



CALL FOR ACTION

for the Protection of Children in Travel and Tourism

(The Call for Action is available also in: [Spanish](#), [French](#) and [Russian](#))

We, the participants of the first International Summit on Child Protection in Travel and Tourism hosted by the Government of Colombia and co-organised by The World Travel and Tourism Council, ECPAT International, UNODC, UNICEF, the High Level Global Task Force on Child Protection in Travel and Tourism and ECPAT Colombia/Fundación Renacer;

Reiterating that the sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism encompasses broad spectrum of exploitation of children in prostitution and pornography, for production of online child abuse materials, sale and trafficking of children in all its forms; and that various travel products put children at risk of exploitation, such as voluntourism, orphanage tourism or mega events;

Recognising that the travel and tourism industry is in a unique position to identify and prevent this crime and it is a moral imperative for each of the segments, both private and public, to take an active role in eradicating this crime;

Stressing that this Call for Action is a part of a broader document that will be published as the outcome of the Summit to build political will and mobilise other stakeholders to accelerate action to protect children in travel and tourism.

We call upon all key stakeholders to adopt a comprehensive, child rights-centred multi-stakeholder framework where all key actors actively **work together to end impunity** of the travelling child sex offenders, through:

- **Strong and sustainable evidence based awareness** that will inform and mobilise key actors, including communities, families and children to end societal tolerance to the sexual exploitation in travel and tourism and open a constructive dialogue with the media on the need of enhancing child protection in travel and tourism and promoting the use of the appropriate terminology.

Multi-stakeholder actions:
 Launch a global campaign;
 Create a central repository of existing resources to make them accessible to provide practical guidance.

- **Proactive, comprehensive, context specific and sustainable prevention** based on identifying and tackling underlying risk factors and empowering children as actors in child rights protection as well as promoting self-regulatory mechanisms, codes of conduct and other standards on child protection to respond to existing and new forms of exploitation of children in the context of travel and tourism.

Multi-stakeholder action:

Training of relevant key stakeholders for common and appropriate understanding of the sexual exploitation in travel and tourism along with implementation of standards on child protection across the travel and tourism sector.

- **Strong and effective legal frameworks** ensuring protection of children and prosecution of offenders; increasing cooperation between law enforcement and justice system for successful cross-border investigations.

Multi-stakeholder actions:

Strengthen or develop operational reporting systems such as helplines, hotlines and online reporting platforms, establish standards to report cases of the sexual exploitation in travel and tourism and engage the public to actively use reporting mechanisms;
Ensure that law enforcement is well resourced and trained to identify, investigate and use child-friendly methods when dealing with child victims and witnesses.

- **Access to child and gender sensitive justice, protection, comprehensive care and full recovery** for children by providing special and prompt protection and assistance that is appropriate to prevent further victimization and trauma of children.

Multi-stakeholder action:

Ensure financial and human resources for appropriate and long term medical and psycho-social support for children taking into account reintegration, psychological and physical issues potentially faced by victims.

Appreciating the contributions from all the partners and participants, and the multi-stakeholder dialogue that was scaled up with the first International Summit on Child Protection in Travel and Tourism, **we reaffirm our commitment to build upon the Call to Action of the Summit to ensure protection of children in travel and tourism and to end impunity.**