Questionnaire of the Fourth Commission.

Working conditions for children.

URUGUAY

1. Has your country provided for a legislation or protective measures concerning children at work?
The National Constitution contains an article for children’s protection about work. We have a legislation which provides protective measures concerning children at work.
In the affirmative, specify the purpose and main lines, particularly:
- minimum age for employment;
- differences in rights based on age;
- special working conditions for children.

The purpose is to improve the conditions at work, authorisation, supervision from the State, age, medical care, vacations, salary. Minimum age is regulated for different areas of job according to age and kind of job. In many cases it is required a special authorisation from parents or from INAME (INAME is a public institution created to protect children in danger on the street, or in case they broke the penal law). Differences in rights based on age are provided by law, specially about labour time, for example: under 14 it is forbidden to work during the night or to work more than 6 hours a day. These measures protect children and their right to receive education. In our country primary and high school are obligatory. Many laws provide special working conditions for children.

2. What are the sanctions (applied or applicable) in case of breach of children’s right at work?
Applicable sanctions: for the employers, from fine up to prison, for the parents, loose of their rights concerning their children.

Any recent cases in your country on violation of children’s right at work?
No.

3. Specify, if need be, the concrete measures likely to improve the conditions of children at work in your country.
To improve control on enforcement of the law.

In case you need further information, please ask for it.

Note: This information is provided by Dr. Eduardo Vázquez Cruz, Ex Minister of Appeal Labour Court. At present, Dr. Vazquez sits in the Civil Court.