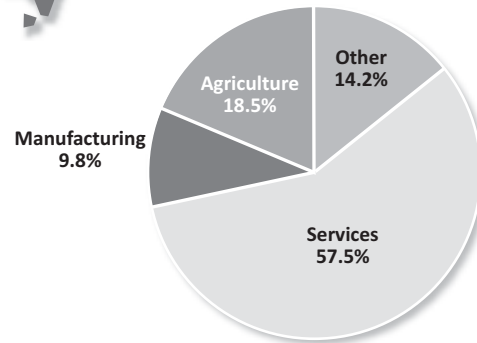


Dominican Republic

The Dominican Republic's new Constitution bolsters protections against slavery, servitude and human trafficking. However, the worst forms of child labor in agriculture and the commercial sexual exploitation of children continue to exist. Undocumented children of Haitian descent are commonly found in the worst forms of child labor. Gaps in enforcement of child labor laws and insufficient social protection programs hinder efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.

Statistics on Working Children and School Attendance

Children	Age	Percent
Working	10-14 yrs.	5.8
Attending School	5-14 yrs.	96.3
Combining Work and School	10-14 yrs.	5.4



Prevalence and Sectoral Distribution of the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Children in the Dominican Republic are engaged in the worst forms of child labor¹⁷³⁷ in agriculture and commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁷³⁸ In rural areas, children work in agriculture in the production of coffee, rice, sugarcane, and tomatoes, and may be exposed to pesticides, sharp tools, dangerous machinery, heavy loads, and long working hours.¹⁷³⁹ Reportedly, children are subjected to the worst forms of child labor in the production of garlic and potatoes.¹⁷⁴⁰ Haitian children work in sugarcane plantations collecting cut cane or clearing land and risk injury from carrying heavy loads and using machetes and other dangerous tools as well as from the plants themselves.¹⁷⁴¹ Many Haitians and Dominican-born Haitians, including children, live in villages known as *bateyes* that have traditionally housed sugarcane workers and lack adequate housing, medical and other basic services.¹⁷⁴²

Haitian migration to the Dominican Republic is a long-standing phenomenon, and the January

2010 earthquake in Haiti prompted increased migration of Haitians, including children, to the Dominican Republic.¹⁷⁴³ Approximately 1 million undocumented immigrants live in the country and an estimated 13 percent of all children younger than age 15 in the Dominican Republic have no birth documents.¹⁷⁴⁴ Haitians or Dominicans of Haitian descent who lack legal documentation are especially vulnerable to exploitative or forced labor.¹⁷⁴⁵ Children also work as domestic servants in third-party homes. Approximately 3,000 Haitian child domestic workers are reported to be working in the Dominican Republic.¹⁷⁴⁶ Children, particularly Haitian children, are sometimes “adopted” by families who register them as their own in exchange for payment to the birthparents. These families then exploit the adopted children as domestic workers.¹⁷⁴⁷ Some child domestic workers are trapped in forced labor or indentured servitude, working long hours and sometimes exposed to physical or sexual abuse.¹⁷⁴⁸

Children in urban areas work in the streets vending, shining shoes and washing car windows. They are vulnerable to many dangers, including

severe weather, vehicle accidents, drug trafficking, and other criminal elements.¹⁷⁴⁹ Children engage in construction, which may entail carrying heavy loads and using dangerous tools.¹⁷⁵⁰ Children are reportedly subjected to the worst forms of child labor while mining for larimar, a blue rock often used for jewelry.¹⁷⁵¹

The commercial sexual exploitation of children occurs in tourist locations and major urban areas.¹⁷⁵² Intermediaries often recruit children they know into commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁷⁵³ The Dominican Republic is a source and destination country for trafficking of children, including for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁷⁵⁴ Children are also trafficked internally, including from rural to tourist areas.¹⁷⁵⁵ Some Haitian children who are trafficked to the Dominican Republic work in domestic service, sex tourism, and agriculture.¹⁷⁵⁶

Laws and Regulations on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The legal minimum age for employment in the Dominican Republic is 14.¹⁷⁵⁷

Minors younger than age 18 are prohibited from dangerous work, such as work involving hazardous substances, heavy or dangerous machinery and heavy loads. Minors are also prohibited from selling alcohol, certain work at hotels, handling cadavers and various tasks involved in the production of sugarcane.¹⁷⁵⁸ The law makes exceptions for children older than age 16 in apprenticeships and job training.¹⁷⁵⁹ Special authorization is needed for minors to work in itinerant sales.¹⁷⁶⁰ Minors ages 14 to 16 are prohibited from working as messengers and delivering merchandise.¹⁷⁶¹ Children younger than age 16 cannot work at night or more than six consecutive hours.¹⁷⁶² However, the night work provision does not cover children ages 16 to 17. The law guarantees free primary education, and the compulsory school age is 14.¹⁷⁶³ However, in practice, associated school costs and a lack of identity documents prevent some children from attending.¹⁷⁶⁴

	C138, Minimum Age	✓
	C182, Worst Forms of Child Labor	✓
	CRC	✓
	CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict	No
	CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography	✓
	Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons	✓
	Minimum Age for Work	14
	Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	18
	Compulsory Education Age	14
	Free Public Education	Yes

Forced labor is prohibited by law.¹⁷⁶⁵ The new Dominican Constitution, which went into effect on January 26, 2010, contains a specific prohibition on all forms of “slavery, servitude and human trafficking” and reaffirms the government’s responsibility to protect minors from exploitation.¹⁷⁶⁶

The previous constitution conferred Dominican nationality on all those born in the country except those born to a foreign diplomat or to foreign parents who were “in transit.” The 2004 Migration Law defines a person “in transit” as one who is not a legal resident.¹⁷⁶⁷ The new Constitution explicitly excludes from citizenship those born to foreign parents who are “in transit” or in the country illegally.¹⁷⁶⁸ As a result, many Dominican-born individuals whose Haitian parents and grandparents have lived and worked in the country for decades, particularly in the sugarcane industry, are not considered eligible for citizenship because their parents are categorized as “in transit.” They are excluded from enrolling in school past grade 8, which increases their vulnerability to labor exploitation.¹⁷⁶⁹

The Law Against Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling prohibits all forms of human trafficking.¹⁷⁷⁰ The Protection of the Fundamental Rights of Children and Adolescents Law prohibits compensation for the transfer of a child to someone else for the purposes of forced labor, commercial sexual exploitation, including prostitution and pornography, or other degrading activities.¹⁷⁷¹ The Technology Crime Law criminalizes the production, distribution or possession of child pornography.¹⁷⁷² The Law on Drugs and Controlled Substance specifically prohibits the employment of minors in illicit drug trafficking.¹⁷⁷³

Institutional Mechanisms for Coordination and Enforcement

The Ministry of Labor (SET) leads government efforts to eliminate child labor and established the National Steering Committee to Eradicate Child Labor (NSC) in 1997 to coordinate all child labor initiatives in the country.¹⁷⁷⁴ SET, through its child labor unit, established 37 local and municipal committees around the country to develop strategies to combat child labor.¹⁷⁷⁵ In coordination with the National Council for Children and Adolescents (CONANI), SET is responsible for protecting minors against labor exploitation.¹⁷⁷⁶ SET and CONANI also lead the Inter-Institutional Commission against Child Abuse and Commercial Sexual Exploitation, which coordinated five national trainings with ILO during 2010 on a regional database of child labor and commercial sexual exploitation statistics.¹⁷⁷⁷

SET employs 199 labor inspectors who receive training to detect child labor.¹⁷⁷⁸ The Government reported that over 70,000 labor inspections were conducted in 2010, although the Government does not classify whether investigations focused on child labor or were work-based inspections.¹⁷⁷⁹ However, only three child labor infractions were found. The Government of the Dominican Republic does not make available information on sectors in which inspections are conducted or resulting sanctions imposed for violations.¹⁷⁸⁰ SET

and the Secretariat of State for Education created an action plan that requires labor inspectors to report children not attending school.¹⁷⁸¹

The national judiciary has 33 district attorneys who are tasked with cases involving the worst forms of child labor.¹⁷⁸² However, the number of convictions and prosecutions related to exploitative labor is not published.¹⁷⁸³ The Attorney General's Office trains its investigators in child labor issues and is responsible for prosecuting crimes involving children.¹⁷⁸⁴ The National Police receive training to address child labor and commercial sexual exploitation.¹⁷⁸⁵

The Government reports that forced labor currently does not exist in the country and therefore takes no measures to prevent or combat it.¹⁷⁸⁶ The Government provides anti-trafficking training to officials, including those posted overseas, on how to recognize and assist Dominican nationals who are trafficking victims abroad.¹⁷⁸⁷ The Government follows a zero tolerance policy for public officials who are complicit in trafficking activities, and several officials have been dismissed from their positions since 2007.¹⁷⁸⁸ The Government reports investigations and prosecutions conducted under the Law Against Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling. However, the statistics are not disaggregated, which prevents an understanding of the extent of trafficking versus smuggling.¹⁷⁸⁹ In 2010, the Directorate of Migration found 10 violations of the worst forms of child labor and investigated ten criminal cases of child trafficking.¹⁷⁹⁰ However, no convictions were reached.

Government Policies on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

CONANI is the primary entity responsible for creating policies to protect children from labor exploitation.¹⁷⁹¹ The Government has a National Plan to Eradicate the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2006–2016) and an Action Plan for the Eradication of Abuse and Commercial Sexual

Exploitation of Boys, Girls, and Adolescents (2009–2014).¹⁷⁹² The Government also has a Program to Reinforce the Protection of Street Children (2007–2012) to reduce risks contributing to children living and working in the streets.¹⁷⁹³ These plans include strategic measures for reducing poverty.¹⁷⁹⁴ An ILO evaluation suggested that additional personnel are needed to implement these national strategies.¹⁷⁹⁵

The National Program for Decent Work (2008–2011) supports efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.¹⁷⁹⁶ The Government has collaborated with ILO-IPEC to create a Roadmap towards the Elimination of Child Labor in the Dominican Republic to eliminate the worst forms of child labor by 2015 and all other types of child labor by 2020.¹⁷⁹⁷ ILO-IPEC estimates that the Dominican Republic is not currently reducing child labor fast enough to meet these goals.¹⁷⁹⁸

The Government's 10-year Education Plan and 5-year Strategic Plan are coordinated and executed by the Ministry of Education and include child labor provisions. These plans have identified challenges, including inadequate classroom space, insufficient classroom time and the special educational needs of over-age children.¹⁷⁹⁹ A short school day prompts some parents to take their children to work rather than leave them unattended.¹⁸⁰⁰ Deficiencies in the national education system have been identified as contributing to children's engagement in the worst forms of child labor.¹⁸⁰¹ UNESCO reports that the percentage of children completing primary school has been declining and that the country will not likely meet the Education for All goal of universal primary enrollment by 2015.¹⁸⁰²

Both the National Development Plan for the UN Millennium Development Goals and the National Anti-Poverty Plan include child labor provisions.¹⁸⁰³ The National Plan on Gender Equality (2006-2016) promotes child care for working mothers.¹⁸⁰⁴

Many Dominican-born children from parents of Haitian descent lack citizenship or legal identity documents, precluding their access to education beyond the grade 8 as well as other basic services.¹⁸⁰⁵ This situation makes them more vulnerable to labor exploitation and trafficking.¹⁸⁰⁶ Since the 2010 earthquake, the Dominican Republic and Haiti have worked together under a protocol to protect children from traffickers.¹⁸⁰⁷ Under this protocol, the Haitian Ambassador in the Dominican Republic became solely responsible for granting permission for a child to leave Haiti, and approximately 800 Haitian children who were relocated to the Dominican Republic as a result of the earthquake have been provided shelter, psychological counseling, food and medicine.¹⁸⁰⁸

Social Programs to Eliminate or Prevent the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government has expanded access to basic education through its Solidarity (*Solidaridad*) program, coordinated by the Office of the President. This includes a conditional cash transfer program that assists the families of poor children ages 4 to 21, an age range that was expanded in January 2011 to include more families.¹⁸⁰⁹ Through the provision of funds for school supplies and food, the program aims to increase the number of students who attend school and reduce child labor by requiring that child beneficiaries attend school regularly and that parents protect their children from the worst forms of child labor.¹⁸¹⁰ In 2010, the Solidarity program provided assistance to approximately 589,000 families.¹⁸¹¹ The country's Agricultural Bank continues to include a clause in its loan agreements that prohibits borrowers from using child labor and requires them to send children to school.¹⁸¹²

The Government participated in a USDOL-funded, 4-year \$4 million project that closed in February 2011 and withdrew and prevented 13,109 children from exploitative labor through the provision of basic and vocational education.¹⁸¹³ The project developed an innovative educational

model called Spaces for Growth (*Espacios para Crecer*, EpC), which prevents children from working by keeping them after school in a creative learning environment.¹⁸¹⁴ The Government committed to expanding the EpC model. However, the Government has not yet allocated resources needed to scale-up and sustain the program.¹⁸¹⁵

The Government participates in a 4-year, \$8.4 million regional project funded by the Government of Spain to eradicate child labor in Latin America.¹⁸¹⁶

Additionally, SET participates in the Youth Development (*Desarrollo Juvenil*) and Youth and Employment (*Juventud y Empleo*) projects supported by World Bank.¹⁸¹⁷ These projects work to improve the employability of disadvantaged,

at-risk youth through training and apprenticeship opportunities that promote entrepreneurial and job-related skills.¹⁸¹⁸

The Office of the First Lady coordinates the Making Progress program (*Programa Progresando*), which raises awareness on trafficking and offers opportunities for income generation to the parents of children at risk for commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking.¹⁸¹⁹ The campaign also encourages parents to keep children in school and out of hazardous work.¹⁸²⁰ Despite these efforts, current programs do not appear to be sufficient to address the extent of the worst forms of child labor in the Dominican Republic, particularly in the commercial sexual exploitation of children, including child sex tourism.

Based on the reporting above, the following actions would advance the reduction of the worst forms of child labor in Dominican Republic:

IN THE AREA OF LAWS AND REGULATIONS:

- Increase the minimum age for night work to 18.

IN THE AREA OF COORDINATION AND ENFORCEMENT:

- Publish statistics on child labor inspections, segregated by sector, and related prosecutions, convictions and penalties.
- Prosecute offenders of the worst forms of child labor, including child trafficking.

IN THE AREA OF POLICIES:

- Consider allocating additional personnel to support national and sectoral plans to combat the worst forms of child labor.
- Add classroom space and increase the amount of time that students are in school, so that parents need not take children to work.
- Take additional steps needed to reverse the decline in the percentage of students completing primary education.
- Pursue a national birth registration campaign that enables all children to obtain legal birth certificates and attend school.
- Take measures to protect all children without birth certificates from exploitation.

IN THE AREA OF PROGRAMS:

- Further expand the Solidarity Program to reach more impoverished families who rely on child labor.
- Extend programs to eliminate child labor, such as the EpC program, to more sectors and additional regions, including to tourist regions where commercial sexual exploitation is prevalent.
- Increase awareness raising and other strategies to reduce the demand for child sex tourism.

¹⁷³⁷ Data provided in the chart at the beginning of this country report are based on UCW analysis of ILO SIMPOC, UNICEF MICS, and World Bank surveys, *Child Economic Activity, School Attendance, and Combined Working and Studying Rates, 2005-2011*. The last National Child Labor Survey that was conducted in 2000 reports that approximately 436,000 children ages of 5 to 17 years were working in 2000. See Government of the Dominican Republic and SIMPOC, *Report on the Results of the National Child Labour Survey in the Dominican Republic, 2004*; available from http://white.oit.org.pe/ipec/documentos/rd_nati.pdf. Data provided in the chart to the left is from 2005. An estimated 5.8 percent of children ages 10 to 14 are working in the Dominican Republic and 96.3 percent of children ages 5 to 14 attend school. This estimate of economically active children does not capture children under 10 who work. Qualitative evidence suggests their numbers are substantial. Reliable data on the worst forms of child labor are especially difficult to collect given the often hidden or illegal nature of the worst forms. As a result, statistics on children's work are reported in this chart, which may or may not include the worst forms of child labor. For more information on sources used, the definition of working children, and other indicators used in this report, please see the "Children's Work and Education Statistics: Sources and Definitions" section.

¹⁷³⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Dominican Republic," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2010*, Washington, DC, April 8, 2011, section 7d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2010/wha/154503.htm>.

¹⁷³⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Síntesis: Diagnóstico de situación del trabajo infantil y sus peores formas en República Dominicana, 2008*, 11. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, February 19, 2010*. See also ILO, *Trabajo Infantil en la Agricultura: Reflexiones sobre las legislaciones de América Central y República Dominicana, 2007*, 17. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic," section 7d. See also CSCC - Responsible Sourcing Solutions, *Dominican Sugar: A Macro View of Today's Industry, 2009*, 12; available from <http://www.thecoca-colacompany.com/citizenship/pdf/DominicanSugarIndustry-AMacroLevelReport.pdf>. See also U.S. Embassy - Santo Domingo, *reporting, June 4, 2008*.

¹⁷⁴⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic," section 7d. See also U.S. Embassy - Santo Domingo, *reporting, June 4, 2008*. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, February 19, 2010*.

¹⁷⁴¹ U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, June 4, 2008*. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Observation, Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Dominican Republic (ratification: 1999) Published 2009*, [online] 2009 [cited May

3, 2011]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/cgi-lex/pdconv.pl?host=status01&textbase=iloeng&document=11005&chapter=6&query=%28Dominican+Republic%29+%40ref+%2B+%23YEAR%3E2008&highlight=&querytype=bool&context=0>.

¹⁷⁴² IOM, *Americas: Assistance for Children Victims of Human Trafficking in Haiti*, [online] December 4, 2006 [cited May 10, 2011]; available from <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/featureArticleAM/cache/offonce?entryId=12185>. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, February 19, 2010, ibid.*. See also Joe Johns, *CNN Anderson Cooper 360 Degrees: Invisible Chains: Sex, Work and Slavery [transcript]*, [February 16, 2007]; available from <http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0702/16/acd.02.html>. See also Amnesty International, *Dominican Republic: A Life in Transit- The Plight of Haitian Migrants and Dominicans of Haitian Descent, 2007*; available from <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/AMR27/001/2007>. See also Batey Relief Alliance, *The New Situation inside those Bateyes*, [online] [cited November 8, 2010]; available from <http://www.bateyrelief.org/work/>.

¹⁷⁴³ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Written communication 2010*, Submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (February 24, 2010) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, D.C., April 8, 2010, 17. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, February 26, 2010*. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic," sections 2 and 6.

¹⁷⁴⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic," sections 2 and 5.

¹⁷⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, section 2.

¹⁷⁴⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Haiti," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2010*, Washington, DC, June 14, 2010; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2010/index.htm>.

¹⁷⁴⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic," section 7d. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in the Dominican Republic- Phase II (2006-2009)*, Project Document, Geneva, August 2006, 2-3.

¹⁷⁴⁸ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Plan Estratégico Nacional para la erradicación de las peores formas de trabajo infantil en República Dominicana 2006-2016*, ILO, Santo Domingo, August 2006, 28; available from http://www.dol.gov/ilab/programs/ocft/FR20100224/DominicanRepublic/GovPrograms/DR_NationalStrategy_ChildLabor.pdf. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic." See also ILO-IPEC, *Síntesis: Diagnóstico de situación del trabajo infantil y sus peores formas en República Dominicana, 11*.

¹⁷⁴⁹ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Plan Estratégico Nacional para la erradicación de las peores formas de trabajo infantil*, 28. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Programme - Phase II, Project Document*, 2. See also DevTech Systems Inc., *Combating Exploitive Child Labor through Education II/Dominican Republic*, Project Document, June 2009, 5-6. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Dominican Republic (ratification: 2000) Submitted: 2009*, [online] [cited March 15, 2011]; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/newcountryframeE.htm>.

¹⁷⁵⁰ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Plan Estratégico Nacional para la erradicación de las peores formas de trabajo infantil*, 28. See also ILO-IPEC, *Síntesis: Diagnóstico de situación del trabajo infantil y sus peores formas en República Dominicana*, 11-12.

¹⁷⁵¹ U.S. Embassy - Santo Domingo, *reporting, June 4, 2008*. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, February 19, 2010*.

¹⁷⁵² U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic,” section 5. See also ILO-IPEC, *Síntesis: Diagnóstico de situación del trabajo infantil y sus peores formas en República Dominicana*, 11-12. See also U.S. Department of State, “Trafficking in Persons Report- 2010: Dominican Republic.”

¹⁷⁵³ ILO-IPEC, *Síntesis: Diagnóstico de situación del trabajo infantil y sus peores formas en República Dominicana*, 11.

¹⁷⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic,” section 6. See also IOM, *Americas: Assistance for Children Victims*. See also U.S. Department of State, “Trafficking in Persons Report- 2010: Dominican Republic.”

¹⁷⁵⁵ ILO-IPEC, *Síntesis: Diagnóstico de situación del trabajo infantil y sus peores formas en República Dominicana*, 11-12. See also U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic,” section 6.

¹⁷⁵⁶ UNICEF, *At a Glance: Haiti: Background*, [online] [cited August 24, 2010]; available from <http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/haiti.html>. See also U.S. Department of State, “Trafficking in Persons Report- 2010: Haiti.” See also U.S. Department of State, “Trafficking in Persons Report- 2010: Dominican Republic.” See also ILO-IPEC, *Síntesis: Diagnóstico de situación del trabajo infantil y sus peores formas en República Dominicana*, 11-12.

¹⁷⁵⁷ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código de Trabajo de la República Dominicana 1992*, article 245; available from http://www.cinterfor.org.uy/public/spanish/region/ampro/cinterfor/temas/youth/eventos/rep_dom/ii/v/index.htm. See also Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para el Sistema de Protección y los Derechos Fundamentales de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, (August 2007), article 40; available from <http://www.oas.org/dil/>

<http://www.oas.org/dil/esp/LEY%20136-03%20-%20Codigo%20para%20el%20Sistema%20de%20Protecci%C3%B3n%20y%20los%20Derechos%20Fundamentales%20de%20Ni%C3%B1os%20Ni%C3%B1as%20y%20Adolescentes%20Republica%20Dominicana.pdf>.

¹⁷⁵⁸ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Resolución Sobre Trabajos Peligrosos e Insalubres para Personas Menores de 18 Años*, (August 13, 2004); available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/SERIAL/69773/68796/F452892919/DOM69773.pdf>.

¹⁷⁵⁹ Ibid.

¹⁷⁶⁰ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código de Trabajo 1992*, article 249.

¹⁷⁶¹ Ibid., article 252.

¹⁷⁶² Ibid., article 247.

¹⁷⁶³ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para el Sistema de Protección y los Derechos Fundamentales de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, articles 45 and 46.

¹⁷⁶⁴ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic,” section 2. See also Katherine Southwick and M. Lynch, *Nationality Rights for All: A Progress Report and Global Survey on Statelessness*, Refugees International, March 2009, 33; available from http://www.refugeesinternational.org/sites/default/files/RI%20Stateless%20Report_FINAL_031109.pdf. See also Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice & Human Rights, *RFK Human Rights Laureate Sonia Pierre Meets U.S. Officials to Discuss Dominicans of Haitian Descent*, [2010 [cited August 25, 2010]; available from <http://www.rfkcenter.org/node/535>. See also Amnesty International, *Dominican Republic: A Life in Transit- The Plight of Haitian Migrants and Dominicans of Haitian Descent*.

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¹⁷⁶⁶ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Constitución Política de la República Dominicana*, (July 20, 2002), articles 41, 46; available from <http://pdba.georgetown.edu/Constitutions/DomRep/vigente.html>.

¹⁷⁶⁷ Ibid., article 11. See also *Ley sobre Migración*, Ley No. 285-04, (August 15, 2004); available from <http://www.acnur.org/biblioteca/pdf/4414.pdf>. See also Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice & Human Rights, *RFK Human Rights Laureate Sonia Pierre Meets U.S. Officials to Discuss Dominicans of Haitian Descent*. See also U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic,” section 2.

¹⁷⁶⁸ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Constitución de la República Dominicana, proclamada el 26 de enero 2010* Publicada en la Gaceta Oficial No. 10561, del 26 de enero de 2010, (January 26, 2010), article 18.

¹⁷⁶⁹ U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2010:

Dominican Republic,” section 2. See also Katherine Southwick and M. Lynch, *Nationality Rights for All*, 33. See also Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice & Human Rights, *RFK Human Rights Laureate Sonia Pierre Meets U.S. Officials to Discuss Dominicans of Haitian Descent*. See also Amnesty International, *Dominican Republic: A Life in Transit- The Plight of Haitian Migrants and Dominicans of Haitian Descent*.

¹⁷⁷⁰ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Ley contra el Tráfico Ilicito de Migrantes y Trata de Personas*, (August 2003). See also Government of the Dominican Republic, *Written communication 2010*, 8.

¹⁷⁷¹ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para el Sistema de Protección y los Derechos Fundamentales de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, articles 25 and 409. See also Government of the Dominican Republic, *Written communication 2010*, 8.

¹⁷⁷² Government of the Dominican Republic, *Ley contra Crímenes y Delitos de Alta Tecnología*, (April 23, 2007), article 24; available from <http://www.dgii.gov.do/legislacion/LeyesTributarias/Documents/Ley53-07.pdf>. See also Government of the Dominican Republic, *Written communication 2010*, 8.

¹⁷⁷³ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Law on Drugs and Controlled Substances in the Dominican Republic*, (May 30, 1988); available from http://www.oas.org/juridico/mla/en/dom/en_dom_50_88.html.

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¹⁷⁷⁵ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Written communication 2011*, 7. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Programme - Phase II, Project Document*, 47. See also ILO-IPEC, *Supporting the Timebound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in the Dominican Republic- Phase II (2006-2009)*, Final Technical Progress Report, Geneva, March 2010, 8-9.

¹⁷⁷⁶ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Código para el Sistema de Protección y los Derechos Fundamentales de los Niños, Niñas, y Adolescentes*, articles 34 and 40.

¹⁷⁷⁷ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Written communication 2011*, 5.

¹⁷⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, 7. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, February 19, 2010*. See also U.S. Department of State, “Country Reports- 2010: Dominican Republic,” section 7d. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo official,

E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 29, 2010.

¹⁷⁷⁹ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Written communication 2011*, 9. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, January 31, 2011*.

¹⁷⁸⁰ Government of the Dominican Republic, *Written communication 2011*, 10. See also U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, January 31, 2011*.

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¹⁷⁸² U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, February 13, 2009*.

¹⁷⁸³ U.S. Embassy- Santo Domingo, *reporting, February 19, 2010*. See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Direct Request, Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Dominican Republic (ratification: 2000) Submitted: 2009*.

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¹⁷⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, 3.

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¹⁷⁸⁹ *Ibid.*, TIP Annex 8-11. See also U.S. Department of State, “Trafficking in Persons Report- 2010: Dominican Republic.”

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