us regarding the petition. Furthermore, we have secured a [response from L'Oreal](#) on concerns that mica used in its products is mined with the use of child labour in India. [JTI and Philip Morris have also responded](#) when we approached them about an Al Jazeera documentary on child labour on tobacco farms in Malawi. Although these responses do not prove that the companies are adequately addressing the concerns raised, the high response rate of companies on children's rights is an indication of transparency and willingness to engage on these issues.

The bulletin also includes developments from companies and civil society to help businesses respect and promote children's rights. UNICEF recently released a set of [new tools](#) for companies on integrating children's rights into policies, codes of conduct, impact assessments, and reporting. The guides are practical, written in plain language, and can serve as an entry point for companies starting to integrate children's rights into their management practices and operations. The bulletin also gives examples of recent positive actions by individual companies, including Nestlé's efforts to tackle child labour in Côte d'Ivoire and Kuoni's second human rights impact assessment including consultation with children in India. Several collaborative industry-led initiatives have also been launched recently around the world. For example, the bulletin refers to the newly launched SUN Business Network of 40 companies combatting malnutrition in children as well as a new Colombian network to tackle child labour.

The UN General Comment on state obligations regarding business and children's rights adopted one year ago has seen uptake and analysis, including a [recent study](#) on its implications for businesses. While examples of concrete uses of the General Comment by civil society in their advocacy and implementation by governments are scarce, the role of Ombudsmen appointed by the government or the parliament in protecting children in the face of abuses by businesses emerges as a theme across continents. The bulletin includes a contribution about recommendations by the Ombudsman in Paraguay to government ministries as well as its engagement of the private sector in training programmes to tackle child labour. Meanwhile, a contribution by the Ombudsman of Children's Rights in the French Community of Belgium calls on the private sector to step up its actions to combat hyper-sexualisation of children in media and advertising.

Looking ahead, less than three months in advance of the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil, Childhood Brasil's contribution (see p.6 for English & p.10 for Portuguese) reminds the international community of the heightened vulnerability of children to sexual and labour exploitation during the event. A [report by University of Brunel](#) analyses these concerns for major sport events around the world.

Important upcoming events include:

**Global Child Forum:** theme: "Partnerships for children's rights, today and for the future", Stockholm, 11 April.

**UNICEF, UN Global Compact and Save the Children:** the next annual global Children's Rights and Business Principles stock-taking event will take place in Nairobi in 12 May.

**Children's Rights and Business Principles:** national release in Tokyo, Japan on 16 May.

**Global Child Forum:** first Satellite Forum in the Middle East is planned to take place in November.

## 2. Announcements: Forthcoming activities and recent projects

Note: Entries in this section are provided by the named organizations.

## 2. Contributions from organizations in the field

## **English**

### **i. Global Child Forum**

This year's Global Child Forum takes place on 11 April in Stockholm, Sweden, with the theme "*Partnerships for children's rights, today and for the future*". 350 delegates from 20 countries, representing businesses, civil society, governments and academia will meet at this independent cross-sector platform aimed to support the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Speakers include: Roberto Azevedo, Director General, World Trade Organization; Navi Pillay, High Commissioner on Human Rights; Lars Rebien Sørensen, CEO Novo Nordisk and Marta Santos Pais, UN Special Representative to the Secretary General on Violence against Children. In addition to a mainstreamed focus on partnerships, the Global Child Forum will emphasise the role of investors and financial institutions and children's rights in the digital world, each resulting in a workstream for continued action and dialogue.

Global Child Forum will launch two new studies at the Forum – one survey on the investor perspective on children's rights and one study on how publicly listed companies address and incorporate children's rights in their business strategy and operations. Both reports will be found on [www.globalchildforum.org](http://www.globalchildforum.org) after the Forum.

→ *Contributed by Elin Wallberg, Global Child Forum, [elin.wallberg \(at\) globalchildforum.org](mailto:elin.wallberg@globalchildforum.org)*

### **ii. Children's Rights and Business Principles (UNICEF, UN Global Compact, Save the Children)**

#### **Children's Rights and Business Principles Second Annual Global Event (Nairobi, 12 May)**

The Second Annual Global Children's Rights and Business Principles (CRBP) event, will take stock of the past two years of achievements in relation to the CRBP principles released by Save the Children, UNICEF and the UN Global Compact in March 2012, with a special focus on child rights and business in Africa. Confirmed speakers include Unilever and Safaricom, as well as an engaged group of leading stakeholders from business, government, academia and civil society in the region, the event will seek to strengthen local, regional and global solutions for children and business. The event is by invitation only. For more information please contact [childrensprinciples \(at\) unglobalcompact.org](mailto:childrensprinciples@unglobalcompact.org).

#### **Children's Rights and Business Principles National Release in Canada (Toronto, 13 Feb)**

On 13 February the Children's Rights and Business Principles were released in Canada by the Global Compact Network Canada, Save the Children Canada, and UNICEF Canada. Over 150 Canadian business, government and civil society members attended the launch. The speakers and panelists spanned across multiple sectors including a representative from the Canadian government as well as leadership from companies such as Unilever, Teck Resources, Sherritt International, and IKEA Canada. Following the launch, the Canadian governments responded with a formal statement welcoming the Principles. The Global Compact Network Canada, together with Save the Children and UNICEF, are also continuing to promote the Principles through several speaking engagements across Canada. For more information, please visit <http://www.canadianclub.org/Events/EventDetails.aspx?id=3242>.

#### **Children's Rights and Business Principles National Release in Japan (Tokyo, 16 May)**

As awareness about human rights due diligence has been rapidly growing among Japanese businesses in recent years, an interest and need to address human rights issues related to children has also become prominent. In collaboration with UNICEF Japan and Save the Children Japan, the Global Compact Network Japan is co-organising a national launch of the Children's Rights and Business Principles in Tokyo on 16 May. The 2.5 hour event will introduce the Children's Rights and Business Principles to the Japanese businesses, showcasing best practices from companies followed by a panel discussion. The agenda and speakers are now been finalised and more details to be followed in coming weeks.

**Webinar: New Tools on Children’s Rights and Business on 26 February (presentation and video available on [UN Global Compact website](#))**

Co-hosted by the UN Global Compact, UNICEF and Save the Children, this webinar presented what children’s rights mean for business and how companies can respect and support children’s rights in their decisions, activities and relationships. In this context, the event explored new resources by UNICEF and Save the Children that follow and build on the Children’s Rights and Business Principles. Among these new resources, UNICEF presented a new set of tools that provide companies with practical guidance on how to integrate child rights considerations into broader risk management processes. These tools have been designed to explore the connection between children’s rights and business. Presentation and video recording are available [here](#).

→ Contributed by Elena Bombis, UN Global Compact, [bombis \(at\) unglobalcompact.org](mailto:bombis@unglobalcompact.org)

**iii. UNICEF**

Building on the role UNICEF can play in shaping business corporate social responsibility (CSR) practices that respect and support children’s rights, the Guardian Sustainable Business in collaboration with UNICEF, dedicated an entire week in April to the following theme: *Marketing & Advertising to Children*.

The Guardian featured a mix of editorial and multimedia content from a broad range of contributors engaged in this topic including businesses such as Unilever and Lego. UNICEF contributions included content from National Committees & country offices (Sweden & Mexico), together with the perspectives of young people through UNICEF’s Voices of Youth community. Below are the various topics covered:

- [An intro piece by UNICEF CSR’s head of Unit Bo Viktor Nylund: “Issues at stake”](#)
- [An info graph on Principle 6 of the Children’s Rights and Business Principles with suggested actions for business](#)
- [A podcast on the opportunities and challenges faced by businesses when it comes to marketing & advertising to children](#)
- [What do youth think about marketing & advertising through social media? A selection of quotes from UNICEF’s Voices of Youth platform](#)

To review the full content, please refer to [UNICEF’s Partners zone link](#).

The Guardian Sustainable Business and UNICEF are also organising an event mid-May in London for a morning of inspiration and practical insights on children’s rights and your business: *What is good for children is good for business*. Participants, comprising of mostly businesses, will be inspired by initiatives that are addressing how business impacts children. A number of breakout groups on the following topics: Child Labour and Supply Chain, Child Online Protection, Marketing & Advertising or Giving Children a Voice in Business will provide an opportunity to delve into specific impacts or explore more generally how to integrate children’s rights into business decision making.

→ Contributed by Daphne de Laleu, UNICEF, [ddelaleu \(at\) unicef.org](mailto:ddelaleu@unicef.org)

**iv. ILO IPEC**

The [Child Labour Platform](#), a multi-stakeholder forum for sharing experiences and lessons learned in eliminating child labour, held a two-day meeting on 6-7 March in Geneva. An initiative of the [UN Global Compact Human Rights and Labour Working Group](#), the platform is co-chaired by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and the International Organisation of Employers (IOE), and coordinated by the [International Labour Organization \(ILO\)](#) and UN Global Compact.

At the meeting, participants were introduced to initiatives at both sector and country levels. These included an ILO initiative in Uzbekistan focused on tackling child and forced labour in cotton production, and Brazil's efforts to address child labour through cooperation between state enforcement, public services, and private compliance initiatives. Business representatives participated in thematic discussions ranging from supply chain monitoring in the informal economy and building resilient supply chains through supplier relationships, to effectively engaging with governments on the issue of child labour.

The second day featured a workshop on the "Child Labour Guidance Tool" – a joint initiative of the ILO and the International Organisation of Employees (IOE), facilitated by the Shift Project. The tool will provide guidance to companies in preventing and remediating child labour through appropriate policies, due diligence and remediation processes that are aligned with the [ILO Conventions on child labour](#) and the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#).

To learn more about the Child Labour Platform, [click here](#).

→ *Contributed by Adam Adrien-Kirby, ILO-IPEC, [adrien-kirby \(at\) ilo.org](mailto:adrien-kirby@ilo.org)*

#### **v. CCR CSR (Center for Child Rights and Corporate Social Responsibility)**

[China National Textile Industry Association](#) (CNTAC) and the [Center for Child Rights and Corporate Social Responsibility](#) (CCR CSR) launched on 7 March 2014, a collaboration to build awareness and support toward meeting the needs of working migrant parents with regards to their children. CNTAC's commitment to families is to retain, recruit and motivate the workforce, by supporting workers in their roles as parents and caregivers.

CCR CSR and CNTAC will deliver a series of parenting workshops to 500 working parents in the industrial zones. The joint project kicked-off with a half-day workshop for over 180 employees at CNTAC head office in Beijing. The workshop is designed to assist parents to understand children's varying needs, as well as develop effective communication and relationship building skills; helping to balance the responsibilities of work and family life.

The focus of the programme is to engage CNTAC member companies (often suppliers to international brands) to support their workforce in meeting the challenge of raising children and managing family relationships in the context of material hardship and a demanding factory work environment. Research supporting the need for these workshops can be found [here](#)

→ *Contributed by Josefin Bennet Fredriksson, CCR CSR, [josefin.bennet-fredriksson \(at\) ccrcsr.com](mailto:josefin.bennet-fredriksson@ccrcsr.com)*

#### **vi. Save the Children (Peru)**

##### **General Comment on public expenditure & children's rights**

During their last session (N°65), the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child decided to elaborate a General Comment (GC) on "*Public expenditure towards making Child Rights a reality*" - CRC art. 4, and appointed a working group for this GC. This initiative was proposed to the Committee by Save the Children and Redlamyc and supported by UNICEF, Plan International, World Vision, Child Rights Connect, The African Child Policy Forum, CRC Asia, and Eurochild. This GC will be the perfect complement to the CRC General Comment No. 16 on state obligations regarding the impact of the business sector on children's rights, which emphasised that "*ineffective taxation systems, corruption and mismanagement of government revenues from, among others, State-owned business and corporate taxation, can limit the resources available for the fulfilment of children's rights*".

##### **"Companies for Children" – Empresas x Infancia (ExI) launches self-assessment tool**

"Companies for Children" –ExI, is an initiative of Fundación Arcor, Save the Children and UNICEF, which since 2006 have developed activities in order to promote the concept of corporate social responsibility (CSR) in the private sector from a child rights approach (CSR-I), advancing reference

practices that will have a positive effect on children's well-being. ExI has developed a self-assessment tool for companies on their commitment and actions for the protection and promotion of children rights. It is a good starting point to detect and recognise the company's achievements in CSR-I and the challenges that still lie ahead, through the identification of possible concrete actions. It is an online questionnaire, after completing it, companies will receive feedback on the current situation and recommendations on where to route the task:

<http://www.empresasxlainfancia.org/exi-autodiagnostico/>

→ *Contributed by Andrea Portaro, Save the Children Peru, [andrea.portaro \(at\) savethechildren.org](mailto:andrea.portaro@savethechildren.org)*

## **vii. Childhood Brasil**

Less than 100 days until FIFA World Cup, [Childhood Brasil](#) signals to be more alert for the protection of children and adolescents in Brazil. During the event, the gathering of tourists in the host cities and the resulting demand for temporary workers may trigger an increase in child labor and in vulnerability factors for the exploitation of children and adolescents.

Childhood Brasil brought to Brazil, in partnership with the OAK Foundation, a study carried out by Brunel University, London confirming that major sports events, such as FIFA World Cup or the Olympics, bring an increase in risk of violation of children and adolescents' rights.

During the pre-FIFA World Cup period, Childhood's second major action is to involve the private sector in the cause, which comprehends from distance learning plans, in partnership with EY (prior Ernst & Young), to training, for instance, the employees of Atlantica Hotels that has 80 hotels in 45 Brazilian cities, 10 of which are hosting games. The NGO is also contributing for the formation of the Sports Ministry's volunteers, for them to be on the watch for rights violations during FIFA World Cup and to know how to act, when facing sexual exploitation. Childhood Brasil is also actively participating in the Convergence Agenda, an inter-sector initiative, coordinated by the Human Rights Secretariat of the Presidency of Brazil. The project establishes, in each host-city, the creation and the strengthening of Committees for the Complete Protection of Children and Adolescents.

→ *Contributed by Amanda Moreira, Kreab Gavin Anderson, [amoreira \(at\) kreab.com](mailto:amoreira@kreab.com)*

## **viii. Right to Education Project (ActionAid)**

As education is subject to increasing privatisation, a human rights analysis of the processes and impacts has remained largely neglected. In order to increase awareness of the issues surrounding the privatisation of education from a much needed human rights perspective, the [Right to Education Project](#) has recently launched a [web page](#) on this topic and published new resources: a [report](#) – Privatisation of Education: Global Trends of Human Rights Impacts, together with a [factsheet](#) on 10 Human Rights Standards for Education Privatisation, and a two-days [training module](#).

Find out more [here](#).

→ *Contributed by Delphine Dorsi, Right to Education Project, [delphine.dorsi \(at\) actionaid.org](mailto:delphine.dorsi@actionaid.org)*

## **ix. Ombudsman for Children's Rights (Belgium)**

### **The private sector and the hyper-sexualisation of children**

The hyper-sexualisation of the society is a major educational challenge. The commercial exploitation of the body no longer spares those of children thus placing them in a hyper sexual world to which they are not yet prepared. A large number of specialists denounce the potentially devastating consequences over children's development of their early exposure to the codes of adults' sexuality. There are no possible solutions to preserve children's rights without the support of the business sector. Scrapping the production of items such as thongs for 9-year-olds or padded bras for 10-year-old girls, with an apparent sexual connotation, can be achieved only through the awareness and consciousness of private companies. The regulation of adverts that would require

for children's bodies to be treated in an asexual way also demands cooperation with the private sector. Without the adoption of a code of conduct aiming to ensure respect of the specificity of the child in the way he/she is treated as a consumer, it is to be feared that all the initiatives against the hyper-sexualisation of children may fail.

→ *Contributed by Bernard De Vos, General Delegate (Ombudsman) of Children's Rights in the French Community of Belgium*

#### **x. Consortium for Street Children**

The International Day for Street Children takes place on 12 April and provides a platform for the millions of children around the world to speak out so their rights cannot be ignored. The Consortium for Street Children (CSC) launched the Day in 2011 and since then support has grown exponentially, with street children, NGOs, companies, policy-makers, academics and celebrities getting involved in the yearly celebration. Aviva's and HSBC's support to the day illustrates the role business can play in advancing the rights of street children.

This year, we are asking street children around the world 'If the whole world were listening, what would you say'? We will be compiling these answers into an animation which will be released on 12 April. Through Twitter we will increase public awareness through #TweetfortheStreet, as well as encourage individuals to tell us 'what would you say' on our dedicated Facebook tab:

<https://www.facebook.com/streetchildrenday>.

In 2013 CSC launched a campaign for the United Nations to officially adopt the Day, which would bring greater exposure, continuity and permanence of the issue and increase pressure on Governments to act. The petition has over 6000 signatories so far. For more information and to show your support go to: <http://www.streetchildrenday.org>.

→ *Contributed by Louise Meincke, Consortium for Street Children, [louise \(at\) streetchildren.org.uk](mailto:louise@streetchildren.org.uk)*

#### **xi. Partnership for Nutrition in Tanzania**

Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index research report released in November 2013 ranked Tanzania 8th out of 45 developing countries in its political commitment to tackling hunger and undernutrition. The HANCI aims to increase accountability among governments, multilateral agencies, corporations, and international NGOs by measuring the political commitment to hunger and malnutrition in both developing countries and in selected donor countries.

As noted by HANCI experts there is no strong commitment to hunger and nutrition in Tanzania as nutrition as key development issues in the manifestoes of political parties; nutrition is not specifically outlined in the Vision 2025 as it is not perceived to be a critical political issue. Political leaders should improve awareness of nutrition as a priority national development issue which will ensure nutrition is central to sectoral planning and budgeting. Also, there should be a strong national coordination mechanism on nutrition issues so as to ensure that nutrition is mainstreamed into policies and strategies across sectors.

Partnership for Nutrition in Tanzania finds HANCI findings and recommendations as valuable tools for its advocacy for its work on Scaling up Nutrition in Tanzania. Apart from planning for wider dissemination of HANCI to its members and other civil society organisations, the coalition intends to use data and findings of the report to build on its policy and advocacy efforts.

→ *Contributed by Jasminka Milovanovic, Save the Children Tanzania, [Jasminka.Milovanovic \(at\) savethechildren.org](mailto:Jasminka.Milovanovic@savethechildren.org)*

#### **xii. For Our Children Foundation (Bulgaria)**

In Bulgaria, children's rights are violated every day. Do businesses do something to change that? Our "Evening of the Virtues" event engages the business sector to raise awareness to the issue of children's rights.

On 10 October 2013 in Sofia, For Our Children Foundation held the fourth edition of the charity event Evening of the Virtues under the patronage of the British Ambassador Jonathan Allen. More than 200 guests from the cultural and business circles raised 100 500 BGN. The foundation will use the money to find families for abandoned children with disabilities and to provide them medical and social care.

We realise that people are tired of traditional charity formats and we want to prove that charity always goes through the personal involvement. This is the reason why we decided to combine the traditional auction with dance performances of some of the Bulgarian business leaders who took on a new role for our event. They provided an example that in the name of children, every one of us can make something remarkable.

→ *Contributed by Sonya Glavova Specialist communications and social responsibility For Our Children Foundation, [sonya \(at\) detebg.org](mailto:sonya@detebg.org)*

### **xiii. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre**

The Resource Centre would like to thank all organizations for their continued contributions to the Business & Children Bulletin on their activities. From now on, the bulletin will be published bianually: in April and October. We continue to welcome contributions in languages other than English.

We would also like to remind our readers that we are finalising our new website – be on the look-out for updates and announcements on [www.business-humanrights.org](http://www.business-humanrights.org)

→ *Contributed by Eniko Horvath, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre, [horvath \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:horvath@business-humanrights.org)*

## **Español**

### **xiv. Save the Children (Perú)**

Gracias al trabajo de incidencia realizado por Save the Children y la Redlamyc con el apoyo de otras organizaciones como Unicef y Plan Internacional entre otras, el Comité de DDNN durante su última sesión (N°65) tomó la decisión de desarrollar un Comentario General (CG) sobre “*Gasto público para hacer realidad los Derechos del Niño*” art. 4 del CDN. Este GC será el complemento perfecto al Comentario General N°16, sobre las obligaciones del Estado en relación con el impacto del sector empresarial en los derechos del niño, la cual pone énfasis en que los sistemas ineficaces de recaudación tributaria, la corrupción y el mal manejo de los ingresos estatales provenientes —entre otros— de empresas del Estado e impuestos corporativos, pueden limitar los recursos disponibles para la realización de los derechos del niño.

Empresas por la Infancia, iniciativa generada por Fundación Arcor, Save the Children y UNICEF, que desde el año 2006 desarrolla acciones con el objetivo de movilizar en el sector privado prácticas de Responsabilidad Social Empresaria (RSE) desde la visión de los derechos de la Infancia (RSE-I), creó una herramienta para que las empresas puedan realizar un autodiagnóstico sobre el compromiso y las acciones que lleva a cabo en materia de protección y promoción de los derechos de la infancia. Es un buen punto de partida para detectar y reconocer los logros de la compañía en RSE-I y los desafíos que aún quedan por delante, a través de la identificación de posibles acciones concretas. Se puede acceder a la misma a través de un cuestionario on-line. Una vez completado se recibe una devolución sobre el estado de situación y recomendaciones hacia donde encaminar la tarea. El autodiagnóstico es una herramienta útil para empezar a trabajar por los derechos del niño. Para ingresar: <http://www.empresasxlainfancia.org/exi-autodiagnostico/>

→ *Contribuido por: Andrea Portaro, Save the Children Peru, [andrea.portaro \(arroba\) savethechildren.org](mailto:andrea.portaro@savethechildren.org)*

## xv. Defensoría del Pueblo de Paraguay

Se realizaron diversas recomendaciones al Ministerio de Justicia, órgano encargado de la fiscalización en temas laborales, entre las que se encuentran:

- Que se tomen las medidas necesarias para impedir que los niños, niñas y adolescentes que no hayan alcanzado la edad mínima, establecida en el Convenio 1385 de la OIT, trabajen en cualquiera de los diferentes sectores.
- Que se mejoren los mecanismos de vigilancia, con el fin de hacer cumplir las leyes laborales en vigor, y proteger a los niños, niñas y adolescentes de la explotación económica.
- Que se elaboren programas de rehabilitación y reinserción de niños, niñas y adolescentes trabajadores.

A la Secretaría de la Niñez y la Adolescencia:

- Que se fortalezca el Programa “Abrazo”, que busca eliminar las causas de que la niñez y la adolescencia esté en situación de calle.

La Unión Industrial Paraguaya (UIP) colabora en la erradicación del trabajo infantil desde diversas acciones por medio de la Comisión de Damas de la Institución, manteniendo un estrecho vínculo con las organizaciones internacionales encargadas de estos temas.

Su ámbito de acción se centra en la capacitación y consultorías empresariales, de modo que las empresas (micro, medianas o grandes industrias), vayan adquiriendo mayor productividad, sean más competentes y generen más y mejores fuentes de trabajo para los adultos. Conjuntamente con la fundación DEQUENÍ desarrolló una campaña denominada “Unidos hacia un Paraguay sin trabajo infantil”. Otro aspecto a destacar es la participación de las centrales sindicales frente al problema del trabajo infantil.

→ *Contribuido por: Vanessa Rosario Guapi, Defensoría del Pueblo, República del Paraguay, defensor (arroba) defensoriadelpueblo.gov.py*

## xvi. Proyecto sobre el Derecho a la Educación (Right to Education Project)

Mientras que la educación es cada vez más privatizada, poco análisis se ha hecho en este proceso y sus impactos desde la perspectiva de los derechos humanos. Para contribuir al debate y crear conciencia sobre el tema de la privatización de la educación en relación con los derechos humanos, el Proyecto sobre el Derecho a la Educación ([Right to Education Project](#)) publicó recientemente una nueva [página web](#) sobre este tema. La página está sólo en inglés por ahora, pero una versión en español seguirá. El Proyecto publicó también tres nuevos recursos (sólo en inglés): un informe sobre la privatización de la educación y las tendencias globales de sus impactos en los derechos humanos ([Privatisation of Education: Global Trends of Human Rights Impacts](#)), un documento listando 10 normas de derechos humanos para la privatización de la educación ([10 Human Rights Standards for Education Privatisation](#)) y [un módulo de formación](#).

Más información [aquí](#).

→ *Contribuido por: Delphine Dorsi, Right to Education Project, delphine.dorsi (arroba) actionaid.org*

## xvii. Centro de Información sobre Empresas y Derechos Humanos (CIEDH)

El [boletín sobre Empresas y Niñez](#) del CIEDH con gusto recibe contribuciones en diferentes idiomas. Por favor no dude en animar a sus contactos que trabajan por avanzar el respeto empresarial de los derechos del niño alrededor del mundo, a compartir su trabajo con una audiencia global a través de nuestro boletín!

→ *Contribuido por: Eniko Horvath, Centro de Información sobre Empresas y Derechos Humanos, horvath (arroba) business-humanrights.org*

## **Français**

### **xviii. Délégué général aux droits de l'enfant, Communauté Française de Belgique**

#### **Les entreprises face à l'hyper sexualisation des enfants**

L'hyper sexualisation de la société est devenu un défi éducationnel d'importance. En effet la marchandisation par les corps n'épargne plus celui des enfants les propulsant, ainsi, dans un univers hyper sexué auquel ils ne sont pas encore préparés. Nombreux sont les spécialistes qui dénoncent les effets potentiellement dévastateurs, sur le développement des enfants, de leur exposition précoce aux codes de la sexualité adulte. Des solutions pour préserver les enfants ne sont pas imaginables sans le concours des entreprises. La mise au rebut de la fabrication d'articles tels que des strings pour enfants de neuf ans ou encore des soutiens-gorges rembourrés à l'intention des jeunes filles de dix ans, dont la connotation sexuelle est évidente, ne se fera que par la conscientisation des entreprises. La régulation de la publicité pour que le corps de l'enfant y soit traité de manière asexuée réclame, également, la participation des entreprises. Sans l'adoption d'un code de conduite visant au respect de la spécificité de l'enfant dans la manière dont il est pensé comme consommateur, il est à craindre que les initiatives ambitionnant de lutter contre l'hyper sexualisation des enfants n'échouent.

→ *Contribution de: Bernard De Vos, Délégué général aux droits de l'enfant, Communauté Française de Belgique*

### **xix. Projet sur le droit à l'éducation (Right to Education Project)**

Alors que l'éducation est de plus en plus privatisée, peu d'analyses ont été faites sur ce processus et ses impacts du point de vue des droits de l'homme. Pour contribuer au débat et sensibiliser à la question de la privatisation de l'éducation au regard des droits de l'homme, le Projet sur le droit à l'éducation ([Right to Education Project](#)) a récemment lancé une nouvelle [page internet](#) sur cette thématique. La page est seulement en anglais pour l'instant, mais une version française suivra bientôt. Trois nouvelles ressources ont également été publiées (uniquement en anglais) : un rapport sur la privatisation de l'éducation et les tendances mondiales de ses impacts sur les droits de l'homme ([Privatisation of Education: Global Trends of Human Rights Impacts](#)) ; une fiche listant 10 standards des droits de l'homme pour la privatisation de l'éducation ([10 Human Rights Standards for Education Privatisation](#)) ainsi qu'un [module de formation](#). Plus d'information [ici](#).

→ *Contribution de: Delphine Dorsi, Right to Education Project, delphine.dorsi (at) actionaid.org*

### **xx. Centre de Ressources sur les Entreprises & les Droits de l'Homme**

Le [Bulletin sur les Entreprises et les Enfants](#) encourage la publication de ressources à la fois en anglais et dans d'autres langues – n'hésitez pas à inviter vos contacts à travers le monde, qui travaillent sur le respect des droits des enfants, à partager leur travail avec une audience globale à travers le bulletin !

→ *Contribution de: Eniko Horvath, Centre de Ressources sur les Entreprises & les Droits de l'Homme, horvath (arobase) business-humanrights.org*

## **Português**

### **xxi. Childhood Brasil**

A menos de 100 dias do mundial de futebol, a [Childhood Brasil](#) reforça o alerta pela proteção das crianças e adolescentes no país. Durante o evento, a concentração de turistas nas cidades que receberão as partidas e a decorrente demanda por serviços temporários pode provocar aumento do trabalho infantil e dos fatores de vulnerabilidade para exploração de crianças e adolescentes.

Childhood Brasil tem agido em diferentes frentes pensando no mundial. A primeira delas é a disseminação de conhecimento, já que o enfrentamento do problema faz-se por meio de informação. Para isso, a Childhood Brasil trouxe para o país, em parceria com a Fundação OAK, a pesquisa da *Brunel University London*, intitulada “Exploração de Crianças e Adolescentes e a Copa do Mundo: uma análise dos riscos e das intervenções de proteção”. O estudo constatou que grandes eventos esportivos, como o mundial de futebol ou as Olimpíadas, intensificam os riscos de violação de direitos de crianças e adolescentes.

A segunda principal atuação da Childhood no período pré-mundial é o engajamento do setor privado com a causa, com ações que vão de educação à distância, em parceria com a Ernst & Young, ao treinamento, por exemplo, dos funcionários da Atlantica Hotels, que conta com 80 hotéis espalhados em 45 cidades do país, sendo 10 delas sedes do jogos. A ONG também contribui na formação dos voluntários do Ministério do Esporte para que esses atores estejam atentos a violações de direitos durante o mundial e saibam como agir caso se deparem com casos de exploração sexual.

→ *Contribuição de Amanda Moreira, Kreab Gavin Anderson, amoreira (at) kreab.com*

## **xxii. Centro de Informação sobre Empresas e Direitos Humanos**

O [Boletim sobre Empresas e Crianças](#) do Centro de Informação sobre Empresas e Direitos Humanos aceita contribuições em diferentes línguas, inclusive em português. Por favor, encoraje organizações que trabalham para avançar o respeito aos direitos das crianças por empresas a compartilharem o trabalho que fazem com um público global, por meio de nosso boletim. Caso envie uma contribuição em português, ficaríamos muito gratos se puder nos enviar também, se possível, a versão em inglês.

Por favor contate Júlia Neiva, neiva (at) business-humanrights.org, ou Eniko Horvath, horvath (at) business-humanrights.org, or caso tenha alguma dúvida.

→ *Contribuição de Júlia Neiva, Brazil, Pesquisadora e Representante para o Brasil, Portugal & Países Africanos de Língua Portuguesa, Centro de Informação sobre Empresas e Direitos Humanos, neiva (at) business-humanrights.org*

## **中文 (Chinese)**

### **xxiii. 瑞联稚博与中国纺织工业协会合作支持有子女的工人**

中国纺织工业协会（CNTAC）与瑞联稚博合作于3月7日启动了一个项目，旨在提高对有子女工人需求的认识并加强对他们的支持。中国纺织工业协会致力于通过协助工人履行自己作为家长和照顾者职责的方式来招聘、留住及激励员工。

瑞联稚博和中国纺织工业协会将在各个工业区，为500名有子女的工人举办一系列亲职教育培训班。通过在中国纺织工业协会北京总部为180名员工举办了半天的培训班，双方正式启动了该项目。该培训班旨在帮助家长了解儿童的各种需求，提高与子女沟通及建立良好关系的技能，帮助员工同时兼顾工作和家庭生活的责任。

该项目侧重于让中国纺织工业协会的会员企业（通常是国际品牌的供应商）支持其员工在物质匮乏和艰苦的工厂工作环境下，处理抚养子女和家庭关系所面临的挑战。

如需了解更多支撑这些培训班需求的调研，请点击[这里](#)。

→ *Contributed by Josefin Bennet Fredriksson, CCR CSR, josefin.bennet-fredriksson (at) ccrcsr.com*

#### xxiv. 企业与人权资源中心

企业与人权资源中心的《[工商业与儿童公告](#)》欢迎不同的语言的撰文，包括中文。请鼓励任何致力于推动工商企业尊重儿童权利的组织通过本中心的公告与全球读者分享他们的工作。如果您以中文撰文，如果情况允许的话，也希望可以同时提供英语翻译。

如有查询，请联系周龙炜，chow (at) business-humanrights.org，或Eniko Horvath女士，horvath (at) business-humanrights.org。

→信息由周龙炜，东亚事务代表及研究员，企业与人权资源中心，chow (at) business-humanrights.org提供

### **3. Other news and developments**

Below are some recent news stories and developments. For more, see the Resource Centre's [full archive of news on business and children](#).

#### **Global**

- [UNICEF released new tools for business on children's rights](#), including guides on policies & codes of conduct, impact assessments, reporting.
- [Save the Children published a guide](#) for civil society on using the Children's Rights & Business Principles to help businesses monitor and enforce children's rights.
- [Hivos – Stop Child Labour published a report](#) analysing 28 shoe companies' policies, practices and transparency on efforts to address child labour in supply chains. We invited criticised companies to respond – Farida, Lotto Sports, Marks & Spencer, Schoenenreus and Wolky responses provided. Birkenstock did not respond.
- [40 businesses launched a collaboration to tackle child malnutrition](#), aiming to reach 127 million women and children by 2020. *“We aim to recruit globally, and include businesses from all sectors as malnutrition has a profound effect on economies,”* said Feike Sijbesma, CEO of Royal DSM.
- [Study analyses the UN General Comment's implications for companies](#): *“General Comment 16 on State Obligations Regarding the Impact of the Business Sector on Children's Rights: What Is Its Standing, Meaning and Effect?”*
- A [Vigeo brief](#) analyses challenges and best practices in tackling child labour in the food, mining, retail, tobacco sectors. Findings indicate retail and tobacco sectors perform better on policies and measures disclosed than food and mining.
- [Commentary on children's rights in the modelling industry](#) argues *“[v]oluntary guidelines to protect young fashion models aren't working”* – highlights industry's alleged exploitation of child models, raises concerns about media portrayal fuelling health problems among women.

*For further global developments, see contributions by organizations on pages 2-11 of this bulletin.*

#### **Africa**

- **Cameroon:** MTN's subsidiary in Cameroon supports an [education initiative for disadvantaged youth](#). (Only in French / en Français)
- **Côte d'Ivoire:** US federal appeals court ruled that a class action [lawsuit by 3 Malians against Archer Daniels Midland, Cargill, Nestlé](#) over alleged trafficking and use of forced child labour can be reopened under the Alien Tort Statute. Our full case profile of the lawsuit is available [here](#). CNN documentary “Cocoa-nomics” examines recent efforts to combat child labour in

Côte d'Ivoire, featuring an interview with Nestlé's executive vice president for operations, José Lopez.

- **Ghana:** Investigation shows [European e-waste dumped in Agbogbloshie leads to severe health problems among children](#). According to local environmental activist Mike Anane, children who collect e-waste from dumping grounds develop illnesses including kidney disease, liver malfunction, respiratory problems and organ malfunctions as *"a result of their exposure to e-waste from the industrialized countries...[f]rom Germany, from Denmark, China"*.
- **Kenya:** Co-operative Bank of Kenya supports [initiative to reduce preventable maternal and child deaths](#).
- **Malawi:** [Al Jazeera documentary](#) shows how child labour in tobacco farms compromises children's health and education. We invited JTI and Philip Morris International to respond – responses provided.
- **Nigeria:** 186 victims of Pfizer's drug trials in 1996 that allegedly led to deaths of children are bringing a [new lawsuit](#) against the company. Plaintiffs argue that the company breached a previous settlement agreement in the criteria it used to compensate victims. Our full case profile of the lawsuit is available [here](#).
- **Zimbabwe:** Economic downturn has led to an [increase in child labour](#) and figures are expected to grow, according to labour rights experts and advocates. UNICEF figures indicate 13% of children are engaged in hazardous child labour, including working with chemicals and explosives. Child labour is common in farms, sugar plantations, retail and mining.

## Americas

- **Argentina:** Multi-sector collaboration aims to [tackle child labour in tobacco industry](#) through educational and vocational programmes. (Only in Spanish / En Español)
- **Argentina:** Following labour inspections, several business owners have been charged for using [child labour in a restaurant and a circus](#) in the city of Colón and a [bakery in Macía](#). (Only in Spanish / En Español)
- **Brazil:** Authorities found [children and adults in conditions akin to slavery](#) in charcoal kilns supplying companies in Sao Paulo – includes comments from firms. (Only in Portuguese / Em português)
- **Colombia:** Companies launch [network against child labour](#), based on Argentinean and Ecuadorian networks' model. (Only in Spanish / En Español)
- **Mexico:** [76 agricultural firms awarded child labour-free distinction](#) – nominations for 2014 award [now open](#). (Only in Spanish / En Español)
- **Peru:** Labour authorities introduces [fines for transportation companies using child labour](#). (Only in Spanish / En Español)
- **USA:** Coalition to Stop Gun Violence [petition calls on Walmart to stop selling firearms marketed to children](#) due to risk of death and injuries. We invited Walmart to respond - response provided.
- **USA:** ECPAT and US hotel industry educational institute launch [training for hotel staff on preventing human trafficking and sexual exploitation of children](#).

## Asia & Pacific

- **Bangladesh:** Human rights advocates raise concerns about the [health and safety hazards children are exposed to in the leather industry](#) and call for reforms from tanneries, buyer companies and government. *"Despite the prohibition on children working in hazardous work, some children work in direct contact with chemicals, handling hides in pits full of chemicals and water"*, said Richard Pearshouse of Human Rights Watch.

- **Cambodia:** Wall Street Journal investigation finds [clothing factories allegedly continue to employ underage teenagers](#) due to lax age verification. Following death of 15-year-old girls at Wing Star, the factory said it will implement tougher measures, including workplace safety.
- **China:** Greenpeace research finds air pollution from country's coal plants is responsible for over 250,000 [premature deaths and impaired health of hundreds of thousands of children](#) in 2011.
- **China:** Official data shows [high levels of heavy metals in 8 million acres of farmland](#), which reportedly impairs children's health and may be linked to cancer.
- **India:** Harvard Univ. researchers published a [report investigating forced and child labour in hand made carpet sector](#). Parliamentary questions to Dutch EU parliament on role of European governments and firms to tackle child labour provided. Comments from buyers named in report also provided.
- **India:** Reports of [child labour in mica mines](#) raise concerns about "ethical extraction" in industry. We invited L'Oreal to respond – response provided. Statement by Lush committing to remove mica from all products also provided.
- **India:** Labour groups & NGOs launch BloodBricks campaign to [tackle forced, bonded and child labour in brick kilns](#).
- **India:** Kuoni published its second human rights impact assessments report, which included a [consultation with children as full stakeholders](#). Findings indicate that sexual exploitation of children and child labour continues to be a concern, but mainly in smaller establishments or in the informal economy. The report includes action points to address impacts.
- **Pakistan:** Finnish company Stora Enso admits knowledge of [child labour in packaging joint venture's supply chain](#), takes action to tackle issue.
- **Thailand:** Govt. to raise minimum age of workers in the fishery sector by classifying it as a ["dangerous environment for children"](#).

## Europe & Central Asia

- **Russia:** Talent and advertising agencies running [children in beauty pageants](#) violate civil code, according to child rights Ombudsman.
- **UK:** Study finds [children living near fast food restaurants](#) with unhealthy food options more likely to be obese.

## Middle East & North Africa

- **Jordan:** Inspection campaign targets private sector compliance with provision of labour code to [create nurseries for the children of workers](#). (Only in Arabic / [توفير مراكز رعاية الأطفال](#) /)
- **Lebanon:** [Syrian refugee children](#) continue to be vulnerable to child labour on the street, in agriculture, and in factories.
- **Pakistan:** Telenor partners with UNICEF to provide [mobile access to birth registration and health services](#).