DECLARATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE: LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR

Lima, October 14th 2014

We, the Ministers of Labour of the Nations of Argentina, Bahamas, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Dominican Republic, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on the occasion of the Eighteenth American Regional Meeting of the ILO, held in Lima, Peru, from 13 to 16 October 2014;

i) Recognising the progress made by the Latin America and the Caribbean region in the prevention and eradication of child labour and the protection of work permitted for adolescents, embodied, inter alia, in the wide ratification of the fundamental ILO Conventions No. 138 on the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment and No. 182 on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour;

ii) Valuing the cumulative experience in defining and implementing a set of policies, plans and programmes to deal with the situation of working children and adolescents, in the provision of specific services for them, their families and their communities, and in the promotion of increasing social awareness about the risks and consequences that child and adolescent labour entails for the development of our countries;

iii) Taking into account that, despite the progress made, the region shows a worrying stagnation in the reduction of child labour, especially its worst forms, and that this requires an urgent, coordinated and integrated response within each country, among countries and blocks of countries in the continent in order to achieve the goals set to eliminate the worst forms of child labour by 2016 and all forms of child labour by 2020;

iv) Considering that Goal 8, to “promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all,” which includes an indicator for child labour elimination, particularly its worst forms, has been included in the new Millennium Development Goals for 2030;

v) Considering that in the Brasilia Declaration, adopted in the framework of the III Global Conference on Child Labour (October 2013), the commitment was reiterated to eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016, with particular attention to gender-based approaches, education and social protection policies, among others;

vi) Considering the principles of the South-South cooperation, based on equality among peoples, mutual support, local ownership and solidarity among nations;
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HEREBY AGREE TO:

i) Reaffirm that the persistence of child labour, especially its worst forms, is a factor that exacerbates social inequality, depriving millions of children and adolescents in our region of quality education and training necessary for their own development and the progress of their families, communities and nations, thus reinforcing inequality and social and economic vulnerability.

ii) Reiterate our political will and commitment to step up actions in line with the overall goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016 and the regional goal of the Decent Work Hemispheric Agenda (2006-2015) to eliminate all forms of child labour by 2020. To this end, we will pursue policies to promote decent work based on the rights to economic and social development.

iii) Strengthen intergovernmental cooperation in the region through the creation of a Regional Initiative for a Latin America and Caribbean Free of Child Labour, comprised of high-level representatives of the governments of the region. This initiative has the mandate to accelerate the pace in the prevention and eradication of child labour and its worst forms through institutional coordination within and among sectors and among the various levels of government, taking as examples the good practices developed in Latin America and the Caribbean and seeking that our countries will:

a) Have in place permanent and sustainable mechanisms for coordination of public, private and social actors in the prevention and eradication of child labour and hazardous adolescent labour and the protection of work permitted for adolescents;

b) Strengthen and integrate the groups that are vulnerable to child labour in their policies and programmes to combat poverty, inequality and exclusion, with a particular emphasis on indigenous peoples and communities;

c) Strengthen and incorporate the goal of prevention and eradication of child labour and hazardous adolescent labour and protection of work permitted for adolescents in the policies for employment formalisation;

d) Improve their ability to act locally to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labour;
e) Strengthen the mechanisms for identifying, recording, follow-up, inspection, monitoring and control to ensure compliance with the regulations on the prohibition of child labour and the protection of work permitted for adolescents and guarantee children and adolescents the full exercise of their rights;

f) Increase social awareness of the risks and hazards of child labour, especially its worst forms, for the present and future development of children and adolescents.

g) Develop policies for the qualification and protection of the work permitted for adolescents above the minimum age for admission to employment that will help them to achieve a proper and successful transition from education into work.

iv) Entrust the performance of the functions of the Technical Secretariat of the Regional Initiative to the International Labour Organisation, an institution which has provided ongoing support with the goal of combating child labour and has the expertise and knowledge necessary to accompany this effort by the countries;

v) Call on our development partners at the regional and global levels, to join us in this new challenge to achieve a Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour, by providing technical and financial assistance to enable us to strengthen our capacities and enhance our responses to the problem.

vi) Invite other countries that share our strong commitment to achieving the goals of child labour elimination by 2016 and 2020 to join in this collaborative effort.

Sr. Carlos Tomada
Ministro de Trabajo, Empleo y Seguridad Social
ARGENTINA

Mr. Shane Gibson
Minister of Labour and National Insurance
BAHAMAS
Sr. Daniel Santalla Torrez
Ministro de Trabajo, Empleo y Previsión Social
BOLIVIA

Sr. André Roberto Menegotto
Jefe del Gabinete del Ministro
BRASIL

Sra. Leiva Blanco
Ministra del Trabajo y Previsión Social
CHILE

Sr. Eduardo García
Ministro del Trabajo
COLOMBIA

Sra. Odalys González López
Viceministra del Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad Social
CUBA

Sr. Mauro Andino
Viceministro de Relaciones Laborales
ECUADOR

Sra. Sandra Edíbel Guevara Pérez
Ministra de Trabajo y Previsión Social
EL SALVADOR
Sr. Carlos Contreras
Ministro de Trabajo
GUATEMALA

Sr. Carlos Madero
Secretario de Estado, Secretaría de Trabajo y Seguridad Social
HONDURAS

Sr. Alfonso Gavarrón Prida
Secretario del Trabajo y Previsión Social
MÉXICO

Sr. Luis Ernesto Carles Rudy
Ministro de Trabajo y Desarrollo Laboral
PANAMA

Mr. Charles Ogle
Chief Labour Officer
GUYANA

Karl Wedderburn
Director, Industrial Directions and Allied Services
JAMAICA

Dra. Alba Luz Torías
Ministra del Trabajo
NICARAGUA

Sr. Cirilo Guillermo Sosa Flores
Ministro de Trabajo, Empleo y Seguridad Social
PARAGUAY

Sr. Charles Jean Jacques
Ministro de Asuntos Sociales y Trabajo
HAITI
Sr. Fredy Otárola Peña
Ministro de Trabajo y Promoción del Empleo
PERU

Sr. Andrés Valerán Herrera Gonzales
Director General de Trabajo
REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA

Mr. Michael Miskin
Minister of Labour, Technological Development and Environment
SURINAME

Mr. Errol McLeod
Minister of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

María Cristina Demarco
Inspectora General del Ministerio de Trabajo y Seguridad Social
URUGUAY

Sr. Elío Colmenares Goyo
Viceministro para derechos y Relaciones Laborales, Ministerio del Poder Popular para el Proceso Social de Trabajo.
VENEZUELA

Witness of Honour:
Gay Ryker
Director General
International Labour Organization
ADDENDA À LA SIGNATURE DE LA DÉCLARATION DE CONSTITUTION DE L’INITIATIVE RÉGIONALE

AMÉRIQUE LATINE ET LES CARAÎBES SANS TRAVAIL DES ENFANTS

En foi de conformité avec le contenu de la Déclaration de Lima, le 2015.

À LA SUITE, LES SIGNATURES DES MINISTRES DE TRAVAIL QUI ONT FORMELLEMENT ADHÉRÉ À L’INITIATIVE RÉGIONALE AMÉRIQUE LATINE ET LES CARAÎBES SANS TRAVAIL DES ENFANTS.

M. Victor BENOIT
Ministre des Affaires Sociales et du Travail

HAÏTI
ADDENDUM TO THE SIGNATURE OF THE DECLARATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR

In good faith and in conformity with the content of the Declaration of Lima 2014,

FOLLOWS THE SIGNATURE OF THE MINISTER OF LABOUR WHO HAS FORMALLY ADHERED TO THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR.

[Signature]

Elvin G. Nisbett
Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour,
Carriacou & Petite Martinique Affairs and Local Government

GRENADA
ADDENDUM TO THE SIGNATURE OF THE DECLARATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR

In good faith and in conformity with the content of the Declaration of Lima 2014,

FOLLOWS THE SIGNATURE OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY WHO HAS FORMALLY ADHERED TO THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR.

Saint Lucia, 14th February 2017

[Signature]
Darrel Monrose
Permanent Secretary
Department of Labour
Ministry of Infrastructure, Ports, Energy and Labour

SAINT LUCIA
ADDENDUM TO THE SIGNATURE OF THE DECLARATION OF THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE
CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR

In good faith and in conformity with the content of the Declaration of Lima 2014,

FOLLOWS THE SIGNATURE OF THE PERMANENT SECRETARY WHO HAS
FORMALLY ADHERED TO THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE
CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR.

Barbados, 1 December, 2017

YOLANDE J. HOWARD
PERMANENT SECRETARY
Ministry of Labour, Social Security & Human Resource Development

BARBADOS
ADDENDUM TO THE SIGNATURE OF THE DECLARATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR

In good faith and in conformity with the content of the Declaration of Lima 2014,

FOLLOWS THE SIGNATURE OF THE MINISTER OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, JUSTICE, PUBLIC SAFETY AND LABOUR WHO HAS FORMALLY ADHERED TO THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR.

Antigua and Barbuda, 3rd October 2018

Signature
Steadroy Benjamin
Minister of Legal Affairs, Justice, Public Safety and Labour

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
ADDENDUM TO THE SIGNATURE OF THE DECLARATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR

In good faith and in conformity with the content of the Declaration of Lima 2014,

FOLLOWS THE SIGNATURE OF THE MINISTER OF AFFAIRS, LABOUR, SOCIAL SECURITY AND ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS WHO HAS FORMALLY ADHERED TO THE REGIONAL INITIATIVE LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FREE OF CHILD LABOUR.

Saint Kitts and Nevis, ___ October 2013

Vance Amory
Premier of Nevis, Senior Minister and
Minister of Nevis Affairs, Labour, Social Security and Ecclesiastical Affairs
Ministry of Nevis Affairs, Labour, Social Security and Ecclesiastical Affairs
Bath Hotel, Charlestown, Nevis

SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS