

#### **International Labour Office**

International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)

## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SURVEY OF TRAFFICKED CHILDREN IN THE TIN MINES IN JOS AREA, PLATEAU STATE, NIGERIA

November, 2004

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The ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) is dedicated to the progressive elimination of child labour worldwide, emphasizing, as a matter of urgency, the eradication of its worst forms. IPEC works to achieve this through country-based programmes which implement concrete measures to end child labour; and through international and national advocacy and awareness-raising aimed at changing social attitudes and promoting ratification and effective implementation of ILO conventions relating to child labour.

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## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SURVEY OF TRAFFICKED CHILDREN IN THE TIN MINES IN JOS AREA, PLATEAU STATE, NIGERIA

 $\mathbf{BY}$ 

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November, 2004

Sub-regional Project on Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)

#### **FOREWORD**

The Occupational Health and Safety Survey of Trafficked Children in the tin mines in Jos Area, Plateau State of Nigeria is one of the researches supported by International Labour Organisation-International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour under the sub-regional Project on Combating Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA).

Nigeria is a major source, destination and transit country for child trafficking in the West African sub-regional. It is estimated<sup>1</sup> that fifteen (15) million children are engaged in child labour in Nigeria with 40% of them at the risk of being trafficked both internally and externally for various purposes including domestic labour, prostitution, pornography armed conflict, farm work and even ritual killings.

Given the above scenario, the need to investigate the root causes and trafficking trends in the country cannot be over emphasised. This survey which was conducted by an experienced child care professional is by no means extensive and has obvious limitations. However, it has in many respects provided valuable information and insights to the pattern/trends as well as the purposes for which children are trafficked in this area of Nigeria.

The findings of the survey has no doubt contributed to the knowledge base on this contemporary subject and will prove useful to different categories of development workers and other professionals in the guest to initiate intervention policies, programmes and activities aimed at combating and eliminating child trafficking in Nigeria and the West African Sub-region.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> FOS/ILO Modular Child Labour Survey (2002).

#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

FOREWORD	İV
TABLE OF CONTENTS	V
1. Background	1
2. The Problems / Current situation	2
3. Purpose of the Study	4
4. Methodology of the Survey	4
5. Survey Findings	5
6. Problems Encountered	9
7. Data Analysis and Summary	9
8. Conclusion	17
9. Recommendations	18
10. Annexes	29
11. References	34

#### 1. BACKGROUND

Institutional and enforcement mechanisms for the control of exploitative child labour and protection of minors at work had long been laid down in Nigeria through enactment of the Labour and other laws in the forties and fifties. The Labour Code Ordinance, 1945 (now the Labour Act 1990, Cap.198, LFN) prohibits, among others the employment of young persons of below 15/16 years in trades which are dangerous, immoral or injurious to their health. The Factories Ordinance 1955 (now the Factories Act, 1990, Cap. 126, LFN) and the Trade Union Act 1990, Cap. 437, LFN also prohibit employment of young persons, especially, in dangerous trades. The Nigerian Government has ratified the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child, which provides for special protection measures for the child. The Government has also ratified the ILO Convention 182 (Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour) and Convention 138 (Minimum Age). The law on human trafficking called the Trafficking in Persons Prohibition Law (Enforcement and Administration) Act was enacted in 2003 while the Child's Rights Act was enacted in 2004. The Universal Basic Education Act has also been enacted with the aim of ensuring that every child of school age attends school and completes a minimum of 9<sup>th</sup> grade before going into the labour market.

In spite of all these aforementioned efforts by the Nigerian Government, complemented by the efforts of many Non-Government Organisations (NGO's), child labour, especially, child trafficking for exploitative labour, categorised as one of the worst forms of child labour, is believed to be on the increase in the country. This assertion, though, not backed by empirical data, has become a source of much concern to the Government and to the international community.

The main reason advanced for this upsurge in child trafficking, is the pervasive poverty engendered by the ailing economy of the country as shown by some macroeconomic indicators – the number of gainfully employed labour force (both formal and informal) is less than 50%, the proportion of total population below poverty line is about 48.5% and a Nigerian lives on about US\$1.00 per day. Children below 18 years who are involved in tin mining present most of the characteristics associated with child trafficking, which is defined as follows:

"recruitment, transportation, transfer or receipt of children, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, or fraud or deception, or the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over the child for the purpose of exploitation" The above manifestations of the definition of child trafficking have been observed and experienced in the different sectors of the Nigerian economy. Cases of trafficked children have been confirmed amongst other industries and workplaces like construction, fishing, stone breaking, mining, commercial agriculture, domestic service in the informal sector, in sexual commercial exploitation and pornography. However, there are very few existing studies to explain amongst others, the causes, nature, incidence and characteristics of child trafficking in Nigeria. This becomes more problematic when it is known that there are insignificantly few occupational health, safety and welfare studies on this phenomenon in any of the sectors mentioned above. The mining industry presents a typical example where concerted efforts should be made on the study because of various reasons.

The recent intervention by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) through the various ILO-IPEC Action programmes is promoting and is complementing awareness creation about child trafficking in the country. This occupational health and safety survey of trafficked children in the tin mines in Jos area is one of those desired actions sponsored by ILO-IPEC to determine, among others, the dimension of child trafficking for exploitative labour in the tin mines with a view to sensitising the general public to the danger of child trafficking in the tin mines.

#### 2. THE PROBLEMS/ CURRENT SITUATIONS

Farming is one of the main occupations and indeed, the mainstay of most of the rural communities in Nigeria. However, the situation in Gindi Akwati communities (Ex-lands), the tin mining communities of the Barkin Ladi Local Government of Plateau State, like in a few other communities in the same and other Local Government Areas, presents a unique scenario. The reasons are:

- (a) Gindi Akwati is suburban in location but has all the trappings of rural communities— many mud thatched houses, few and unpaved roads and absence of potable water, among others.
- (b) Gindi Akwati community share their working time between mining andfarming. Mining is done by both sexes, including children between seven and eighteen years. While some children are taken to the mines by their parents / guardians, others are given out by their parents / guardians to the mine operators "middlemen" who take these children to mines and pay them meagre wages. While some children live with their parents / guardians in the mining communities, others, whose parents live in the cities or non-mining communities, are made to live with other persons (friends, etc) in the mining communities. However, irrespective of how the children get to the mines, the focus of this survey was on the children brought in by the middlemen from neighbouring villages or towns whose

earnings are not kept or owned by them (the children) but by their parents and guardians.

There is no doubt that mining activities has had its toll on:

- i) the farming of the communities which had been their veritable and dependable mainstay as it no more receives that maximum attention it should, and
- ii) the social and educational development of the children.

The trafficking of children for exploitative labour in the mines is sustained by the informal nature of the mining operations. By the mining laws, only the Federal Government of Nigeria has the statutory responsibility for granting mining licenses to companies and these are expected to carry out mining in compliance with Labour and other laws. However, the exit of foreign operators and the increasing cost of mechanical mining operations brought in "middlemen" and illegal mining activities. These "middlemen" now buy the tin ore/granules from the miners in the "open market" and sell to the licensed tin mining companies for processing. It is much cheaper for these companies than mining themselves. These community miners referred to as "illegal" miners whose operations are carried out manually with crude instruments, e.g., diggers, shovels, etc, are ignorant of Labour and other laws. The main Health and Safety legislation in the country (the Factories Act, Cap.126 LFN 1990) does not cover the mines and so, are not routinely inspected by the Factory inspectors of the Federal Ministry of Labour and Productivity. All these shortcomings, among others, have left the children (trafficked and not trafficked) at the mercy of the mine operators. These children are not only subjected to very exploitative practices but also exposed to the following occupational hazards:

- 1) Very long hours of work (up to 10 hours a day) with little break period, if any.
- 2) Very tedious work, resulting in fatigue and body pains.
- 3) Carrying of heavy loads on their heads to washing sites.
- 4) Non-provision of personal protective equipment leaving the children exposed / prone to inhalation of dust (silica, tin and possibly, radioactive metals) resulting in dust-induced respiratory problems.
- 5) Lack of first-aid facilities.
- 6) Poor pay and poor welfare facilities.
- 7) Inadequate feeding and poor sanitation.
- 8) Extremes of atmospheric temperatures (excessive heat and cold) resulting in heat exhaustion, rashes, etc. and cold-induced/aggravated respiratory problems.
- 9) Injuries to the hands and feet, some of which may be infected by tetanus bacteria.

- 10) Snake and scorpion bites.
- 11) Occasional collapse of excavated mines and burying the miners.
- 12) Occasional asphyxiation of miners in the tunnel ("tributaries" mining).
- 13) Drowning in the artificial dams created by the miners.
- 14) Psychosocial hazards such as long absence from home, peer group influence which could lead to alcoholism, smoking, drug abuse sexual escapades and proneness to HIV/AIDS.

Furthermore, these child miners, especially, the trafficked ones, can be said to "lose their childhood" as many of them have little or no time to play and interact with their peers or have adequate rest.

#### 3. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

At the moment there is no existing report on previous study of occupational safety and health of trafficked children in Nigeria, in the tin mines. This survey, therefore, was expected to yield quantitative and qualitative data that would assist in:

- determining the push factors for trafficked children to the mines;
- determining the enormity of trafficked child workers in the mines;
- determining/confirming the various occupational safety and health hazards prevalent in the tin mines;
- determining the health status of the trafficked child miners and the health problems associated with work exposure of the trafficked children;
- building a data back on occupational health and safety of trafficked child miners in the country;
- determining and recommending measures to be taken towards the elimination of child trafficking in these mines and similar mines in the country; and
- recommending ways of rehabilitating the children withdrawn from the mines.

#### 4. METHODOLOGY OF THE SURVEY

The following survey methods were used to generate information from the target groups earlier identified.

- i) Familiarisation and Sensitisation meetings with the following institutions to acquaint them with the objectives of the survey:
  - a. Federal Ministry of Employment Labour and Productivity, Jos Office.

- b. Plateau State Ministry of Environment and Minerals Development, Jos.
- c. Plateau State Ministry of Health.
- d. Consolidated Tin Mines Limited, Buruku.
- e. Nigerian Mining Corporation(a Parastatal of the Federal Ministry of Solid Minerals) Jos.
- ii) Identification of local informants who provided useful information about the mining communities.
- iii) Selection of sites and sampling of children to be studied.
- iv) A walk through survey of the various operations in the mines with the aim of identifying the health and safety hazards therein.
- v) Interview of and administration of questionnaire to the Local Government and Ministry officials, the parents/guardians of the children and the children themselves.
- vi) Environmental monitoring of the mining sites to determine the noise and temperature levels.
- vii) Health screening of the child miners with the aim of determining their health status or any adverse health effects due to their exposure in the mines. The screening involved:
  - a. Physical medical examinations
  - b. Pulmonary function test
  - c. Audiometric test
  - d. Chest x-ray
- viii) A Workshop was organized to discuss the outcome of the survey and to proffer recommendations for the elimination of child trafficking in the tin and other mines in Plateau State in particular, and in the country, in general (See Annex III for the Report on the Workshop).

#### 5. SURVEY FINDINGS

#### A) The Familiarisation / Sensitisation meetings with Stakeholders

The familiarisation / sensitisation meetings with the collaborating institutions and the mining communities (which were videotaped) provided very useful information as the discussions were frank and uninhibited. The Government officials expressed abhorrence by Government for child trafficking for exploitative labour in the mines. They proffered reasonable recommendations for the

elimination of this practice. The mining communities, while appreciating the financial benefits they derive from sending / taking the children to the tin mines or giving them to "middlemen", expressed willingness to withdraw them from the mines if Government would provide them with:

- (i) alternative sources of income for their families' up-keep and education and
- (ii) increased highly subsidized fertilizers so as to boost their farm yields.

The minutes of the meetings are at Annexes I & II.

At the end of the meeting, questionnaires were administered to the Government and Local Government officials. The questionnaires were made to elicit their feelings about child trafficking for exploitative labour in the tin mines, what their Governments had done and are doing about this practice and what measures they would recommend towards the elimination of this practice (See point 7 and Table 1 for the questionnaire responses and analysis).

#### B) Walk – through Survey

A walk-through survey of the five (5) mine sites which had been selected, based on the level of mining activities in the different sites, was carried out. The following hazards were identified or reported:

- excessive cold in the morning and late evening and excessive heat in the afternoon and early evening;
- dust inhalation during the dry season;
- non-usage of personal protective materials / equipment (nose mask, respirators, gloves, safety shoes, etc) by the miners who, on prolonged exposure without these materials may develop respiratory problems (stannosis, silicosis, etc), calluses of the palms, etc.;
- risk of bodily injuries (cuts, bruises, sprain and strain) from falls,
- inappropriate lifting postures;
- fatigue and body pain from prolonged working hours (between 8-10 hours a day);
- reports of occasional snake and scorpion bites;
- reports of occasional collapse of excavated mine sites, burying the miners, uncovered tunnels into which unsuspecting children and even adults could fall and sustain fatal injuries;
- poor sanitation, drinking of unwholesome water; and
- lack of first aid facilities on site.

#### C) Mining Processes

In Barkin Ladi and Bokos Local Government Areas, the mining communities are in Gindi Akwati, Bokos, Gwarza, Kuba Tenti and Dakata. The mines which are

located about 100 – 300 metres from the villages are of various sizes (5000 – 10,000 sq. metres) and are most open-pit. The mining is done manually with diggers, shovels, buckets, etc. It involves the following processes:

- (i) digging of the rocky ground suspected to contain tin ore. The dug-out heaps of sand are parked with shovels into the buckets, polyurethylene bags or head pans and then carried by the children and women on their heads to designated spots.
- (ii) digging of tunnels (called "lotos") of about one metre in diameter to a depth (of tin belt), which may be up to 15 metres. To continue excavating the tunnel, a man or an adolescent, standing in the bucket, is lowered into the tunnel with a rope. At a depth of about 7-10 metres, side tunnels (referred to as "tributaries") perpendicular to the main tunnels may be dug in search of a tin bed. In the "tributaries", the miners put on headlamps which, occasionally, burn out when the oxygen in the "tributaries" get exhausted. With the shovel, he fills the bucket with the excavated sand from the tin bed and the bucket is pulled up to the surface with the same rope. This process is repeated until the miners are satisfied with the quantity of sand they have gathered. The sand is then washed in ponds by both the children and adults with bare hands in order to recover tin granules. Alluvia mining to recover tin granules is usually carried out on the banks of river or in flowing bodies of water ("artificial dams"). The recovered tin granules from the three processes of mining are dried and sold to tin traders on the mining sites.

#### D) Environmental Monitoring of the Mine Sites

- (i) Temperature Measurement
- (ii) Noise Measurement

Using the WBGT heat stress monitor (Casella), the temperature at the five sites as measured in the morning, afternoon and evening for two consecutive days. The results of the measurement and analysis are at point 7(ii).

Although noise was not identified as a hazard at the sites during the walk-through survey, it still had to be measured with the use of a Bruel & Rjaer (Type 2219) integrating sound level metre. The results of the measurements and their analysis are at point 7(ii).

#### E) Questionnaire to the Parents/Guardians of the Children

#### (i) Questionnaire to the Children

A questionnaire was administered to one hundred and fifty children (100 boys and 50 girls) who have been randomly selected. The questionnaire was meant to determine among others: their ages who they are living with how they got to the mines and for how long they have been working there "push" factors to the mines how they are remunerated the levels of education attained illnesses they have had and have been treated for before and after they commenced work in the mines (especially respiratory and auditory complaints) if they have ever been bitten by snakes and scorpions. The responses and analysis are at point 7A (iii) and Tables 3-6.

#### (ii) Questionnaire to the Parents/Guardians

The questionnaire to the parents / guardians was meant to determine the following:

- the villages they are from
- their occupations
- how many children they have, how many of them work in the mines and for how long.
- how they got to learn that children work in the mines and what they know about these children.
- whether they were given money or any other gift by those who took their children to the mines.
- what the children benefit and do not benefit and, in what ways, they, as parents, have benefited from their children working in the mines.

The responses and analysis are at Paragraph 7A (ii) and Table 2.

#### F) Health Screening of the Children

The children were physically examined. A **hearing (audiometric) test** was carried out in the morning for each child with the use of an audiometer (Medicor SAE-L) suitable for air and bone conduction examination. The audiometer has frequencies of between 0.25KHz and 8KHz and a sound pressure level (SPL) of 0 to 80dB.

The lung function test was carried out on each child with the use of a spirometer (vitalograph). The Forced Vital Capacity (FVC) and the Forced Expiratory Volume in one second (FEV1) were measured. The tests were carried out in the evening after they had worked for some hours.

Chest x-ray (AP only) was done for each child. The results of the health screening and their analysis are at paragraph 7(C).

#### 6. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

• In planning the survey, preparation was made to deal with the managements of the mines. The first problem we had, therefore, was the absence of a "management" of the tin mining operations as tin mining at the moment is carried out by individuals from the communities who are not organised into groups under particular rules or regulations. Because of this informal nature of operation, any required information had to be got from individuals who occasionally contradicted themselves.

Other problems encountered were:

- The mine sites were located in places that were inaccessible by automobile.
- The many community members could not speak English and that made communication a little difficult.
- Transportation of the children from the mining communities to Jos, the capital city of Plateau State (about 50 95 kilometres away) to carry out the pulmonary and audiometric testing and chest x-ray.
- Identifying centres with good testing equipment.
- Irregular electricity supply in Jos which delayed the testing and most importantly,
- The unexpected political changes in governance and, specifically, the declaration of "State of Emergency" in the Plateau State. This delayed transmission of important information concerning the survey to the project team.

However, it must be mentioned that the mining communities and the collaborating institutions were very cooperative to ensure the success of the survey.

#### 7. DATA ANALYSIS AND SUMMARY

#### A) Questionnaire Survey: Analysis of Data

#### i) Local Government / Ministry Officials

Questionnaires were administered to seventy-five officials (75) from the three tiers of Government (Federal, State and Local) to determine, among others, their level of awareness of the phenomenon of child trafficking in the mines, the "push" and motivating factors for the children to work in the mines, the existence of occupational health and safety hazards in the mines, the problem of "middlemen" in the mines and what government at various levels were doing to address child trafficking. The responses presented on Table 1 show that all the

officials stated that they were aware that children below the age of eighteen years (18) work in the mines and some of them were brought through "middlemen". They were aware that several occupational safety, health and welfare hazards exist in the mines, some of which are rashes, physical injuries, drowning, very poor sanitation and development of deviant peer group behaviour amongst the children. On the issue of the "middlemen" who arrange and traffic the children to the mines, the respondents were of the unanimous opinion that the laws on trafficking of children and persons should be strictly enforced. Furthermore they recommended strongly the establishment of vigilante groups in the mining communities and the intervention of government through regular inspection and monitoring of these mining communities, the empowerment of parents through the provision of subsidized fertilizers for farming, granting of small scale loans, reduction of school fees and the establishment of vocational training centres for skill acquisition. Government should also enforce the implementation of the Universal Basic Education (UBE) Programme (all over the country) which provides for free compulsory education for all children.

#### ii) Parents/ Guardians

The responses to the questionnaire presented on Table 2 show that out of the one hundred and fifty (150) parents/guardians interviewed, 65 (43.33%) had between 0-3 children, 80 (53.33%) had between 4-6 children and 5 (3.3%) had between 7-9 children. Further analysis revealed that each parent\guardian had on the average 1- 2 children working with him/her in the mines. In terms of the motivating factors for sending the children to work in the mines, 94.67% of the parents /quardians stated economic reasons while only 5.33% stated that it was a means of learning traditional skill of the community by the children. The parents/guardians were also aware of the involvement of "middlemen" in the recruitment of children for work in the mines. They also stated that the "middlemen" receive payments on behalf of some of the child miners for onward delivery to the parents/guardians. This practice had, on many occasions, compounded the problems of the trafficked children as they were deprived of money to take care of some emergencies (sickness, etc.). The parents/quardians denied ever playing the role of "middlemen". Furthermore, most of them said that they were aware of some health hazards associated with mining and that they could only consider withdrawing their children from the mines if someone or government provides them with alternative sources of income for family upkeep and children's education.

#### iii) Child Miners

Tables 3, 4, 5, and 6 show the responses by the children. Table 3 presents the responses concerning the demographic characteristics of the children.

The average age (years), height (cm) and weight (kg) of the children, both boys and girls (M/F), are  $11.93 \pm 7.73$  /  $12.48 \pm 8.12$  years,  $142.96 \pm 100.38$  /

142.07  $\pm$  99.75 cm and 35.65  $\pm$  24.5 / 35.11  $\pm$  24.12 kg, respectively. The children are from Plateau State: Barkin Ladi (62%), Jos (10%) and Bokkos (28%) communities. While 63.3% of them live with their parents, 20% live with their guardians, 10% with their colleagues and 6.6% live alone.

Table 4 presents responses on the jobs of the children in the mines. The responses of the children corroborated with the responses of the parents/guardians on how they got to the mines. As to how and what motivated them to go to the mines, thirty percent (30%) of the children who got there through the "middlemen" were motivated by the following factors, among others:

- need to obey the parents/guardians who wanted them to earn money to assist them (parents)
- peer pressure

Fifty seven percent (56.67%) of the children were taken to the mines by the parents and they were motivated to go there because they wanted to earn money to assist their parents and for their education. The 13.33% of them who got to the mines on their own were motivated by the need for money, sixty six percent of them (66.33%) work part-time (about 18-24 hours a week) while about thirty seven percent (36.67%) work full-time (about 55 hours a week). In the mines, all the children (100%) pack and carry bags/pans of sand, wash the sand with bare hands while about thirty six percent (36.67%) of them dig the ground for tin ore. While thirty percent (30%) of them are remunerated directly, about fifty seven percent (55.67%) are remunerated through their parents and thirty percent (30%) through their guardians.

Table 5 presents the responses on the education of the children.

About 63.3% of the children are presently schooling; about 27% in primary schools while 72.63% are in secondary schools. About thirty seven percent (37%) are not schooling for lack of funds. The responses to questions concerning their health elicited the following responses (See Table 6): since after commencement of work in the mines, they have been treated for malaria, dysentery, body pains, skin rashes, worm infestation, cough and catarrh. However, the prevalence of skin rashes and body pains has increased since they got to the mines from 54.67% to 84% and from 45.33% to 72% respectively. The increase is possibly due to the exposure to excessive heat and the hard work, respectively, in the mines. The prevalence of cough increased from 48% to 54.67%. All the children however do not relate the high prevalence of cough to work in the mines as their occasional absence from the mines for some days do not provide relief; rather it is treatment with medicines that provides relief. The cough accompanied with catarrh may be due to upper respiratory tract infection. The fever and loss of appetite may be attributed to malaria which is holoendemic in the country. All the symptoms reported by the children had relief from treatment. The prevalence of exhaustion in forty six percent (46%) of the children can be explained by the excessive heat. The exhaustion is relieved by drinking water. The children (4%) who were bitten by snake received treatment in Jos.

Table 1: Responses on Child Labour/Trafficking in the Tin Minesby Government Officials

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N = 25	No. of Responses	% / Mean / SD	
Sex (M/F)	20 / 5	80% / 20%	
Age (M/F: yrs, mean, range)	25	41.95 yrs: 27 – 60 yrs / 40 yrs; 32 – 41 yrs	
Aware of work of children below 18yrs in the tin mines	25	100%	
Have they assisted some children	25	No (100%)	
Best way of combating child trafficking  • Free education to the children  • Alternative source of income  • Vocational training for the children  • Strict enforcement of laws on trafficking of children	25	25 (100%) 25 (100%) 25 (100%) 15 (60%)	
Their views about using children under 18 yrs as workers in the mines	25	Disapproved (100%)	
Ministry / Local Govt. Official Position on this issue	25	None: 10 (40%) Disapproval: 5 (20%) Disapproval: 10 (40%)	
How effective are those measures?	25	Not very effective: 25 (100%)	
What can the Government do at various levels to combat child trafficking in the mines i) National Government  • Strict enforcement of legislation against child trafficking  • Free education at 1 and 2 school level  • Provision of adequate fertilizers to the communities ii) State Government  • Legislation	25	15 (60%) 5 (20%)	
Establishment of Industries in tin mining communities     Awareness creation     iii) Local Government (LGA)     Vocational training     Awareness creation  What can the community do to combat trafficking     Awareness creation about hazards associated with child trafficking     Find alternative sources of income	25	5 (20% 25 (100%) 25 (100%)	

Table 2: Responses on Child Labour/Trafficking in the Tin Mines by Parents/Guardians

in the Tin Mines by Parents/Guardians		
N = 25	No. of Responses	% / Mean / SD
Villages they are from: Jaba Jul Agwan Yama Hwalsh Gwarwaza Kuba Tenti Dakata	150	29 (19.33%) 8 (14.67%) 36 (24.60)% 33 (22.00%) 15 (10.00%) 10 (6.67%) 5 (3.33%)
What they do for a living? Farming Trading Mining	150	90 (60.00%) 40 (26.67%) 20 (13.33%)
How many children do they have (range)? $0-3$ $4-6$ $7-9$ $10$ & above	150	65 (43.33%) 80 (48.3%) 5 (3.33%) 0 (0%)
How many of those children on the average work in the mines (mean)?	150	(i) 1; (ii) 2; (iii) 2
How they learnt about children working the in the mines?  • through friend  • through relative  • others (specify)	150	52 (34.67%) 74 (49.33%) 24 (16%)
Are they given gifts/money by "middlemen"?	150	No: 150 (100%)
How long have the children been working in the mines?  a) 1 week  b) Less than 2 weeks  c) 1 month d) Over 1 month	150	- - - 150 (100%)
Why did they send their children to the mines?  i. Economic factors  ii. Means of learning traditional skill of the community	150	147 (64.67%) 8 (5.33%)
In what way they have benefited as parents:  i. Financial  ii. Any other	150	150 (100%) 0 (0%)
Are they aware that many health and safety problems are associated with mining by the children?  i. Yes  ii. Don't know	150	137 (91.33%) 15 (8.67)
What will make them remove the children from the mines?  i. Provision of alternative source(s) of income  ii. Nothing	150	150 (100%) 0 (26.367%)

**Table 3: Demographic Characteristics of the Child Miners** 

N = 150	No. of Responses	% / Mean / SD
Sex (M/	100/50	66.67% / 33.33%
Age (M / F: yrs, mean, SD)	150	11.93 + 7.73 12.48 + 8.12
Height (M / F: cm; mean , SD)	150	142.96 <u>+</u> 100.38 142.07 <u>+</u> 99.75
Weight (M / F: kg; mean , SD)	150	35.65 <u>+</u> 24.5 35.11 <u>+</u> 24.12
Communities:      Barkin Ladi     Bokkos     Jos	150	93 (62%); 42 (28%); 15 (10%)
Parents' Addresses: Jaba, Jul, Hwash, Agwan Yama villages (all in Gindi Akwati or ex-lands), Gwarwaza, Kuba and Tenti Dakata villages (Bokkos) and Jos.	150	
Work Addresses: The mines / farms in the mining communities	150	150(100%)
With whom the child miners live:  a) Alone b) Colleagues c) Guardians d) Parents	150	10 (6.67%) 15 (10%) 30 (20%) 95 (63.33%)

Table 4: Jobs (work) of the Children in the Mines

Table 4. 3003 (Work) of the official of the wines				
N = 150	No. of Responses	% / Mean / SD		
Who took the children to the mines?				
i. Self	150	20 (13.30%)		
ii. Arranged	150	45 (30%)		
iii. Parents / Relatives		85 (56.67%)		
Motivation to the children to go the mines ("Push factors") i. Trafficked child miners: need for money, obeyed the parents / guardians who insisted that they must go		45 (30%)		
to the mines, peer pressure, did not want to go to school anymore	150			
ii. Non-trafficked child miners: need to money, liked to go with parents / relatives / friends to the mines		105 (70%)		
Commencement of work in the mines				
< mth	150	17 (1.33%)		
> mth	130	133 (88.67%)		
Types of work they do in the mines:		200 (00:0: 10)		
i. Packing / carrying sand		150 (100%)		
ii. Washing of sand		150 (100%)		
iii. Digging for tin ore	150	55 (36.67%)		
Part-time / Full time work (no. of hours)	150	95 (63.33%): Part-time (18-24 hrs weekly) 55 (36.67%): Full-time (48-56 hrs weekly)		
Past work history:				
- Farming	150	106 (70.67%)		
- None		44 (29.33%)		
How were they remunerated?		20 (13.33%)		
a) direct	150	85 (56.67%)		
b) through parents / relatives	130			
c) through guardians		45 (30%)		

**Table 5: Education of the Child Miners** 

N = 150	No. of Responses	% / Mean / SD
Do they attend school?		95 (63.3%)
Grades: - 2 <sup>nd</sup> grade - 5 <sup>th</sup> grade - 10 <sup>th</sup> grade - 11 <sup>th</sup> grade - 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	95	6 (6.32%) 20 (21.05%) 15 (15.79%) 30 (31.58%) 24 (25.26%)
Why not schooling?	55	55 (36.7%)
i. Lack of funds	43	43 (78.18%)
ii. Don't want further schooling	12	12 (21.82%)
Highest grade completed - 9 <sup>th</sup> grade - 10 <sup>th</sup> grade - 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	55	55 (36.7%) 30 (54.55%) 16 (29.01%) 9 (16.32%)

Table 6: Health Problems (Respiratory, Auditory and other Symptoms) of the Child Miners)

No. of N = 150% / Mean / SD Responses Pest History: i. Malaria 150 (100%) 58 (38.67%) ii. Dysentery iii. Skin rashes 82 (54.67%) 150 iv. Worm infestations 36 (24%) 72 (48%) v. Cough 100 (66.67%) vi. Catarrh 68 (45.33%) vii. Body pain Illness treated for since commencement of work in the mines i. Malaria 74 (62.67%) ii. Dysentery 25 (16.67%) iii. Worm infestation 27 (18%) 150 iv. Cough 82 (54.67%) v. Skin rashes 126 (84%) vi. Body rashes 108 (72%) vii. Catarrh 145 (96.67%) Respiratory symptoms since commencement of Mining: - Difficult breathing 0 150 150 (100%) - Chest pain - Cough (with phlegm) 82 (54.67%) - Phlegm (blood stained) When is cough most severe? i. Any time during the cold season (raining and harmattan seasons) 82 (54.67%) ii. Any other season Loss of appetite (occasionally) 62 (41.33%) Fever (occasionally) 150 94 (62.67%) Disturbed sleep Relief from above symptoms, when? a) treated 150 (100%) b) absent from the mines 136 (90.67%) Skin rashes (sometimes) a) on the torso/upper extremities 136 136 (100%) 92 (67.65<sup>°</sup>%) b) rashes related to work exposure Exhaustion or feeling of faint due to excessive heat in the mines 69 (46%) 69 Relief by drinking water 69 (100%) Snake or scorpion bites in the mines: a) no. of times 6 (4%) 6 b) any treatment and where in the hospital in Jos) 6 (100%)

#### B) Environmental monitoring

#### i) Temperature Measurement

The temperature in the mines range from 25°C (77°F) to 38°C (100.4°F). The temperature is said to be higher during the dry season months. However, from the workload on the sites which could be graded as moderate to heavy, and the relatively short rest period of about 1 hour in more than 8- hour workday, the heat stress can be said to be higher than the permissible heat exposure threshold limit values. This explains the occasional symptoms of heat exhaustion experienced by most of the children.

#### ii) Noise Measurement

The noise levels at the five sites ranged between 65dB to 70dB. These levels are within permissible limits. This explains the normal audiometric results of the children and the absence of noise-induced hearing impairment.

#### C) Health screening

#### i) Physical Medical Examination

The children, on physical examination, appeared healthy as they were all very active and responded to questions intelligently. However, some of them have small frames inconsistent with their chronological ages, which could be explained by inadequate nutrition. Many of the children have palmar calluses as a result of manual washing of the excavated sand to recover tin granules. Otherwise, their eyes, ears, vision and hearing were normal. The respiratory, gastrointestinal, musculoskeletal and nervous systems were normal.

#### ii) Hearing (Audiometric) Test

**Table 7** shows the average hearing threshold values of the children (9.4  $\pm$  5.9dB for the male and 8.7  $\pm$  5.4 for female). These figures (which are within normal limits) show absence of neurosensory hearing impairment. This can be explained by the low level of noise exposure (65dBA - 70dBA) in the mines and the absence of past history of mumps, meningitis, etc.

#### iii) Pulmonary Function Test and Chest X-ray

The test shows normal pulmonary function: FVC and FEV, are 2.86  $\pm$  1.3 and 2.1  $\pm$  0.8 for male and female, respectively. For the female, the FVC and FEV, are 2.7 + 1.3 and 2.0 + 0.7, respectively.

The chest x-ray of the children does not show any abnormality. The ventilatory capacities which are within normal limits and the normal chest X- ray may be explained by the fact that:

- a) the period of exposure to dust by the children is too short to provoke abnormal change in the lungs and
- b) tin dust-induced lung disease (stannosis) may not impact pulmonary function or cause pulmonary disability even where there are x-ray changes.

**Table 7: Pulmonary Function and Audiometric Tests Results** 

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	Variables	Boys (n = 100)	Girls (n =50)
	FVC (in litres) <sup>a</sup>	2.86 <u>+</u> 1.3	2.7 <u>+</u> 1.3
	FEV1 <sup>b</sup> (in litres)	2.1 <u>+</u> 0.8	2.0 <u>+</u> 0.7
	FEV1%/FVC	73.43%	74.07%
	HTV (dB) <sup>c</sup>	9.4 <u>+</u> 5.9	8.7 <u>+</u> 5.4

A: Forced vital capacity (in litres)

B: Forced expiratory value in 1 sec

C: Hearing Threshold Values

#### 8. CONCLUSION

Considering the findings above, the following conclusions can be made:

- Child trafficking, which is one of the worst forms of child labour, exists in the mining communities of Barkin-Ladi Local Government Area of Plateau state.
- It is a growing phenomenon, which is not fully understood at the moment in the area.
- Children below the age of 18 years work under very hazardous conditions in the mining communities.
- Middlemen are involved in the recruitment of children to work in the mines with promises to parents and guardians for financial rewards and support
- All child miners face the same occupational safety, health and welfare problems in the mines with insignificant variations in their manifestations.
- Children under 18 years work in the mines to assist in the family upkeep and their own education.

#### 9. RECOMMENDATIONS

From information provided by the survey, the following recommendations have been made:

- i) Further sensitisation of the Government (Local, State and Federal) to the adverse effects of child trafficking in the tin mines. This could be achieved through informal and formal discussion with the Governments.
- ii) Organs of Government should be made to properly enforce the existing national legislation on child labour and, especially, the worst forms, including child trafficking.
- Governments have to provide alternative sources of income for these mining communities in form of small scale industries, vocational training of the young school leavers in the communities so that they can get other jobs or become self-employed, among others.
- iv) The Universal Basic Education law should be properly enforced by Government as this could help to keep the children of school age in school (if only till the 9<sup>th</sup> grade).
- v) Those licensed tin miners in Plateau State should be encouraged or "forced" to resume mining as this could keep the children out of the mines. These licensed miners that carry out mechanised mining and are expected to comply with Labour laws, which prohibit employment of children in such hazardous work as mining.
- vi) As requested by the tin mining communities, Government should consider the establishment of a Mining School where school leavers who want to become miners as adults can go to. These would help to remove the children below 18 years of age from the mines.
- vii) Establishment of industries in the mining communities to provide employment for school leavers and jobless adults.
- viii) Reclamation of the devastated farmlands (old mine sites) to increase available farmlands which have been greatly depleted.

## **ANNEXES**

#### **ANNEX I**

MINUTES OF THE SENSITISATION MEETING OF THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTING TEAM AND THE COLLABORATING INSTITUTIONS ON THE PROPOSED OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SURVEY OF TRAFFICKED CHILDREN IN THE TIN MINES IN JOS AREA HELD ON THE 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2004 IN THE FEDERAL SECRETARIAT, JOS, PLATEAU STATE

#### **AGENDA:**

- 1. Opening Prayers.
- 2. Welcome / Opening Remarks by the Chairman.
- 3. Overview of the proposed Occupational Health and Safety Survey of trafficked children in the Tin Mines in Jos Area by Dr. C.E. Enabulele (Consultant).
- 4. General Discussion / Reports.
- 5. Recommendations.
- 6. Any Other Business.
- 7. Closing Remarks by the Consultant.
- 8. Refreshments.
- 9. Closing Prayers.

#### ATTENDANCE:

The representatives of the following organisations / institutions attended the meeting (SEE ANNEX 1(a)):

- i) Federal Ministry of Employment, Labour and Productivity (Jos Office)
- ii) Nigerian Mining Corporation (a parastatal of the Federal Ministry of Solid Minerals), Jos.
- iii) Plateau State Ministry of Environment and Mineral Development, Jos.
- iv) Plateau State Ministry of Health, Jos.
- v) Consolidated Tin Mines Limited, Bukuru.

\* \* \*

- 1. The meeting started at about 10.55am with opening prayers by Mr. Aliyu T. Samuel, Assistant Director, Plateau State Ministry of Environment and Mineral Development.
- 2. Welcome / Opening Remarks by the Chairman.
- 3. The Assistant Director of Labour (Jos Office), Mr C.O. Nnadi, who chaired the meeting, welcomed all those present and reminded them of the

purpose for inviting them to this meeting which was to acquaint them, among others, with a proposed occupational health and safety survey of trafficked children in the tin mines in Jos area. After this, he requested Dr. Enabulele to give an overview of the proposed survey.

#### 4. Overview of the Proposed Survey

Dr. Enabulele, started by calling everyone's attention to the "evil" called child labour which is prevalent in many parts of the world. He pointed to children who hawk various wares on the streets of our cities, the so – called "house-helps", the child stone breakers in the quarries, the child miners in Jos, etc. He went ahead to say that, in the last few years, the Federal Government represented by the Federal Ministry of Labour, in collaboration with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) under the auspices of the ILO – IPEC, International Programme for the eradication of child labour (IPEC) and many National Non – Governmental Organisations / (NGO's) have embarked on many activities towards the eradication of child labour in Nigeria. According to him, the ILO – IPEC in continuation of these activities, is sponsoring him to carry out an occupational health and safety survey of the trafficked children in the tin mines in Jos area with the following objectives:

- To determine the extent of children's participation in tin mining.
- To determine / confirm the hazards prevalent in the tin mines.
- To determine the adverse health effects of exposure of the children in the mines.
- To determine the "pull and push factors" for child trafficking in the mines.
- To advance or proffer measures for the ultimate withdrawal of the children from the mines.

The choice of a tin mine is not far-fetched as mining is one of the most hazardous types of child labour and the tin mine, in particular, is known to be fraught with various hazards enumerated below:

#### a) Physical Hazards

- Excessive noise can cause neurosensory hearing loss (in mechanized tin mining).
- Extreme temperatures
  - Excessive heat can cause heat rashes, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.
  - Excessive cold can trigger or exacerbate respiratory problems.

#### b) Chemical Hazards

 Tin dust can cause dust-induced lung disease, called stannosis, a type of pneumoconioses.

- Silica dust can cause a type of pneumoconiosis called silicosis.
- c) Biological Hazards
  - Bacterial infection, e.g, tetanus.
  - Snake bites.
- d) Ergonomic Factors
  - Long working hours.
  - Inadequate rest.
  - Heavy lifting and excessive load.

These can result in fatigue, body pain, muscle strain, etc.

#### 5. General Discussions / Reports

The chairman thanked Dr. Enabulele for such a detailed overview and requested other participants to contribute to the discussion. Contributions by other representatives from the Plateau State Ministries, the Nigerian Mining Corporation and the Consolidated Tin Mines Limited were very informative. They informed the house that:

- The Plateau State Government is aware of the illegal tin mining being carried out by members, including children, of some communities, e.g., Gindi Akwati (Ex-lands), Bokkos, Kuru, etc. These miners have not been granted official licenses to mine by the Federal Government of Nigeria, which has the sole right and responsibility to do so. Unlike the communities mentioned above, the Nigerian Mining Corporation, Consolidated Tin Mines Limited and Afotin Mines Limited have been officially licensed to mine, though none of them is currently mining.
- Unlike the communities who mine manually, these companies' mining operations (from mining to processing of the tin ore) are mechanised and they do not have children in their employ.
- Poverty is the main reason for the involvement of children in mining in Plateau State.
- Aside from tin mining, children and adults are involved in the mining of precious stones like aquamarine, zirconium and monoxite which may posses radioactive properties and that this aspect is needed to be closely studied.
- There have been reports of members of the mining communities losing their lives through drowning in paddocks or "artificial lakes' formed from abandoned excavated mining sites.
- Members of the public, especially the farming communities, are very displeased by extensive mining activities over the years which have

- rendered the lands unsuitable for farming and by the failure to carry out adequate reclamation of the abandoned mining sites.
- The Plateau State Government is poised to demand from the British Government reparation for the damage done to the farmlands by mining during the colonial period and after over many years.

#### Recommendations

The chairman called for suggestions or recommendations on how to withdraw the children from the tin mines. Recommendations made were:

- Government should review and enforce the Mining Acts so that only those that are supposed to be in the mines (adults) to work are there.
- As withdrawing children from the mines will render many families financially handicapped, a community could be advised to abandon manual mining and form a cooperative that could procure with a bank loan (meant for small and medium scale enterprises) appropriate equipment and technology for mechanized mining. By so doing, their children will be withdrawn from the mines while at the same time, they would be financially independent.
- Access to vocational training should be provided to the children who are not in formal educational institutions so that they can be gainfully employed.
- Government and mining companies should embark on reclamation of abandoned mining sites so as to ensure farmlands for the communities.
- No effort should be spared in demanding for reparation from the British Government for the extensive damage done to the lands in Plateau State through mining over the years.

#### 7. Closing Remarks

The consultant, in his closing remarks observed that the task to withdraw the children from the mines, will not be easy but it is achievable with the cooperation of all the stakeholders. He informed all the participants to be ready to attend a workshop that ill be organised by him and his team where the outcome of the survey will be discussed. He thanked them for heir frank and very informative contributions.

- 8. Refreshments were served to all present.
- 9. The meeting came to a close at about 1.30pm with a closing prayer by Mr. Musa Dibal.

#### ANNEX 1(a)

SENSITISATION MEETING OF THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION TEAM AND THE COLLABORATING INSTITUTIONS ON THE PROPOSED OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SURVEY OF TRAFFICKED CHILDREN OF THE TIN MINES IN JOS AREA HELD ON THE 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2004 IN JOS PLATEAU STATE

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION	NAME OF ESTABLISHMENT	POSTAL ADDRESS / TEL.
1	Abdullahi A. Baba	Ag. IRO	Consolidated Tin Mines Ltd.	P.M.B 2036, Jos. 080-37011687
2	Aliyu T. Samuel	Asst. Dir Expl.	Min. of Envi. & Mineral Dev. Jos	P.M.B 2008, Jos. 073-463700
3	Micheal O. Yaro	Asst. Chief Engr	Nig Mining Corporation	7 <sup>th</sup> Floor Fed. Sec, Jos.
4	Giwa A. Chigyar	C.O.I	Fed Min. of Lab. and Prod, Jos	P.M.B. 2018, Jos. 073-464638
5	B. U. Salisu	Labour Officer	Fed Min. of Lab. and Prod, Jos	P.M.B. 2018, Jos. 073-464638
6	Dibal Musa	S.L.O	Fed Min. of Lab. and Prod, Jos	P.M.B. 2018, Jos. 073-464638
7	Venbong Peter Wuyup	Asst. Dir. Disease Control	Ministry of Health	P.M.B. 2014, Jos. 080-34078925
8	C.O. Nnadi	Asst. Director of Labour	Fed Min. of Lab. and Prod, Jos	P.M.B. 2018, Jos. 073-464638
9	Dr. C.E. Enabulele	Consultant	CEENAB NIGERIA LTD	54 Falolu Rd., Surulere, Lagos 080-2353504 01-720195

#### **ANNEX II**

MINUTES OF THE SENSITISATION MEETING OF THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION TEAM AND THE TIN MINING COMMUNITIES OF GINDI AKWATI (EX – LANDS) OF BARKIN LADI – LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA (LGA) OF PLATEAU STATE ON THE PROPOSED OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SURVEY OF TRAFFICKED CHILDREN IN THE TIN MINES HELD ON THE 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2004 IN GINDI AKWATI

#### **AGENDA:**

- 1. Opening Prayers.
- 2. Welcome / Opening Remarks by the Consultant, Dr. Enabulele, C.E.
- 3. Overview of the Proposed Occupational Health and Safety Survey of trafficked children in the Tin Mines.
- 4. Response by Community Head.
- 5. General Discussions on Tin Mining by the Children of the Communities, etc.
- 6. Refreshments.
- 7. Closing Remarks by Dr. Enabulele.
- 8. Vote of Thanks by a member of the Survey Team and a member of the Community.
- 9. Closing Prayers.

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Community members (532) and the project implementation team (5) totalling 537 persons.

- 1. Opening Prayers
- 1.10-The meeting started at about 3.10pm with opening prayer by Mallam Abdullahi; a Community leader.
- 2. Welcome / Opening Remarks by the Consultant.

Dr. Enabulele, in his opening remarks, welcomed all to the meeting expressed his appreciation to the members of the Community, both parents/guardians and their children, for coming to this meeting in such a large number. Continuing, he informed them that Governments (Plateau State and Federal) are aware of and worried by the active participation of their children (all those below 18years) in tin mining. He added that in all many parts of the world, including Nigeria, efforts are being made to stop children from being trafficked to hazardous jobs, a situation which is known to adversely affect them socially, physically and

mentally. At the forefront of these efforts, is the ILO of which Nigeria is a member. The objective of this meeting, therefore, is to inform them that the ILO, as a part of the collaborative efforts, worldwide, to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, is sponsoring the consultant and his team to determine among others the level of participation of children in tin mining in Jos area and the effects of this on their health and development. He enumerated the possible health and social problems for the children working in the tin mines. For example, health problems from exposure to extremes of temperature (heat and cold), Respiratory diseases from dust inhalation, body pain, muscle strain; etc, while the social problems are preventing them from schooling, playing and associating will with their peers and having adequate rest. It is hoped that suggestions and recommendations that could come out of the meeting will be useful in advancing efforts against child trafficking in tin mines. He emphasized that there is no intention to suggest the removal of the children now from the mines; rather efforts will, hopefully, be made, in the interim, to reduce the participation of the children in mining and promote a safe and healthy work environment and practice.

### 3. Overview of the Proposed Occupational Health and Safety Survey of Trafficked Children.

The consultant went further to inform the Community members that he and his team will be carrying out a survey that will involve the monitoring of the tin mines and the screening of the health of the child miners, among others. He assured them that the outcome of the survey will be conveyed to them. Furthermore, a workshop to which all stakeholders, i.e., the mining community members, Federal Ministry of Employment Labour & Productivity (Plateau State Office), Plateau State Ministry of Environment and Mineral Development, Plateau State Ministry of Health, Federal Ministry of Solid Minerals, Nigerian Mining Corporation and Consolidated Tin Mines Limited, will be invited to discuss the outcome of the survey and to proffer measures for the ultimate withdrawal of children from the tin mines.

#### 4. Response by the Community Head

The Community head, in his response, expressed gratitude to the consultant and his team for the interest they have shown in their affairs. He added that economic hardship has forced them to making their children to work in the tin mines. Besides, even if they had decided to prevent their children from mining, they (children) will not have agreed because of the "much" money their peers have made from mining. However, they have ensured that most of their children of school age (primary) and some (secondary) go to school full- time and to the mines part – time. However, those who complete primary or secondary schools that cannot afford to go further due to financial difficulties go into mining full – time. His proffering recommendations to assist them withdraw their children

from the mines, he presented the following requests to Government through the consultant:

- a) Government should ensure their easy access to fertilizers so as to boost their farming yield.
- b) Government should provide other sources of income for them and their children, especially, those who have completed schooling.

Some children who contributed to the discussion said that they carry on tin mining because they need money for their education as their parents are poor. Other adults who contributed to the discussion echoed what the community leader had said.

- 5. Refreshments were served to all participants of the meetings.
- 6 Closing remarks

The consultant, before his closing remarks, briefly explained to the community members the processes of the survey. He expressed satisfaction with the frank discussion and requested for cooperation of the members to ensure that the survey is successfully completed. A date for the commencement of the survey was mutually agreed upon.

- 7. Vote of thanks. A member of the consultant's team and a member of the community gave vote of thanks.
- 8. The closing prayers were said by a community leader

#### **ANNEX III**

## REPORT ON THE WORKSHOP ON THE OUTCOME OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SURVEY OF TRAFFICKED CHILDREN IN THE TIN MINES IN JOS AREA PLATEAU STATE

ATTENDANCE: See Annex III (a) (and the videotape of the workshop)

The workshop, as can be seen on the PROGRAMME, was made up of the (i) Opening Ceremony and (ii) Business Session [See Annex III (b)].

Interestingly, all the participants attended both sessions of the Workshop. While it was gratifying that the Chairman of the Barkin Ladi Local Government and the representatives of the two mining communities of the Local Government, namely, Bokkos and Gindi Akwati, were well represented. However, it was regrettable that the representatives of most collaborating institutions were absent though they had attended the sensitization meeting in April 2004 [See Annex I (a)].

After a brief overview of the outcome of the survey by the consultant, goodwill messages by the community leaders of the mining communities, the Sarki of Nar (Gindi Akwati) and the Rankulere of Bokos (Bokkos) gave good- will messages. The two leaders who headed their teams to the workshop expressed gratitude to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the survey team for the special interest shown in their communities through the project which they believed will get the Government to now focus on their socioeconomic problems. They do believe all what the consultants had told them about the various p0roblems associated with child trafficking in the tin mines. Though they are ready to discourage the children from tin mining, however, have a list of request to present to the Government:

- A mining school where those who want to become miners as adults could be taught mining techniques. With this, children below the age of 18 years will not go to the mines.
- Reclamation of the devastated farm land (old mine sites) as their farmlands have become so diminished.
- Provision of free education to children so that all children could go to school.
- Provision of fertilizers so as to boost their farm yields.
- Provisions of employment for school leavers.
- The mine operators should be made to provide personal protective equipment to the child miners.
- Vocational training to be provided to the school leavers.

- Establishment of industries to provide employment to the school leavers and other adults in the communities.
- Use of the law enforcement agents to arrest and prosecute those who lure the children to the mines.

After the above requests were thoroughly discussed, the Special Guest of Honour, the Chairman of the Barkin Ladi Local Government Area (represented by the Supervisory Councillor from the Gindi Akwati community) read his speech [See Annex III (c)]. In the speech, the Chairman expresses his gratitude to the ILO and the survey team for the interest shown in his Local Government and promised to support all efforts to eliminate child trafficking from the tin mines. During, the Business Section, discussions continued on the consultants' overview of the outcome of the survey.

Considering the enthusiasm displayed and the active participation in the discussions by the participants of the workshop, especially, by the representatives of the mining communities, one can rightly say that the workshop had achieved one of its main aims of raising the awareness about child trafficking and the need to withdraw the children from the tin mines.

#### ANNEX III (a)

## WORKSHOP ON OUTCOME OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SURVEY IN THE TIN MINES IN JOS

#### **ATTENDANCE**

ATTENDANGE			TITOL
	S/I	NAME	ADDRESS
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.	Alhaji Baba Aliyu Sule Gambo Audu Jafar Amalam Dido Yau Shehu	Sarkin Hausawa Gindi Akwati Ex-Land (Gindi Akwati) Ex-Land (Gindi Akwati) Gindi Akwati Gindi Akwat
	6.	Isa Dauda	Ex-Law Gindi Akwati
	7.	Suraji A. Majaji	Ex-Law Gindi Akwati
	8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40	Adams Alhaji Bubakar Thomas Matawal Alhaji Aminu Ajade Stephen M.Jah Mai Angwa Sunday Tengs Stephen Mabitine Malo Izuk Aminu Ahmed Lawal Idi Yau Mustapha Sabo Hon. S.D. Makwa HRH Adanchin (Makai Bokkos) Raymond S. Alhaji Audu Mashat Sat Mangor Mallan Ali Magaji Makai Foroh Yohana M.M. Mabur Masara M. Kwakas Rich Odeh Muktar Yohana Dibal Musa Alhaji Mustapha C.E Nnadi Gospel Osisike Zaki Ali Jumoh Madaki Jude Paul Samson Jacob Magaji Yusuf Jimoh Isreal Mahmud Audu Ezekiel Sunda	Ex-Law Gindi Akwati Gindi Akwati Ex-Law Gindi Akwati Dagom Nghar Gindi Akwati Gindi Akwati Gindi Akwati Gindi Akwati Hon. Counselor Ex-Law(Gindi Akwati) Bokkos District Office Bokkos (Maka Tangu) Bokkos District Maka, Bokkos District Madake Bokkos District Bokkos District Mangar Bokkos District Taragor Bokkos District Barkin Ladi Bokkos Bokkos Bokkos
	41	Philip Jamok	Bokkos District
	42 43	Musa Mallan Emmanuel Jacob	Bokkos District Barkin Ladi
	44	Rufai Mohammed	Barkin Ladi
	45	Joel Usman	Barkin Lad
	46	Abubakar Tiko	Barkin Ladi
	47	Amel Dibo	Barkin Ladi
	48	Sidi Uba	Barkin Ladi
	49	Dr. Chris Enabulele	Consultant

#### ANNEX III (b)

WORKSHOP ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH ANS SAFETY SURVEY OF TRAFFICKED CHILDREN IN THE TIN MINES IN JOS AREA, PLATEAU STATE, NIGERIA ON THE 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2004 AT BARKIN LADI

#### **PROGRAMME**

I OPENING CEREMONY	
9.00 – 9.30	Arrival of Participants of the Workshop
9.30	Arrival of Guests of Honour.
9.35	Arrival of Special Guest of Honour.
9.35	National Anthem.
9.40	Opening Prayers.
9.45	Introduction of Special Guest of Honour and others.
9.55	Opening Speech by the Chairman.
10.10	Speech by the I.L.O Consultant: Brief Overview of the Outcome of the survey.
10.40 - 11.10	Goodwill messages by the Sarki of Nar and Rankulere of Bokos.
11.10 - 11.30	Speech by the Special Guest of Honour (Hon. Chairman Barkin Ladi, LGA).
11.30	Vote of thanks by the I.L.O Consultant.
11.40	Closing Remarks by the Chairman.
11.50	Closing Prayers and National Anthem.
11.50	Refreshments.
II. BUSINESS SESSION	
11.45	Opening remarks by the Chairman.
11.55	Overview of the Outcome of the Survey
	by the ILO Consultant.
12.15-1.00	Brief Presentations by Other
	Stakeholders.
1.00-1.45	LUNCH.
1.50-2.30	Brief Presentation by Other
	Stakeholders.
2.30	Communiqué.
3.00	Closing Remarks by the Chairman.

#### ANNEX III (c)

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN B/LADI LOCAL GOVT COUNCIL HON MOSES GWON SHUTT AS SPECIAL GUEST OF HONOUR DURING A WORKSHOP ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SURVEY OF TRAFFICKED CHILDREN IN THE TIN MINES IN JOS AREA HOTELS AT GWOL MOTEL B/LADILGA

- The Chairman of this occasion.
- The International Labour Organization Consultant.
- Participants of this workshop.
- Stake holders.
- Traditional Rulers.
- Distinguish Guest.
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me a pleasure to welcome you to B/Ladi Local Government Area+\* for this all-important workshop on Occupational Health and Safety Survey of Trafficked Children in the Tin Mines in Jos Area which B/Ladi LGC is also an adversely affected area in Plateau State.

I want to thank the organizers of this Workshop for choosing B/Ladi Local Government Area as the venue of the workshop which is not out of context, but it is deserving. Historically, B/Ladi Local Government has suffered adversely its land to tin miners, expose our rich land for Agricultural purposes as well as indulge our Children into sub zooming in occupational health Hazard which has not contributed to the development and economy of the Area. It is in this regard that I appeal to the participants of this workshop to take serious considerations the effects of mining activities in the affected areas. I want to call on the State, Local governments affected by the menace to come out with a blue print that will help protect and safeguard our children in the mining areas, as well as enhanced their welfare in the areas under – review.

In view of the tin miners activities in our land which they have exposed our farmland as a Health and deregulation.

I am happy to stress that Government and non-governmental organization Including the ILO have been sensitizing people over Child Trafficked Act. This is manifested by the setting-up of a programme on child labour and eradication of trafficking – WOTCLEF – being championed by the wife of the Vice-President, Hajiya Amina Titi Abubakar. My address will be incomplete without drawing the attention of the national assembly to revisit, and quickly ensure passage of the Bill on Mineral Producing areas which will go a long way in reducing the hardship

encountered and ameliorate the suffering of our people because of tin mining activities. Finally, Mr. Chairman Sir, participants of this Workshop, Traditional Rulers, Stake holders and Distinguish guest, as you deliberate extensively on issue that will better the lots of our children's children let me assure you that B/Ladi will leave no stone unturned in her resolute to assist directly or indirectly towards this very important programme.

As you depart to your various destinations, I wish you journey mercies to your destination and may God bless you all. Amen.

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