



Protecting Children from Sexual Offenders in the Information Technology Era

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Souheil Marine
Head, ICT Applications and Cybersecurity Division
ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau
souheil.marine@itu.int

Introduction to ITU

- Leading UN agency for information and communication technologies (ICT)
- Founded in 1865, ITU is the oldest specialized agency in the UN system
- Global focal point for governments and the private sector with 191 Member States, 900+ Sector Members and Associates
- ITU Headquarters in Geneva, 11 regional and area offices, 700 staff of 80 nationalities



ITU Activities

- ITU work is implemented through its three Sector's:

Standardization (ITU-T)

Radiocommunication (ITU-R)

Development (ITU-D)

- ITU also organizes TELECOM events:



ITU TELECOM WORLD 2009: an event for the global telecommunication and information communication technology (ICT) sector, and a platform for global telecommunications and ICTs

ITU and Cybersecurity

- ITU constitutes a unique global forum to discuss cybersecurity.
- The **ITU Secretary-General has set cybersecurity as a top priority.**
- **ITU Membership has been calling for a greater role to be played by ITU** in matters relating to cybersecurity through a number of Resolutions, Decisions, Programmes and Recommendations.
- World Summit on Information Society (WSIS)
ITU was entrusted by leaders of the international community with **Action Line C5: "Building Confidence and Security in the Use of ICTs".**
- In 2007, in answer to this responsibility, ITU launched the **Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA)**



ITU and Protecting Children in cyberspace

■ Tunis Commitment of WSIS

24. We recognize *the role of ICTs in the protection of children and in enhancing the development of children. We will strengthen action to protect children from abuse and defend their rights in the context of ICTs.*

In that context, we emphasize that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration.



■ Launching *Child Online Protection (COP) Initiative*

- Established as an international collaborative network for action to protect children online
- Providing guidance on safe online behavior with other UN agencies and partners

■ World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2009

Theme for 2009 - *Protecting Children in Cyberspace*

"Protecting children in cyberspace is clearly our duty. ITU's Child Online Protection (COP) initiative — an integral part of ITU's Global Cybersecurity Agenda — is in line with our mandate to strengthen cybersecurity." - Dr Touré, the SG of the ITU



▪ **Child Online Protection (COP)**

COP is a global initiative created by ITU, aims to tackle cybersecurity holistically, addressing legal, technical, organizational and procedural issues as well as capacity building and international cooperation

www.itu.int/cop



Objectives

- Identify risks and vulnerabilities to children in cyberspace
- Create awareness
- Develop practical tools to help minimize risk
- Share knowledge and experience



■ What Many Parents Don't Know

- Most of children are willing to share personal information about themselves and their family in exchange for goods and services
 - children are increasingly being **targeted by online predators**



Guidelines for
Parents, Guardians
and Educators on
Child Online
Protection

What are the online risks?

- Pornography
- Violence, Hatred speech
- Cyber-bullying, Racism
- Online Fraud, Game addiction, Internet addiction



www.itu.int/cop

Guidelines on COP

<http://www.itu.int/osg/csd/cybersecurity/gca/cop/guidelines/index.html>

- ITU has been working with some COP members to develop initial sets of guidelines for the different stakeholders.

Guidelines for industry

- Children's Charities' Coalition on Internet Safety (CHIS)
- GSM Association
- European Broadcasting Union (EBU)
- INTERPOL
- AfrISPA
- Telecom Italia
- Vodafone

Guidelines for parents, guardians and educators

- Children's Charities' Coalition on Internet Safety (CHIS)
- University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom
- Insafe Network
- European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA)
- European Commission's Safer Internet programme
- Cyber Peace Initiative

Guidelines for policy-makers

- Children's Charities' Coalition on Internet Safety (CHIS)
- United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
- International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC)
- Child Helpline International (CHI)
- INTERPOL

Guidelines for children

- Telefónica
- Children's Charities' Coalition on Internet Safety (CHIS)
- Save the Children
- INTERPOL



Working together

Intergovernmental organizations	NGOs and Associations	Industry
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) ▪ United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) ▪ United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) ▪ United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) ▪ International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) ▪ European Commission - Safer Internet Programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Save the Children ▪ Children's Charities' Coalition on Internet Safety ▪ Child Helpline International ▪ Cyber Peace Initiative ▪ ECPAT ▪ European Network and Information Security Agency European Broadcasting Union (EBU) ▪ European NGO Alliance for Child Safety Online (eNASCO) ▪ eWWG ▪ Family Online Safety Institute (FOSI) ▪ GSM Association ▪ International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Microsoft ▪ Telecom Italia ▪ Telefónica ▪ Vodafone ▪ Etc.

COP National Survey 2009

■ Summary of objective :

- To determine the current scope of online child safety policy and legal frameworks across the world
- To establish a database showing what is happening in the online child safety space around the world



- The online questionnaire was distributed to each of the ITU's 191 Member States in October-December, 2009
- Responses from 56 countries so far
- Survey result recently presented at Internet Governance Forum in Egypt
- Open until the end of this year, available on the COP website www.itu.int/cop
- The database is intended to be a planning tool and, over time, it will help to map what changes are taking place in all parts of the globe

COP National Survey 2009

- Main categories of the questionnaire

The problems

Available advice or guidelines

Available awareness and training programmes

Legal Framework, Law enforcement

Co-operation with the Internet industry

Request for assistance

COP National Survey 2009

■ Main findings of the questionnaire

The problems

Q. What are the main problems facing children and young people in your country in relation to the internet?

- Exposure to illegal content came top of this list, mentioned by 45 countries out of 56.
- Exposure to other forms of harmful or inappropriate content and exposure to bullying or harassment came very close at 43 and 42 respectively.

- Illegal content
- Other forms of harmful/inappropriate content
- Bullying or harassment
- Sexual predators
- Travelling sex offenders (sex tourism)
- Fraud and/or financial scams
- Identity theft
- Over-use or "addiction" to the technology
- Internet related crime such as virus attacks/hacking
- Exposure to age-inappropriate commercial activity

Expose to sexual offenders? YES!

- Exposure to sexual predators : 30 countries out of 56
- Exposure to travelling sex offenders (sex tourism) : 15 countries out of 56

COP National Survey 2009

■ Main findings of the questionnaire

Available advice or guidelines

Q. Which agencies have published advice and guidance about safer internet usage by children and young people?

- Seven respondents said no agency in their country that had produced any advice or guidance on internet safety for children and young people.
- Otherwise the child safety material that was being published in the different countries by a wide variety of agencies.
- Government Ministries and Telecoms Regulators were the most common publishers identified, with NGOs

Guidelines YES, cover sexual offenders? NO!

Q. Published guidelines cover issues of -

- "Exposure to sexual predators"? 25 said NO out of 56
- "Exposure to travelling sex offenders (sex tourism)"? 44 said NO out of 56

COP National Survey 2009

■ Main findings of the questionnaire

Available awareness and training programmes

Q. Are there any programmes/policies within schools/educational establishments/youth groups/other bodies, to promote the safe and responsible use of the Internet to children and young people?

- Only 34 countries confirmed that such programmes exist
- 55% of Least Developed Countries either said there was nothing or they did not know of anything.

Legal Framework, Law enforcement

Q. Does your country have law enforcement officers who have been trained to retrieve and analyze digital data taken from computers and the Internet?

- Only 32 countries answered in the affirmative. 17 said no, and seven did not know

Co-operation with the Internet industry

Q. Does your country have a hotline or other specific mechanism for reporting suspected illegal behaviour found or taking place on the Internet?

- 26 countries said yes, 20 said no and 10 did not know.

COP National Survey 2009

■ Main findings of the questionnaire

Request for assistance

Q. Does your country require assistance?

- The calls for assistance came very strongly from the least developed and the developing countries, and came less strongly from the developed countries.
- The answers to this question gives us a route map for the future activities of the COP initiative within the ITU and its partners.

■ 56 countries participated in the COP National Survey (record as at 9 of December)

Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Bahrain, Barbados, Bangladesh
 Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Czech Rep.
 Colombia, Cape Verde, Denmark, Dominican Rep., Ecuador, Egypt
 Fiji, Grenada, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Latvia, Lesotho
 Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco
 Myanmar, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar
 Rwanda (Republic of), South Africa, Samoa, Seychelles
 Slovak Republic, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland
 Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom, Zambia



Links to more information

- Child Online Protection Initiative (COP)

www.itu.int/cop

- World Telecommunication & Information Society Day

www.itu.int/wtisd/index.html

- Cybersecurity, Spam and Cybercrime:
Confidence and security in the use of ICTs

www.itu.int/cybersecurity

- ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda

www.itu.int/cybersecurity/gca

!Thank You

For more information on Child Online Protection (COP)
visit the website at: www.itu.int/cop

or contact cop@itu.int