

**Committee:** United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

**Topic:** Combating Child labour And Promoting Fair Opportunities For Youth.

**Country:** Australia

Around the world, millions of children are being exploited through child labour. According to the International Labour Organization, one in ten children globally is engaged in unsafe work that deprives them of their childhood and their dignity. Work strips them of education and basic human rights. They are often trapped by poverty, trying to meet the immediate needs of their families and working in extreme conditions, with toxic materials or dangerous machinery. The worst forms include slavery, trafficking and exploitation. This work puts children at risk of death, serious injury or disease. It's a tough cycle to break, but it is possible and that's why the Australian Government has been on the forefront protecting the rights of children, including through providing the best start in life through a quality education and ensuring they have a safe environment to explore a lot of opportunity. The key aspect in this committee is combating child labour and appropriate measure that must be taken to ensure safety their future and avoid the same mistakes of the past. With nearly 138 million children engaged in child labour in 2024, including around 54 million in hazardous work likely to jeopardize their health, safety, or development, according to new estimates released on June 11, 2025, by the ILO and UNICEF. We believe open dialog and foreign interventions are needed to understand where we have fallen short of eradicating child labour.

The Australian Government considers national and international interventions important and supports immediate actions when fundamental human rights are violated. Australia is committed to protecting children from child labour. In 2023, Australia agreed to international rules that set a minimum age for working, so children can stay safe and continue their education, while they are not working. Alongside this, they also agreed the ILO International Labour Organization in 2019 against harassment, and harmful work conditions including for children, young people and youth.

Australia works with international organizations and regional partners to improve education systems, reduce poverty, and create better living conditions for children in vulnerable regions. Expanding access to quality education, enforcing strict laws against child labour and helping international cooperations against child labour are crucial and key steps toward ending child labour. Australia supports programs that help children grow up safely and build a fair future. By collaborating with the United Nations, ILO, UNICEF, and neighboring countries in the Asia-Pacific region, Australia tries to strengthen longlasting solutions to break the cycle of child labour and make sure all children have the chance to learn and grow safely.

