



# Report of Activities and Outcomes

April, 2006 – September, 2006

## INTRODUCTION

The Global March together with its coordinators and partners around the world, continued its campaign against child labour, built high public awareness on the issue and advocated with government and other stakeholders to act. Global March continued its work on policy dialogue, initiating high level consultations on coherence in policy, country specific research, dissemination and advocacy.

The regional coordination offices of Global March carried out activities against child labour and for education for all around various events, meetings, advocacy and campaigns. International Secretariat coordinated and led the restructuring process and membership drive in Global March. GMIS led the efforts and discussions within International Council on registration of Global March. Significant number of organisations joined the membership of Global March. The total number of new members joining Global March is 165. General Agricultural Workers Union (GAWU) in Ghana was selected as Regional Coordinator for Anglophone Africa. This is in line with Global March's intentions for closer and genuine trade union partnerships.

The brief report of Global March activities and outcomes during the reporting period is presented below.

## A. Policy Changes

### I. **The Boards of the UN organisation and the Brettenwoods institutions adopt the triangular paradigm**

The Global Task Force on Child Labour and Education was instituted by the in January 2006 jointly by the ILO, UNICEF, UNESCO, World Bank and the Global March Against Child Labour. The final Terms of Reference were jointly drafted in June 2006, with an agreement to contribute to the achievement of the EFA goals through the elimination of child labour, within the larger framework of Millennium Development Goals. Global March and ICCLE have been participating in all the meeting of the Global Task Force, in the development of the TOR and the discussions for the membership criteria for the Global Task Force.

The central achievement of the Task Force in this reporting period has been the agreement that framework of the EFA Fast Track Initiative (FTI) will essentially include child labour as a frame work criteria for the preparation of the country plans and strategies. This will have a direct impact in about 40 odd countries that are at this stage receiving FTI support or are being nurtured through the catalytic fund mechanism. It was

agreed that in the experience of looking at country level EFA plans, child labour and other social exclusion issues (with the exception of gender) were rarely addressed. The FTI has guidelines for the appraisal of EFA plans and these are revised annually. It could be possible to look at child labour issues in this process and request information from partners as to the extent the issue is being addressed in education programmes.

Two activities are being launched by the Global Task Force as joint initiatives. First, a comprehensive and integrated programme on Child Domestic Labour and Education will be launched to liberate millions of child domestic labourers. Secondly, the Task Force proposed to work for the integration of child labour first and foremost in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) source book, which is the guiding tool for the countries in designing their strategies. The PRSP source book currently pays little explicit attention to child labour.

It has also been decided that in four pilot countries (Albania, Mali, Pakistan and Zambia), member agencies will explore the potential for cooperation in one or two areas of work related to the hardest to reach children and EFA. It was felt that it would be useful to have a clearer focus on what was being expected at the country level, before anything was sent to country offices. It would therefore be useful to discuss further so that something more specific could be provided to the countries identified. In many countries there was already cooperation between agencies; so it was necessary to identify the added value of new joint initiatives.

It is also decided that the GTF Secretariat would provide a matrix to help identify areas of overlap between FTI countries, and countries with time bound programmes for elimination of the worst forms of child labour. In selecting countries for initial work it was important to identify countries where agencies felt there was a reasonable chance of succeeding with the initiative, so as to provide models which could be replicated elsewhere. The matrix would be sent to member organisations with more detailed ideas for country level cooperation.

Global March represented in the Education Ministerial Round Table on Paris, parallel to the UNESCO General Assembly in July 2006. The roundtable had 'child labour and education' as one of the themes of discussion. The response in general was quite promising to the integration of child labour issues in the education agendas' of the countries.

### ***Trafficking for Forced Labour***

Global March recognises trafficking as a process ending in exploitation, whether commercial sexual exploitation and/or forced labour. Child labour is thus an outcome of the process of child trafficking. In the reporting period, GMIS has been rigorously engaging in dialogue with the US Department of Labour, Office of Trafficking in Persons and the UNODC to bring prominence to trafficking of children for forced labour and work towards a holistic strategy to combat child labour and child trafficking.

## **II. Child Labour issues are incorporated in the UNESCO Global Monitoring Reports of EFA**

Global March participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> Editorial Board Meeting of the UNESCO Global Monitoring Report for EFA, the Working Group for EFA and is one of the three civil society organisations member of the UNESCO's High Level Group on EFA. At all these platforms the Global March pitched for the specific mention of child labour issues in the

UNESCO Global Monitoring Report. UNESCO committed to inclusion of child labour and out-of-school children in the Global Monitoring Reports. The 2007 and 2008 reports would have specific mentions of economically active children.

Chapter 3 of the Global Monitoring Report 2006 has been dedicated to out-of-school children. This is modest gain but will have a significant impact on the poorest countries with endemic problem of child labour and out-of-school children.

## B. Practice Changes

- I. **To compel widespread government action to implement ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour**
  - **Monitoring mechanism ILO Convention 182 to include civil society**
  - **Budgetary allocation for implementation of ILO Convention 182**

*Reported in the regional sections*

- II. **Multinationals ensure the eradication of child labour in their supply chains**

Global March keeps a contact monitor on the reports that indicate multinationals and their supply chains employing underage workers and child labourers. In June 2006, based on an article in Guardian, Global March sought a response from Swarovski – the Austrian crystal corporation, on the employment of child labourers. Member of Swarovski Executive Board responded to the letter indicating that Swarovski as a socially concerned corporate was committed to upholding core labour standards including no child labour.

As members of the International Cocoa Initiative, Global March is actively engaged in research and designing a monitoring mechanism to check child labour and child trafficking in cocoa farming in Ivory Coast and Ghana. Global March experience in sensitisation and mobilisation of the general masses, civil society organisations, and others in combating child labour and child trafficking is regularly sought and put to practice. Also Global March's knowledge of labelling and monitoring of child labour free product and services has been of great value in designing a monitoring mechanism for child labour free cocoa.

Through the work of the CLC network, other NGOs, the U.S. government, and the cocoa industry (Nestle, Hershey, Mars, and others), concrete steps to eliminate the worst forms of child labour and forced labour from cocoa harvesting are underway. This project is a larger undertaking than the original goal, as it goes beyond a code of conduct for the industry (which the Harkin-Engel Protocol spells out and the industry has accepted) into concrete actions to end forced and child labour in the cocoa industry in West Africa (first) and then in other cocoa growing regions. Linda Golodner, CLC co-chair, sits on the board of the International Cocoa Initiative and is chair of the verification subcommittee's work on developing a credible verification structure and financing to assure the quality and veracity of the cocoa certification process and reports.

A series of discussions were undertaken with the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), along with UNICEF and former Costa Rican President but the dialogues were at dead-end due to high polarisation of the issue of open trade in the region.

## C. Child Participation

Children's network initiated and the results of the various efforts are posted in the website [www.knowchildlabor.org](http://www.knowchildlabor.org). The [knowchildlabor.org](http://www.knowchildlabor.org) website has had viewership of more than 5,000 persons in 2006.

Toolkit ready and the same posted for youth and children's groups to register their clubs and post the initiatives can be accessed from [www.knowchildlabor.org](http://www.knowchildlabor.org). Toolkit for Africa ready, piloted, translated, distributed in the regions and available on the website.

National Children's networks of elected representatives have been formed in India and Nepal. The elected child representatives from the villages participated in a National Consultation to discuss and evolve their plan of action for 2006-07 and elect the national children's committee members.

Children and adolescents of regions participated in events about child labour and education, organised by Global March in each country.

Children and adolescents participated in the Global Action Week (April 06) events in several countries. In New York, the child representatives from Global March meet with UNICEF Executive Director, Dy. Executive Director, UNDP Associate Administrator, Senior Vice President World Bank, World Bank German Executive Director and other representatives from UN agencies, following a hearing at the Capitol Hill with Senator Hillary Clinton and others.

## D. Triangular Paradigm

To create models on how the triangular development paradigm can be successfully achieved to the best interests of the children, Global March is working initially in 6 countries representing different regions of the world namely South Asia, Africa, South America and Central America.

GMIS and ICCLC conducted research in India and Bangladesh in collaboration with prominent academician from JNU. The research reports highlight the current status and situation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of eradicating extreme poverty, achieving universal primary education, and promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in India and Bangladesh. The reports (<http://www.globalmarch.org/resourcecenter/countryreports.php3>) documents the good practice initiatives of universal primary education, gender parity in education, child elimination and the rehabilitation and mainstreaming of child labourers, undertaken by government, UN agencies, Civil Societies, Trade Unions and NGOs.

Similarly, the country report for Chile, Costa Rica and Niger were also coordinated and documented. The Chile and Niger reports are in the process of being translated in English by the GMIS. The Egypt report was abandoned as Global March joined together with the network on Understanding Children's Work (UCW) led by the World Bank after it was brought under the framework of the Global Task Force.

The logistics for the Regional / National Consultations on the Triangular Paradigm research have been finalised. The dates, venues, participants, etc. have been confirmed. The series of consultations will take place from October 06 – January 07.

On the basis of the reports, dialogues and discussions have been initiated with various agencies, including the Governments, concerned Ministries, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs, Human Rights Commissions/ Forums, etc. to sensitise them on the inter-linkages established in the country reports.

The discussions were also undertaken in the light of the formation of the Global Task Force to influence programmatic coordination at country level on child labour elimination and education for all, within the poverty reduction framework.

## 1. South Asia Regional Office

The GM regional secretariat - CWIN carried out the activities including the resource centre, database on the partner organisations, preparation budget and detailed plan of action, preparation of half yearly and annual report, management of the planned activities, and report preparation of specific activities in the national level. Regular updating of the database of the partner organisations working on the child labour, education and related issues was done. The secretariat has been in regular touch with different partner organisation through the circulation of the e-newsletter and other publications, for the compilation of regional activities of Global March, communication with the national coordinators in South Asia. Some of the activities carried out during the reporting period are as follows.

- A. In Four Countries (India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh) identified for GM Intervention, preparing inventory of NGOs, Trade Unions, Teachers Unions and other CSOs; mobilising and joining forces with them; forming National Committees of CSOs; and development of Action Plans.
- B. Country Report on Current status of Child Labour, National Plans, Legislations, Review of implementation of commitments, specially on C. 182 and 138.
- C. Lobbying in South Asian Countries to declare Bonded Child Labour as one of the Worst Forms of Child Labour
- D. Meeting with CSOs, Trade and Teachers Unions, Governments and Other Stakeholders in four countries to sensitize, lobby and campaign for ratification/implementation of C 182 and 138. To organize such meeting to coincide with Ministerial level meetings (SAARC) in order to dialogue and lobby with the Governments.
- E. Legal and judicial actions including PIL and lobbying to establish interlinkages between trafficking, child labour and forced labour in various legal and judicial decisions.
- F. Other Regular Activities of Global March
  - a. GCE Action Week 2006
  - b. World Day Against Child Labour – 12 June 2006
  - c. Resource Centre
  - d. South Asian Child Labour E – Newsletter
  - e. Regional Coordination: Network With South Asian Countries
  - f. Administrative Activities Of The Secretariat
  - g. Network and Meetings:

In India dialogue and coordination with Labour Ministry, UNDP, ILO, UNICEF, US Embassy, NHRC, INGOs, NGOs, trade unions and teachers continued and their support came on the research and the proposed national consultation. The logistical details of the national and Regional consultation in India and Nepal finalised in collaboration with ICCLE and GMIS.

The Govt. of India issued a notice on 10 July 2006 that banned the employment of children as domestic servants or servants or in dhabas (roadside eateries), restaurants, hotels, motels, teashops, resorts, spas or in other recreational centres, effective from 10 October 2006. This is in persuasion

by the Global March and its partners in India, who have been lobbying for inclusion of child domestic labour and child labour in entertainment industry in the list of hazardous occupations. The GMIS plans to partner with Indian members of the movement and UN agencies to launch an awareness campaign from 10 October 2006 on this new notification, carrying its experience of the 2001 Child Domestic Labour campaign.

The Ministry of HRD in India has included bonded child labour in its policy document and plan of action. GMIS and partners strongly advocating for a national commission for children in India along the lines of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

In India, several favourable judgements and orders were given during the period that reflected the linkages between trafficking, child labour and forced labour. Several cases filed by Global March partners are pending in the courts.

A delegation from Ministry of Labour, Bangladesh and CSOs visited the GMIS and partners for information and suggestions for the drafting of child and bonded labour legislation in Bangladesh.

In Nepal the national committee on children has been revived with the involvement of the civil society members including CWIN /Global March.

The Nepal Governments' Master Plan within the ILO Time Bound Programme (TBP) outlines strategies and programmes that are aimed at the elimination of child labour. The time-frame of the Master Plan has been expanded from earlier drafts, from 2006 to 2010 for the Worst Forms of Child Labour, and from 2010 to 2014 for all forms of child labour. CWIN/ Global March work in close collaboration with the ILO for the implementation of the TBP.

A delegation from Nepal – Ministry of Labour and Transport visited GMIS and partners for possible collaborative measures to combat trafficking of children.

The national plan of action to eliminate the worst forms of child labour has now been adopted by the Government of Sri Lanka through the National Steering Committee (NSC) mechanism and a Time-Bound Programme is also in the process of preparation. PEACE/ Global March is a member of the National Steering Committee. Sri Lanka does not have a specific legislation that addresses practices such as bondage, serfdom and forced or compulsory labour.

## 2. South East Asia Regional Coordination

Visayan Forum focused the activities on child domestic labour and trafficking in persons. The main activities conducted during the period were:

1. Awareness orientation seminar in ports to sensitise the port authorities and the common masses.
2. Local task force building seminars in all areas of Republic of Philippines.
3. National Multi-sectoral capacity building workshops will lead to the strategic planning workshops by 2007 or early 2007.
4. Advocacy – National consultation is planned for early 2007 with the Mayor.

April 30 celebrated as the first National Domestic Workers' Day. Visayan Forum spearheaded a key march to generate awareness and mark this day and advocate for the passage of the Magna-Carta for the Household Helpers.

Organised South East Asia sub-regional field exchange program on child domestic workers.

### 3. South America Regional Coordination

Children and adolescents of South American Region participated in events about incidence, organised by Global March in each country. CESIP, the GM regional coordinator organised activities (seminars, meetings with authorities and others) on International Day against Child Labour (June 12). Large number of children and youths were mobilised on the occasion.

1. Perú, Chile, Ecuador: Monitoring performed through the National Board Committee to Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour, during our participation on the execution of the Committee National Plans.

2. Argentina, Ecuador, Chile, Perú and Colombia: Activities and/or campaigns about June 12 (World Day Against Child Labour). The members of the Global March divulged information about the monitoring.

3. Chile, Argentina, Perú and Ecuador: Elaboration of a report about the following of the Iberoamerican Agreements in eradication of child labour items. Presentation and distribution of this document in the Forum III of NGO about Infancy and adolescence and Meeting VIII of Ministers and Authorities about Infancy in Iberoamerica.

4. Argentina, Chile, Perú, Ecuador and Colombia: Dissemination of the monitoring results on education and Child Labour during the activities of the Global Campaign of Education. Global March in Argentina, Chile, Perú and Ecuador are part of the National Committees of the Global Campaign of Education. In Colombia the Global March is part of the local campaign in Palmira Valle.

5. Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Perú and Colombia have compiled information on the situation in each country of the region about: Memorandum of understandings between countries and the ILO; Agreement 138; Agreement 182; National Committees of Child Labour Eradication; National Legislation (Codes); Listings of dangerous works (hazardous child labour).

CESIP mobilised organisations to join Global March. It offered information about process. Registration promotion to the Global March and distributing of registration forms in the South American Region continued during this period. However, the process was not as successful as was expected. The filled up registration forms from institutions of the region were sent to International Secretariat.

The Institutions of the Global March participated in the National Board Committee to Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour, making incidence in each countries. Regional and National Coordinators and Global March member from South America participated in the national campaigns about International Day against Child Labour (June 12), in alliance with others actors.

South American and Centro American Regional Coordinators elaborated a brochure for diffusion on Global March, and a research about Child Labour and Migrations, that will be distributed in the Iberoamerican Forum II of ONG about Infancy and Adolescence and Meeting VIII of Ministers and Authorities about Infancy from Iberoamerica, and the countries of the regions.

As regards activities on Triangular Paradigm, a research, named "Research on fulfilment on the Iberoamerican Plan and other International Agreement on Child labour" was elaborated to be presented in the Iberoamerican Forum III of ONG about Infancy and Adolescence and in the Meeting VIII of Ministers and Authorities about Infancy from Iberoamerica.

The regional meeting of the Global March and the key partners from South America took place on 20-21 March 2006 in Lima, Peru. Strengthening Global March presence in the region by mobilising more members was committed in the meeting.

#### 4. Central America Regional Coordination

The GM regional secretariat - DNI carried out the activities including coordinating the triangular paradigm research, database on the partner organisations, preparation budget and detailed plan of action, preparation of half yearly and annual report, management of the planned activities.

Regional Meeting of National Coordinators of Central America, Mexico and The Caribbean of Global March Against Child Labour was proposed for San José (Costa Rica) to which representatives of the Child Labour Coalition of U.S, and the International Center of Child Labor and Education of U.S. would attend. The logistics for the meeting were finalised in coordination with all the participants. Central American regional plan of action is expected as the outcome of the regional meeting.

With the new government in Costa Rica since May 2006, Global March made its intervention during the Regional Field Exchange on Successful Interventions on Child Domestic Labour held in San Jose in August 2006.

Global March Central America represented in the presentation and discussion of the UN Global Research on Violence in May 2006. Focus was on working conditions and child labour, especially child domestic labour.

The efforts made in order to achieve this objective were linked, in practice, with those made in preparation for the audience granted by the Inter American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR).

An intensive task of compiling and producing a Central American Report on the Situation of Child Labour, was carried out by a commission of experts in close collaboration with the regional network of partners. The report includes information from the five Central American countries: Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

The preparation of the Report itself, as it implied the articulation of a regional network of partners, can be regarded as one of the initial activities.

After the presentation of the Report during the March audience, efforts were made to present and share this experience with Global March partner organizations in the region, during the Regional Field Exchange on Successful Interventions on Child Labour. In this regard, the possibility of accessing the regional HR protection system, and the elaboration of independent monitoring reports such as the one presented to the IACHR, were promoted as likely tools for future advocacy and political incidence actions.

For instance, some of the results obtained with the IACHR Report, has been included, as means of awareness raising, sensitization and political incidence in a series of materials produced with the support of UN Voluntary Trust Fund on the Elimination of Contemporary Forms of Slavery, on the Domestic Child Labour issue.

Moreover, after the IACHR audience and all through the period of this report, the sub-regional coordination has been actively searching for possibilities of funding that can strengthen the efforts made in terms of regional / national Child Labour monitoring. Even though international cooperation opportunities have been progressively shrinking, as much as in Child Rights issues in general, as in

Child Labour issues in particular, the commitment to follow up these efforts remain as a permanent line of work within GM sub-regional coordination.

It's important to point out that there is a revision / reorganization process in due course being directed by the sub-regional coordination, from which it's expected an improvement in terms of articulation among the national coordinators. As part of this process and seeking to strengthen national coordinator's capabilities, a series of activities has been done: 1) A regional workshop has been coordinated with the support of ILO/IPEC on Child Labour Indicators; 2) A revision of Latin-American countries commitment's fulfilling on the issue of Child Labour was carried out and their results were distributed during Montevideo's III Ibero American Summit celebrated on October 2006; and 3) A revision of the national commissions on Child Labour and their respective Plans is being programmed for this period, with the aim of reach agreements on how to approach and develop valid and standardized monitoring actions.

The Central American Parliament, as well as other regional / national Trade-related political coordination entities (such as the different Employers Chambers), have practically collapsed, as practicable arenas of debate, under the immense pressure and high priority level of Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), specially since the advanced stages of the Treaty negotiation.

Nevertheless, a series of actions were supported trying to discuss and reach basic agreements on the impact of CAFTA on the Child Labour issue. The main event in this line of work, was a Forum coordinated by DNI Costa Rica and Global March sub-regional coordination, in which the panellists were Costa Rican former president, Rodrigo Carazo, and Child Rights Specialist Ludwig Güendel (UNICEF), and had the participation of representatives of most of Central America Global March national coordinators.

Despite our efforts, the tense polarization in the regional political agenda generated by the CAFTA, makes impossible, for now, to keep on putting pressure in this issue. This line of work must be delayed until the CAFTA issue is no longer an open issue in the regional political agenda, and a distended dialogue with governments and Employer Chambers on Child Labour can be sustained.

Participation in the parallel meeting between Sub-Regional Coordinators of Global March – Mexico, Central America and Caribbean and South America in Lima, Peru in July 2006. It was emphasised that the Iberoamerica Forum and the Ministerial meetings in the regions used strategically to increase the presence of Global March in the region, through sensitisation activities and increased memberships.

Proposal for the creation of a Regional Information Bulletin on Child Labour in collaboration with Global March and ILO IPEC. In process, resources being mobilised for the same.

Participated in the construction of the national plans for the eradication of the child labour, as well as in the characterization of the worst forms of child labour.

## 5. Europe Regional Coordination

- **World Cup 2006 Campaign**

The 2006 FIFA World Cup, one of the largest sporting events in the world, was another opportunity for the Global March to follow-up on the World Cup 2002 campaign and address child labour in sporting goods industry and promote fair trade practices.

World Cup 2006 campaign by the GMIS around the World Cup 2006 and World Day Against Child Labour focused on child trafficking for prostitution as well as the use of child labourers in sporting goods industry. The campaign targeted the German government, FIFA and the Sporting Goods Federation specifically this time having built public awareness on child labour in sporting goods in the previous campaign. The campaign aimed at reminding the FIFA, Sporting Goods Industry and the host government of their promises to eliminate child labour and child trafficking. At the time of the launch of the campaign, press releases were sent across the world and to media agencies. The campaign received positive responses from German Chancellor, Minister for Development Cooperation and others in their letters. This was organised in collaborations with the German national coordinator and partners.

Germany ratified the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime on 14 June 2006.

In 2006, a round-table conference, "Stop Child Trafficking" was held with the participation of representatives from Kaliningrad, aimed at public awareness on the problem of child trafficking as well as at developing of efficient methods to struggle against it. Work in this field should include cooperation with various institutions, including law enforcement agencies, members of the State Duma (Russian Parliament), schools, NGOs, and special child care centers (orphanage centers, juvenile temporary detention centers, etc.). The main problem in Russia consists in state officials' ignorance and poor public awareness.

New Perspectives Foundation compiles a database of child and youth organizations, and disseminates information including that of the Global March against Child Labour among various portals, mass media, etc.

Moreover, information on the World Cup 2006 and World Day against Child Labour was disseminated among stakeholders.

- **European Regional Meeting**

Global March, national coordinators and partners have been building a consensus around a European Regional Meeting to revitalise and strengthen the Global March movement in Europe. Global March National Coordinator Germany, ICCLC, GMIS and International Trade Union Confederation representative in Global March are coordinating the preparation for this meeting. Due to non-availability of all partners and members the meeting has been postponed to 2007.

## **6. Francophone Africa Regional Coordination**

The 7 target countries have been selected. They are: Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger, Gabon and Togo. Not only these countries have ratified the C 182 but also listed the worst forms of child labour with the support of ILO/IPEC.

With regards to the activities done by these countries:

- sensitisation campaign on the convention 182
- lobbying towards the government for the implementation of this convention
- capacity building of various stakeholders (police, NGOs, Trade Union, teachers, communities leaders, religious leaders etc) on the issue

The research on triangular paradigm in Niger was completed. In order to revitalise the Global March in Francophone and Anglophone Africa WAO Afrique is sensitising NGOs. WAO Afrique has been in

dialogue with NGOs in Liberia, Ghana, Tanzania. Activities were carried out in various countries of the region on the day against child labour. In dialogue with NGOs in Liberia, Ghana, Tanzania and will start on it from the next year 2007.

The research on triangular paradigm in Niger was completed and the final report sent. The Organisations: Action in Favour of the Elimination of Child Labour (AFETEN) and Population Media Centre were the coordinating agencies for the research. The report is in the process of translation into English.

With regard to the identification of other partners for GM intervention and information related to child labour we got the feedback from our partners NGO ACEEF (Guinea), G.M National Coordination (DRC) and AFETEN (Niger) which send us a list of some NGOs interested.

WAO Afrique is planning to use the opportunity for participation in an Anti-Slavery meeting in Benin (formerly planned to be held in Guinea) to invite other Global March partners to join the group and discuss about the situation of Global March issues in the region.

24 West and Central African countries have signed a multilateral agreement against human trafficking, particularly of women and children in a joint ECOWAS/ ECCAS declaration in July 06 in Abuja. As far as ECOWAS Action Plan is concerned, two multilateral agreements on the fight against the treat of persons in particular women and children's was signed one in Côte d'Ivoire on 27 July 2005 and the recent one in Nigeria on July 2006. Both agreements take into account child soldiers, child trafficking and sexual exploitation. Member countries are encouraged to react at national level.

Again two bilateral agreements were signed between Togo and Benin for one side and Togo and Ghana for the other side. This was concretised with a cross-border project on the fight against child trafficking financed by the ILO/IPEC and coordinated by WAO-Afrique. Regarding the specific laws against child trafficking, Gabon, Mali, Benin and Togo have adopted a law and Cote d'Ivoire is on the stage of adopting it.

WAO Afrique/ Global March plans to participate in the child labour summit next July (2007) to call for increased commitment and cooperation in the region on the issue. Heads of the States would participate in this summit.

On the development aid and policy front, the Japanese Government will increase its ODA with an additional 10 Billion USD in the next five years and has committed itself to double its assistance to Africa in the next three years. Acknowledging that basic education is critical for capacity building of each individual as well as social and economic development. Part of this money will go to meet the needs of the children in special circumstances.

## **7. Anglophone Africa Regional Coordination**

A new regional coordinator for Anglophone Africa has been agreed on. General Agricultural Workers Union (Ghana Trade Union Congress) would host the regional coordinators office of the Global March in Anglophone Africa, in Ghana. This is in line with Global March's commitment to engage the trade unions more closely in its work to eliminate child labour.

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Global March National Coordinator in South Africa is actively engaged in advocating for specific law against child trafficking. The South African Children's Bill contains specific child trafficking provisions. Under South Africa's proposed Children's Bill (currently before Parliament), for example, it would be an offence to "traffic a child or allow a child to be trafficked." In the Bill, South Africa defines trafficking based on the UN Protocol, with some modifications and additions.

## 8. North America Regional Coordination

The Child Labor Coalition (CLC) has initiated CSO monitoring mechanism is in place in the U.S. only. This group published its second annual report, *Protecting Working Children in the United States: The Government's Striking Decline in Child Labour Enforcement Activities* (September 2006), which was transmitted to the Committee of Experts at the ILO.

This goal to identify deficiencies in the protection of children in U.S. law is incorporated into the work of the CLC in the second annual report, *Protecting Working Children in the United States: The Government's Striking Decline in Child Labour Enforcement Activities* (September 2006). The CLC will spearhead further work on this goal in 2007.

The CLC's Children in the Fields Campaign is the mechanism through which religious groups, consumer groups, farm-worker rights groups and other have joined forces to advocate for strengthened protections for children working in agriculture in the U.S. Its outreach includes media contact, the creation and dissemination of educational materials, public speaking engagements, and meetings with government officials and members of Congress. CLC has laid a good foundation for a major launch in 2007 of a bill to provide greater protections for children working in agriculture. CLC will be coordinating this bill through Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (California) and the bill is the Children's Act for Responsible Employment (CARE Act). The bill would amend the federal child labour law to provide greater protections for children working in agriculture. It will equalise the level of protection for these children to the same level as for children working in non-agriculture.

The CLC has been pressuring government at every public opportunity to update its child labour provisions related to hazardous work. Our pressure and criticism has worked. The U.S. Department of Labour is finalizing proposed new regulations related to updating the list of hazardous occupations, duties, and machinery prohibited for children under the age of 18. Once the government's proposed rulemaking is announced (expected in 2007), the CLC will provide public analysis and comment on the content.

## 9. Global Advocacy Activities

The highlights of the reporting period were the progress made in moving the agenda forward of the Global Task Force and the organisational/restructuring activities within the partnership base of the movement.

- **Global Task Force on Child Labour and Education**

The Global Task Force on Child Labour and Education has been established. The membership of the task force was finalised. The task force Terms of Reference was finalised and adopted by all the current members from UNICEF, UNESCO, ILO, WB and Global March. The Governments of Japan, Netherlands and Norway were contacted for membership. This has been accepted. Also the membership to the Task Force has been extended and duly accepted by Governments of Brazil, Senegal and Indonesia. Two new proposals have been drawn for the task force work. One is from UNICEF and another from ILO as of now. Two meetings of the task force have taken place. The task

force made the decision to be present at Paris at the UNESCO working group meeting on EFA in July, 06. This meeting is attended by nearly 100 government delegations.

GMIS and ICCLC provided core support to their partners in highlighting the issues related to children missing out of schools and giving visibility to the hard to reach children in the national action plans and strategies of the national Governments. GMIS and ICCLC continued its multi-level advocacy to promote inter-linkages and coherence in policies and action with various stakeholders on the key issues of out of schools children and child labourers in the national context and poverty alleviation.

- **Child Labour integration in World Bank PRSPs**

Proposal for national level plans to be redrawn in the context of 117 countries within the framework of the PRSP's with MDG focus. EFA, elimination child labour is integral to the process. This will be overseen by the office of the UNDG and simultaneously by the global task force on child labour and education now.

65 million out-of-school girls majority of them are understood to be working as domestic workers. The launch of this new programme will first time address the dire needs of these girls to be targeted with specific education and protection strategies and within more specific approaches which are embedded in education sector reforms, social protection mechanisms and poverty reduction strategies. This new initiative has three fold objectives. To support the development in select countries a comprehensive education and protection program that addresses the phenomena of child domestic labour within national education plans and sector reforms. To strengthen partnerships and collaborative mechanisms around an inter-sectoral strategic approach and around leveraging of the needed technical and financial resources for implementation. To develop an effective communication strategy at national and global levels that promotes conducive environment for success. The ultimate goal is the replication of the models developed among larger number of countries on the basis of South/South exchange and collaboration. With the launch of the new initiative in three countries on girl child domestic labour additional funding is made available.

- **E9 Countries and Increasing Budgetary Allocation**

The E9 countries in their meeting in Monterrey, Mexico Feb 2006, committed to endeavour to increase, their national budget allocations, to education in order to move progressively towards the internationally accepted norm of 6 per cent of GDP, with basic education receiving more funds. GMIS and ICCLC have been lobbying very hard with the Education Ministers participating in Monterrey, especially India and Brazil.

With respect to the E9 countries, GMIS and Global March Chairperson have been actively engaged in dialogue with various stakeholders in India and Brazil for greater prominence to the issue of child labour, out-of-school children and increased budgetary allocation for elimination of child labour and education for all.

- **Progress on Catalytic Fund**

Another important progress has been the initial discussion with the Norwegian Government to institute a special catalytic fund to support through the ILO for countries that are facing development financing gaps in addressing the special needs of the hard to reach children to get support. This discussion is in infancy and a lot of details are still to be reached before the Norwegian Government commits itself. This issue has been raised consistently by ICCLC to the community of the donor Governments, which have significant stakes in the success of the Education for All initiative. These Governments include Norway, Holland, Denmark, Sweden and the U.K. The Norwegian Government has been encouraged to be the champion of children missing out of schools to facilitate

bringing other donors on board the subject of asking the Governments in all countries to identify the children missing out of schools and the circumstances in which they are so that we can better understand their needs and design mechanisms to bring them to schools. It is expected that Norwegian Government will invite ICCLC for future talks in this issue. There is correspondence in progress. The key idea is that donors have a stake in understanding why are governments are failing and, by asking this, they add value to their investments.

- **Global Funding for EFA**

Global March partners played an important roles in the GBP 15 Billion commitment by the UK Secretary of Treasury towards EFA. There is a wide consensus that out of the total funds available as of now for EFA to the tune of 3 billion USD, some amount of this will be spent on specific countries, which have special needs for children in most vulnerable communities and with special needs. Secretary of Treasury Gordon Brown made significant and profound interlinkages between elimination of child labour and slavery for the achievement of the education for all goals.

## **10. Global March Restructuring and Membership Drive**

Many organisations have brought and created unprecedented synergy in building Global March as the movement in favour of the most exploited children of the world. This resulted in major accomplishments due to the collective action in making and changing laws, policies practices.

Global March International Council continued to discuss and explore the most appropriate option for registration. International Secretariat followed up with the Dutch consultant in this regard. There have been a series of discussions and meetings at various levels including the management committee and the full International Council on registration of the Global March. Two members of the Management Committee had a face-to-face meeting with the consultants in The Netherlands. There are a few fundamental concerns by the Trade Unions, which need to be addressed.

A membership drive continued. This was widely publicised and put on Global March website. Till the end of reporting period, 165 members have been approved.

## **11. Coordination, Communication and Financial Management**

International Secretariat of the Global March led the coordination and communication within the movement and with the stakeholders outside. The Global March website and CLNS continued to be powerful tools for advocacy and information sharing. [www.globalmarch.org](http://www.globalmarch.org) is one of the leading websites and resource centre on child labour related issues. Global March aims to have one of the best collections of resources on child labour. For this we are working actively to expand our collection, resources and country reports. The consistent revision of the website content and update of partner news and child labour news regularly maintains its high rating on Internet search with over 250,000 hits every months.

Child Labour kNOw More by partner organisation (Save the Childhood Foundation) is a special global resources database documenting the statistics and country-wise information related to child labour, worst forms of child labour, education statistics, and real-life stories at one place. Based on existing surveys and reports, this online database brings to all statistics and data at the touch of a button.

The Child Labour News Service (CLNS) brings out regular bi-monthly editions that are circulated to its subscriber base. It carries stories, articles and news from around the world, with special focus on partners news. There are also special CLNS editions in case of some important news that needs to be

distributed immediately on the specific theme. The Global March website also has a Daily News Section that tries to bring news and information on a daily basis.

The Global March Chairperson was presented in several international events and advocated to build pressure on the governments to act and civil society organisations to fulfil their role as effective social watch-groups.

Various visits from INGOs and NGOs took place to the GMIS during the period to learn more about child labour and the measures to eliminate child labour. Possible collaborations for future activities and work also were discussed in these meetings.

Global March Chairperson was invited to various high level meetings by INGOs, including Amnesty International. Amnesty International for the first time incorporated child labour in their agenda. Amnesty International Japan celebrated the World Day Against Child Labour along with Global March Japan in the presence of Global March Chairperson on 12 June 2006.

OPCION is the Global March Treasurer and the project holder of Global March. OPCION managed the Global March finances and sent reports to the donors.