

Annex 5: Post Conference meetings

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PRINCIPAL SECRETARIES FOR AGRICULTURE AND LABOUR AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING HELD ON 2ND OCTOBER 2012

Members present

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Honourable Eunice Makangala	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
James D. Kalilangwe	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
Wezi Kayira	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
Dr. Godfrey Kafere	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
Edson K. Mphande	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
B.W. Ngauma	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
Richard N. Chirwa	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
J.B. Mkandawire	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
B J Kumpata	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
Ireen Kumwenda	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Victor Chikwawe	Ministry of Information and Civic Education
F.L.Kayuni	DAES, Ministry Agriculture Food Security
Memory Zikapanda	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
Samuel Mingu	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Khalid Hassan	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Wafwile Musukwa	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
Linda Kawamba	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
Paul Gondwe	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
Francis Kwenda	Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training

1.0: OPENING REMARKS

The meeting started at 14:40 pm with a prayer. The members made self-introductions. The Chairperson welcomed all members and thanked them for making it to the meeting. He highlighted on the commitment of the Malawi government to eliminate child labour. He informed the members that the Ministry of Labour has the problem that there are very few Labour officers present to man the district labour offices hence the need for the two ministries to work together and involve Agricultural extension workers in inspecting child labour in Agriculture.

2.0: ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Agenda was adopted without changes

3.0: INTERGRATION OF CHILD LABOUR ISSUES IN AGRICULTURE EXTENSION-CAPACITY BUILDING

3.1: The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security acknowledged the presence of child labour in the agriculture sector and that Agriculture extension workers are the front line staff in the ministry dealing directly with farmers. Hence the need to have capacity building trainings for the agriculture extension workers for them to recognize and deal with issues of child labour if child labour is to be eliminated.

3.2: The ministry of labour is to identify and come up with experts to work as facilitators for the training of extension workers on Child labour, data collection and Occupational safety and health in Agriculture.

4.0: REVISION OF A DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM

4.1: Members emphasized on the need to develop a data collection system which the agriculture extension system will incorporate issues and data on child labour. The request of meetings was made by the ILO representatives, for technical people in both ministries, to come up with an outline of the data collection system that will incorporate issues of child labour for monitoring and analysis and also come up with proposals to give to donors.

4.2: Members also discussed the need for coordination of the already existing data collection system among the private, public and civil society sectors in order to have a harmonized reporting system on child labour activities.

5.0: DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGIC PLAN ON ELIMINATING CHILD LABOUR IN AGRICULTURE

5.1: Members agreed on the need to mainstream child labour in the agriculture sector and to implement the action plan on elimination of child labour in agriculture as agreed during National Child Labour Conference. There is therefore need to incorporate data collection on child labour by developing a Child Labour Monitoring System (CLMS).

5.2: A task force comprising technical members in the Agriculture and Labour ministries is to be instituted. This will be the committee that will look at mobility, training of extension workers and when these extension workers are going to report on Child labour issues. To this effect, two officers were chosen to co-chair the Task Force and these officers are F. L. Kayuni from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and Wafwile Musukwa from the Ministry of Labour. These two will guide on the next meeting and the choosing the members to be in the task force.

5.4: The taskforce is also to carry out thorough discussions on how data is going to be collected and come up with a way in which progress is going to be determined on the elimination of child labour.

6.0: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The ILO representatives pointed out that they were still waiting for Ministry of Labour to arrange for a postmortem meeting as agreed at the Child labour conference. On this issue the PS II reported that the meeting will soon be held and preparations for the meeting are at advanced stage.

7.0: CLOSING REMARKS

Having no any other issues to discuss, the Chairperson thanked all members present for their support, dedication and contributions. The meeting closed at 16:10 pm with a word of prayer.

James D Kalilangwe

Chairperson

2.10.12

Memory Zikapanda

Secretary

Review of National Conference on Child Labour held at Kambiri Hotel on 6th October 2012 at 10.00 am

Agenda of the meeting

The meeting was conducted to review the National Conference on Child Labour held on 4-6 September 2012. Furthermore, the meeting discussed the conference outcome document, and map the way forward in ensuring that the commitment made by different stakeholders during the conference are implemented.

Participation

The meeting was opened by the PS Ministry of Labour , Mr. Wezi Kayira, who thanked all who contributed to the success of the Child Labour Conference and encouraged the participants to the

postmortem meeting to review the conference and come up with the monitoring mechanism to the implementation of the agreed outcomes for each stakeholder.

A total of 15 + members attended the meeting. Different organizations were present and these include Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Gender, Department of Information, Malawi Congress of Trade Union, Tobacco Control Commission, Tobacco Association of Malawi, Japan Tobacco Industry Limited, Agriculture Research and Extension Trust, National Smallholder Farmers Association of Malawi, National Youth Council and International Labour Organization. The key ministries of Agriculture and Education were absent during the meeting together with traditional leaders.

Outcomes of the meeting

The following were the outcomes of the meeting:

1. The CLU is undergoing a capacity development assessment to strengthen it in order to lead the process
2. The Ministry will propose to OPC to upgrade the CLU to the Department. However, there is over 50 % vacancy rate within the Ministry which is a challenge. There is a probability that the OPC can reject their proposal based on the vacancy rate but they believe their justification is strong enough to pass. The CLU can only be upgraded during the next financial year (July 2013 - June 2014) if approved
3. The Ministry will improve the composition of the CLN and NSC to be as more inclusive as possible. It is the NSC that will oversee the implementation of the resolutions made during the conference.
4. The Ministry will request all sectors to submit their implementation plans with clear targets, indicators, outcomes etc (up to 2016 in line with the NAP). The sectors will be given four weeks to prepare the plans from the date of the meeting. Emails will be circulated from week starting 8 October 2012. As such MoL will request Focal Persons from various stakeholders for easy coordination of the process
5. The Ministry will prioritize activities to be implemented based on the plans. Furthermore, concept notes or proposals will be prepared based on the plans submitted by different sectors.
6. The Ministry plans to have sector consultations on the way forward. The meeting held with the Ministry of Agriculture was one of them. Follow up meetings will be held with Ministry of Education, Gender etc on how to collaborate and implement the commitments made during the Conference
7. The meeting proposed some changes to be made to the OD, and those proposed amendments will be submitted to the NSC for their approval.
8. The meeting requested for a follow up on the FAO/ILO plan of action which was developed as an outcome of the meeting held in Kambiri Lodge in Salima on which ministries of Agriculture, Labour, Department of Fisheries as well as FAO Malawi, Rome, together with local stakeholders. In this plan of action various stakeholders were allocated specific tasks to be implemented which at end would

contributed to the implementation of the NAP. This will help in the harmonization of the two processes (Child labour Conference and FAO/ILO meeting held in Salima).

The Ministry also announced that they prepared the foreword to the document and asked the task force members to make comments before the OD is published.

Observations

1. The Ministry has realized the importance of strengthening the Child Labour Unit. This is a good development as it will ensure most activities are implemented and lead the process
2. Although there is over 50 % vacancy rate within the Ministry, the existing staff can still work with the Child Labour Unit.
3. Changing the composition of the CLN and NSC is a positive step as there will be more focal points from different organization hence more representativeness.
4. The Ministry will require technical support and guidance from ILO in developing the implementation plans, concept note and proposals, prioritization of the activities to be implemented to ensure that they are leading the process. The same applies to the development of the strategy of mainstreaming child labour in agriculture by the Ministry of Agriculture and Labour. This strategy will spell out the institutional development and monitoring within the Ministry and furthermore, mainstreaming is key policies.

CHILD LABOUR NETWORK MEETING

Held 10-12 the October 2012

Venue: Sun and Sand, Mangochi

The Child Labour Network came into being following government efforts to implement the Social Protection Policy. Realising that the policy was broader, technical committees and working groups herein called networks were initiated. Networks on Orphan and Vulnerable Children (OVC), Trafficked Children, Disabled children and Child Labour were initiated. Each of these had line ministries as secretariat. Ministry of Labour became the Secretariat of the Child Labour Network. Since formation, the network has met twice with the Mangochi meeting as the second.

Proceeding of the Meeting

DAY ONE

Official Opening

PS II for Ministry of Labour officially opened the meeting. In his remarks the PS highlighted that upholding of child rights is in the interest of government and that government is relentless in elimination of child labour. He called upon various stakeholders to continue working towards removing inhibiting factors to child labour elimination. He pointed out the education system barriers, policy and legal barriers, resource gaps, information gaps, demographic characteristics of children and inadequacies in child labour law enforcement as some inhibiting factors. The PS further pointed out the cost of not addressing these challenges as enormous. This requires coordination to eliminate child labour in the short, medium and long term.

The PS further highlighted the importance of the Child Labour Network. The network attempts to identify key strategies for addressing child labour in Malawi. It provides for exchange of ideas and experiences on the best practices on the elimination of child labour. It further strengthens collaboration among stakeholders including government and NGOs. Overtime is it important to come together and evaluate the progress made in relation to the elimination of CL. He thanked members for participating and holding the Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture. The outcome document of the conference provides a roadmap to the elimination of child labour. It is therefore our duty to demonstrate our commitment to eliminate child labour.

The PS noted that the CLN had not met for sometime. Therefore he appealed to network members to make contribution towards the network meetings regularly. The number of partners in CL has increased over the years. This network should be seen as medium for sharing experiences and forum for effective collaboration and coordination. Although challenges will always be there in child labour fight, with collaboration stakeholders would be able to make a contribution. There is political will at highest level to fight CL. With that political will the PS appealed to the CLN to take it as an opportunity to effectively fight child labour. He thanked Save the Children, Tea Association for contributing towards the child labour network meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

Minutes of the previous meeting (17th November 2011 to 18th November 2011) were read and matters that arose from the minutes were shared. Some of these included the following:

- That the chairperson of the network passed away. The position of chairperson remains vacant. The vice chairpersonship remains with Every Child.
- That child labour statistics remain obsolete. That the Labour Force Survey has precluded the module on child labour. Network members need to advocate for the child labour survey.
- No representation from Ministry of Education and Ministry of Agriculture
- List of Hazardous Child Labour has been gazetted and translated into Chichewa ready for popularisation
- Consultations are underway between the Ministry of Labour and Ministry of Agriculture for formulation of a strategy for mainstreaming child labour in agriculture
- National Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture was conducted and an outcome document is available for stakeholders to use
- While some action programs on child labour are coming to an end, others are starting e.g. CLEAR, ARISE. These programs must integrate sustainability strategies. Empower DCLCs and CCLCs through their district development plans.

Field Reports

Member NGOs and Institutions provided their reports on what they had done since the previous Child Labour Network. Some institutions that provided reports, included the Eye of the Child, AYISE, Youth Watch Society and the Ministry of Labour.

- Eye of the Child presented efforts made as a Child Trafficking Network. He pointed out that over 95% of child trafficking is for labour and calls for concerted effort to address the challenge. Meanwhile a Child Trafficking Bill was prepared and is pending enactment by parliament. Much of the efforts during the period were related to the formulation of the Child Trafficking Bill.
- AYISE presented progress report on the Action Program which is being supported by the International Labour Organisation. The presentation highlighted, with illustrations, various approaches and models that the program is implementing. These included strategies that relate to prevention, withdrawal, protection, and the related initiatives like non-formal basic education, vocational skills training, mainstreaming children into the formal education system, the Integrated Area Based Approach and creation of child labour free zones; capacity development of District Child Labour Committee and Community Child Labour Committees and their empowerment particularly with regard to providing oversight of the outreach skills centres and service outlets. The presentation also noted that despite the good models of the SNAP project, the project is

coming to an end in a few months. Stakeholders were interested to know the sustainability strategies of the SNAP project activities.

- Youth Watch Society presented their initiative which entails phone-in and online reporting of child labour. However the initiative is affected by inadequate funding and inaccessibility of certain technologies.
- The Ministry of Labour presented their achievements during the period which included, gazetting of the List of Hazardous Child Labour, workshop on the Child Labour Monitoring System, commemoration of the World Day Against Child Labour, the organisation of the National Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture.
- The presentation also highlighted some challenges which included, inactivity of the National Steering Committee and the need to revamp its functions; the need to capacitate the Child Labour Unit so that it is able to undertake its functions.

DAY TWO

Day two of the meeting focussed on sharing and popularisation of the Outcome Document for the National Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture which was held early September, 2012. The network had also an opportunity to isolate those activities that the network could be able to advance or implement. Finally a list of priority focus areas was determined on which the network ought to concentrate. However this list required further refinement which Secretariat, Ministry of Labour committed to do because it was supposed to be done in light of the National Action Plan. Mr. Archangel Bakolo of ILO-IPEC was requested to facilitate this process.

Presentation of Conference outcome document

Mr. Archangel Bakolo of ILO presented the outcome document which contained action areas for 19 respective sectors including government ministries and NGOs. Following the presentation it was clear that the Network was just a small section of stakeholders which are tasked to implement the various sectoral actions. The facilitator therefore requested for Terms of Reference for the Child Labour Network to set parameters and define what the Network is mandated to do. It was discovered that the TORs for the Network were not readily available. As such the facilitator requested the Ministry of Labour/ Secretariat to share in summary the TORs of the Network. Mr Paul Gondwe of Ministry of Labour pointed out that the functions of the network included Advocacy, Lobbying and Research, Child Labour Monitoring and Reporting, Coordination and Collaboration for Synergy and implementation of Action Programs. Somewhat this helped in getting focussed on what focus areas from the Conference Outcome Document the CLN could concentrate on.

Group work to isolate areas of interest for the network

After setting the parameters for the CLN, the facilitator asked participants to go into groups to isolate areas from the conference outcome document that the network could focus on. During group work the network members acknowledged that most issues required other stakeholders not present at the meeting such as big corporations in tobacco industry, employers and government ministries such as Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Education. However the groups came up with draft focus areas which the Secretariat, the Ministry of Labour would refine, finalise and circulate to members of the network so that it is attuned to the National Plan of Action. The following were identified:

1.0 Advocacy, Lobbying, Research and Reporting

- a) Lobby for the upgrading of Child Labour Unit to become a Directorate in the MoL and lobby for more funding for CLM and Inspection
- b) Advocate for approval of Child Labour Policy and Enactment of Tenancy Labour Bill and Child Trafficking Bill
- c) Lobby for ratification of ILO C 184 and other Conventions
- d) Advocate for Occupational Safety and Health in all establishments
- e) Organising Agriculture Workers and work for improved incomes.
- f) Lobby for support to schools (Bursaries, schools blocks, feeding program, teaching and learning materials)
- g) Raising awareness of CLMS. Lobby for employers' engagement in community based CLMS.
- h) Promote adoption of employers' code of conduct, compliance with global labour standards, the decent work agenda and human rights principles. Advocate for child labour desk officers at institution level.
- i) Lobby for support from employers to conduct trainings for its members of staff on global labour standards, decent work agenda and human rights principles. Provide training to employers on child labour.

2.0 Child labour monitoring & reporting

- a) Strengthen Child Labour Monitoring System. Monitoring incidences of Child Labour. Ensure compliance of Child Labour Monitoring for all members.
- b) Tracing, reunification and reintegration of trafficked children
- c) Support the establishment of the national / protocol for tracing, reunifying and reintegrating trafficked children
- d) Monitor adherence to child labour policies and laws

3.0 Coordination and networking for synergy

- a) Lobby for Child Labour Unit to become a Directorate under the MOL with a cost centre to facilitate coordination efforts
- b) Promote partnership with workers and employers. Advocating for joint programming and implementation of programmes
- c) Organising Agriculture Workers and work for improved incomes. Facilitate development of MoU between workers and employers on child labour. Enforce compliance to the agreements in the MoU

4.0 Action Programs

- a) Capacity Development of Extension workers. Build capacity of extension workers in eliminating child labour. Coordinate participation of extension workers in eliminating child labour. Design and implement joint programs
- b) Establish and strengthen DCLCs and Community Child Labour Committees
- c) Advocate for sustainability of current initiatives at district and community levels.

Way forward

- a) The secretariat, MoL will finalise the Priority Focus Areas for the CLN by 19th October 2012 and circulate to participants for their comments. Participants will provide their comments by 23rd October 2012.
- b) CLN members can start operationalising the action areas as individual organisations or in partnership with others for synergy.
- c) The next CLN shall be held in January/February 2013.