



# UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

## INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

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### RE: IPEC CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

The Institute for Development Studies (IDS) joins IPEC in celebrating 20 years of work on elimination of child labour.

The Institute for Development Studies (IDS), a faculty within the University of Nairobi, undertakes research, teaching and dissemination of knowledge on various development issues affecting Kenya and other parts of the world. Elimination of child labour has not been a major focus within the IDS but since the advent of IPEC in Kenya, various faculty and students have increasingly been engaged in teaching and researching the field.

IDS has undertaken studies culminating in the publishing of a book on child labour (Alila P.O. & J.M. Njoka (eds.) (2009) Child Labour: New and Enduring forms from an African Development Policy Perspective. IDS-UoN & ILO-IPEC). It addresses the conceptual foundations of child labour as well as thematic concerns in education, child participation, commercial sex exploitation of children, informal economy and general poverty policy concerns. Although not currently available due to the non-commercial approach of ILO/IPEC, the book is the major reference on child labour issues for both public and private sectors.

In the course of publishing the book, IDS managed to increase awareness and mobilise faculty, students and IPEC implementing agencies including the tripartite for debates and discourses on elimination of child labour.

These discourses and engagements have continued to inform actions and processes for the elimination of child labour including the formulation of the National Child Labour Policy and the development of a National Child Protection Systems. The project promoter has indeed become a major resource person in the region not only on child labour issues but on broader child and social protection issues.

Besides the policy debates and engagement, IDS incorporated a module on child labour and child protection within a course on human resources development for graduate students taking the Master of Arts degree in Development Studies. The course is a living avenue for dissemination of knowledge on child labour and its worst forms.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Winnie Mitullah'.

Prof. Winnie Mitullah  
Director, IDS