



COMPOSITE POLICIES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

1 Policy on Child Prostitution

2 Policy on Child Pornography

3 Policy on Trafficking in Children for Sexual Purposes

4 Policy on Child Sex Tourism

5 Policy on Working with the Police and Judicial Authorities

6 Media Policy

7 Policy on Photos and Images

8 Policy on Child and Youth Participation

9 Partnership Policy

10 Policy on Developing Alliances with the Private Sector

11 Child Protection Policy

INTRODUCTION

The Policies below are formulated by the Board of ECPAT International pursuant to art. 4.4 of the Constitution. Their goal is to ensure the effective functioning of ECPAT International (ECPAT) as a movement by clearly stating ECPAT's views and position on different areas of our work. ECPAT International staff members, Board members, partners, volunteers, interns, consultants and anyone acting as a representative of ECPAT are expected to be familiar with the Policies.

ECPAT adopts the definition of a child set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Consequently, all of the ECPAT Policies ensure the protection of all children under the age of 18.

1 POLICY ON CHILD PROSTITUTION

ECPAT International is a global network of organisations and individuals working together for the elimination of child prostitution, child pornography and trafficking in children for sexual purposes. ECPAT seeks to encourage the world community to ensure that children everywhere enjoy their fundamental rights free and secure from all forms of sexual exploitation.

ECPAT has no political or religious affiliation and will co-operate with any organisation or individual sharing the views expressed in the Mission Statement.

In its day to day work, ECPAT seeks the full implementation of the Agenda for Action agreed at the World Congress against the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Stockholm, 1996.

2 POLICY ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

ECPAT opposes all forms of Child Pornography. Child Pornography means any representation of a child engaged in real or simulated explicit sexual activities or any representation of the sexual parts or other parts of the body of a child for primarily sexual purposes.

ECPAT believes that the right of children in general and as individuals to be protected against sexual exploitation should override considerations of privacy and free speech for adults. The best interests of children should take precedence.

ECPAT is committed to advocacy and awareness-raising to encourage every country legislating to criminalise with severe penalties all forms and every stage in the cycle of Child Pornography, and other forms of child sexual exploitation related to Information Technologies, including 'luring'

and 'grooming'. No proof of criminal intent or of a commercial transaction should be required and children should be protected regardless of issues of consent. ECPAT also promotes improved national and international cooperation of law enforcement agencies to prosecute sexual crimes against children in relation to Information Technologies, and especially to locate and rescue child victims. ECPAT supports more resources and training for law enforcement and child protection agencies to identify child victims and to provide proper care, protection and rehabilitation.

ECPAT is committed to lobbying governments to provide appropriate regulatory frameworks to ensure that all sectors of the Information Technology industry act against Child Pornography and protect children from sexual exploitation through their goods and services.

ECPAT seeks to develop positive and co-operative relationships with the Information Technology industry to improve child protection technologies, to highlight child protection information on their websites, to develop protocols for monitoring, reporting to the police and removing Child Pornography, and to prevent the criminal use of Information Technologies by child sex offenders.

ECPAT supports public education and awareness programmes to reduce the risk to children of becoming victims of sexual exploitation through Information Technologies or through exposure to harmful materials.

3. POLICY ON TRAFFICKING IN CHILDREN FOR SEXUAL PURPOSES

Trafficking refers to the cross-border or internal recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of children. ECPAT is particularly concerned with the Trafficking of children for sexual purposes, yet children trafficked for any purpose are made highly vulnerable to sexual abuse and exploitation. Such Trafficking in children does not require the use of force, coercion or deception. Actions to combat Trafficking must address the conditions that make children vulnerable to such exploitation and target punitive measures against the traffickers rather than the victims. Actions to rescue victims of CSEC should be undertaken with all possible measures to prevent the revictimization of such children through this process and to ensure the child remains in a safe and secure environment.

4. POLICY ON CHILD SEX TOURISM

Child Sex Tourism (CST) is the commercial sexual exploitation of children by men or women who travel from one place to another, either to another country or to a different part of their own country, and there engage in sexual acts with children. Child sex tourists may have a specific preference

for children as sexual partners or they may take advantage of a situation in which children are made available to them for sexual exploitation. Many sex tourists travel from richer countries, or a richer town or region within their own country, to a place where there exist poorer economic conditions, a weaker legal framework and accompanying law enforcement against CSEC and relative anonymity for the exploiter. ECPAT International considers the tourism industry and its multiple actors as key allies in combating CST and seeks to promote and support their active involvement in ending this exploitation. ECPAT also promotes improved national and international cooperation of law enforcement agencies to prosecute sexual crimes against children committed by foreigners abroad by implementing extraterritorial legislation.

5. POLICY ON WORKING WITH THE POLICE AND JUDICIAL AUTHORITIES

ECPAT respects the different roles of NGOs and law enforcement agencies. In all its activities its members and staff seek to protect the best interests of child victims. ECPAT does not carry out its own investigations into child abuse, but rather encourages and supports the law enforcement authorities in their work by providing relevant information and, where appropriate, training. ECPAT also networks with law enforcement agents, and in particular with Interpol, to establish contacts based on mutual trust.

ECPAT supports the work of the Interpol Specialist Group on Crimes against Children and encourages law enforcement agencies from all countries to become and remain members of this specialist group.

ECPAT works to ensure that local law enforcement agents have access to appropriate training opportunities, in particular to national and international programs that incorporate a child rights focus and the knowledge and legal process developed for the full protection of children.

ECPAT encourages and provides support to victims and their families during the course of an investigation and the judicial and recovery process.

6. MEDIA POLICY

ECPAT believes the media has an important role to play in investigating and educating the public about child rights and all forms of sexual exploitation of children. The media can also help to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children by mobilising public opinion and pressuring governments and the private sector.

ECPAT believes the media can play an important part in promoting children's wellbeing and respect for their rights by portraying children in a positive

way, by seeking children's opinions, and by providing children with avenues for exchanging information and opinions.

To this end, ECPAT seeks constructive working relationships with media professionals and organisations to promote these issues and ECPAT's work towards the public and within the media industry itself.

ECPAT expects media personnel to respect the right to privacy and protection of reputation of sexually exploited children and to maintain the highest ethical and professional standards when reporting on issues involving exploited children.

ECPAT recommends the International Federation of Journalists' Guidelines and Principles for Reporting on Issues Involving Children, and encourages all media organisations to adopt and implement these guidelines for reporting on sexually exploited children.

To ensure that child victims of sexual exploitation are protected from additional exploitation through media exposure, ECPAT should not approve for use by the media any images in any format if the identity of a sexually exploited child may be exposed by such use.

7. POLICY ON PHOTOS AND IMAGES

No photograph or image of an identifiable child may be used in any ECPAT International publication to illustrate any aspect of the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Nor may an image of an identifiable child be used in any ECPAT International publication if it might reasonably lead the viewer to believe that the child is a victim of commercial sexual exploitation. This prohibition stands regardless of consent given by either the child, any adult legally responsible for their care, or any agency which may own the photograph.

The only exception is when the child in the image, having reached the age of 18, gives fully informed consent for himself or herself to be identified as a victim of commercial sexual exploitation in an ECPAT publication. A mechanism must be in place for that individual to withdraw consent at any time, and for the image to be removed as soon as possible from publication.

The purpose of this policy is to protect the privacy and reputation of child victims of commercial sexual exploitation and to prevent any additional harm to them through the publication of their image. It also seeks to protect other children from being wrongly perceived as victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

In this context, an identifiable child is a child whose identity is likely to be revealed by showing all or part of their face or their body, or particular

surroundings. A publication may include any materials stored or transmitted in hard-copy, film, electronic or digital formats. Informed consent means the individual understands the circumstances in which the image will be used and any possible repercussions from its publication or distribution or circulation.

In ECPAT International publications where the images are clearly not portraying aspects of commercial sexual exploitation (for example, child and youth participation activities, non-formal education projects), the image of an identifiable child may be used if fully informed consent has been obtained from both the child and their parent or legal guardian. When informed consent of both the child and parent/legal guardian has not been obtained, for whatever reason, the photograph may not be used in any way that identifies the child.

CHILD SEX ABUSE IMAGES

ECPAT opposes the use of child pornography for educational purposes as an unnecessary violation of the child victim's privacy.

On certain occasions, law enforcement agencies may deem it essential to release to the public photographs of child victims of pornography also known as child abuse images to enable the immediate location and rescue of the child. ECPAT believes such public release should occur only when the law enforcement agency has good reason to believe the immediate danger to the child is greater than any danger posed by publication. In such cases, the image released should not be a child sex abuse image, the safety of the child should be paramount, and law enforcement agencies should make every effort to consult other professionals on the best interests of the child before releasing any such image.

It is against ECPAT policy for its staff or members to be in possession of child pornography, unless this is done with the specific permission and cooperation of the local police and in a strictly controlled environment such as a hotline or a similar monitoring, reporting or tracking operation which also involves law enforcement.

8. CHILD AND YOUTH PARTICIPATION POLICY

Developing the participation of young people in combating the commercial sexual exploitation of children is an integral part of ECPAT's work at national, regional and international levels. It strengthens our programming and advocacy and makes us more accountable to the children whom we serve. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child values the child as a citizen, entitled to fundamental rights and freedoms, capable of expressing opinions, participating in life and assuming responsibilities in the family and society. The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) shall be the basis of our work while drawing inspiration from and referring to the Yokohama

Youth Appeal and the Regional Mid-Term Reviews Youth Declarations at all times of youth participation and ECPAT youth work.

ECPAT International has already made significant progress in creating opportunities for child and youth participation. However, this policy seeks to extend and institutionalize those processes. As such, ECPAT International recognizes that this is an evolving process and one that is complex and challenging.

ECPAT International sees the participation of children and young people working at a number of different levels in the fight against CSEC:

1. Involving children and young people as key stakeholders in influencing the development and implementation of research, projects, programmes, advocacy and policy
2. Exploring strategies for giving children and young people a greater role within the governance of our organizations by enabling children and young people to take more responsibility for decision making on aspects of our work that directly affect them
3. Creating opportunities for children and young people to access relevant information, provide meaningful opportunities for reflection and action and enhancing their skills and understanding
4. Assisting children and young people to develop and implement their own plans to encourage the participation of other young people in developing, implementing and evaluating National Plans of Action

In order to ensure that children and young people's participation remains meaningful and ethical, we will make sure that:

- Children and their views will be taken seriously and treated with respect
- Appropriate policies and guidelines will be introduced to protect children and minimize any risks from their participation in our work
- We encourage the participation of experiential children and youth while taking into consideration additional protection that may be required to safeguard their participation
- Children and young people directly involved in our work benefit from the process
- Children and young people are not over-burdened by the responsibility of their involvement in their work and that it does not create difficulties for them either in the short or long term
- Participation is voluntary
- Identification processes for child and youth participation are fair and representative of the interests and needs of the children and young people they are working on behalf of.
- Where possible we will also work with children who are involved in initiatives, activities or child led organizations through which they are, in turn, in touch with other networks of children.

- We encourage youth organizations to apply for ECPAT membership
- A child and youth friendly environment is fostered to enable children and young people to understand policies, processes, projects etc. Where necessary, training, age-appropriate and accessible information will be provided the better to empower children and young people to plan an effective role in combating CSEC
- Those involved in the care and protection of children understand the rights of children as social participants. We will also endeavour to influence all agencies (local government, national governments, international institutions, public bodies, voluntary agencies etc.) in ways of listening to, responding to and involving children and young people
- We report back to children and young people on what has been achieved and how their views informed our work

ECPAT INTERNATIONAL CHILD AND YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EICYAC)

ECPAT International has established a Child and Youth Action Committee (EICYAC) whose role is to form a strong network of children and young people against CSEC that can participate in ECPAT's work on a local, national, regional and international level. The EICYAC aims to ensure child and youth participation in the structures and activities of ECPAT International, by linking up with child and youth networks around the world in the fight against CSEC, providing opportunities for children and young people to contribute to implementing the Agenda for Action against CSEC, and by encouraging and facilitating the involvement of children and youth who have experienced CSEC as well as those at risk. An EICYAC representative is also elected as a full member of the ECPAT International Board. This young person represents the link between the ECPAT youth network, the EICYAC and the board of ECPAT.

LOCAL CONTEXT

Each ECPAT member organization needs to be able to determine the level and approach to be adopted in integrating child and youth participation within their work. There is no pre-defined approach which can be applied globally. The process must be informed by:

- The cultural and political environment including attitudes towards children, political stability, levels of conflict and the particular types of programmes being managed.
- Social, economic and geographic factors such as diversity within the population, size of country, resources available etc.
- Nature of the member's programme and any risks or dangers to children by being involved.
- An assessment of how the child and youth participation would contribute the work being done and how the children and young people participating would reciprocally benefit from their involvement.

ECPAT groups and affiliates follow these same guidelines.

9. ECPAT INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP POLICY

I PRINCIPLES OF ECPAT PARTNERSHIPS

For ECPAT International, partnership refers to a long term relationship in which two or more partners/agencies in mutual trust, share responsibility for joining resources to achieve our common vision of the right of all children to live free of child prostitution, child pornography and child trafficking for sexual purposes. Our belief in the role of partnerships is deeply rooted in our ethos and core values and is reflected in our mission statement which describes our own structure as a global network.

Partnerships are built up over time. For ECPAT International, this progression may take the form of:

- Networking
- Coordination
- Cooperation
- Collaboration

II. PRINCIPLES OF ECPAT PARTNERSHIPS

- Congruity between the partners on vision, mission, values and goals for eliminating the commercial sexual exploitation of children.
- Commitment to listen to children and young people and to involve them in key decision making processes.
- Shared understanding of each partner's assumptions and expectations of the partnership.
- Commitment to honour reciprocal rights and obligations such as in sharing of information, resources, time and effort to achieve the common mission, goal or objective.
- Recognition of the identity and integrity of each partner and acknowledgement of the value of each individual's contribution.
- Voluntary engagement and consultative decision making as the key form of partnership on shared agendas.
- Transparency in developing and implementing all shared work to reinforce mutual trust and respect among partners.
- Agreement to balance autonomous organizational interests and work with ethical responsibility and accountability to the partnership and its common goals.
- Contribution to long term partnership building which requires structural support, organizational development, capacity building as well as other leadership resources.
- Engagement for promoting collaborations between civil society, the private sector and public administrations.

- Promoting understanding of each others social, cultural, political, economical and historical context.

III. ECPAT STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

(i) ECPAT Groups

ECPAT is the only international NGO network dedicated to eliminating CSEC. The ECPAT Network, which began as a campaign or movement, and is often referred to as the ECPAT Movement consists of the groups in membership (national or affiliate), the Governing Board and youth from all parts of the world who participate through membership in the ECPAT International Child and Youth Advisory Committee (EICYAC). While ECPAT member organizations retain their individual autonomy as independent organizations, they adhere to ECPAT International's Constitution, By-Laws, and Organisational and Policy Guidelines. The result is a carefully constructed alliance and coalition of organizations that collaborate at different levels on the same shared vision and goal of eliminating CSEC.

(ii) Other Civil Society Members

Civil society is composed of all forms of voluntary organization, formal or informal, which exist in the arena between (and excluding) the family, the market, and the state. Civil society is an important counterbalance to the state. For ECPAT International, civil society partnerships could be formed with any group whose goals coincide with ours. These could include, amongst others, religious organizations; women's, children or youth groups; private academic institutions; free press and independent media; certain associations, labour or trade unions; community-based organizations (CBOs); non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Extremist 'un-civil' groups such as extremist political or religious groups would not be considered appropriate ECPAT civil society partners.

(iii) Governments

Assisting national and local government to be more effective in policy development and in implementing the Stockholm Agenda for Action, including the development and implementation of National Plans of Action and in the provision of services, is a key aspect of partnership for ECPAT. The nature of ECPAT's partnership with government could involve the provision of informational, technical or other assistance. An increasingly important area of government partnership is in opening spaces for substantive engagement between the state and groups in civil society to strengthen constructive collaboration and partnership in realizing (?promoting and protecting?) children's rights. Regional and global bodies or forums where governments come together are increasingly used to mobilize awareness about and action against CSEC.

(iv) Intergovernmental Organisations

The United Nations is the key intergovernmental mechanism for the promotion of international human rights. A large number of international organs and bodies have been established to support and monitor the various treaties and

charters of the UN. ECPAT has strategic partnerships with the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the offices of the UN Special Rapporteurs on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography; and Trafficking. The main intergovernmental agencies collaborating with ECPAT are UNICEF, IOM, ILO/IPEC, WTO, UNICRI, OHCHR, ECOSOC, UNESCPAP, Interpol, The European Union, The African Union, and various other regional commissions.

(v) Private Sector

Combating the exploitation of children is also the responsibility of the private sector. The private sector can be partners in our anti-CSEC work through the establishment of corporate sector responsibility standards, guidelines and campaigning programmes. They may also act as valuable donors through their material support. The travel and tourism business and the Internet and media and communications industries are our main private sector target partners. Alliances with partners from the private sector must comply with ECPAT's Policy on Developing Alliances with the Private Sector.

IV. Monitoring Our Partnerships

A major area of debate in partnership building is the means of monitoring success. Despite the difficulties of identifying change indicators that may span a long term process, ECPAT International strives to define indicators of 'coalition change or improvement' and make sure that they can be measured. Indicators should be developed which outline descriptions of different levels of partnership strength and coalition building so that any organization or agency can identify movement or progress within any indicator. Periodic review and adjustments of partnerships are then made on this basis.

10. POLICY ON DEVELOPING PRIVATE SECTOR ALLIANCES

ECPAT's work necessarily requires engagement with the corporate sector. ECPAT works with the corporate sector in many ways - private companies can be partners in our anti-CSEC projects, they are targets of our advocacy and campaigning programmes and they act as valuable donors through their material support. It is ECPAT's policy to engage with private companies in a principled manner that fits in with our programme, advocacy and fundraising goals.

Before engaging with a corporate sector partner, whatever the nature of the relationship, a number of requirements must be met:

1. ECPAT will use due diligence in its assessment of potential private sector partners. An analysis of a company's corporate social behaviour will be undertaken in order to determine whether such a company's profile is compatible with ECPAT's values, Mission Statement and Policy Guidelines.

ECPAT will not engage with companies involved in child labour and any other exploitative and/or corrupt practices that impact on children.

2. Work with corporate sector partners must have a reasonable expectation of furthering ECPAT's Mission Statement, as embodied in ECPAT's Constitution, to eliminate CSEC.
3. ECPAT's reputation is an intrinsically valuable asset, based on our integrity. ECPAT's activities with the corporate sector should seek to enhance this reputation.
4. In instances of conflict between the mobilization of resources from companies and ECPAT's policy and advocacy agenda, the primary aim of corporate engagement will be to influence the policies and behaviours of companies in order to secure the protection of children.
5. Legal agreements with a private sector partner shall be put in writing and shall include restrictions on the use of the ECPAT name and logo by such a partner as ECPAT deems appropriate to protect ECPAT's credibility and to ensure ECPAT's visibility.

When entering into a legal agreement with a private sector partner, ECPAT will reserve the right to criticize that partner should their policies or actions be inconsistent with those of ECPAT's mission and to terminate the agreement if necessary.

11. CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

BACKGROUND

ECPAT International is a child rights organisation committed to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children. ECPAT believes that every child has a right to happy childhood, which is free from exploitation, abuse, violence and neglect. It also believes that denial of rights of the children can never be acceptable and subject to justification.

ECPAT is fully committed to protect children's rights to be protected from all forms of exploitation, violence, abuse and neglect, both physically and emotionally as spelt out in international instruments and standards to protect children.

ECPAT International also recognises that it has a moral and legal responsibility to ensure that children are protected from exploitation, abuse, violence and neglect from its staff members, Board members, partners, volunteers, interns, consultants and other representatives, within and outside the ECPAT programmes – directly or indirectly.

ECPAT International provides resources and support to groups working directly with young people, many of whom are from vulnerable or marginalized groups, live or have lived in difficult circumstances, and/or at risk.

ECPAT works to protect children from all forms of commercial sexual exploitation with its network members and partner organisations. Within or outside the domain of work, people associated with ECPAT International come in contact with children in different settings.

Children can be potentially subject to exploitation, abuse, violence and neglect in families, communities, institutions, organisations, private places, public places by various circumstances by variety of people, including people associated with ECPAT International. In order to address this issue, this Child Protection Policy has been developed.

OBJECTIVES

This Policy is developed to ensure the highest standards of professional and personal practice to do no harm to the children who come in contact with the people associated with the organisation, both inside and outside the work environment.

SCOPE

The ECPAT International Child Protection Policy is prepared to ensure that the ECPAT International staff members, Board members, partners, volunteers, interns, consultants – or anyone acting as a representative of ECPAT - will do no harm to children who come in their contact within or outside their work.

This Policy reiterates ECPAT International's commitment to protect children through its programme interventions as well as through its organisational policy to protect children with whom it comes into contact.

This Child Protection Policy is supported by clear guidelines on how it needs to be implemented within the different types of membership organizations within our network.

This Policy deals with the protection of children as defined by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Children (people under 18 years of age).

The ECPAT International Child Protection Policy aims to protect children from any form of exploitation, abuse, violence and neglect by individuals, institutions or processes which directly or indirectly harms or facilitates to harm children or damages their prospect of safe and healthy development into adulthood. This Child Protection Policy protects children by preventing:

- hitting, physically assaulting or physically abusing children
- any relationships with children which are exploitative, abusive or put children at risk of abuse
- developing sexual relationships with children
- employing children in contravention of ILO Convention 138 and 182
- putting children in harmful or potentially harmful situations

Our understanding of child abuse and exploitation includes, but is not limited to:

Child Pornography: Child pornography means any representation, by whatever means, of a child engaged in real or simulated explicit sexual activities or representation of the sexual parts of a child, the dominant characteristic of which is depiction for a sexual purpose. (Source: Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.)

It can include photographs, negatives, slides, magazines, books, drawings, movies, videotapes and computer disks or files. Generally speaking there are two categories of pornography: soft core which is not sexually explicit but involves naked and seductive images of children and hard core which relates to images of children engaged in sexual activity and use of children in the production of pornography is sexual exploitation. (Source: ECPAT International)

Child Sexual Abuse: Sexual abuse of children can be defined as the contact or interaction between a child and an older or more knowledgeable child or adult (a stranger, sibling or person in a position of authority, such as a parent or caretaker) where the child is used as an object of gratification for an older child's or adult's sexual needs. These contacts or interactions are carried out against the will of the child, using force, trickery, bribes, threats or pressure. Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. These activities may include looking at pornographic materials, watching sexual acts, taking part in the production of pornography or being encouraged to behave in sexually inappropriate ways.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: Commercial sexual exploitation of children consists of practices that are demeaning, degrading and often life threatening to children. There are three primary and interrelated forms of commercial sexual exploitation of children: prostitution, pornography, and trafficking for sexual purposes. Other forms of sexual exploitation of children include child sex tourism, child marriages and forced marriages. (Source: Questions and Answers about the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. ECPAT International, Thailand, 2001)

Discrimination: Biased or prejudiced in favour of, or against the children.

Emotional Abuse: The persistent emotional ill-treatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to children that they are worthless and unloved, inadequate, or valued only so far as they meet the needs of another person. It may involve age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed in children. It may involve causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of ill-treatment of a child, though it may occur alone. (Source: Lambeth College, September 2004)

Neglect: The persistent failure to meet the child's basic physical and/ or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's physical or cognitive development.

Physical Abuse: It may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating, or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer feigns the symptoms of, or deliberately causes ill health to a child who they are looking after. This is commonly described using terms such as <fictitious illness by proxy >or <Munchausen's syndrome by proxy>. (Source: Lambeth College, September 2004)

Violence: Physical, psychological (psychosocial), and sexual violence to children through abuse, neglect or exploitation, as acts of commission or omission in direct or indirect forms, that endanger or harm the child's dignity, physical, psychological, or social status, or development. (Source: The UN Secretary General's Study on Violence, 2005)

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Awareness

For effective implementation the Policy, it needs to be understood accurately by all. ECPAT International will conduct a series of briefings to its staff members, Board members, partners, volunteers, interns, consultants and other representatives. ECPAT will make all people associated with it aware of the Child Protection Policy through training, induction and briefing.

Prevention

As a prevention measure children's rights to protection will be safeguarded at all times through appropriate management practices, which includes policies and procedures for recruitment of staff and the election of ECPAT representatives; risk assessments and management plans; adequate supervision of children in our care or with whom we have contact with; and policy for appropriate use of information technology (such as email, mobile phones, internet).

Reporting

Clear steps and guidelines on reporting the incidences violating the Codes will be established as well as actions to be taken.

Responding

ECPAT staff members, Board members, partners, volunteers, interns, consultants – or anyone acting as a representative of ECPAT will ensure that positive action is taken to support and protect children where concerns arise. ECPAT International takes seriously any concerns raised and will support children, staff or adults who raise concerns or who are the subject

of concerns. ECPAT will act appropriately and effectively in instigating or cooperating with any subsequent investigation. All responses will be guided by the principle of 'best interests of the child'.

Disciplinary Actions

Non-compliance with the above shall be taken seriously. This will involve a thorough investigation and referral of cases to the police and/or social services if national or international child rights laws have been violated.

Monitoring

All managers and Board members within ECPAT member groups are responsible for ensuring that the intentions of ECPAT International in relation to safeguarding children are taking place and to monitor and evaluate action and effectiveness.



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