



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

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Geneva, 11 June 2020

To: COP Stakeholders : community, partners
and organizations

**Subject: Invitation to join ITU webinar to launch the “New 2020 Child Online Protection Guidelines
Date: 24 June 2020 at 14h00-15h30 CET**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the pleasure to invite you to join the webinar on the “**Online Dialogue: 2020 COP Guidelines Launch & beyond**” which will be held on 24 June 2020 at 14h00-15h30 CET.

Within the framework of the [Child Online Protection Initiative](#), the “**Online Dialogue: 2020 COP Guidelines Launch & beyond**” will present the revised Guidelines on Child Online Protection for policy-makers, industry, parents and educators, as well as children, first issued in 2009.

The explosion of information and communication technologies (ICTs) has created unprecedented opportunities for children and young people to communicate, connect, share, learn, access information, and express their opinions on matters that affect their lives and their communities. But wider and more easily available access to the Internet and mobile technology also poses significant challenges to children’s safety – both online and offline.

The new 2020 Guidelines include reflections on the special situation of children with disabilities when it comes to online risks and harms as well as issues around new technological developments such as, among others, the Internet of things and artificial intelligence.

The online dialogue aims at creating the opportunity for deep dive analysis and discussion on multi-stakeholder approaches and policies on child online protection and will focus on the actual usage and implementation of the COP Guidelines at the national and regional contexts.

I hope that you as practitioner, expert, advisor and active advocate in the child online protection field could help and partner with us to make progress in child online safety while ensuring that children’s rights are included in programme designing and policy implementation.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) encourages all stakeholders to implement the Guidelines’ recommendations and I look forward to exploring opportunities for collaboration and cooperation in order to scale up impact and avoid duplication of work.

It will be a pleasure to count on your participation (or one of your experts) at these important events.

To register to the events, please find the link here: <https://www.itu.int/net4/ITU-D/CDS/meetings/registration/index.asp>.

For more information on the two webinars, please contact Carla Licciardello at cop@itu.int.

Concept Notes and the Agendas are both attached to this invitation.

Finally, I am pleased to inform you that after this first global webinar, additional webinars will be organized in the other languages of the Union.

Yours faithfully,

[ORIGINAL SIGNED]

Doreen Bogdan-Martin
Director

CONCEPT NOTE**Online Dialogue: 2020 COP Guidelines *Launch & beyond***

24 June 2020

14h00-15h30

Webinar

Background

The explosion of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) has created unprecedented opportunities for children and young people to communicate, connect, share, learn, access information, and express their opinions on matters that affect their lives and their communities. But wider and more easily available access to the Internet and mobile technology also poses significant challenges to children's safety – both online and offline. Child online protection issues range from the management of screen time, the protection of personal data and individual privacy, to cyber bullying and illegal online content such as Child sexual abuse material (CSAM).

In order to respond to these growing challenges in the face of rapid development of ICTs, the Child Online Protection (COP) Initiative, a multi-stakeholder international initiative launched by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in November 2008, aims to bring partners together from all sectors of the global community to create a safe and empowering online experience for children and young people around the world.

The 2020 Guidelines

The 2020 Guidelines on Child Online Protection (COP) are a comprehensive new set of recommendations for all relevant stakeholders on how to contribute to the development of a safe and empowering online environment for children and young people and how to live responsibly in the online world. They enhance understanding of Child Online Protection and provide resources and practical tools to support children and their families in the development of digital skills and digital literacy while staying safe online. The Guidelines simultaneously support industry and government stakeholders in the development of corporate and national Child Online Protection policies and strategies.

Targeting children, parents and educators, industry and policymakers, the COP Guidelines are meant to act as a blueprint, which can be adapted and used in a consistent way in line with national or local customs and laws.

Defining key risks and harms for children online, including privacy issues, cyberbullying, grooming and sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA), the new Guidelines further dedicate attention to the impact of new and emerging technologies on children, while addressing the challenges faced by children with disabilities, for whom the online world offers a particularly crucial lifeline to full – and fulfilling – social participation.

Objectives of the Webinar

The webinar, targeting policymakers, industry players and the Child Online Protection community, has the following objectives:

- Give a short overview of the request from ITU Member States to update the Guidelines, the review process, challenges and the success of a multi-stakeholder effort;
- Highlight the key components of the four co-authored sets of Guidelines;
- Share examples on the role of governments in the coordination of national entities, including children and youth, in the development of national and regional COP policies;
- Share best practises on private sector engagement including their active commitment to provide solutions and tools for child online safety.

AGENDA

14h00-14h10	Welcoming remarks
14h10-14h35	KEY MESSAGES – The new 2020 COP Guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amanda Third, Western Sydney University & Olivia Solari, Child Rights Connect • Karl Hopwood, Insafe Network • Anjan Bose, Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF • David Wright, Director, UK Safer Internet Center
14h35-15h00	CALL TO ACTION – Implementing the COP Guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), ITU • Abdelaziz Alzerooni, Chair of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection, UAE • Bocar A. Ba, CEO, SAMENA, Telecommunications Council
15h00-15h20	Q&As and Open Discussion
15h20-15h30	Closing Remarks