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|  | **Document CWG-COP-22/3** |
| **11 March 2025** |
| **English only** |
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| Report by the Chair of the  Council Working Group on Child Online Protection | |
| OUTCOME OF THE TWENTY SECOND MEETING OF THE COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION | |
| **Purpose**  This report summarizes the main results of the twenty-second meeting of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP), held on 12 and 13 February 2025, in accordance with ITU 2010 Council Resolution 1306 and ITU Plenipotentiary Resolution 179 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022).  **Action required**  The Council Working Group on child online protection is invited to **note** the report.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  [*CWG-COP website*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-cop/Pages/default.aspx)*;* | |

**1** **Introduction**

1.1 The twenty-second meeting of CWG-COP was held on 12 and 13 February 2025 in a hybrid format. Approximately 191 participants, representing governments, private sector, civil society, academia, international and intergovernmental organizations, participated in the meeting, which was chaired by the Vice Chair Mrs Stella C. Erebor, (Nigeria).

**2** **Opening remarks**

2.1 Mr. Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, Director of ITU Development Bureau, opened the 22nd Assembly of the ITU Council Working Group on Child Online Protection, reaffirming ITU’s commitment since 2009. He stressed collective responsibility for online safety and integrating child protection into cybersecurity and AI governance. Celebrating the impact of COP partnerships, he marked several collaborative initiatives between ITU and NCS KSA, UNSRVAC, Safe Online and UNCRC. The Director concluded by looking ahead to the upcoming World Telecommunication Development Conference in Azerbaijan.

**3 Adoption of the agenda**

3.1 The [Agenda](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CLCWGCOP22-C-0001/en) was adopted as drafted.

**4**  **Contribution and information documents**

4.1 The following documents were presented by membership and partners:

* Contribution and Information document by the Secretariat:
  + [Contribution](https://ituint-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/personal/yuting_wang_itu_int/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B7102BCAC-B619-48AA-B963-F7D88B8A134E%7D&file=S25-CLCWGCOP22-C-0002!!MSW-E.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true) by the Secretariat: Update on the ITU child online protection initiative and the COP global programme
  + [Information Document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0001) by the Secretariat: *ITU Industry Connect: Quarterly* *conversations across Sectors*
* Information documents by ITU Member States:
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0003) from Bulgaria: *Bulgaria’s Initiatives and best practices in child online protection*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0004/en) from Egypt: *Digital Citizenship Initiative: A Model of Best Practices for Child Online Protection Efforts in Egypt*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0010) from Pakistan: *Development of awareness content in Urdu and digital literacy initiatives for children and, parents, through private sector engagement*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0016) from Chad: *Initiatives and good practices of the Chadian Government in the field of child online protection*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0017) from Tanzania: *Tanzania's initiatives and plans on child online protection*
  + [Joint information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0019) from the Bahamas, the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (Trinidad and Tobago), the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States: *Update on child online protection initiatives in the Caribbean*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0022) by Andorra: *Report by Andorra Digital, Andorra's Digital Transformation Programme*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0023) by Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés, France: *The French Data Protection Authority*
* Information documents from ITU Sector Members:
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0006) from European Commission (EC): *How to protect and empower children and young people online*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0011) from Centre for Global IT Cooperation: *Activities of the Alliance for the Protection of Children in the Digital Environment*
* Information documents from ITU partners and other relevant stakeholders:
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0008) from UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC): *Exploring the ITU Cooperation with the CRC*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0021) by UNICEF: *Strategic actions to protect children from violence, and exploitation in relation to the digital environment*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0018) by the Council of Europe (CoE): *Children's rights division: update on recent activities*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0005) from Kindernothilfe & Voice of Children & Yayasan PKPA: *Amplifying children and youth's voices in co-creating safe and inclusive digital environment*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0009) from SouthWest Grid for Learning (SWGfL)*: Impact of technical standards on child online protection*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0007) from Scort Foundation: *Child Online Protection in and through sports*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0012) by 5Rights Foundation: *Protecting children's rights in the digital environment*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0013) by eWorldwide Group: *Building holistic human digital resilience in an evolving AI world (eWWG Initiative)*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0014) by WISE KIDS: *Preventing online radicalisation – An e-learning programme for parents, carers and early help professionals*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0015) by the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children: *Addressing online child sexual exploitation (OCSE) in three aspects: the financial industry's critical role in combatting OCSE, OCSE as a predicate crime, and victim compensation for OCSE survivors*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0020) by Terre des Hommes: *The need for regulation of the Internet and digital technology industry to protect children from online sexual exploitation*
  + [Information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0024) by WeProtect Global Alliance: *Update on online facilitated child sexual abuse following the 2024 WeProtect Global Alliance Summit*

**5 Presentations**

Contribution and Information document by the Secretariat:

* 1. The [contribution](https://ituint-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/personal/yuting_wang_itu_int/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B7102BCAC-B619-48AA-B963-F7D88B8A134E%7D&file=S25-CLCWGCOP22-C-0002!!MSW-E.docx&action=default&mobileredirect=true) by ITU Secretariat provided an update on the Child Online Protection (COP) initiative, which continues to safeguard children from online risks while empowering them to harness digital opportunities. Key activities from October 2024 to February 2025 included the translation of COP guidelines, capacity-building efforts, and the development of national frameworks. In Malta, translated guidelines were officially presented during a national event, while the Maldives saw the implementation of a Training of Trainers for Educators. National COP frameworks were advanced in the Bahamas and Suriname, with technical assistance initiated in Andorra and Eswatini. Child participation efforts continued through collaboration with Western Sydney University, with consultation workshops held in Indonesia, Lebanon, and Malawi, and plans for Ecuador in early 2025.

Cross-sector collaboration remained a cornerstone of COP’s work. In Ecuador, a training webinar for young coaches was held in partnership with the Scort Foundation, integrating child online protection into sports. The Protection through Online Participation (PoP) initiative, led by ITU and the Office of the Special Representative on Violence against Children, made significant progress, with draft guiding principles for child helplines and tech platforms shared for consultation. Final principles will be published in 2025, alongside efforts to collect good practices, engage the ICT industry on emerging technologies, and map child-led solutions. Additionally, ITU initiated a collaboration with the Committee on the Rights of the Child to draft a Joint Statement on child protection in the context of AI, which will be shared for consultation and submitted for adoption by the Committee in 2025. ITU also contributed to the Inter-Agency Coordination Group Against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT), endorsing a Joint Statement on rising threats to children in trafficking.

* 1. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0001) by the Secretariat presented a Concept Note for a series of events, connecting ITU member States with the ICT Industry, aiming to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange on child online protection (COP) through a series of quarterly intersectoral discussions. These sessions will focus on specific sectors such as AI-driven platforms, social media, gaming, streaming services, and educational technology, addressing the unique risks and challenges children face in each environment, to enhance understanding and promote collaborative efforts to protect children from online harm. Children will also be invited to join the discussions by sharing their perspectives, and experiences on their safety online. The goal is to facilitate meaningful dialogue between ITU members, non-members, private sector leaders, and policymakers to share best practices, strategies, and solutions to safeguard children online. The sessions will be held virtually, beginning in 2025, with language support provided where possible, and will culminate in actionable recommendations to advance global COP strategies. By offering this neutral space for collaboration, the ITU aims to strengthen global efforts to create a safer digital environment for children.

Information documents by ITU Member States:

* 1. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0003) by Bulgaria introduced its National Program for the Prevention of Violence and Abuse against Children (2022-2026) which focuses on reducing violence and abuse, especially online, by implementing preventive measures and enhancing legal frameworks. The program outlines five strategic objectives: protecting children from online violence, improving the legal framework for child protection, investigating violence cases effectively, raising awareness and building professional capacity, and improving inter-institutional cooperation. A key component of the program is child online protection, which includes digital-media literacy, training on online risks, and a National Safer Internet Centre Hotline for reporting abuse. A national information campaign, "Be Brave, Be Good," was launched in 2024 to engage the community and raise awareness, including activities such as children's competitions, sports events, and public landmarks illuminated with anti-violence messages. The program's expected outcomes include a 20% reduction in violence, better awareness of online risks, and improved professional capacity to address child protection issues. Action plans are also being developed for ongoing implementation and evaluation, aiming for a zero-tolerance policy toward violence, especially online. Introduced its National Program for the Prevention of Violence and Abuse against Children (2022-2026) which focuses on reducing violence and abuse, especially online, by implementing preventive measures and enhancing legal frameworks. The program outlines five strategic objectives: protecting children from online violence, improving the legal framework for child protection, investigating violence cases effectively, raising awareness and building professional capacity, and improving inter-institutional cooperation. A key component of the program is child online protection, which includes digital-media literacy, training on online risks, and a National Safer Internet Centre Hotline for reporting abuse. A national information campaign, "Be Brave, Be Good," was launched in 2024 to engage the community and raise awareness, including activities such as children's competitions, sports events, and public landmarks illuminated with anti-violence messages. The program's expected outcomes include a 20% reduction in violence, better awareness of online risks, and improved professional capacity to address child protection issues. Action plans are also being developed for ongoing implementation and evaluation, aiming for a zero-tolerance policy toward violence, especially online.
  2. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0004/en) by Egypt discussed its Digital Citizenship Initiative, a national effort led by the Egyptian Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT) to enhance e-safety for children online. The initiative focuses on building digital literacy, raising awareness, and providing training to various target groups, including children, adolescents, teachers, parents, and women. The Wa3i.net platform developed within the initiative offers specialized content, interactive games, guidebooks, and online safety training in Arabic. The initiative has successfully conducted workshops, Training of Trainers (ToT) programs, and awareness campaigns, reaching thousands of beneficiaries. Key success stories include trainers and educators from Qalyubia, Aswan, and Daqahliyah implementing digital safety programs, peer-to-peer training, and community engagement. Events like Safer Internet Day and social media awareness campaigns have further expanded outreach. The program aims to foster responsible digital behavior, prevent online risks, and create a safer internet environment for children and youth in Egypt.
  3. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0010) by Pakistan summarized its extensive initiatives for Child Online Protection between 2024 to 2025, launched by Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), focusing on digital literacy, awareness, content development, technical measures, and international collaboration. PTA established a Child Online Protection Committee, prioritizing education and prevention, including the nationwide digital literacy initiative “Digital Hifazat”, partnered with TikTok, which has impacted 150,000 individuals in 40 schools. Training programs like Training of Trainers (ToT), workshops, and awareness sessions in collaboration with UNICEF, TikTok, and Global System for Mobile Association (GSMA) further strengthen the initiative. PTA has also developed local language content in Urdu, including translated guidebooks, awareness videos, and a complaint management system (CMS) for reporting child abuse online. Additional outreach efforts include youth summits, video competitions, TV programs, and social media campaigns, with over 38.89 million views in three months. PTA’s network-level parental control initiative aims to centralize online safety measures, and the inclusion of a COP chapter in its 2024 annual report reflects its commitment to child safety. PTA’s work highlights a comprehensive, multi-stakeholder approach to ensuring a safer digital environment for children in Pakistan.
  4. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0016) by Chad highlighted its efforts to make child online protection a national priority through legal, regulatory, and educational initiatives. Relevant national entities implemented content filtering, cybersecurity measures, and public awareness campaigns. The legal framework includes laws on cybersecurity, data protection, and cybercrime, ensuring safeguards against online exploitation and harmful content. Chad’s National Cybersecurity Strategy recommends parental control standards, awareness campaigns, and integrating online safety education into schools and healthcare settings. The government collaborates with Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and tech companies to monitor harmful content, develop AI-based detection tools, and enhance public reporting platforms. Chad also participates in global initiatives like Safe Internet Day and Personal Data Protection Day, raising awareness about cyberbullying and digital privacy. Additionally, its cybercrime units work with INTERPOL and Europol to combat online child exploitation. Through legislation, ISP regulations, education, and international cooperation, Chad is actively fostering a safer digital environment for children, ensuring their protection in an increasingly connected world.
  5. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0017) by Tanzania discussed its progress on Child Online Protection through legal frameworks, awareness campaigns, digital literacy programs, and international collaboration. The National Advisory Committee on Child Online Safety of Tanzania, comprising government and non-government stakeholders, advises on COP policies and conducts nationwide awareness campaigns. Legal measures include the Cybercrimes Act (2015), recently amended in 2024 to enhance child protection. Educational initiatives include safety publications, digital clubs in schools, and public awareness campaigns targeting parents and children. The 116-child helpline provides confidential, 24/7 support, linking callers to relevant service providers. Ongoing initiatives such as developing a Child Online Protection Strategy and exploring the introduction of a Child SIM Card to filter inappropriate content. Tanzania also benefits from international collaboration through CWG-COP, gaining insights from global best practices. With a holistic, multi-sectoral approach, Tanzania is committed to creating a safer digital environment for children while ensuring they benefit from technology safely.
  6. The [joint information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0019) by the Bahamas, the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (Trinidad and Tobago) and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States reviewed their respective process of child online protection. The Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) is spearheading regional efforts to protect children in digital space, supporting governments in strengthening policies, legal frameworks, and digital safety initiatives. With rising cyber threats, multi-stakeholder collaboration has become essential. The Get Safe Online campaign and partnerships with UNODC, ITU, and UNICEF provide training, awareness programs, and cybersecurity capacity-building. In the Bahamas, a National Cybersecurity Strategy (2024) aims to embed cybersecurity education, strengthen law enforcement capabilities, and address legal gaps in child protection. The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) introduced a regional policy in 2022, focusing on education, regulation, and reporting mechanisms to combat cyberbullying, privacy breaches, and harmful content. However, challenges such as limited funding, fragmented frameworks, and bureaucratic delays hinder progress. Regional cooperation and harmonization of policies remain crucial for them to ensure safe online environments across Small Island Developing States (SIDS). However, they are dedicated to continuously promote best practices, digital safety awareness, and policy alignment to protect Caribbean youth from online exploitation and cyber risks.
  7. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0022) by Andorra covered its Digital Transformation Programme, which focuses on child online protection and digital wellbeing, aligning with ITU's COP Guidelines. The country adopts a broad approach, addressing physical, mental, social, and emotional health to prevent screen addiction, social isolation, and digital stress. A key initiative is the establishment of Digital Skills and Wellbeing Office, which will coordinate national efforts, implement policies, and collaborate internationally. Andorra’s Digital Wellbeing Improvement Plan focuses on preventing risky online behaviours, enhancing regulations, supporting families, and improving governance. A National Assessment on Child Online Protection conducted in December 2024 identified priorities, including establishing governance structures, expanding teacher training, strengthening regulations, and launching public awareness campaigns. The strategy integrates education, healthcare, social media controls, device regulation, and family support, ensuring a safe digital environment for children.
  8. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0023) by the French Data Protection Authority (CNIL) reaffirmed its priority of children’s rights and digital citizenship education, focusing on awareness, regulation, and stakeholder collaboration to ensure minors safely navigate the digital world. CNIL has strengthened its on-the-ground presence, working with national and local partners to understand young people’s digital behaviours and develop tailored educational materials. Key initiatives include interactive tools like the Incollables® quiz, the Digital Guardians game, and manga-style educational content, addressing topics such as privacy, cyberbullying, misinformation, and data protection. The “Your Data, Your Rights” campaign, featuring a multilingual privacy rights poster, educates youth on safeguarding personal information. Additionally, CNIL provides resources for parents and educators, covering cybersecurity, geolocation risks, online services, and managing children’s first mobile phones. CNIL also promotes international knowledge exchange, contributing to the 2025 European Year of Digital Citizenship Education and other global initiatives to harmonize child online protection strategies. Through policy supervision, public awareness campaigns, and digital safety training, CNIL ensures that children, parents, and educators are equipped with the knowledge and tools to navigate online risks. By advocating for stronger protections, responsible digital use, and enhanced privacy rights, CNIL is contributing to create a safer, more informed digital environment for young users in France and beyond.

Information documents by ITU Sector Members:

* 1. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0006) by European Commission emphasized its commitment to child online protection and empowerment, balancing safety measures with digital participation. Its EU toolbox consists of three key pillars: the Digital Services Act (DSA), enforcing strict privacy and safety rules for minors; the Better Internet for Kids+ Strategy (BIK+), promoting digital literacy, safety, and awareness; and a privacy-preserving age verification system, set to launch in 2025 as a bridge to the EU Digital Wallet in 2026. Key priorities include combating cyberbullying, investigating addictive platform designs, and assessing the impact of social media on youth mental health. The Commission enforces the Digital Services Act (DSA) compliance, ensuring platforms protect minors, prevent targeted ads, and remove harmful content. It also supports age verification solutions, integrating privacy-focused technologies to enhance online safety without compromising user data. Through legislative oversight, public awareness campaigns, and collaboration with Member States and tech providers, the EU aims to create a secure and empowering digital environment for children, ensuring their rights, safety, and well-being in an increasingly digital world.
  2. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0011) by the Center for Global IT-Cooperation (CGITC) highlighted its leadership in enhancing child online safety through multi-stakeholder collaboration, as part of Russia's Alliance for the Protection of Children in the Digital Environment. Established in 2021 by major Russian telecom, IT, and media companies, the Alliance promotes self-regulation, content moderation, and digital literacy. Key initiatives include the Digital Childhood Ethics Charter, signed by 13,000+ organizations, advocating for proactive content moderation; the creation of the Digital Library (“TSIFRAteka”) educational portal, offering cybersecurity resources; and the "Risks in the Digital Environment" guidebook, tailored for different age groups. Technological solutions such as the Hash Database enable automated identification and removal of illegal content, including Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) and harmful materials. The Alliance also organizes public awareness events, such as Anti-Cyberbullying Days and Digital Security Festivals, engaging over 500,000 participants. Recognizing global cooperation as key to tackling digital threats, the Alliance actively participates in international forums like the UN Internet Governance Forum, BRICS and SCO International IT Forum, and welcomes collaboration with ITU and global stakeholders to strengthen child online protection worldwide.

Information documents by ITU Partners and other Relevant Stakeholders:

* 1. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0008) by UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) outlined its initial proposal of the drafting of a Joint Statement on AI and Child Rights, which is a collaborative effort led by ITU and UNCRC to address the lack of global legal norms on children's rights in the AI era. This initiative follows the 2024 Geneva event marking the beginning of cooperation between ITU and CRC on AI governance and child rights. The Joint Statement, to be co-signed by international organizations, aims to provide a harmonized framework aligned with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The process is inclusive, involving governments, AI companies, academia, civil society, and children from all UN regions. A key milestone will be the Tbilisi Conference, which is to be held on March 10 to 12 in 2025, where stakeholders will finalize the document, ensuring global consensus to protect children's rights in AI-driven environments.
  2. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0021) by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICE) addressed its 2025 strategic actions, with focus on protecting children from violence and exploitation in the digital environment through policy, research, and industry engagement. Key initiatives include a child rights impact assessment toolkit, research on corporate responsibility and digital marketing, and a comparative analysis of industry regulation models. UNICEF is also updating its AI for Children guidance and conducting research on neurotechnology and child rights. The "Disrupting Harm" project explores multisectoral service models to improve child protection, while national programs aim to enhance laws, policies, education, and services. These efforts reinforce UNICEF's commitment to ensuring a safe and rights-based digital environment for children worldwide.
  3. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0018) by Council of Europe provided an update on its recent activities focusing on child online protection and the implementation of the Lanzarote Convention, which addresses the protection of children against sexual exploitation and abuse. The Lanzarote Convention, adopted in 2007 and in force since 2010, currently has 48 State parties and is monitored by the Lanzarote Committee through thematic rounds. Current progress includes a capacity-building event in Vienna on the threats and opportunities of emerging technologies, supported by a background paper and a declaration on protecting children from exploitation facilitated by these technologies. Additionally, the Global Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) Legislative Overview by the International Association of Internet Hotlines (INHOPE) was highlighted. The Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child is also working on children’s rights in the context of artificial intelligence, conducting a mapping study and developing a child rights impact assessment tool for AI, complementing the Council’s guidance on the Framework Convention on AI. These efforts underscore the Council’s commitment to addressing evolving challenges in child protection, particularly in the digital age, through standard-setting, monitoring, and technical cooperation.
  4. The [joint information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0005) by Kindernothilfe, Voice of Children (Nepal), and Center for Child Study and Protection (Yayasan PKPA, Indonesia) was not presented, as the intervenor was not presented onsite nor connected online.
  5. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0009) by SouthWest Grid for Learning (SWGfL) outlined the progress and activities of the Special Correspondence Group on Child Online Protection (CG-COP) over the past year, following the 2024 COP Council meeting. Established under ITU-T Study Group 17, the CG-COP was tasked with identifying gaps in child online protection standards and proposing solutions. Key milestones include finalizing the Terms of Reference, holding three meetings to discuss emerging challenges like age assurance and automated content moderation, and drafting a Gap Analysis Report. This report highlights critical gaps, such as the lack of comprehensive standards for age verification and the challenges posed by end-to-end encryption in detecting child sexual abuse material. It recommends collaboration with international standardization bodies like International Organization for Standardization (ISO), Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), and European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) to develop privacy-conscious solutions. The CG-COP has also fostered global stakeholder engagement, participated in events like the Global Age Assurance Standards Summit, and advocated for unified hash-matching standards to enhance content moderation. Looking ahead, the group aims to finalize the Gap Analysis Report, advance the development of age assurance and content moderation standards, and strengthen global collaboration through workshops and knowledge-sharing initiatives.
  6. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0007) by the Scort Foundation illustrated the dual nature of the online world as both an opportunity and a risk for children, underscoring the need for Child Online Protection (COP). Leveraging sports as a universal language, the foundation creates safe environments for children, bridging the physical and digital worlds. Through sports, coaches foster trust and open conversations about online safety, building a protective ecosystem that raises awareness, encourages positive interactions, and equips children with skills to respond to online threats. Based in Basel, Switzerland, the foundation operates globally, empowering young coaches—community leaders who work with underprivileged children—and advocating for sports in addressing crises, displacement, and online challenges. Since 2020, they have partnered with the ITU to promote COP through sports, organizing workshops, webinars, and training sessions. In December 2024, a webinar in Ecuador trained 46 young coaches working with over 1,800 children, addressing risks like cyberbullying and exploitation. The foundation is developing resources to help sports organizations integrate COP into their frameworks, emphasizing prevention and response, and invites contributions to share best practices.
  7. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0024) by WeProtect Global Alliance emphasized the urgent need for a multi-sector approach to combat online child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA), a growing global crisis affecting over 300 million children annually. Following its 2024 Summit in Abu Dhabi, the Alliance outlined a roadmap for action, focusing on future-proofing solutions through enhanced awareness, prevention, and collaboration. Governments are urged to adopt future-proof legislation and strengthen child protection systems, while the private sector is encouraged to leverage technology for good, prioritize safety by design, and share best practices. Civil society plays a critical role in amplifying the voices of children and survivors, ensuring their lived experiences inform policies and interventions. The Alliance’s #MyVoiceMyFuture campaign, which consulted 85 children and youth across nine countries, revealed their concerns about digital safety, including AI risks, stalking, and exposure to harmful content. Young people advocate for a balance between safety and privacy, simplified access to safety features, and inclusion in decision-making processes to shape digital laws and policies. They envision a digital world that empowers exploration while ensuring protection, emphasizing the need for tailored solutions and education to address evolving risks. The Alliance calls for unified action across sectors to create a safer digital future, where children can thrive online without losing the internet’s creative and educational potential.
  8. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0012) by 5Rights Foundation underscored the critical need for global coherence in safeguarding children’s rights in the digital environment. Traditional safety measures, such as content blocking or parental controls, fail to address the root issue: digital platforms are not designed with children in mind, often prioritizing profit over safety through exploitative data practices and manipulative design. The Foundation’s research, *Pathways and Disrupted Childhood*, highlights how these practices disproportionately harm children, who are early adopters of technologies like generative AI. To address the issue, 5Rights advocates for systemic, tech-neutral regulations rooted in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and General Comment No. 25, which mandate that states and companies uphold children’s rights online. Recent advancements, such as the UK’s Age-Appropriate Design Code and the EU’s Digital Services Act, show progress in embedding safety and privacy by design. However, fragmented regulations risk a “race to the bottom,” allowing harmful practices to persist. The Foundation calls for a unified global approach, emphasizing accountability, transparency, and oversight, to ensure companies prioritize children’s rights, conduct risk assessments, and embed safety by default. This includes addressing exploitative business models and manipulative design, rather than relying on consent-based models or parental controls, which unfairly burden children and families. The ITU and its members are uniquely positioned to lead this change, ensuring children can safely learn, connect, and thrive in the digital world.
  9. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0013) by eWorldwide Group was not presented, as the intervenor was not onsite nor connected online.
  10. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0014) by WISE KIDS introduced an innovative e-learning program, *Preventing Online Radicalisation*, developed by the organization in collaboration with Cardiff Council and funded by the UK Home Office. This program, set to launch in March 2025, aims to equip parents, carers, and early help professionals with the knowledge and tools to prevent online radicalisation among young people. The digital world, while offering immense opportunities, also presents significant risks, including exposure to extremist ideologies, misinformation, and harmful content. The program addresses these challenges through rich multimedia content, including graphics, videos, and interactive activities, covering topics such as the pathways to radicalisation, the role of social media and AI, and the dark web. It also includes case studies, such as Danny’s story (extreme right-wing ideology) and Sharifa’s story (Islamist extremism), to provide practical insights into how radicalisation occurs and how it can be countered. A key focus is on building digital resilience and well-being, emphasizing the importance of healthy relationships, life skills, and open conversations within families. The program also provides guidance on digital literacy, recognizing the rapid evolution of technology, including AI, and the need for parents to stay informed. Available in English and Welsh, the initiative seeks to empower parents and professionals to navigate the complexities of the digital world and protect young people from radicalisation. WISE KIDS invites global partners to engage with this resource, as online radicalisation is a global issue requiring collaborative solutions.
  11. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0015) by the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children (ICMEC), discussed the financial industry’s critical role in combating online child sexual exploitation (OCSE), particularly in the Philippines, a global hotspot for such crimes. ICMEC’s Financial Coalition Against Child Sexual Exploitation (FCACSE), launched in 2006, unites financial institutions, technology partners, and law enforcement to disrupt OCSE’s economic infrastructure through a "detect, report, disrupt" approach. This coalition aligns with UN Sustainable Development Goals to reduce illicit financial flows and combat organized crime. ICMEC also highlights OCSE as a predicate crime under anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML-CTF) laws, advocating for its explicit inclusion in legal frameworks to ensure financial institutions prioritize detecting and reporting suspicious transactions. Their 2025 study indicates that there are only 6 countries, out of 27 countries examined, explicitly list OCSE as a predicate crime. Additionally, ICMEC addresses gaps in victim compensation, particularly for minors in developing countries, through a Victim Compensation Framework developed with the Philippine financial industry. This framework ensures survivors receive and manage restitution awards effectively. ICMEC emphasizes the power of cross-sector collaboration, legislative action, and industry-wide best practices to combat OCSE, empowering financial institutions to meet their legal and ethical obligations in protecting children. Through collective efforts, ICMEC aims to disrupt OCSE’s economic foundations and provide justice and support for survivors.
  12. The [information document](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S25-CLCWGCOP22-INF-0020) by Terre des Hommes highlighted the urgent need for regulation in the digital and tech industry to protect children from online sexual exploitation. The organization operates in Latin America, Asia, and East Africa, focusing on three programmatic areas: sexual exploitation of children, child labor, and humanitarian efforts. Two key programs, “Down to Zero” and “Safety for Children and their Rights Online (SCROL)”, address online child exploitation through research, advocacy, and collaboration with governments, law enforcement, and the private sector. Research findings from *Safety by Design* (2023) reveal that digital platforms are unsafe for children and lack transparency in their safety measures. The *VOICE* research (2024), involving nearly 500 children and caregivers across 15 countries, points out that children accept online risks as normal, while caregivers overestimate their ability to protect them. Children demand more information on online safety, both privacy and protection, and involvement in addressing safety concerns. Recommendations include better regulation, effective sanctions against non-compliant companies, and concrete actions like pop-up warnings and restrictions on screenshotting. The organization calls for all stakeholders to enforce child rights in the digital environment, for the private sector to adopt a *Safety by Design* approach, and for governments to implement future-proof regulations that anticipate technological advancements, while stressing the importance of including children’s and caregivers’ voices in shaping online safety measures.

**6 Any other business**

**7 Discussion**

7.1 Canada raised concerns about the abusive use of cell phones in schools, suggested that "child-too-much-online" should be considered in future discussions on COP, which was supported by other meeting participants. The Chair acknowledged that while research on this issue stays inconclusive, the effects of excessive screen time, such as children becoming uncomfortable interacting with others outside of the digital world, need to be addressed.

7.2 The Co-convener of the Correspondence Group on Child Online Protection (CG-COP) within ITU Study Group 17 (SG17) highlighted the group’s ongoing work of conducting a gap analysis for COP standards, which focuses on three key aspects: identifying threats and vulnerabilities, determining technical solutions, and assessing gaps in existing standards. The SWFfL and the SG 17 invited all stakeholders to contribute to the report in shaping solutions for enhanced child online safety.

7.3 Germany inquired about the development and compatibility of age verification toolkits as an age assurance solution to COP. Ongoing discussions focus on technical aspects such as end-to-end encryption, implementation strategies, regulation standards and integration with networks and devices.

**8 Outcomes of the twenty-second meeting of the CWG-COP**

8.2 The meeting welcomed the Secretariat’s initiative to make all resources, which were presented during the CWG COP meetings, available on its dedicated website.

8.3 The meeting welcomed the concept of the series of events “ITU Industry Connect: Quarterly Intersectoral Discussions on Child Online Protection” proposed by the Secretariat and congratulated ITU BDT to this effort. Questions were raised on where details could be found on registration to the event. The Secretariat confirmed that registration will be accessible from the ITU COP website. In addition, the Secretariat was invited to edit the Concept Note according to the comments received, which include referring to ITU Resolution 179 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022) and Resolution 67 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) to clarify ITU’s role in COP; engaging children to be part of the discussion; if possible, adding sign language for accessibility for children who cannot understand; involving regional organizations and offices to ensure widespread and balanced participation in COP discussions; and some minor rewording suggestions. The Secretariat confirmed to make the requested edits.

8.4 The Vice Chair expressed the expectation that the gap analysis report prepared by the Correspondence Group on Child Online Protection (CG-COP) would be discussed at the next meeting in October 2025. The group’s co-convener confirmed that the report is still being updated. It will be discussed in Study Group 17 in April 2025, before being presented to the next meeting of the CWG COP.

8.5 The meeting reconfirmed the importance of engaging different stakeholders in child online protection discussions and actions, again emphasizing the necessity of including industry in the meeting agenda and in broader child online protection efforts.

**Stella C. Erebor (Nigeria)**  
**Vice-Chair, CWG-COP**