



Takenin Chheuteal village, Kandal province, Cambodia, on May 2, 2011.
This girl dries bricks for a brick factory.

Hello ladies and gentlemen,
today I will speak about child labour.

Child labour is a work that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous for children. It keeps them away from school. I think it's very alarming that you can find about 60% of the children having to work in agriculture, fishing, hunting and on banana plantations e.g. in Ecuador.

And 14 million children are estimated to be directly involved in manufacturing goods e.g. in clothing. But why does child labour exist? There are many reasons. One is that the families don't have much money e.g. for food. Or natural disasters like Tsunamis destroy families' property and can force children to go into child labour. A political reason is that often laws that exist to protect the children from working are often not followed.

And now we have to think about in which terrible conditions the children have to work. On cotton fields, for example, the children have to pick up the cotton with their hands without any protection! The same problem can be found in the chocolate industries. Sometimes they have to work 14 hours and they don't get much water and even if they get some it is polluted, and bad food.

Now we have to think about the children who risk their health to help their families! And we have to help the Unicef organisation to help these children between the age of 5 and 15.

Thank you!

Hannah Ludger

