Introduction to ITU

- Leading UN agency for information and communication technologies (ICT)
- Founded in 1865, ITU is the oldest specialized agency in the UN system
- Global focal point for governments and the private sector with 191 Member States, 900+ Sector Members and Associates
- ITU Headquarters in Geneva, 11 regional and area offices, 700 staff of 80 nationalities
ITU Activities

- ITU work is implemented through its three Sector’s:
  - Standardization (ITU-T)
  - Radiocommunication (ITU-R)
  - Development (ITU-D)

- ITU also organizes TELECOM events:
  ITU TELECOM WORLD 2009: an event for the global telecommunication and information communication technology (ICT) sector, and a platform for global telecommunications and ICTs
Dr. H. I. Toure’, ITU Secretary-General has identified Cybersecurity as a top priority.

ITU provides the global perspective and expertise needed, promoting cybersecurity through a range of activities related to standardization, radiocommunication and technical assistance to developing countries tailored to their needs.

Instigator of World Summit on Information Society (WSIS)
- ITU was entrusted by leaders of the international community with Action Line C5: “Building Confidence and Security in the Use of ICTs”.

In 2007, in answer to this responsibility, Dr Hamadoun Touré, ITU Secretary-General, launched the Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA)
TUNIS COMMITMENT

“We recognize the role of information and communication technologies (ICT) in the protection of children and in enhancing the development of children. We will strengthen action to protect children from abuse and defend their rights in the context of ICT.”
World Telecommunication & Information Society Day (WTISD)

- **2009 Theme:** “Protecting children in cyberspace.”
  - 2009 WTISD aims at ensuring that children can safely access the Internet and its valuable resources without fear of falling prey to unscrupulous predators in cyberspace or being harmed in other ways.

- **Year Long Call for Action**
  - ITU calls upon all stakeholders (policy makers, regulators, operators and industry) to promote the adoption of policies and strategies that will protect children in cyberspace and promote their safe access to online resources.
Child Online Protection (COP)

- COP is a global initiative created by ITU, as part of the Global Cybersecurity Agenda, which aims to tackle cybersecurity holistically.

Objectives

- Identify risks and vulnerabilities to children in cyberspace;
- Create awareness;
- Develop practical tools to help minimize risk;
- Share knowledge and experience.

www.itu.int/cop
What’s happening online?

What Many Parents Don’t Know
- most of children are willing to share personal information about themselves and their family in exchange for goods and services
- children are increasingly being targeted by online predators.

What are the online risks?
- Pornography
- Violence
- Online Game & Addiction
- Online Fraud
- Cyber-bullying
- Racism
### Working together

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GUIDELINES ON COP

ITU has been working with some COP members to develop initial sets of guidelines for the different stakeholders.

**Guidelines for policy-makers**
- Children’s Charities’ Coalition on Internet Safety (CHIS)
- United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
- International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC)
- Child Helpline International (CHI)
- INTERPOL

**Guidelines for industry**
- Children’s Charities’ Coalition on Internet Safety (CHIS)
- GSM Association
- European Broadcasting Union (EBU)
- INTERPOL
- AfrISPA
- Telecom Italia
- Vodafone

**Guidelines for parents, guardians and educators**
- Children’s Charities’ Coalition on Internet Safety (CHIS)
- University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom
- Insafe Network
- European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA)
- European Commission’s Safer Internet programme
- Cyber Peace Initiative

**Guidelines for children**
- Telefónica
- Children’s Charities’ Coalition on Internet Safety (CHIS)
- Save the Children
- INTERPOL

http://www.itu.int/osg/csd/cybersecurity(gca/cop/guidelines/index.html
COP National Survey 2009

Summary of objective:
- To determine the current scope of online child safety policy and legal frameworks across the world
- To establish a database showing what is happening in the online child safety space around the world

- The online questionnaire was distributed to each of the ITU’s 191 Member States in October-November, 2009
- Responses from 50 countries so far
- Survey result recently presented at Internet Governance Forum in Egypt
- Open until the end of this year, available on the COP website www.itu.int/cop
- The database is intended to be a planning tool and, over time, it will help to map what changes are taking place in all parts of the globe
COP National Survey 2009

Main categories of the questionnaire

- The problems
- Available advice or guidelines
- Available awareness and training programmes
- Legal Framework, Law enforcement
- Co-operation with the Internet industry
- Request for assistance
COP National Survey 2009

Main findings of the questionnaire

The problems

Q. What are the main problems facing children and young people in your country in relation to the internet?

- Exposure to illegal content came top of this list, mentioned by 39 countries out of 50. Exposure to other forms of harmful or inappropriate content and exposure to bullying or harassment came very close at 38 and 37 respectively.

Available advice or guidelines

Q. Which agencies have published advice and guidance about safer internet usage by children and young people?

- Seven respondents from least developed countries said no agency in their country that had produced any advice or guidance on internet safety for children and young people.
- Otherwise the child safety material that was being published in the different countries by a wide variety of agencies.
- Government Ministries and Telecoms Regulators were the most common publishers identified, with NGOs...
# COP National Survey 2009

## Main findings of the questionnaire

### Available awareness and training programmes

Q. Are there any programmes/policies within schools/educational establishments/youth groups/other bodies, to promote the safe and responsible use of the Internet to children and young people?
- Only 30 countries confirmed that such programmes exist
- 54% of Least Developed Countries either said there was nothing or they did not know of anything.

### Legal Framework, Law enforcement

Q. Does your country have law enforcement officers who have been trained to retrieve and analyze digital data taken from computers and the Internet?
- Only 28 countries answered in the affirmative. 16 said no, and six did not know

### Co-operation with the Internet industry

Q. Does your country have a hotline or other specific mechanism for reporting suspected illegal behaviour found or taking place on the Internet?
- 21 countries said yes, 19 said no.
COP National Survey 2009

Main findings of the questionnaire

Request for assistance

Q. Does your country require assistance?
- The calls for assistance came very strongly from the least developed and the developing countries, and came less strongly from the developed countries.
- The answers to this question gives us a route map for the future activities of the COP initiative within the ITU and its partners.

50 countries participated in the COP National Survey (record as at 20th of November)

Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Bahrain, Barbados, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czech Rep., Colombia, Cape Verde, Dominican Rep., Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Grenada, Iran, Iraq, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, South Africa, Samoa, Seychelles, Slovak Republic, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom and Zambia
“Children everywhere have the right to a safe environment, even in the cyberworld. Because while the connection might be virtual, the danger is real.”

Dr Hamadoun I. Touré, ITU Secretary-General

“We must work together like never before if we are to protect our children. In cyberspace, we really are only as strong as our weakest link; we are only as secure as our weakest hub.

There's an old Swedish proverb that goes like this:

"Fear less, hope more - Whine less, breathe more - Talk less, say more - Hate less, love more - And all good things are yours."

H.M. Queen Silvia of Sweden, Patron of WTISD 2009
More information

- Child Online Protection Initiative (COP)  
  http://www.itu.int/cop
- World Telecommunication & Information Society Day  
  http://www.itu.int/wtisd/index.html
- Cybersecurity, Spam and Cybercrime: Confidence and security in the use of ICTs  
  http://www.itu.int/cybersecurity
- ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda  
  http://www.itu.int/cybersecurity/gca
Thank you for your attention!

Contact us: cop@itu.int