REPORT ON THE TRANSITION MEETING

THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GLOBAL STUDY ON THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN TRAVEL AND TOURISM (SECTT)

13 July 2017
United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)
Madrid, Spain
The Transition Meeting was hosted by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), and co-hosted by the Government of the Netherlands, UNICEF, the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children, and ECPAT International.

Leaders and international experts from the private sector, law enforcement agencies, international and regional bodies, as well as INGOs active in the field participated in a high-level discussion focused on coordinating and intensifying efforts to address the sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism (SECTT).

Funding support for the meeting came from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands through Defence for Children-ECPAT Netherlands.

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September, 2017
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INTRODUCTION

The transition meeting was organised one year after the launch of the Global Study on Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism, which was prepared by 67 leading organisations and companies currently tackling the issue. UN agencies, the private sector, academia, law enforcement and civil society organisations contributed to this study under the guidance of the High-Level Taskforce to End Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism.

The study highlighted the problem of the sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism (SECTT) and received widespread media coverage. It also resulted in commitment to address the issue from key partner networks – and much of this commitment continues to this day.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ways of moving forward on the implementation of the Study’s recommendations, and how these will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals 8.9 and 12b, which call for sustainable tourism development, and goals 5.2, 8.7, and 16.2, which aim to end child sexual exploitation.

The meeting marked the culmination of the work of the High-Level Taskforce to End Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism. It also resulted in calls for a new High-Level Taskforce for Action, whose members will actively engage in the implementation and monitoring process of the recommendations of the Global Study.

ECPAT International would like to thank all participants for their ongoing initiatives as well as for the contributions and commitments made towards ending SECTT, which were expressed during the Madrid meeting.
OPENING REMARKS
by Ms Najat Maalla M’jid

FORMER UN SPECIAL RAPPOPORTEUR ON THE SALE OF CHILDREN, CHILD PROSTITUTION AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Dr Taleb Rifai, Señor Antonio Nieto and distinguished guests. Firstly as the Chair of the High-Level Taskforce for the Global Study on the Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism, let me sincerely thank Dr Rifai for being such a warm and generous host, and also for his enthusiastic leadership throughout the process of developing the Global Study. Without this kind of leadership at such a high level, I am certain we would not have achieved such success – success that has actually surpassed our expectations.

But having said that, of course we are not at the end of something, we are only at the beginning. Many of the people in this room have been working on this issue for decades – literally! I would like to acknowledge my fellow members of the High-Level Taskforce who have dedicated their time and expertise to the Global Study process – most of whom are with us - Dr Benyam, Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, Milena Grillo, and of course, Dr Rifai.

I also acknowledge and thank all of you in this room - our colleagues working through the UN, through regional bodies, through non-governmental organisations and through private sector initiatives. We also have some who have come more recently to the issue – and we welcome you and look forward to working with you collaboratively.

The purpose of this meeting is to move forward on implementing the recommendations of the Global Study, which will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. This is a meeting of great minds with great experience. Tomorrow, we will, through interactive debate and exchanges, explore and agree on collective follow-up and monitoring.

I look forward to collaborating further with everyone here.

Thank you.
SUMMARY OF THE TRANSITION MEETING ‘MOVING FORWARD IN IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GLOBAL STUDY’

12-13 July 2017; Venue: UNWTO, Madrid, Spain

OPENING REMARKS

The meeting started with opening remarks from Dr Najat Maalla M’jid; and from Dr Taleb Rifai, Secretary General of the UNWTO. Dr Rifai spoke about converting the UNWTO Global Code of Ethics for Tourism into an international convention during the General Assembly (11-16 September 2017 in Chengdu, China), in order to increase the commitment of all stakeholders to its principles. He also drew attention to the message of the 2017 International Year of Sustainable Tourism: ‘Travel, Enjoy, Respect’.

Opening remarks were made on behalf of UNICEF by Cornelius Williams, Chief of Child Protection, who stressed that SECTT is a hidden and underreported phenomenon, on behalf of the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children, its Director, Dr Susan Bissell, underlined that we have information on violence against children and the strategies to combat it, and that we need to come together to implement solutions. on behalf of the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) by Helen Marano, Senior Vice President, pointed to the need to move toward concrete action in order to combat SECTT.

A video message was delivered by Marta Santos Pais, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence Against Children.

“Sexual exploitation in travel and tourism has a child’s face! No country is untouched by this phenomenon and no child is immune. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development presents a unique opportunity to reverse this pattern and make all forms of violence against children part of our distant past”.

The opening session was followed by a speech from the Ambassador of The Netherlands Matthias van Bonzel, who emphasised that it is essential to bring all stakeholders together to find solutions to SECTT, which is one of the most horrific human rights abuses imaginable.

Dorothy Rozga, Executive Director of ECPAT International, underlined in her speech the many actions taken by members of the High-Level Task Force to place the Study’s findings and recommendations on the agenda of decision makers. She also commended the growing commitment on the part of the private sector, law enforcement and civil society partners at the regional level.
“In this International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, let us place children’s right to protection from violence and exploitation at the heart of our actions”.

Marta Santos Pais, UN SRSG on Violence against Children

THE CONTEXT, CODES AND CONVENTIONS

This session was chaired by Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen Chair of the, High-Level Taskforce to End Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism and Dutch National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings. She underlined that some mechanisms are already in place to fight violence against children and SECTT, especially with regard to legal frameworks. She also said that the approach to ending SECTT must take into account prevention, protection, prosecution, participation and partnership.

Milena Grillo, from the High-Level Taskforce to End Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism, provided inputs on key legal mechanisms in her presentation ‘Walking the Walk: from Regulation to Action’ which she said are not entirely owned and implemented at national levels.

Dr Benyam Dawit Mezmur, Chair of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child stressed the need of involving regional leaders in making child protection legislation more comprehensive, so as to include SECTT.

“One of the key messages of the Day of the African Child was that violence remains one of the most serious barriers against the creation of an Africa that is fit for children. The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of Children encourages States to assess their national development plans with a view to prioritising children’s rights in accordance with the African Children’s Charter, the SDGs, the AU’s Continental Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2040 for children’s rights”.

Dr Benyam Dawit Mezmur, Chair of the ACERWC

Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, UN Special Rapporteur on the Sale and Sexual Exploitation of Children, underlined in her speech that governments and ministries have a crucial role in fighting SECTT by placing child protection at the core of tourism. They must work together with the private sector, she said, reminding participants to keep in mind that the child is always a victim, while the responsibility for SECTT lays with the offenders, who need to be held accountable.

“The belief that these crimes will go unpunished is a central enabling factor. Such impunity, real or perceived, guides the choice of destination and emboldens travelling sexual offenders, and the many intermediaries involved in the ‘supply chain’”.

“Child protection should be at the core of tourism development strategies”.

“Under international human rights norms and standards, states are obligated to prosecute perpetrators and address the underlying causes of sexual exploitation of children”.

Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children

Reflections on the role of the private sector came from Lauren Aste, Executive Vice President & General Counsel of Carlson Wagonlit Travel, who emphasised in her speech and presentation, Carlson’s involvement in child protection and stressed the need for engaging new companies.

Cornelius Williams from UNICEF, referred to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the need to involve private companies in the implementation of codes of conduct - as well assessing the impact of tourism on child protection. The speech was accompanied by a video message by Anthony Lake, UNICEF Executive Director, who called for everybody’s dedication to the cause.
Damien Brosnan, programme manager of The Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism, explained in his presentation how this practical tool supports the private sector in developing child protection policies and initiatives to address SECTT.

“The over-300 members of The Code, range from some of the largest tourism companies in the world through to individual small businesses - the common factor is the desire to make a positive contribution to protecting children”.

Damien Brosnan, Programme Manager, The Code

In an open discussion, which followed the panel Isra Sunthornvut, representing the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, stressed that the key factor in fighting SECTT is to start locally and achieve a global commitment, he also referred to the ‘Don’t Look Away Campaign’ as a way of combatting anonymity of the offenders.

Carol Smolenski referred to the work of ECPAT-USA in the protection of children, stating that training for the private sector needed to be introduced. She also underlined the role of the media in raising awareness among the general public about reporting cases of child abuse and exploitation to the relevant authorities.

In her presentation, Catalina Alemany, CSR manager from RIU Hotels, stressed the importance of developing training strategies for staff to reach all countries where they operate - as well as informing customers about the problem. She also highlighted the importance of cross business cooperation.

“Large companies in the tourism and travel industry have a greater responsibility to the communities where we operate, precisely because of our capacity for influence and transformation. For this reason, we need our commitments to send signals to society that this problem will not be tolerated and that above all, we will fight for a world where children are free from abuse”.

Catalina Alemany-Sorell, CSR Manager, RIU Hotels

Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen summarised the points made during the session and concluded that states, the tourism and travel industry, the media and law enforcement agencies have a crucial role in making sure that no child is abused by local or foreign offenders.

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES

The session was chaired by Dorothy Rozga, the Executive Director of ECPAT International, who emphasized that SECTT is a multisectoral problem.

Dr Susan Bissell delivered the presentation ‘End Violence - Keeping Children Safe in Travel and Tourism’ and presented the, ‘Global Partnership to End Violence against Children – Theory of Change & Business Plan’ underlining that it is essential to build one narrative with different stakeholders.

Elda Moreno, representing the Council of Europe, reminded participants that the Lanzarote Committee monitors efforts to have sexual exploitation and abuse addressed by governments in their reports.

Jorge Morandeira, representing the Latin American Grupo de Acción Regional de las Américas delivered a statement pointing to the fact that the private and public sectors need to undertake one common effort in fighting SECTT.

Isra Sunthornvut, called for the “harmonisation” of laws in the region and for a united fight against SECTT. He also said that public and media pressure is also necessary in this endeavour.

The Chair noted that input was received in a letter from Dr. Rinchen Chophel, Director General of the South Asia Initiative to End Violence Against Children.
MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES: PRACTICAL EXAMPLES

The session was chaired by Mr Cornelius Williams. Marc Joly, Head of Campaigns at Terres Des Hommes made a presentation on Sexual Exploitation of Children in the Context of Mega Sporting Events. He pointed to the fact that sport governing bodies set standards and criteria and should act in accordance with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Marc Joly, Head of Campaigns at Terres Des Hommes

Florence Martin, Director of Better Care Network, delivered the presentation, Orphanage Voluntourism: When Children Become a Commodity, which drew attention to the number of children at risk linked with voluntourism. She noted that in many countries there are currently no regulations for volunteers or vetting and licencing processes for operators.

Florence Martin, Director of Better Care Network

Cheryl Freeman, Senior Director for Advocacy and Justice for Children of World Vision International presented the campaign, It Takes a World, which goes beyond advocacy and engages with faith organisations.

Cheryl Freeman, Senior Director for Advocacy and Justice for Children of World Vision International

Peter van Dalen, from Interpol made the point that there is no division between online and offline worlds and that the problem of SECTT is interlinked with online abuse. He elaborated on the global system of Green Notices that provide warnings and intelligence about people who have committed criminal offences and are likely to repeat these crimes in other countries. He reminded the meeting about vetting systems and for checking the background of personnel.

Peter van Dalen, Interpol Organized & Emerging Crime Directorate

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"Anonymity is of key interest for travelling sex offenders; deprivation of this anonymity is key to preventing SECTT".

"Now the HLT is being institutionalised it might be a good idea to organise small working groups to explore the opportunities for new cross-sectoral (innovative) initiatives to combat SECTT".

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Commander Lesa Gale from Australian Federal Police presented on new legislation in Australia, which allows for cancelling passports owned by registered child sex offenders.

Commander Lesa Gale, Australian Federal Police

Ben van Mierlo from the Dutch National Police said his organisation had recently introduced special investigation units. He also discussed the work of liaison officers to coordinate between regions.

Ben van Mierlo, Police Commissioner, Dutch National Police

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Peter van Dalen, from Interpol

Dr Thomas P. Cason, representing the US Department of Homeland Security, focused on information sharing and notification procedures, stressing that the crime of SECTT will not go unnoticed or unpunished.

Dr Thomas P. Cason, representing the US Department of Homeland Security

"Children are the most innocent among us, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is committed to targeting and arresting criminals who violate that innocence by engaging in sexually abuse and child exploitation. ICE-Homeland Security Investigations will continue to work with international law enforcement across the world to ensure that traveling overseas to exploit child victims will not go unnoticed or unpunished".

Tom Cason, Visa Security Unit, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), US Homeland Security Investigations Cyber Crimes Division

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Milena Grillo representing the Paniamor Foundation put forward the idea that SECTT needs to be discussed in terms of health costs and consequences to children.

“...The Global Study is much more than a set of numbers and approaches related to SECTT; it contains recommendations that will influence and guide governments, the private sector, and civil society to work together in a more strategic way, to put a halt to this heinous crime. In my country, Costa Rica and across Latin America, ECPAT is committed to transforming knowledge into action”.

Milena Grillo, Executive Director, Paniamor, Costa Rica

Dr Benyam Dawit Mezmur reminded everyone during the meeting that offenders may be foreign or domestic, and that they move not only internationally, but also in their respective regions.

Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, UN Special Rapporteur, pointed out that children separated from the parents can become an easy target for illegal adoption, therefore much more careful licensing of orphanages and other institutions is needed.

Nikki White, Director of Destinations and Sustainability at Association of British Travel Agents pointed to the value of the Global Study in eliminating SECTT.

“...Studies of this nature are critical to understanding the nature and scale of the challenges. This allows us all to come together to find practical solutions now and for the future”.

Nikki White, Director of Destinations and Sustainability, Association of British Travel Agents

NEXT STEPS TO KEEP THE MOMENTUM GOING IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The session was chaired by Dr Benyam Dawit Mezmur, Member of the High-Level Taskforce to End the Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism; Chairperson of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC); Member and former Chairperson of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

In the closing remarks, Cornelius Williams called for improved cooperation efforts among all partners; Helen Marano pointed out that the meeting brought all the actors to the table, who will now continue to work on the expressed commitments. Maud de Boer-Buquicchio focused on SECTT indicators and monitoring mechanisms, which are relevant in the view of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Dr Susan Bissell indicated linkages, ideas and solutions for expanding the network and underlined that the issue of SECTT is in the agenda of Global Partnership to End Violence.

Following the final comments, Antje Monshauses, Head of Tourism Watch, Bread for the World, drew attention to the fact that the 2030 agenda and The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights are interconnected.

Juergen Thomas Steinmetz from eTurboNews proposed that there should be a column on child protection in his news organisation that promotes “good practices” and highlight achievements in combatting SECTT.

The meeting came to an end with the closing remarks by Dr Najat Maalla M’jid, who underlined that the Global Study is a living document and a process. Dorothy Rozga officially closed the work of the High-Level Taskforce to End Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism and called on a new High-Level Taskforce for Action, and Dr Taleb Rifai expressed his commitments to establishing linkages with ministries of tourism around the world. He also invited participants to the UNWTO General Assembly (11-16 September 2017 in Chengdu) to speak about SECTT and establish a permanent structure focused on combatting the issue.
SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS AND KEY ACTIONS DISCUSSED

TRANSITION MEETING - ‘MOVING FORWARD IN IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GLOBAL STUDY ON THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN TRAVEL AND TOURISM’ (SECTT)

“The challenge is to maintain momentum, monitor and implement the recommendations under the SDG goals”.

Najat Maalla M’jiid
Chair, High Level Task Force, Global Study SECTT

“We cannot build the responsible and sustainable tourism sector without protecting the most vulnerable in our societies. To do so we need effective tools and a global commitment”.

UNWTO Secretary General, Dr Taleb Rifai

- Victims of SECTT are likely to be victims of other forms of violence. Coordinated actions to include SECTT as part of broader efforts to end violence against children are needed and efforts to implement the recommendations of the Global Study should be intensified.
- There are a number of global processes and mechanisms that can be used to facilitate this, including:
  - The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and monitoring framework of Agenda 2030;
  - The President of Malta, Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, in her capacity as Special Ambassador of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development;
  - The office of the UN SRSG on Violence against Children;
  - The Human Rights Commission, and the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, and the Special Rapporteur on the Sale and Sexual Exploitation of Children;
  - The Lanzarote Committee (which brings together representatives of civil society and State Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse);
  - Other regional and national human rights instruments;
  - Regional entities and mechanisms; and
  - The Global Partnership to End Violence against Children.
- The High-Level Taskforce that provided leadership and guidance to the Global Study has completed its work. It is agreed to constitute a new High-Level Task Force with a mandate focused on the implementation of the Study’s recommendations. Significant overlap of membership from the previous Taskforce is anticipated. Draft terms of reference for the new Task Force will be shared for review.
- The UNWTO is progressing with the transformation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism into a Convention, which will be known as the UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics. This will be presented to Member States for consideration at the UNWTO General Assembly when it convenes in September 2017 in Chengdu, China. If approved by the Assembly, member states are encouraged to sign, ratify and comply with the UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics, when it comes into force.
• Support offered by UNWTO included:
  ➢ Linking ministries of tourism to implementation partners in their respective countries, and suggesting that these partners utilise their extensive infrastructure for the prevention and response to SECTT;
  ➢ Arranging for the High-Level Task Force and ECPAT International to present the Global Study and its recommendations in a plenary session to the UNWTO General Assembly in September 2017 in Chengdu, China; and
  ➢ Providing support to the Secretariat of the Global Study on SECTT and the High-Level Task Force.

• Specific events for engaging and expanding networks included:
  ➢ The Regional Experts Meeting of SAIEVAC in August 2017, members will discuss a South Asia regional strategy to address child sexual exploitation;
  ➢ The ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) invited a presentation on the Study when it convenes in September 2017;
  ➢ An International Summit on SECTT that may be hosted by the Government of Colombia, during the week of 19th March 2018 in Bogotá, Colombia
  ➢ There may be an opportunity to raise the issue of SECTT at the WTTC Global Summit, 18-19th April 2018, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

• The Government of the Netherlands offered to assist in linking private sector partners to efforts to prevent and respond to SECTT in travel and tourism.

• The complexity of the operating environment was skilfully summarised (by Milena Grillo, member of the High-Level Taskforce), and well recognised, prompting a call for a coordination mechanism to be explored as part of a follow-up, to bring together the various elements of implementation and monitoring, especially for effective SDGs interim reporting in 2019 (travel and tourism and child sexual exploitation), and later towards 2030.

• The Luxembourg Terminology Guidelines for the protection of children from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse will be further promoted and translated into more languages (currently versions exist in English, French and Spanish). These guidelines are expected to better align terminology, achieve a common understanding of the problem and help in the process of shifting the burden of responsibility from the child to the offender.

• “The Code”, an initiative to stop the sexual exploitation of children, continues to attract more members from businesses around the world. Travel technology company Amadeus recently expressed interest in increasing its cooperation. Other examples of good practices and leadership on the part of the private sector include Carlson’s child protection policies and procedures, as well as those of RIU hotels and multi-stakeholder destination workshops conducted by travel associations and tour operators.

• There will be consultations with International Air Transport Association (IATA) on the possibility of collaboration, starting at a regional level.

• Multi-stakeholder cooperation, which includes travellers, civil society, governments (including Ministries of Tourism, Ministries for Children, Ministries of Interior, law enforcement and local government) travel and tourism businesses, and media, is necessary to successfully implement the recommendations of the Global Study. Participants at the meeting discussed ways to integrate prevention and responses to SECTT into their core business, for example:

  ➢ Partners will advocate for the inclusion of SECTT in the National Voluntary Reviews and other processes of the UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development;
  ➢ UNWTO offered to consider the inclusion of child protection in their monitoring framework for statistics in tourism;
  ➢ SECTT indicators and programme responses will be integrated into the efforts of the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children, through their detailed results framework, The WHO’s INSPIRE package, the WePROTECT Model National Response, the new ‘Corporate Council’, as well as other means;
  ➢ Reporting guidelines of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of Children, will be updated to include SECTT specifically;
• The Council of Europe Lanzarote Convention’s integrated approach to the protection of children against sexual violence equips states to individually and collectively address SECTT. The Lanzarote Convention is open to accession by non-European States. The Council of Europe stands ready to support other regional organisations in their efforts to stop all sexual abuse and exploitation of children. Members of the Council of Europe’s Lanzarote Committee could be invited to exchange and share information on the measures they are taking to implement the Global Study’s recommendations;

• The Special Rapporteur on the Sale and Sexual Exploitation of Children includes SECTT as one of the issues for review when she undertakes official country visits. Her reports of these visits will continue to inform policy and program responses;

• Trade associations and bodies such as the WTTC, IATA, and ABTA can mobilise responsible investment in addressing SECTT, for example through application of procurement laws and providing services that would not impact negatively upon the enjoyment of children’s rights.

“The Global Study on the Sexual Exploitation of Children in Travel and Tourism has a critical value. Now, we need to put actions behind words and start from our own ‘homes’ with commitment and sensibility”.

Ms Helen Marano
Senior Vice President,
World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC)

“All of us — from families and governments, to hotel workers, taxi drivers and airline staff, to tour operators and telecommunications companies, to police forces, to UN agencies and NGOs — have a responsibility to do all we can to end this monstrous violation of children’s rights, children’s safety, and children’s futures. It’s everybody’s business to end the business of children being exploited and abused”.

Anthony Lake,
UNICEF Executive Director

• A broader utilisation of the UN’s Human Rights and Business Principles, and UNICEF’s Child Rights Business Principles in the private sector will be promoted. An approach to the Global Travel Coalition could expand protective and sustainable partnership.

• The Latin American Grupo de Acción Regional de las Américas (GARA) is planning or already undertaking a diverse range of activities to address SECTT. These include a range of campaigns, events, workshops and courses that have taken place in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. GARA has developed indicators to monitor progress in this area. The recommendations of the Global Study will be on their agenda when they meet in Mexico on November 22-24, 2017;

• The Secretary-General of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) explained a range of activities planned to take action to prevent SECTT in the region. He requested support to gain agreement on minimum requirements (rather than maximum) for the protection of children and penalties for crimes against children; and to mobilise the public towards doable and supportive action;

• UNICEF continues to support the implementation of the recommendations of the Global Study and the creation of platforms for monitoring and linking SECTT to the SDGs.

• e-TurboNews invited input and offered to expand media coverage on the topic, including by initiating a column on child protection (which would help share good practice, as well as highlight achievements). The publication is distributed to policy makers and ministries of travel and tourism, and operators in the industry;

• Terre Des Hommes as well as Carlson are working to develop campaigns and adopt policies that protect children around sporting organizations and events including the Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, FIFA, and the US Super Bowl. Terre Des Hommes, which manages the
‘Children Win’ campaign, is collaborating with the Sport and Rights Alliance, a coalition of NGOs, trade unions and sporting organisations;

- Law enforcement agencies have a growing number of child protection initiatives underway. Interpol has undertaken interventions that reduce anonymity for child sex offenders and help alert authorities when they cross national borders and they will continue to urge countries to use ‘green notices’. It is expected that improved tools will be released soon, which will significantly reduce the risk that known sex offenders are able to travel unnoticed internationally. Interpol suggested, that small working groups could be organised to explore new cross-sectoral initiatives to combat SECTT. The Government of Australia is curtailing the movement of convicted child sex offenders by revoking or denying them passports so they cannot travel abroad. The Government of the United States is ensuring destination countries are notified when previously convicted sex offenders travel. Law enforcement of the Netherlands provides capacity building in various regions and called for the establishment of a coordination mechanism for effective cooperation.

“We need to build more bridges between the different existing islands in order to be as effective as possible”.

Organized & Emerging Crime Directorate
Vulnerable communities – Crimes Against Children,
Interpol, Peter van Dalen

- The Better Care Network will continue its work with other partners through the ‘Better Volunteering, Better Care’ initiative to support positive and ethical volunteering and to end the practice of voluntourism in orphanages, including addressing its links with SECTT. A major behaviour change campaign targeted at the independent travellers in the USA, UK and Australia is being launched this year;

- Tourism Watch/Bread for the World started together with tour operators, associations and NGOs a multi-stakeholder initiative, called the Roundtable Human Rights in Tourism. Part of this initiative includes sharing experience and developing guidelines on practical implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;

- World Vision International’s recently launched ‘It Takes a World’ 5-year campaign aims to catalyse a global movement to protect children from violence, including SECTT.

- The UNWTO campaign “Travel, Enjoy, Respect” will consider wide promotion of the concept in relation to SECTT.

Spanish translation of the Summary of Conclusions and Key Actions Discussed.

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS, WEBSITES AND THE GLOBAL STUDY:

THE UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

CHILDREN’S RIGHTS AND BUSINESS PRINCIPLES
www.unicef.org/csr/resources.html

THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN TRAVEL AND TOURISM
www.thecode.org

GLOBAL STUDY ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN TRAVEL AND TOURISM
www.globalstudysectt.org
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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
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