



The Child Online Safety Agenda in Egypt; In Search for an Integrated Strategy

Sharing the Experience of an Emerging Knowledge Society

ITU WG- CP, 17th- 18th of March 2010

In search for an Integrated e- Safety Strategy; Engaging key sectors and actors



Forming and Activating The National e-Safety Working Group

- Differentiating between online crimes and risks/ dangers in what concerns children.
- Linking the messages of empowerment and safety.
- The group includes representatives from key stakeholders: Ministries of Justice, Interior, Education, Higher Education, media, Ministry of State for Family and Population, The National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority, Egypt's ICT trust fund, youth representatives, parents' representatives, and ISPs.
- Identifying national needs and monitoring progress in implementation.
- Defining roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder to ensure synergies.
- Formulating plans in light of the agreed upon agenda.



Legal and Legislative Effort

- Child law 126 for 2008 - article 116 bis.
- Formulating the Executive regulations of the child law 126.
- Capacity building for attorneys and judges in dealing with child on line offenses.
- Coordinating with MCIT and Ministry of Interior.

Law Enforcement Effort

Establishing of a dedicated department to confront cyber crimes – Law Enforcement “Cyber Crime and Data Networks department”; Decree 13507 for year 2002

- Coordinating with Internet Service Providers through the National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority.
- Collaborating with the Interpol
- A Dedicated Line

Regulatory Effort

- The National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority works through “the Consumers Rights Protection Committee” as per Telecom law no. 10/2003
- Availing awareness sessions for consumers
- Encouraging Self regulatory measures by ISPs
- Providing a Contact Center: 155

Educational Efforts

- Forming the **Educators' Internet Safety Focus Group** as the nucleus of awareness and knowledge within the Ministry of Education.
- Formulating e- safety curriculum and educators' TOT in light of other countries' experiences and national needs.
- Availing filters, safety tools and formulating “agreed upon policies- AUP” for schools.
- Keeping teachers and educators up to date with respect of safety concerns in addition to standard skills and social networking developments (web 2.0 tools)

Technology Oriented Effort

- Coordination with Egypt's major ISPs to avail family filters (e.g. TEData Family Internet) and availing the filters free of charge.
- Exploring the suitable technology solutions in dealing with illegal content (child pornography) and encouraging ISPs to adopt self regulatory measures in coordination with International entities active in the field (e.g. IWF).
- Establishing the CERT in coordination with the National Telecom Regulatory Authority, international organizations and Companies.
- Exploring solutions such as the CETS on the basis of Frame Agreements with Multinationals (Microsoft – Intel – Cisco – IBM – Oracle – Siemens,.....)

Awareness and Content Creation Efforts

- The major effort in Egypt is led by an NGO; The Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement.
- Adopting a Peer to Peer approach.
- Forming the Youth Internet Safety Focus Group (Net – Aman) and The Parents Internet Safety Focus Group.
- Encouraging Social- Public- Private Partnership.
- Engaging Civil Society; Youth centers, IT clubs, public libraries and NGOs through specialized ministries.
- Addressing issues of safety/ protection within more comprehensive frameworks including “children's rights”, “netiquette” and “Digital Citizenship”.
- Conducting surveys to identify risks relevant to the national context.

Awareness and Content Creation Efforts



- Using the Cascaded Training approach by the youth, parents and educators' groups.
- Leveraging existing projects in the ICT sector or other sectors to disseminate the message.
- Partnering with international NGOs, the private sector and/ or organizations for relevant material and guidance.
- Taking part actively in international initiatives.
- Initiating/ joining projects on the regional level; Arab (the online youth protection Project) and African.
- Translating, localizing and developing e-safety material and creating the Arab Internet Safety Portal.

Egypt and the ITU's Child on Line Protection

Initiative (COP)

- Learning from the diversity of experiences of the COP pool of experts
- Contributing to the content of the COP guidelines.
- Taking part in the survey conducted by the ITU.
- Contributing in the formulation of the COP strategy from a developing country perspective.

What can the ITU and the WG- CP do to further the Child Protection Agenda...?

- Identifying the main components (minimum requirements for an e-safety or national strategy) including the legal, law enforcement, the education, and technology baskets... etc
- Providing diversified best practices offering different options for implementation of a child e-safety plan.
- Conducting/ coordinating regular studies and availing statistics on child e-safety issues in the different regions; with a special emphasis on those areas where little research has been conducted.
- Informing member states about and Synergizing international efforts/ initiatives in online safety for children.

What can the ITU and the WG- CP do to further The Child Protection Agenda ?

- Playing a match making role, through the COP data base, to identify potential expertise, best practice and training to countries seeking such assistance.
- Availing a pool of different technology solutions.
- Keeping an open channel of communications between member states and sector members (WG- DCP) with experts active through the (COP).
- Keeping abreast of new risks/ dangers that could affect children and raise awareness about them, as well as of new technology solutions.
- Identifying the proper monitoring system/ indicators for child on line safety.

Thank you