

ANEXO 3/ANNEX 3
LENGUAJE ORIGINAL / ORIGINAL LANGUAGE

Grupo 1

1. Haití

A continuación se transcribe la carta recibida del Instituto de Bienestar Social e Investigaciones de Haití, en respuesta al cuestionario enviado por el IIN:

‘La Dirección General del Instituto de Bienestar Social e Investigaciones (IBESR) tiene el honor de saludarla y acusar recibo del cuestionario enviado referente al plan de Acción en materia de Explotación Sexual de Niños y Adolescentes.

Dentro de la Organización Interna del Instituto, funciona la Dirección de la Defensa Social que atiende todos los casos de Explotación Sexual de Niños.

Cuando esta Dirección recibe las denuncias (quejas), ella garantiza el seguimiento de los expedientes a nivel policial, judicial y social.

Sería deseable que el Instituto Interamericano del Niño venga a Haití para evaluar nuestro sistema de protección a los efectos de ayudar a la Dirección de la Defensa Social del IBESR en la elaboración de un Plan de Acción efectivo en esta área.

La Dirección General del IBESR agradece y aprovecha la ocasión para presentarle su más alta consideración.

Sr. Leonel CADET
Director General

2. Saint Lucia

1. Does your country have a “Plan of action” regarding the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents?

No

2. If so, since when?

3. Is it being applied at the present?

4. What are its main components?

5. Does this plan have financial support?

6. Who is the person and institution in charge of coordinating the plan?

7. Has your country improved in establishing specific actions for the prevention, protection and rehabilitation of commercial and non-commercial sexual exploitation?

8. Which of these actions would you consider more important?

9. Are there any training programs for professionals working in sexual exploitation related to programs and services?

10. Are there any services with an interinstitutional and intersectorial focus for the treatment, recovery and reintegration of the victims into society?

IF THE ANSWER IS THAT THERE IS NO PLAN OF ACTION go to question 15

11. Has your country implemented specific actions for the Prevention, legal and judicial Protection and Rehabilitation of commercial and non-commercial sexual exploitation?

12. Which of these actions would you consider most important?

13. Are there any training programs for professionals working in sexual exploitation related to programs and services?

14. Are there any services with an interinstitutional and intersectorial focus for the treatment, recovery and reintegration of the victims into society?

Within the frame of the ‘Plan of Action’ or beyond it,

According to the legal protection:

15. Does your country have a proper legislation to punish and prosecute criminal acts related to sexual exploitation, child pornography, trafficking of children for the purpose of sexual exploitation?

Yes.

Section 225 (1) of the Criminal Code states:

Whoever-

- A. procures any female under twenty on e years of age to have unlawul carnal connection, either within or without the Commonwealth ... in or out of this state:
- B. procures any female to become... a common prostitute
- C. procures any female to leave this state, with intent that she may become an inmate of, or frequent a brothel elsewhere, is liable indictable to imprisonment for two years.

Any further in Subsection (2)

Whoever knowing that any of the offences mentioned in the proceeding subsection has been committed in the case of any person, abets the unlawful detention of such person, or otherwise abets the execution of the intent with which that offence was committed, is guilty of that offence;

And in subsection (4)

A police constable may take into custody without a warrant any person whom he shall have good cause to suspect of having committed, or of attempting to commit any offence against this section.

Section 226 (1) states further:

Whoever-

- a. by false preferences or false representations procures any male to have unlawful carnal connection, either within or without the Commonwealth with any person,
- b. by threats or intimidation procures any female to have any unlawful carnal connection, either within or without ... with any person.
- c. Applies, administers to or causes to be taken by any female any drug, matter or thing with intent to stupefy or overpower so as thereby to enable any person to have unlawful carnal connection with such female.

Is liable indictably to imprisonment for two years.

NB. AMENDMENTS TO THE CRIMINAL CODE (2004)

There have been amendments to the Criminal Code regarding prostitution and commercial sexual exploitation. Worthy of note in Section 141 (1) are:

- a. the reduction in age from twenty-one years to eighteen years;
- b. the inclusion of both male and female;
- c. the increased penalty of imprisonment for seven years up from two years.

Another note worthy amendment is in Section 142 which speaks to producing defilement of abetment or abetment of defilement by guardian or parent. This is a significant development as one of the concerns of practitioners is the known fact that some parents and guardians condone and encourage their children to engage in sexual activity for financial gain from. In addition, some parents and guardians choose not to pursue criminal proceedings in matters of sexual offences, in lieu of a financial settlement and/or arrangement with the perpetrators of the offence. With this amendment, parents and guardians will not be able to aid and abet such actions with impunity.

16. When was the last time it was updated?

The laws pertaining to children are presently under review.

17. Do you think that the steps taken for the Prevention, legal and judicial protection and rehabilitation of the victims have been effective (if they can achieve their goals) and efficient (having a good cost- benefit relation)?

Yes.

Could you make any comment about this?

However, financial human and technological resources are not adequate. The Division of Human Services and Family Affairs which has the responsibility for the care and

protection of children provides counseling, and support to children and their families who are affected by sexual exploitation. For example, applications are routinely made to the Family Court for a Care and Protection Order of Children who are at risk. Some children who are victims of sexual abuse are assigned a Family Case Worker who assists in the necessary medical and legal intervention as well finding an alternative place of safety. The services of the Division are severely hampered by the absence of a Transit Home for children, a well funded Foster Care and Adoption Programme and inadequate staffing.

18. Are there any coordination mechanisms with Interpol to fight against children and adolescents trafficking?

Yes, there are mechanisms with Interpol to fight trafficking of children. This is coordinated by Royal Saint Lucia Police Force, Special Branch.

With reference to researches and indicators:

19. Are there any researches programs and/or data bases with indicators that differentiates for commercial and non-commercial sexual exploitation?

The Division is not aware of any research, programmes and data bases for commercial and non commercial sexual exploitation of children.

If yes, are there any indicators about the risk factors that influence on the problem?

Thank you

Karen John-Matthews

Family Case Worker

Clementia Eugene

Director, Human Services and Family Affairs

Grupo 2

3. Antigua and Barbuda

1) In previous interviews your country said to the Inter.-American Children's Institute that you had a 'Plan of Action' about Sexual Exploitation.

* Is the plan being applied?

* Which have been its most important advances?

The plan of action addressing Sexual Exploitation is part of the plan to eliminate all forms of violence against women and children.

Support services are provided to those who experienced sexual exploitation and legislation is in place to give legal protection to women and children- The Sexual Offences Act, 1995

2) What are its main components?

Measures to protect and prevent the sexual exploitation of women and children. These include Support services and legislative reform.

3) Does this plan have a financial support?

The financial support for the implementation of the plan is provided by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda

4) Who is the person and institution in charge of coordinating the plan?

The plan is coordinated by the Directorate of Gender Affairs.

The person in charge is Sheila Roseau, Executive Director

5) Has your country improved in establishing specific actions for the prevention, protection and rehabilitation of commercial and non-commercial sexual exploitation?

There is significant improvement in actions for the prevention, protection and rehabilitation of commercial and non-commercial sexual exploitation.

Support services in the form of counseling and advice, education and training and legal services

6) Which of these actions would you consider the most important?

All these actions are important and work together to ensure effective prevention and protection

7) Do you believe that the measures of prevention, protection and rehabilitation have been effective (if they can achieve their goals) and efficient (have a good cost-benefit relation)?

Some of the measures taken are effective i.e. counseling and support, legal measures where in some cases convictions have resulted. More persons are reporting incidents of sexual exploitation.

Could you please elaborate or comment on this regard?

8) Has your country improved its internal legislation to penalize criminal acts related to sexual exploitation, child pornography, trafficking of children with sexual exploitation purposes in the last year?

Yes, Antigua and Barbuda have penalized criminal acts related to sexual exploitation in the last year.

9) Are there any researches programs and/or data bases with indicators that differentiates for commercial and non-commercial sexual exploitation?

No

If yes, are there any indicators about the risk factors that influence on the problem?

Thank you

4. The Bahamas

1. In previous interviews your country said to the Inter- American Children's Institute that you had a 'Plan of Action' about Sexual Exploitation.

We have initiated the development of a national protocol that would enhance and address our response to sexual exploitation and ensure standardization.

Is the plan being applied?

The steps that have been identified thus far.

Which have been its most important advances?

An initiation of a revision of the 1991 Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences Act.

2. What are its main components?

Investigations and interventions by the Police and Social Services. To strengthen preventative measures. The National Child Prevention Council has been restyled the National Child Protection Council in an effort to assist all children at risk.

3. Does this plan have a financial support?

Mainly funded via Government Budget allocations.

4. Who is the person and institution in charge of coordinating the plan?

The Director of Social Services, Ministry of Social Services and Community Development. (Post now filled by Mellany Zonicle)

5. Has your country improved in establishing specific actions for the prevention, protection and rehabilitation of commercial and non-commercial sexual exploitation?

These are areas we would wish to research further.

6. Which of these actions would you consider the most important?

Strengthening the Child Protection Council.

7. Do you believe that the measures of prevention, protection and rehabilitation have been effective (if they can achieve their goals) and efficient (have a good cost-benefit relation)?

Could you please elaborate or comment on this regard?

8. Has your country improved its internal legislation to penalize criminal acts related to sexual exploitation, child pornography, trafficking of children with sexual exploitation purposes in the last year?

Efforts are in the process to amend legislation.

9. Are there any researches programs and/or data bases with indicators that differentiate for commercial and non-commercial sexual exploitation?

Not currently.

If yes, are there any indicators about the risk factors that influence on the problem?

Grupo 3

5.Dominica

1. In previous interviews your country said to the Inter- American Children's Institute that you still didn't have a 'Plan of Action' about Sexual Exploitation.

At the present, do you have one?

No. Dominica has not yet implemented a Plan of Action as it regards sexual exploitation.

Within the frame of the 'Plan of Action' or beyond it,
According to the legal protection:

2. Does your country have a proper legislation to penalize criminal acts related to sexual exploitation, child pornography, the trafficking of children for the purpose of sexual exploitation?

Yes. The Sexual Offences Act No.1 of 1998 makes provisions relating to sexual crimes, including the abduction, procuring and prostitution of children and the unlawful detention of children with the intent to have sexual intercourse. Section 4(1)(c) of the Act sets the age of consent at sixteen years, up from fourteen years as stipulated under the previous Act. Section 7 provides for a maximum of 25 years' imprisonment for any person who has sexual intercourse with any person under the age of fourteen years, for attempting to have sex with a child between the ages of fourteen and sixteen years. Dominica's law enforcement authorities have not yet been confronted with cases of sale and trafficking of children. The Offences Against the Person Act Chap. 10:31 section 51 makes it an offence to fraudulent allure, take away or detain a woman under the age of eighteen years while section 54 makes child stealing an offence liable to imprisonment for three years. Presently, no law exists to deal with the issue of Child Pornography, whether via the internet or otherwise, however, such is under review. The Children and Young Persons Act Chap. 37.50 and the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act N°. 2 of 2001 also provides protection for minors.

3. When was the last time it was updated?

The Sexual Offences Act was revised and reformed in 1998, The Children and Young Persons Act was revised and reformed in 1990, and the Protection Against Domestic Violence Act was revised and reformed in 2001.

4. Do you think that the steps taken for the Prevention, legal and judicial protection and rehabilitation of the victims have been effective (obeying the objectives) and efficient (having a good cost- benefit relation)?

Could you make any comment about this?

The legal protection does exist as, there is legislation present which offers protection to children as it regards sexual exploitation and attempts are being made to enforce such. The judicial protection however seems to be lacking in amenities. A Family Court would greatly improve this situation and the government of Dominica has been studying a proposal for a Family Court. A Family Court would be a combination of social and legal services making Court more 'child friendly', which would by extension provide better protection. There is also the need to make members of the judiciary a bit more sensitive to children's issues and to victims of sexual exploitation. In light of this, attempts are being made to train legal and judicial officials in that regard. Funding for this is being provided by UNICEF. The rehabilitation of the victims have been effective, however, a higher level of professionalism, in terms of the availability of the expertise of clinical psychologists, not just counselors, is needed. Also lacking are shelters/safe environments for such children. There is an ongoing collaborative effort between the government of Dominica and the National Children's Home, which is a British based organization with offices, which has resulted in the commencement of an emergency facility for at risk children.

Yes, the steps taken do have a good cost benefit relation. In all the above mentioned areas, human and financial resources are being utilized for the benefit of the child. There is a cost but it is beneficial for the protection of the child and the prevention of sexual exploitation.

5. Are there any coordination mechanisms with Interpol to fight against children and adolescents trafficking?

There are several non-governmental agencies, regionally and internationally, which collaborate on children's policies. Worth mentioning are UNICEF, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the National Children's Home (NCH) and the Christina Children's Fund (CCF). The Optional Protocol Convention on the Rights of the Child, Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography instrument of the United Nations was signed on September 20, 2002.

With reference to researchs and indicators:

6. Are there any investigating programs and/or data basis with indicators which differentiates the commercial and non-commercial sexual exploitation as well as indicators showing the risk factor that influence these problematic?

No. The situation however, is being closely monitored but, at present there is no indication that commecial sexual exploitation is taking place within the Commonwealth of Dominica.

Países que no respondieron a la consulta 2005. Información relevada de Internet

Grupo 3

1. Jamaica

Plan de acción

The government has adopted a country programme for Children in Especially Difficult Circumstances and has also established the Specialist Committee on Child Abuse. The Planning Institute of Jamaica is addressing the issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children as part of the wider agenda of the Child Labour Co-ordinating Committee. A task force has been established within the Ministry for Local Government, Youth and Community Development.

To our knowledge UNICEF has been carrying out awareness and sensitisation campaigns on commercial sexual exploitation. www.ecpat.net

Commitment to the Stockholm Agenda for Action: 28th August 1996

There is no National Plan of Action on CSEC. The country has a five-year Development Plan for Children and there is no information on whether the plan contains CSEC provisions.

www.ecpat.net

Principales acciones

Protection: The government has no formal policy for protecting child trafficking victims, but they are offered the same general assistance through social services to the needy and vulnerable that are provided to other children removed from abusive situations. There are no government-funded shelters specifically for trafficking victims, but the government's Child Development Agency oversees facilities for at-risk children. The government provides funding to NGOs that work to reintegrate child laborers who are victims of trafficking.

<http://gvnet.com/humantrafficking/Jamaica-2.htm>

The Jamaican Foundation for Children, a local NGO, runs a child hotline that offers telephone-counselling services. Also, the Government runs the Children's Service Division. This has responsibility for children in need of care and protection who are beyond parental control.

www.ecpat.net

Commercial sex work is illegal in Jamaica. Section 3 of the Town and Communities Act prohibits loitering and soliciting for prostitution and offences are usually punished by fines. The age of legal consent for sexual activities is sixteen years and the age of marriage is 18. However there is no single definition of the child.

Article 44 of the Penal Code prohibits rape and attempted rape and is punishable by from seven years to life imprisonment. Article 40 of the Penal Code prohibits aggravated assaults on women or children. Under Article 44 carnally knowing, or

attempting to carnally know, a girl under twelve is an offence. Article 50 makes it a misdemeanour to have carnal knowledge with a child above 12 but under 16. Article 53 addresses indecent assault on a girl under 16.

The forcible abduction of a woman of any age is punishable under Article 56. Abduction of a girl under sixteen, under Article 57, is regarded as a misdemeanour. Article 60 prohibits abducting a girl under 18 with intent to have carnal knowledge. Article 61 enjoins unlawful detention with intent to have carnal knowledge.

Article 45 explicitly considers child prostitution as a misdemeanour. Under Article 51, persons inducing or encouraging defilement of a young girl will be imprisoned for life if such girl is under the age of twelve years and imprisoned for up to five years if the girl is above 12 but under 16. Procuring a girl under 18 for prostitution is punished under Article 58. Article 59 deals with procuring defilement of a woman by threats or fraud, or administering drugs. Living on the earnings of prostitution is prohibited under Article 63. Article 64 forbids encouraging prostitution of a girl under 16.

Jamaica does not have a statutory law that prohibits pornography. It is a Common Law offence and a person may be prosecuted for it.

UNICEF Jamaica reported in 1998 that a comprehensive child protection act was being drafted which should ensure that the necessary legislation is enacted to ensure protection of children. Currently, laws are fragmented and they classify most assaults as misdemeanours. Bail is often granted to the offender, especially in child abuse cases. The laws protect the perpetrators more. The enforcement of laws to protect children who have been commercially sexually exploited is almost non-existent. The police statistics division has received no data on reported arrests or prosecutions for any form of commercial sexual exploitation.

There are indications that police take payment to act as pimps to guarantee protection from police harassment. Responses also noted that the frequent harassment of tourists has prompted the Government to take actions to clean up tourist resorts

www.ecpat.net

Prevention: Government officials recognize that children in poverty are vulnerable to trafficking, but government engagement is limited by resource constraints. The government's strategy is to work with international organizations such as UNICEF and ILO to carry out public awareness campaigns that focus on child education and women's empowerment. The government participates in an ILO program to combat child commercial sexual exploitation and child labor in the tourism industry. A campaign is planned to inform the public on the new Child Care and Protection Act, which includes provisions to protect trafficking victims and prosecute offenders. <http://gvnet.com/humantrafficking/Jamaica-2.htm>

Recovery and Reintegration into Society: The Red Cross and Children First both operate recovery and rehabilitation programmes. They aim at providing alternative education and social education opportunities for children aged between 10 and 14. Individual children involved in commercial sex are counselled and supported as far as possible to utilise the opportunities offered by the programme to gain new skills.

www.ecpat.net

Trafficking: There is little information about the trafficking of children for sexual purposes. Research however, points to sex workers moving from one tourist resort to another depending on where more clients can be found. Also, because of the stigma attached to it, internal migration is a way to avoid becoming a familiar face in one location. There is voluntary international migration for sex work mainly to Europe and USA, but recently, sex workers have started travelling to Cuba because of the increase in the sex industry there

Child Prostitution: is a significant problem. This is particularly true in heavily touristed areas such as Montego Bay. The Montego Bay Freeport has facilities for cruise berths, yacht clubs and commercial and tourist development that have contributed to the increase in the sex tourism in the area. Go-go dance clubs in the area employ the services of girls as young as 14 or 15 years. These children are known to offer sex. Other major sex tourist areas are Kingston, Port Antonio, and Negril. Ocho Rios is reported to be Jamaica's fastest growing tourist resort area where there is widespread sex tourism. The town is a popular cruise line destination with between one and four ships docking there every day.

Male and female sex workers operating in tourist areas are known as "beach boys" and "beach girls." It is often clearly visible. Working on the beach, they make private contacts with tourists. Additionally, there are reports of van operators who take passengers to safe houses for sex with boys and girls and some girls are sent out to the beach by their parents to wait for men. They can also be found in various other locations including bars, casinos and nightclubs. Crewmembers also visit sex workers in specially designated lounges near the pier.

In general, clients are mostly westerners, but local men are also involved. The latter are reportedly clients of "\$20 prostitutes" (less than US\$ 1.00). Boy prostitution, described as "rent-a-dread," also occurs. Similar to other countries in the region female tourists engage in sex tourism.

Jamaica differs from other regions in that child sex workers are autonomous. They control their own earnings and the concept of pimps is conspicuously absent. The exception is the police. They sometimes act as pimps, taking some of the sex workers' earnings, to guarantee protection from police interference.

The push factors are common to other regions of the world. Poverty is a fundamental reason. Additionally, sexual abuse of children is rife in Jamaica and many abused children end up in prostitution. Consumerism also plays a part. Girls are leaving school early drawn by the profits of prostitution. Sex in exchange for fancy goods and clothing, such as Nike sportswear has been one of the classic examples. This has given rise to the "sugar daddy phenomenon" in the country

Child Pornography: There are unconfirmed reports of pornographic clubs and rings that use the service of children in the production of pornographic materials

Commercial Sexual Exploitation: CSEC is growing in Jamaica: particularly with respect to sex tourism. There is a link between CSEC and tourism and as in many other regions, poverty is a catalyst. An increasing number of young men and women are entering the sex trade as a means to break the cycle of poverty. Other contributory factors are the high rate of teen-age pregnancy and school dropouts. According to the CRC report in

2000, There are also growing numbers of children living and/or working in the streets where they are exposed to various forms of exploitation and abuse.

The high incidence of teenage pregnancies and female-headed households make children particularly vulnerable to sexual abuse, domestic violence, neglect and abandonment. This sometimes leads to children becoming involved in prostitution. It is reported that 70% of children are born out of wedlock. Many enter prostitution after encouragement from friends or family members who also work in the profession.

Reforma legislativa

The Government has not taken many steps to combat the issue. There are a dearth of preventative programs and rehabilitation services. Protection measures are particularly weak. This includes both legislation and law enforcement. UNICEF Jamaica reported in 1998 that a comprehensive child protection act was being drafted which should ensure that the necessary legislation is enacted to ensure protection of children

www.ecpat.net

Prosecution Jamaica law enforcement efforts against traffickers were weak during 2003. The government's law enforcement strategy against child sex trafficking is based upon the new Child Care and Protection Act. The government does not collect law enforcement data on trafficking. From information provided on related offenses, it is clear that few arrests or prosecutions of child sex traffickers have occurred. The government is working with the IOM to enhance its ability to detect transnational trafficking, and an island-wide passenger entry and exit system is expected to be operational in the summer of 2004. In February 2004, Jamaican authorities arrested one Canadian and two Polish nationals attempting to smuggle nine Chinese nationals from Jamaica to the Bahamas.

<http://gvnet.com/humantrafficking/Jamaica-2.htm>

The care and protection of children should be a strong commitment of any administration, and the Government, through the Ministry of Health, is strengthening that resolve with the implementation of the Child Care and Protection Act 2003.

Passed in both Houses of Parliament in March this year, the Act is intended to protect children from abuse and neglect. It also makes persons accountable for the children left in their care.

"The Child Care and Protection Act is a comprehensive piece of legislation, in essence capturing all that was in the previous legislation, the Juveniles Act, and adding some provisions, which have arisen because of changing circumstances in our country," Minister of Health, John Junor tells JIS News in an interview.

Citing some of these provisions in the Act, the Minister says it includes the creation of a Child Advocate that operates as an "Ombudsman for children", with great powers. "The powers are quite wide in respect to investigations and protection of children's rights," the Minister explains.

The Act also advocates for the establishment of a Children's Registry, where persons can go to make complaints of abuse or abandonment, among others.

"Any person suspecting an abuse against a child or who has evidence that the child may be in need of care and protection can report that matter to the Registry. The Registrar will review the case reported and refer it to the appropriate agency for action," he explains.

Minister Junor further explains that the legislation forces the individual to act and failure to do so will result in serious consequences. "If there is a failure to act on a report, it can lead to criminal prosecution both for the Registrar and for the Agency to which it was referred," he points out, adding that the Act stipulates that the person implicated can be fined up to \$250,000 or imprisonment for three months.

Minister Junor says that the Act also provides for circumstances where a child may be in need of care and protection, for example, in issues of cruelty, and the trafficking and sale of children.

"It gives powers, where a child is at risk or is abused, to search for that child and to remove the child from that place. In fact, it goes further than that. It may remove the abuser from the home in which the child is, even if the home belongs to the abuser," he notes.

Addressing the issue of begging, where guardians or parents are proven to be accomplices, Minister Junor points out that the Act prohibits this under Section 41, which states that persons can be fined \$250,000.

Chief Executive Officer of the Child Development Agency CDA, Allison Anderson informs JIS News that the CDA has been vigilant in terms of its monitoring, with specific standards and procedures being implemented. Monitoring, she says, takes the form of announced and unannounced visits.

"For each region, whatever number of homes, they have a set number of announced and unannounced visits that they are to make for the month and for the quarter," she explains.

Miss Anderson says there are usually three visits to each home for the quarter. Meanwhile, she says that the CDA has already started a six-month educational campaign to educate the public about the Act itself. The Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) and the Council of Voluntary Social Services (CVSS) are funding the campaign.

The legislation stipulates that every children's home has to be licensed. Commenting on this issue, Miss Anderson says once the Regulations of the Act come into force, all new homes will be required to be licensed.

Meanwhile, she says the other 60 homes, which now exist, will also have to be licensed under the Act.

"This is a comprehensive legislation that is meant to provide a framework for the care and protection of children and it is the first time that a piece of legislation speaks specifically to the importance of the family as a social unit and that I think is a big benefit for children," Miss Anderson says.

"It also creates a structure within which any kind of child maltreatment is to be identified, investigated and punished and it speaks to some extreme forms of child

maltreatment, which we never recognized before under any law, such as child trafficking and also child labour," she adds.

Miss Anderson says the Act also sets out guidelines for decision making on behalf of children, which is very new. "What the Act does say is whenever people are making decisions about children, the best interests of the child should be paramount in making that decision and the Act helps us in some things that you would wish to consider when taking the best interest of the child into account," she says.

Two Optional Protocols on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, were adopted to strengthen the provisions of the Convention in these areas. They came into force on February 12 and January 18, 2002, respectively.

www.pnpjamaica.com/innews

2. Saint Kitts and Nevis

La búsqueda en Internet no arrojó resultados útiles para la redacción del informe. La información disponible en páginas web corresponde a fechas muy anteriores a los datos aportados por el informe que Saint Kitts and Nevis completó en el año 2003, por lo que no se consideró pertinente consignarla.

3. Trinidad and Tobago

Para el caso de Trinidad and Tobago, se entendió que las respuestas brindadas a la consulta sobre “Tráfico con Fines de Explotación Sexual de Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes en el Hemisferio y sus Marcos Normativos” de diciembre de 2004, completaba básicamente la información solicitada y dado que la misma había sido efectuada dos meses antes, se entendió oportuno no reiterar la consulta a este país.