

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

Convention fixing the minimum age for admission of children to industrial employment, adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation at its first session, Washington, 28 November 1919, as modified by the Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946

English and French official texts communicated by the Director-General of the International Labour Office. The registration took place on 15 September 1949.

ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DU TRAVAIL

Convention fixant l'âge minimum d'admission des enfants aux travaux industriels, adoptée par la Conférence générale de l'Organisation internationale du Travail à sa première session, Washington, 28 novembre 1919, telle qu'elle a été modifiée par la Convention portant revision des articles finals, 1946

Textes officiels anglais et français communiqués par le Directeur général de l'Organisation internationale du Travail. L'enregistrement a eu lieu le 15 septembre 1949.

No. 588. CONVENTION¹ FIXING THE MINIMUM AGE FOR
ADMISSION OF CHILDREN TO INDUSTRIAL EMPLOY-
MENT, AS MODIFIED BY THE FINAL ARTICLES
REVISION CONVENTION, 1946²

The General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,
Having been convened by the Government of the United States of
America at Washington on the 29th day of October 1919, and
Having decided upon the adoption of certain proposals with regard to
the "employment of children : minimum age of employment",
which is part of the fourth item in the agenda for the Washington
meeting of the Conference, and
Having determined that these proposals shall take the form of an inter-
national Convention,

adopts the following Convention, which may be cited as the Minimum Age
(Industry) Convention, 1919, for ratification by the Members of the Inter-
national Labour Organisation in accordance with the provisions of the
Constitution of the International Labour Organisation :

Article 1

1. For the purpose of this Convention, the term "industrial under-
taking" includes particularly—

- (a) mines, quarries and other works for the extraction of minerals from
the earth;
- (b) industries in which articles are manufactured, altered, cleaned, repaired,
ornamented, finished, adapted for sale, broken up or demolished, or in
which materials are transformed; including shipbuilding, and the gene-
ration, transformation, and transmission of electricity and motive power
of any kind;
- (c) construction, reconstruction, maintenance, repair, alteration, or demo-
lition of any building, railway, tramway, harbour, dock, pier, canal,
inland waterway, road, tunnel, bridge, viaduct, sewer, drain, well,

¹ For the date of entry into force of the Convention and the list of ratifications
see Certified Statement on page 90.

² See page 3.

telegraphic or telephonic installation, electrical undertaking, gas work, water work, or other work of construction, as well as the preparation for or laying the foundations of any such work or structure;

(d) transport of passengers or goods by road or rail or inland waterway, including the handling of goods at docks, quays, wharves, and warehouses, but excluding transport by hand.

2. The competent authority in each country shall define the line of division which separates industry from commerce and agriculture.

Article 2

Children under the age of fourteen years shall not be employed or work in any public or private industrial undertaking, or in any branch thereof, other than an undertaking in which only members of the same family are employed.

Article 3

The provisions of Article 2 shall not apply to work done by children in technical schools, provided that such work is approved and supervised by public authority.

Article 4

In order to facilitate the enforcement of the provisions of this Convention, every employer in an industrial undertaking shall be required to keep a register of all persons under the age of sixteen years employed by him, and of the dates of their births.

Article 5

1. In connection with the application of this Convention to Japan, the following modifications of Article 2 may be made :

- (a) children over twelve years of age may be admitted into employment if they have finished the course in the elementary school;
- (b) as regards children between the ages of twelve and fourteen already employed, transitional regulations may be made.

2. The provisions in the present Japanese law admitting children under the age of twelve years to certain light and easy employments shall be repealed.