

Summary Report on the Roundtable Meeting: Strategies to End Child Labour by 2025 (SDG Target 8.7)



ACE (Action against Child Labour) and Child Labor Coalition

13 May, 2016

Tokyo, Japan





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1. Introduction

In September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that aimed to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. Goal 8 concerning decent work contains Target 7, which calls for the end of child labour by 2025.

For this purpose, Action against Child Exploitation (ACE), Japan and the Child Labor Coalition, which is based in the U.S., organised a roundtable meeting in Tokyo. Twenty-nine participants, including 2014 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Kailash Satyarthi, specialists on child labour from overseas, and key Japanese stakeholders, shared knowledge and experiences, and discussed roles and responsibilities to reduce and eliminate child labour.

The roundtable meeting began with an overview of the current child labour situation and explanation of strategies to end child labour globally in Session 1. In Session 2, Mr. Satyarthi proposed effective strategies for the elimination of child labour on the basis of his many years of field experience. The stakeholders then presented the important roles they play in reducing child labour. The roundtable meeting contributed a lively exploration of the causes of child labour and solutions that should help reduce child labour, as we move forward in trying to achieve SDG Target 8.7.

Participants pointed out critical challenges, such as the lack of political will, insufficient funding, and low public awareness of child labour. However, successful cases of reducing child labour were presented by Mr. Satyarthi (child-friendly villages with effective approaches for child protection and community mobilisation) and by ACE (addressing both supply and demand factors of child labour). Effective strategies reported included: conducting projects on the basis of solid research; organising adult workers in trade unions; educating consumers on ethical trade and child labour; and persuading investors to provide funding for child labour issues.

This report includes summaries of these presentations and discussions, which we hope will facilitate further discussions among stakeholders, and spur immediate actions against child labour.

**The Sustainable Development Goals (2016-2030)
adopted at the United Nations General Assembly**

Goal 8: Decent work

Target 7: Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking, and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including the recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 to end child labour in all its forms.

2. Proposal for actions for the elimination of child labour

In light of the SDGs (to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity), the elimination of child labour can be an important key to realising these goals. Child labour is both caused by poverty and perpetuates it. Child labour has negative effects on children's health and education. It is also a manifestation of irresponsible consumption and production. The issue of child labour needs to be understood not as a problem only affecting other people, but one that affects people all of us.

The results of the presentations and discussions at the roundtable meeting, and the questionnaires on roles of stakeholders, messages to leaders and important stakeholders around the world, are summarised below.

◆ Actions to be taken

- ✓ Mainstream child labour issues in education and development programmes.
- ✓ Change the entire eco-system around children so that none of them need engage in work.
- ✓ Develop innovative ways to raise awareness on child labour issues.
- ✓ Raise public awareness of child labour.
- ✓ Attract media attention to child labour.
- ✓ Engage various stakeholders (e.g. governments, politicians, businesses, consumers, civil society, communities, schools, and families).
- ✓ Keep momentum in the effort to eliminate child labour.

◆ Roles to be played and strategies to be taken by key stakeholders

Stakeholder	Roles	Strategies
International organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate international frameworks • Promote international cooperation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Collect information on child labour ✓ Take concrete actions to end child labour through collaboration between the lead agency and others ✓ Conduct activities to increase interests in child labour
Governments and related agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate and implement laws, policies, and projects • Provide financial and technical assistance • Cooperate with other governments in regulating trade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Establish effective systems of enforcing and monitoring laws ✓ Establish a consolidated mechanism to address SDGs and ensure collaboration among ministries and the agencies concerned ✓ Empower families with child labourers ✓ Provide quality education ✓ Incorporate components of reducing child labour in education and poverty eradication projects

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Encourage business sectors to ban child labour in their supply chains ✓ Raise awareness of child labour and the importance of education ✓ Mobilise and collaborate with civil society
Private sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow international labour standards • Abolish the use of children in supply chains • Conduct corporate social responsibility activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Create and implement codes of conduct for the protection of human rights (with special emphasis on children's rights) and monitor how the codes are followed ✓ Employ adults instead of children and provide decent work and living wages ✓ Include human rights issues in CSR activities
Trade unions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiate with governments and employers to end child labour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advance decent work for all, to help end child labour ✓ Serve as effective monitoring systems ✓ Collaborate with NGOs and other stakeholders
Civil society organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement projects to abolish child labour • Advocate to governments, employers, and trade unions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Strengthen activities to disseminate information on child labour ✓ Function as effective monitoring systems for child labour issues ✓ Collaborate with NGOs, trade unions and other stakeholders domestically and internationally
Experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct research on child labour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Collect data, analyse causes of child labour, and make policy recommendations
Consumers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support manufacturers and companies which conduct activities to end child labour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Learn about child labour in the global economy ✓ Question business sector about the use of child labour in their supply chains ✓ Boycott products produced by children
Others	<p><Investors></p> <p><Media></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Include information about the use of children as criteria for making investments ✓ Increase reports on child labour

3. Summary of presentations and discussions

3.1. Session 1: Current situations of child labour and strategies to end child labour

◆ Working Together to End Child Labour

Mr. Frans Röselaers

Board member, Global March Against Child Labour,
former director of the International Labour Organization's
International Programme to Eliminate Child Labour (IPEC)



The Global March Against Child Labour initially contributed a great deal to the elaboration, adoption, and ratification of a new global instrument in the fight against child labour, ILO Convention No. 182 on the worst forms of child labour. In the wake of its adoption in 1999, increased attention was given to other relevant international instruments, including ILO Convention No. 138 (minimum age of work) and the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

From the mid-2000s, the momentum slowed down somewhat. The latest figures show that the incidence of child labour diminished by one third between 2000 and 2012. At that pace, it would take another 25 years to end child labour globally and some feared that the total elimination of child labour was becoming elusive.

There are currently 168 million children who engage in work, out of which 85 million children engage in hazardous work. The Asia Pacific region has the largest number of child labourers (77.7 million), while Africa records the highest incidence of child labour (21.4%). Agriculture employs the largest number of children (98.4 million).

The tide has now turned for the better, and our hopes are set on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted at the UN General Assembly in 2015. For the first time the struggle against child labour, slavery, and trafficking is explicitly listed in Target 8.7 among the new global goals and targets. Also, the time is ripe to step up the actions taken by the Global March Against Child Labour, since the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to the group's honorary president, Kailash Satyarthi, in 2014. We have a unique and historically rare opportunity to reassert our mission and reinvigorate advocacy and concrete actions.

The Global March Against Child Labour is determined to act in the following ways: (1) achieve ratification of ILO Conventions No. 182 and 138 by all countries; (2) investigate and research problems and solutions of child labour; (3) dialogue with governments and employers' associations; (4) continue to build capacity; and (5) partner with other relevant NGOs and trade union federations.

Since Asia has about half of the world's child labourers, Japan can play a pivotal role in the coming years. Its resolve and investment in advocating for an end to child labour will be decisive in assisting children in Asia and the rest of the world and in shaping children's futures as prosperous, productive and self-actualising adults in society.

The Global March Against Child Labour is a worldwide network of trade unions, teachers and civil society organisations that work together towards the shared development goals of eliminating and preventing all forms of child labour, slavery and trafficking, and ensuring access for all children to free, meaningful, and good quality public education. The Global March mobilises and encourages its constituents to contribute to local, national, regional and global efforts, and to offer support for a range of international instruments relating to the protection and promotion of children's rights

◆ National Consumers League and the Child Labor Coalition in the U.S.

Mr. Reid Maki

Coordinator, the Child Labor Coalition



The Child Labor Coalition is one of the programmes of the National Consumers League, America's oldest consumer advocacy group, which has the mission of protecting and promoting social and economic justice for consumers and workers in the United States and abroad, and providing governments, businesses, and other organisations with consumers' perspectives on concerns including child labour and food safety.

The Child Labor Coalition has 38 member organisations. It educates US consumers about the range and scope of child labour, and conducts advocacy to reduce child labour in specific sectors, such as U.S. tobacco, where children are exposed to health hazards like pesticides and nicotine poisoning. The Coalition fought broadly to reduce child labour in US agriculture, and more narrowly to revise pesticide protections under the Worker Protection Standard. Recently, these efforts by the Coalition and other groups culminated in the US government decision to prohibit the application of pesticides by workers under eighteen. After years of pressure from American NGOs, the US Congress also recently closed a giant loophole—the so-called “consumptive-demand” exemption in the Tariff Act of 1930. This makes it possible to bar the importation of goods made from slavery or child slavery.

Through the SDGs, the global community has set an ambitious goal of eradicating child labour by 2025. However, one of the main obstacles to achieving SDG 8.7 is the lack of awareness of the child labour problem among the public. Consumer polling indicated that three out of four Americans believe there are less than one million child labourers in the world, instead of the 168 million that actually exist.

To help close this perception gap, the Child Labor Coalition promotes the new mobile phone application, “Sweat and Toil,” developed by the US Department of Labor. It contains information on child labour used to produce over 130 products in 75 countries. The Coalition reminds consumers about their role in reducing child labour by urging them to avoid purchasing products made with child labour and pressuring companies to clean up their supply chains.

The Coalition will continue its efforts to raise awareness of child labour among consumers and businesses, and advocate for U.S. government funding to ensure adequate resources to help achieve SDG 8.7.

The Child Labor Coalition formed in 1989 in the U.S., and has 38 organisational members. The coalition believes that no child, regardless of race, sex, nationality, religion, economic status, place of residence, or occupation, should be exploited. The Coalition works on child labour, child slavery, and trafficking issues.

◆Activities of ACE and the Situation of Child Labour in Japan

Ms. Yuka Iwatsuki

President, ACE (Action against Child Exploitation)



ACE (Action against Child Exploitation) was established in 1997 and its mission is to protect children's rights and eradicate child labour in the world. ACE's approach is to address both supply and demand factors in the fight against child labour.

On the supply side, focusing on child labour in agriculture, ACE conducts projects in the cocoa industry in Ghana and the cotton industry in India. We have rescued from child labour and succeeded in giving a proper education to 1,520 children, and supported an additional 13,123 children to go to school regularly by improving school environments. These programmes use a community-mobilisation approach that could serve as a valuable model in efforts to achieve SDG 8.7. Through ACE support, nine villages were able to become complete child-labour-free.

On the demand side, ACE tries to mobilise citizens and businesses to its cause. Through its awareness raising activities, it has reached more than 1.61 million people in Japan. We also work with businesses to eradicate child labour in their entire supply chain. For example, our partner Japanese companies produce chocolates using cocoas grown in child-labour free villages in our project area.

ACE also engages in advocacy by networking with various stakeholders. The Stop Child Labour Network, of which we serve as the office, has 21 members, including trade unions and NGOs. It has organised petition campaigns to ask the Japanese government to take action against child labour internationally since 2008. In total, 1.75 million signatures have been gathered and submitted to the Ministries concerned.

A survey on child labour in Japan will be conducted shortly. Many people find it hard to believe it, but child labour does exist in Japan. Some children engage in hazardous work, including sexual exploitation and forced labour. In order to eradicate child labour by 2025, we are determined to strengthen our activities in cooperation with key stakeholders.

ACE (Action against Child Labour) is an international NGO established in 1997 and its vision is to protect children's rights and to create a safe society for all children. Our programmes include child rights protection, advocacy, awareness-raising, and socially responsible business acceleration. We take action for the abolition and prevention of child labour within Japan and in our international project areas in India and Ghana; promote ethical business and consumption by selling fair trading products and original goods; and hold seminars for developing and spreading teaching materials on child labour.

◆ Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation

Ms. Anjali Kochar

Acting Executive Director, Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation



Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation (KSCF) envisions a world where all children are free, safe, healthy, in school, and have the opportunity to realise her/his potential. Our strategy is predicated on the belief that in order to change the life of one child, you must change the entire ecosystem around that child. In order to make this a reality, our work focuses on Policy, Practice and People.

First, through our policy work we conduct research on existing and emerging challenges faced by children, identify policy gaps, and develop policy recommendations. In addition, we build capacities of governments, businesses and civil society. Children need to be prioritised in national and international policy and legislation.

Second, our practice area is focused on restoring the freedom, health and education of children and youth, and scaling proven child-friendly models. We will identify best practices and incubate programmes which work on the ground and can be replicable. For example, Mr. Satyarthi has had great success in expanding his model of "child-friendly villages"—where every child is enrolled in school, there is no child labour, no child marriage, and a children's council is created—this is a model we will scale in India.

Third, we are talking about engaging the public and raising awareness. The Foundation is going to launch a global campaign entitled, "100 Million for 100 Million." The campaign aims to tap the power and compassion of 100 million children and youth by educating them about their rights and encouraging them to take action on behalf of their peers—another 100 million who are denied their rights. It is an effort focused on globalising compassion, creating global citizens, and coming together as global human family.

This year's priority is to support efforts to achieve SDG 8.7 by examining national and international legislation in order to ensure that children are prioritised—looking at closing policy gaps, expanding resources, strengthening humanitarian responses to international crises, and identifying best practices from around the world. We also plan to find collaborative opportunities. We will work with elected officials, and replicate proven models in India, and in years to come will scale these models in other parts of the world. I am excited to move this issue forward and work in partnership, but mostly I am excited to hear from all of you during the second session on ways we can collaborate.

The Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation (KSCF) envisions a world where all children are free, safe, healthy, in school, and have the opportunity to realise her/his potential. Our mission is to end slavery and child labour and ultimately end violence against children. To make this a reality, we will scale Mr. Satyarthi's 35 years of work at both the grassroots and global policy level. His lessons learned guide the Foundation's work to engage children and youth as part of the solution, build greater collaboration between governments, businesses and communities, ensure effective national and international laws, scale know-how and successful practice and create partnerships with key stakeholders.

3.2. Session 2: Roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders to end child labour

3.2.1. Key note speech

Mr. Kailash Satyarthi
Founder, Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation



I congratulate ACE on organising this roundtable meeting with participation of people who have experience, knowledge, and academic strength. ACE and I have a long relationship starting from the Global March Against Child Labour which took place in 1998. Through many visits to Japan I know ACE has been doing excellent work on the reduction of child labour.

I would like to begin with a story of a young boy. His name is Suman. He was a former domestic child slave. His mother worked as a domestic helper. She fell sick and went on leave sometimes. She had to borrow money from the employer for medical treatment. In order to earn enough for their living expenses, she had to have Suman work when he was about ten years old, and at which point he became a slave.

The staff of *Bachpan Bachao Andolan* (Save the Childhood Movement) found him, took actions, and freed Suman. He has obtained a university degree, and became a professional computer designer as well as a yoga teacher. While he teaches yoga at *Bal Ashram*, which rehabilitates children who were freed from slavery and trafficking, he tries to teach these children how to get rid of hatred and the desire for revenge against employers or slave masters. Children there are very angry, and some of them even want to kill employers who badly treated them.

Suman is aware of the SDGs, and remembers a meeting at the United Nations when the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals) were discussed. Children from India and South Africa raised a question:

“Unless you free us from bonded labour, how are you going to achieve EFA (Education for All) and MDGs? If you are not able to free us, how are you going to take us out of poverty, child labour perpetuates poverty, not just poverty but inter-generational poverty, vulnerabilities that lead to disparities, inequalities and all kinds of discriminations in society?”

At that time, very few people raised this question, and only some people offered support to us.

After twenty years of my struggle, which still continues, people think the Nobel Peace Prize has made me a celebrity. But, the Nobel Peace Prize was for the issue of child labour, not for an individual. The Award helps people recognise the suppression of children, as well as gives me more strength in the fight against child labour.

Now, the SDGs include issues of children, such as child labour, slavery, trafficking, violence against children and child marriages. This is a success made by the efforts of relevant organisations and individuals. But there are many more challenges.

First, a big challenge is how to keep the momentum alive. I started from zero in India more than three decades ago. UN agencies did not have child labour on their agenda. But, the UN

Convention on the Rights of the Child was adopted in 1989, and the ILO/IPEC started in the 1990s. There seemed to be gradual changes and paradigm shifts politically and socially in the corporate world and civil society. The Global March Against Child Labour, which was organised by us in 1998, was a peak. That remained for eight to ten years, but interest of media and the public started declining. The ILO/IPEC has struggled to get funding.

Second, how to accelerate collective actions. Individual actions are taken, but they are so fragmented and disoriented. Everybody is happy doing small projects here and there, because they can feel happy and have a sense of accomplishment, write to donors, and bring their achievements to media attention. However, we have 168 million child labourers, 85 million children in the worst forms of labour, 5.5 million children who are enslaved, 59 million children for whom education at school is just a dream. We have to work to accelerate our efforts.

Third, how to advocate for financing for the eradication of child labour and for quality inclusive and equitable education. Education is not the priority in financing, though only 4% of GDP, \$39 billion, are required every year for all children to have a secondary education, and only \$22 billion for primary and lower secondary schools.

Finally, we have to build strong, compelling arguments to prioritise child related SDGs. Children's issues should not be lost in the big jungle of all the goals and targets. Child labour cannot be dealt with in isolation, but only by ensuring education—inclusive, quality and equitable—can trafficking, migration, and violence against children be dealt with. Children should be first.

We have to work together, and see more coordinated and consolidated actions for achieving child related goals. This roundtable meeting is a great start on the road to achieve SDG 8.7. This spark—the wealth of knowledge and experience of all of you—will create ripple effects. We must go back with determined confidence that we will see the end of child labour by 2025.

Kailash Satyarthi is a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Founder of the Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation, and Honorary President of the Global March Against Child Labour. He has been a tireless advocate of children's rights for over three decades. He and the grassroots movement founded by him, *Bachpan Bachao Andolan* (Save the Childhood Movement), have liberated more than 85,000 children from exploitation and developed a successful model for their education and rehabilitation. He is the architect of the single largest civil society network for the most exploited children, the Global March Against Child Labour. It mobilises unions, civil society and most importantly, children, which led to the adoption of the ILO Convention No. 182 on the worst forms of child labour in 1999. He is also the founding president of the Global Campaign for Education, a model of civil society movements which work to end the global education crisis and Good Weave International, which raises consumer awareness in the carpet industry. For this body of work, he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014.

3.2.2. Presentations by stakeholders

EXPERTS

◇Towards Eradication of Child Labour: A Perspective from Fieldwork-based Research in India

Mr. Takashi Kurosaki

Professor, Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University

Professor Kurosaki, from the academic perspective, presented strategies to eliminate child labour on the basis of his field research in India.

Firstly, the current measures to end child labour are not sufficient and poverty reduction is not the only way to eliminate child labour. Economic growth does not trickle down to households immediately. Legal measures may not be enforced. If child labour is simply stopped without continued oversight and education, poor parents may reallocate child labour into more hidden, exploitative work. Simply supplying schools and teachers is not enough to attract and retain children in school. Parents need to understand the long-term negative effects caused by child labour. Providing quality mid-day meals that help improve student health, and improving school quality are both important to achieving full enrolment in schools.

Secondly, lack of access to credit was found to be a major cause of child labour. Credit constraints increased child labour by almost two days per week, controlling for other factors, such as school quality, parental education, caste, and religion (from the data analysis of the fieldwork in cotton production areas in Andhra Pradesh in India). His latest survey found 100 percent school enrolment in several villages. With good access to credit, child labour can be reduced.

Every stakeholder, such as parents, children, schools (administration and teachers), community-based organisations, NGOs, the private sector (including large farms) which hire labourers, the financial sector, and governments, each have their own role to play. It is important for all stakeholders, to collaborate with each other. To do so, incentives should be given to each of these stakeholders.



INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

◇Ms. Akiko Taguchi

Director, ILO Office for Japan

The ILO continues to actively promote the ratification and application of the two conventions on child labour (No. 182 and No. 138). The Organization will officially launch the SDG Alliance 8.7 soon. Its mission is to assist all member States of the United Nations in making measurable advances for achieving target 8.7, serving as a platform to bring actors already involved in the struggle against child labour and forced labour, and incorporate new partners. The ILO plans to hold a series of sub-regional consultations that include ILO tripartite partners (governments, employers and workers), as well as



NGOs, academics, media and civil society this year. The Organisation launched the first World Day Against Child Labour in 2002, and the focus of this year is child labour and supply chains, noting the increasing complexity of supply chains and the risks companies run of ruining their reputations.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

◇ Ms. Yu Sasaki
Communication Specialist, UNICEF Tokyo

UNICEF believes child labour is preventable and is not inevitable. We adopt a holistic multi-sectoral approach which addresses the full range of working children's vulnerabilities and protection challenges. UNICEF is moving away from small-scale, issue-specific projects in favour of a systems approach. The elements of the approach include promoting legal reform, advocacy, education, social protection, violence reduction, and collection of data and research. For example, we work with national governments to strengthen the effective application of national legal frameworks that prohibit child labour in all forms, and help governments develop national education plans to ensure children have access to meaningful educational opportunities.

Lastly, we have been increasingly engaging the business sector in supporting child protection: In 2012, UNICEF and its partners launched the Children's Rights and Business Principles that explore how businesses can respect and support children's rights in the workplace, marketplace and community, when they rely on complex global supply chains and source from areas with significant informal economies.

GOVERNMENT

◇ Mr. Masaaki Nishikawa
Deputy Director, International Affairs Division, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Japan has ratified ILO Conventions No. 138 and No. 182 and submitted reports which detail enforcement efforts. With regard to Convention 138 on the Minimum Age for Work, the employment of children under fifteen is prohibited in Japan by the Labour Standards Act. Enforcement is under the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare, and monitoring is conducted by 47 prefectural labour bureaus with 321 labour standards supervision offices. The number of labour standards inspectors is 3,954. As for Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, the government submitted the latest report in 2015. Enforcement efforts included comprehensive measures to eliminate child prostitution and child pornography. The Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children was amended in 2014, and in the same year cases on child pornography reported were at a record high. The government continues efforts to reduce the number of illegal cases.

GOVERNMENT AGENCY

◇ Mr. Hidetoshi Irigaki
Vice-President, Japan International Cooperation Agency

Child labour is not high on the agenda in Japan's ODA. There are two reasons. Firstly, the child labour issue is sensitive: bilateral agencies are reluctant to get involved in matters related to criminal justice and law enforcement. Secondly, there is a lack of understanding about the causes of child labour, which are often





regarded simply as consequences of poverty and lack of access to education. JICA has not put special focus on child labour, and still needs to develop proper strategies to address the problem. However, we have some experience conducting projects related to child labour. In rural areas in Laos, communities took initiatives in promoting primary education, and in some villages, education committees succeeded in reducing child labour. In Nicaragua, the Project of Integrated Service Delivery for Social Risk Prevention and Attention for Families and Communities included the issue of child labour. In Mekong region, human trafficking is being addressed. With SDG 8.7, it is time for JICA to think of incorporating components of child labour when developing new projects. To do so, capacity building is needed, and the help of participants of this roundtable meeting would be welcomed.

TRADE UNION

◇ Mr. Koji Suzuki

Director, International Division, Department of International Affairs, Japanese Trade Union Confederation (JTUC-RENGO)

Trade unions can play an important role in efforts related to the fight against child labour, as SDG 8.7 work begins in earnest. One of the JTUC-RENGO's seven action areas is "International"—Realising sustainable society through fair globalisation, which includes promoting decent work and development cooperation for poverty reduction. The role of trade unions includes organising workers and building constructive relationships between workers and employers through social dialogue. This would lead to realising decent work for all and ending child labour. RENGU works with NGOs and other organisations to raise awareness, and calls on governments and international financial institutions to effectively implement development policies and projects. We use a combination of two approaches: collective bargaining (confrontation) for fair distribution, and labour-management consultation (cooperation) for improvement in productivity. Where trade unions exist child labour rarely flourishes. So, we will promote organising, networking, and social dialogue.

PRIVATE SECTOR

◇ Mr. Hiroyuki Matsui

Employers' member of ILO Governing Body and Japan Business Federation

Robust social dialogue is needed for the fight against child labour, with all stakeholders talking to one another. It is also important to keep the momentum for these activities, as Mr. Satyarthi mentioned. In order to end child labour, a more consolidated and concerted approach is necessary. Not only child labour issues, but also issues related to child labour need to be united. For example, sanitation is an area to which attention needs to be paid, since many children fetch water from wells and rivers in hazardous situations in various parts of the world. This involves risks of diseases.

The business sector can play a greater role in solving many social issues, such as poverty, through creating jobs and providing goods and services. So, it is critical for the business sector to be engaged in the child labour issue in wider perspectives.



CONSUMER

◇ Ms. Mariko Kawaguchi

Board member, Global Compact Network Japan

Ms. Kawaguchi spoke about the trend of ethical consumption in Japan on the basis of research on corporate social responsibility, ESG (Environment, Society, and Governance) investment and ethical consumption.

In Japan, more and more consumers are concerned about ethical consumption, and child labour is one of their areas of focus, with chocolates as a symbol. On the side of the business sector, more and more Japanese companies are becoming aware of the SDGs. Child labour, however, is not a big issue for them. In order to promote the child labour issue, a good idea is to link the issue with SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production, since they are interested in these issues including environmental consciousness and fair trade. Another recommendation is to make child labour as an indicator of other SDG indicators. Communities without child labour are likely to have fewer problems, for example, poverty and lack of sanitation and education.

CIVIL SOCIETY

◇ Mr. Hideki Wakabayashi

Executive Director, Amnesty International Japan

Steering Committee member, Stop Child Labour Japan

Stop Child Labour Japan is a network of NGOs and trade unions which work to solve the problems of child labour. It has 21 organisations and Amnesty International Japan is one of them. Stop Child Labour Japan conducts signature campaigns and activities for awareness raising, such as using the “Red Card” (which means “No” to child labour with the image of a foul in the sport of football) and social media. It also cooperated with holding events during Mr. Satyarthi’s visit.

There is the increasing intersection of child labour concerns and human rights with the growing number of international initiatives, including the UN Global Compact. It has over 200 large corporate members and set Principle 5 as “Businesses should uphold the effective abolition of child labour.” This has presented opportunities for Amnesty International to engage in child labour issues. Amnesty International has issued a report that iPhones and other electric parts contain cobalt that is often mined by children and launched campaigns against children working in mines. We urge today’s participants to fight together for ending child labour.

CIVIL SOCIETY

◇ Mr. Masaaki Ohashi

Board member, Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC)

For the elimination of child labour, it is very important to involve the political sector. As a person working in the NGO sector for many years, one reflection is that NGOs have lost momentum in working with politicians. We will have to actively engage with politicians and political parties. It is also welcome for influential persons like Mr. Kailash to meet high-ranking politicians and government officials, since the Japanese government gives importance to issues pointed out by other governments.

Appendix 1. Programme of the roundtable meeting

09:30~	<p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Opening remarks by Ms. Yuka Iwatsuki, President, ACE
09:35~	<p>Session 1: Current situations of child labour and strategies to end child labour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Working Together to End Child Labour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Frans Röselaers, Board member, Global March Against Child Labour ◆ National Consumers League and the Child Labour Coalition in the U.S. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Reid Maki, Coordinator, the Child Labor Coalition ◆ Activities of ACE and the Situation of Child Labour in Japan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Yuka Iwatsuki, President, ACE ◆ Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Anjali Kochar, Acting Executive Director, Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation <p>Q & A followed by discussion</p>
10:50~	<p><i>Coffee Break</i></p>
11:00~	<p>Session 2: Roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders to end child labour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Key Note Speech <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Kailash Satyarthi, Founder, Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation ◆ Towards Eradication of Child Labour: A Perspective from Fieldwork-based Research in India <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Takashi Kurosaki, Professor, Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University ◆ Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Ms. Akiko Taguchi, Director, ILO Office for Japan ◇ Ms. Yu Sasaki, Communication Specialist, UNICEF Tokyo ◇ Mr. Masaaki Nishikawa, Deputy Director, International Affairs Division, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare ◇ Mr. Hidetoshi Irigaki, Vice-President, Japan International Cooperation Agency ◇ Mr. Koji Suzuki, Director, International Division, Department of International Affairs, Japanese Trade Union Confederation (JTUC-RENGO) ◇ Mr. Hiroyuki Matsui, Employers' member of ILO Governing Body and Japan Business Federation ◇ Ms. Mariko Kawaguchi, Board member, Global Compact Network Japan ◇ Mr. Hideki Wakabayashi, Executive Director, Amnesty International Japan and Steering Committee member, Stop Child Labour Japan ◇ Mr. Masaaki Ohashi, Board member, Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation <p>Discussion</p>
12:10~	<p><i>Coffee Break</i></p>
12:20~	<p>Closing session (~12:30)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Discussion on the outcomes of the Roundtable ◆ Closing remarks by Mr. Reid Maki

Appendix 2. List of participants

Participants from overseas	
Mr. Kailash Satyarthi	2014 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Founder, Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation Honorary President, Global March Against Child Labour
Mr. Frans Röselaers	Board member, Global March Against Child Labour former director of the International Labour Organization's International Programme to Eliminate Child Labour
Ms. Anjali Kochar	Acting Executive Director, Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation
Mr. Reid Maki	Coordinator, the Child Labour Coalition
Participants from Japan	
Mr. Shinichi Hasegawa	Managing Director, The Japan Association for Advancement of ILO Activities
Ms. Mitsuko Horiuchi	Professor, Bunkyo Gakuin University President, Stop Child Labour Network Japan
Mr. Hidetoshi Irigaki	Vice-President, Japan International Cooperation Agency
Ms. Yuka Iwatsuki	President, ACE (Action against Child Exploitation)
Ms. Mariko Kawaguchi	Board Member, Global Compact Network Japan Chief Researcher, Daiwa Institute of Research
Mr. Takashi Kurosaki	Professor, Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University
Mr. Hiroyuki Matsui	Employers' member of ILO Governing Body Senior Adviser, International Cooperation Bureau, Keidanren, Japan Business Federation
Mr. Masaaki Nishikawa	Deputy Director, International Affairs Division, Minister's Secretariat, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
Mr. Shuichi Nishino	Principal Deputy Director, Global Issues Cooperation Division, International Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan
Mr. Masaaki Ohashi	Board member, Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC)
Ms. Yu Sasaki	Communication Specialist, UNICEF Tokyo
Mr. Koji Suzuki	Director, International Division, Department of International Affairs, Japanese Trade Union Confederation (JTUC-RENGO) Steering Committee member, Stop Child Labour Japan
Ms. Akiko Taguchi	Director, ILO Office for Japan
Mr. Hideki Wakabayashi	Executive Director, Amnesty International Japan Steering Committee member, Stop Child Labour Japan
Observers	
Amnesty International Japan Free The Children Japan ILO Office for Japan The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership Japanese Trade Union Confederation (JTUC-RENGO) Kamonohashi Project Keidanren Japan Business Federation World Vision Japan	