WeProtect Global Alliance Board Meeting

Summary, December 2022

The WeProtect Global Alliance Policy Board met on 13 and 14 December 2022. The Board papers focused on:

- Introduction of a new Board member
- Reputational risk and membership processes
- Corporate update
- The Alliance’s Strategy 2023-25
- Fundraising strategy and planning.

The following actions and/or next steps were agreed upon:

Introduction of a new Board member

The Chair welcomed Gabriella Kärnekull Wolfe as an active and full participant in the Global Policy board. The Board was committed to adding to the Board an adult survivor of child abuse and provided instructions to the Secretariat on the recruitment process.

Gabriella is Sweden’s Ombudsman against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Co-founder of the survivor organisation Not Your Whore and a representative from Child10.

Reputational risk and membership processes

One of the membership criteria is that a member should not be involved in activities that could adversely affect the Global Alliance. An approach was then proposed to address the risk of damage to the Alliance’s reputation through both action and failure to take action. As outlined in the relevant Board paper, situations should be managed on a case-by-case basis considering individual circumstances, context and risk, being mindful of the establishment of precedents and consistency of enforcement.

- The Board agreed that it was essential to have such criteria in place.
- Decision-making should be mindful of wider legal considerations if sanctions had been imposed on entities and/or individuals with their operating jurisdiction.
- The role of the Secretariat should be primarily reactive prompted by information provided to the Alliance or in the public domain.
- Context should be carefully considered and assessed in each case. Each case would have to be analysed individually, using the framework and criteria.
- While the Alliance would remain focused on performance on tackling child sexual abuse and exploitation online, wider challenges on child and human rights in member governments could be highlighted, making discussions more complex.
- The Board suggested that the Secretariat should compile a generic fact-finding template which would apply to all members.

The following actions were agreed:

1. The Board would suggest questions for a fact-finding template for members.
2. The Secretariat would work to implement the agreed process, including a template.
Corporate updates
WeProtect Global Alliance’s Chief Operating Officer updated the Board on recent operational development, including introducing a formal budget, a new organisational action plan and putting in place new financial and operational policies.

- The Board approved the 2023 Budget.

Strategy 2023-2025
The discussion revolved around the following points:

- WeProtect Global Alliance should act as a catalyst, a connector or a bridge to facilitate a more efficient and effective global response through empowering and supporting members.
- The importance of adopting a public health approach focused on prevention.
- The strategy should make it even clearer that the WeProtect Global Alliance is unique in bringing together the different industries in frank, honest problem-solving, using the concept of “stretch collaboration”.
- There should be a balance between focusing on the specific harm of child sexual abuse online with ensuring we have sight of the bigger picture.
- The Secretariat should liaise with Board members to follow up on comments made and update the strategy accordingly.

Fundraising strategy and planning

- The Board agreed on fundraising priorities for the delivery of the 2023-25 Strategy.
- The Secretariat will follow up with Board members on updates to the Alliance’s fundraising plan (aligned with similar discussions on strategy).
- An updated fundraising strategy is to be finalised and shared with the Board.