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| **Council 2018Geneva, 17-27 April 2018** |  |
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| **Agenda item: PL 1.6** | **Document C18/62-E** |
| **8 March 2018** |
| **Original: English** |
| Report by the Chairman of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection |
| four-year Report of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection  |

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| SummaryThis Report summarizes the activities of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection, in accordance with ITU Plenipotentiary Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014) and Council 2009 Resolution 1306.Action requiredThe Council is invited **to submit** this Report to the Plenipotentiary Conference *for further consideration as appropriate*.**References**[Council Resolution 1306](https://www.itu.int/md/S15-CL-C-0109/en); [Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014)](https://www.itu.int/pub/S-CONF-PLEN-2015) |

## 1 Introduction

1.1 As per [Resolution 1306,](https://www.itu.int/md/S15-CL-C-0109/en) modified by Council 2015, the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP) is requested *to prepare a draft final report for consideration by Council 2018 to be submitted to the 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference on the activities undertaken and achievement on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate.*

1.2 The work of the CWG-COP is conducted in line with Resolution 1306 of ITU Council 2009 (modified in 2015) and in accordance with Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014). Resolution 1306 *resolves*:

 *1 to maintain CWG-COP, in order to facilitate the membership’s input and guidance on ITU’s role in child online protection, with the following terms of reference:*

 *1.1 to exchange views and promote and work on the subject matter;*

 *1.2 to report to the Council annually on the activities of the Group;*

 *2 to facilitate the contribution and participation of all relevant stakeholders in the work of the CWG-COP to ensure maximum collaboration in implementing Resolution 179 (Rev. Busan, 2014);*

 *3 to encourage CWG-COP to conduct one-day online consultations for youth prior to its meetings to listen to their views and opinions on different matters related to child online protection;*

 *4 to continue to make output documents related to child online protection issues publicly accessible without password protection;*

 *5 to prepare a draft final report for consideration by Council 2018 to be submitted to the 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference on the activities undertaken and achievement on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as* appropriate.

1.3 Since PP-14, some of the key achievements of the Group are:

**a) Multistakeholder participation:** to ensure maximum collaboration in implementing this Resolution;

**b) Global platform for discussion:** to facilitate the membership’s input and guidance on ITU’s role in child online protection;

**c) Guidance from youth:** through the online consultation, the Group receives views, especially from youth, on opinions on different matters related to child online protection;

**d) Collection of case studies and good practices:** by submitting examples on existing national, regional and international efforts, members share knowledge and propose measures to advance the protection of children online.

1.4 This document summarizes the recommendations adopted by the CWG-COP at the Group’s meetings since the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference.

## 2 Recommendations

2.1 The main results of the [ninth meeting](https://www.itu.int/md/S15-CL-C-0015/en) of the CWG-COP, held on 23 January 2015, were:

- to post and share all relevant documents on COP on the appropriate website;

- to endorse the outputs of the liaison statement of the JCA–COP;

- to provide insights on the deployment of new technologies and share best practises on how technology can be used to secure devices for children;

- in relation to the proposed [COP Framework](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-cop/Documents/CWG%20COPTARGETS.pdf), the target 2 was revised based on the suggestions received;

- to submit the draft Resolution 1306 to Council 2015 for formal approval;

- to support programmes and activities targeting young constituencies to add value to the work of the Group;

- to encourage ITU and COP partners to work together to produce the ECPAT Terminology Guidelines on Child Online Protection.

2.2 The main results of the [tenth and 11th meetings](https://www.itu.int/md/S16-CL-C-0015/en) of the CWG-COP, held on 30 September 2015 and on 16 February 2016 were:

- discussions on the outcomes of the three online consultations: (1) 5Rights (previously called IRights), (2) topics for the next online youth consultation, and (3) feedback received in relation to the COP framework. In this regard, it was decided:

 (1) 5Rights: the Group welcomes initiatives that raise awareness about the importance of child online safety, such as 5Rights, and agrees to take into account such initiatives in the work of the Group going forward;

 (2) Topics of the next online youth consultation: the Group agreed on the subject of “cyber-bullying on social media” for the first topic of the online youth consultation. To better formulate the topic, the Group also agreed to consult with UNICEF and other members on their experiences of engaging with young people (e.g. UNICEF’s Voices of Youth initiative);

 (3) COP Framework: the Group requested that the secretariat post online the next draft of the framework, with the currently received feedback and comments reflected, for further comments prior to the next meeting of the Working Group.

- to post the draft outcome report of the meeting on the CWG-COP website to allow members to comment on the document before publishing the final version;

- to increase synergies and coordination with other stakeholders and platforms of discussion within the UN and other fora.

2.3 The main results of the [12th and 13th meetings](https://www.itu.int/md/S17-CL-C-0015/en) of the CWG-COP, held on 10 October 2016 and on 2 February 2017 were:

- the suggestion of involving organizations such as European Union and Council of Europe, among others, as a way to bridge the gaps and harmonize actions at the national, regional and international levels;

- to involve regional organizations to attend future meetings and ensure coordination;

- in relation to the Youth Online Consultation, it was agreed on the following:

a) Continue to focus on the topic of cyberbullying because the current sample is small.

b) Conduct the consultation possibly in the six languages of the UN with the support of Member States, ITU regional offices and partners to extend the outreach of the consultation.

- in relation to the outcomes of the online consultation, the Group agreed that the topic of the next consultation will be around digital skills and empowerment.

2.4 The main results of the [14th meeting](https://www.itu.int/md/S18-CLCWGCOP14-C-0014/en) of the CWG-COP, held on 23 January 2018 were:

- to send the comments on the proposed new logo for the CWG-COP to the secretariat via email;

- to have an online repository of country efforts;

- to provide guidance and ideas on how to improve the number of responses from young people;

- to involve different stakeholders at the meetings, as this is a unique platform for information-sharing and lessons learned;

- a proposal was put forward requesting that the ITU set up a link on its website that showed case studies or gathered best practices to which stakeholders could refer to when needed.

## 3 Acknowledgement

I thank the ITU membership who actively contributed to and participated in the work of CWG-COP, the Vice-Chairmen, the ITU Elected Officials and the secretariat for their efficient assistance during the meetings. I would especially like to thank Dr Sherif Hashem (Egypt) for his able chairmanship of the Group from 2010 to 2017.

**Ibrahim Al Dabal (UAE)
Chair, CWG-COP**