

STATEMENT OF ACTION: WEPROTECT SUMMIT 10-11 DECEMBER 2014

We, the civil society organisations who are working to end child sexual exploitation online, believe that this crime cannot be stopped unless governments, law enforcement, industry and civil society work together. Recognising the diverse and important initiatives that are already helping to tackle this abuse worldwide, and the individual focus and reach of our organisations, we have today committed to:

Global action to identify and protect victims

- Provide services to victims of child sexual abuse and exploitation and their families, working with governmental institutions and law enforcement agencies;
- Work with countries and law enforcement agencies to develop, support and promote a child protection strategy that ensures the protection and care of victims is paramount in investigations and which sets out good practice in the treatment of those victims;
- Seek justice for child victims of sexual abuse and exploitation online, including by calling for the criminalisation of the possession, distribution and production of child sexual abuse imagery and the grooming of children online for the purposes of abuse and exploitation;
- Challenge and assist governments to develop and support the implementation of policies relating to online child abuse and exploitation that protect children and offer effective recovery and reintegration strategies for child victims and their families.

Global action to remove child abuse material from the internet

- Work with Governments, law enforcement agencies and the global technology companies to support the verification of child abuse imagery, enable and encourage the reporting of these images and ensure their removal, and facilitate, where appropriate, the sharing of images between relevant parties.

Strengthened co-operation across the world to track down perpetrators

- Cooperate with and/or support law enforcement agencies in their work to identify victims and perpetrators of child sexual abuse, by ensuring effective mechanisms and processes for reporting this abuse, in all its manifestations, to the appropriate authorities.

Build global capacity to tackle child sexual exploitation online

- Undertake public awareness campaigns at global, regional and national levels, including by providing advice and support to children and young people and their families about keeping safe online;
- Provide technical expertise for the development and implementation of evidenced-based, effective policies and interventions to protect children from sexual exploitation online, with monitoring and evaluation frameworks for the tracking of progress;
- Conduct action orientated research into the perpetrators of online abuse, the ways in which children are victimised online, the factors that make individuals more vulnerable in order to prevent abuse and enhance professional responses to victims in terms of rescue, recovery and reintegration as well as investigation and disclosure;
- Actively share knowledge, technical expertise and good practice within and beyond the global community of civil society organisations to enhance individual and collective capacity to respond effectively to online child sexual exploitation.

ECPAT

Family Online Safety Institute

INHOPE: International Association of Internet Hotlines

International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children

Internet Watch Foundation

The Lucy Faithfull Foundation

The Marie Collins Foundation

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

Thorn: Digital Defenders of Children