

Global Alliance against Child Sexual Abuse Online – 2014 Reporting Form

NIGERIA

TARGET POLICY NO 1

Enhancing efforts to identify victims and ensuring that they receive the necessary assistance, support and protection.

Operational Goal: *Increase the number of identified victims in the International Child Sexual Exploitation images database (ICSE) managed by INTERPOL by at least 10% yearly.*

- A. The government of Nigeria has commenced discussions with Child help International to introduce its services in Nigeria in the country. The toll-free structure, which will be hosted by the National Human Rights Commission will be supported by other relevant agencies including the Ministry of Interior, Network Providers, Nigeria Bar Association, Ministry of Women and Social Development, National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking Against Persons and civil society groups.
- B. Nigeria is gradually moving towards the stage that, through collaboration between the various agencies, victims will be identified, assisted, supported and protected.
- C. The government of Nigeria will intensify efforts to identify victims and ensure that they are fed into the International Child sexual Exploitation Images managed by INTERPOL.

TARGET POLICY NO 2

Enhancing efforts to investigate cases of child sexual abuse online and to identify and prosecute offenders.

Operational Goal: *Establish the necessary framework for the implementation of child sexual abuse online and the effective prosecution of offenders, with the objective of enhancing efforts to investigate and prosecute offenders.*

- A. The Child Rights Act was signed into law in 2013. The law criminalizes all forms of child abuse and exploitation of children including rape and child defilement. The provisions of the Act are operational in 22 States and the Federal Capital Territory. Efforts are in top gear to ensure that the remaining States in Nigeria domesticate the provisions of the Act.
- B. Key stakeholders including the Ministry of Interior, National Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Justice, State governments, civil society groups and the Nigeria Police are collaborating to ensure vigorous investigation of cases of child abuse in order to identify and punish offenders.
- C. The government of Nigeria will strengthen existing laws to ensure that cases of child sexual abuse online are promptly and diligently prosecuted.

Operational Goal: *Improve the joint efforts of law enforcement authorities across Global Alliance countries to investigate and prosecute child sexual abuse online.*

- A. The government of Nigeria set up the National Joint Task Force for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, which is collaborating with other agencies, including the African Network for the Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect to establish preventive measures, monitor and respond promptly to child sexual abuse and violence against children.
- B. The efforts of the government of Nigeria have been beneficial, especially in creating awareness. Some adults are being prosecuted for child sexual abuse and defilement including the case of David Orji, a 35 year old man who was dragged before an Asaba, Delta State Magistrate Court for raping a 6 year old girl on February 1, 2014.
- C. The government of Nigeria would continue to apprehend and prosecute perpetrators of child sexual abuse.

POLICY TARGET NO 3

Enhancing efforts to increase public awareness of the risks posed by children's activities online, including grooming and self-production of images that result in the production of new child pornography that may be distributed online.

Operational Goal: *Develop, improve, or support appropriate public awareness campaigns or other measures which educate parents, children and others responsible for children regarding the risks that children's online conduct poses and the steps they can take to minimize those risks.*

- A. Through some of its agencies including the National Films and Video Censors Board, the National Joint Task Force for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, various child protection networks and civil society groups, parents and children are being adequately sensitized on the risks that children's online conduct poses and the steps they should take to minimize such risks. The First Lady of Nigeria, Dame Patience Jonathan has been in the forefront of this advocacy as exemplified by her strident calls for stiff penalties for sex offenders in all parts of the world.
- B. The various organs of State are mobilizing youths in colleges, tertiary institutions to sensitize the general public on the dangers posed by the online conduct of children. In at least one State, Lagos, the government introduced child education in secondary schools to further educate children on dangers associated with early sex and related matters.

C. The government will set up advocacy groups in schools to ensure that children are constantly sensitized on the need to be cautious in maintaining online relationships.

Operational Goal: *Share best practices among Global Alliance countries for effective strategies to inform the public about the risks posed by online, self-exploitative conduct in order to reduce the production of new child pornography.*

A. The government of Nigeria is collaboration with the US Center for Disease Control Atlanta, United Nations Children’s Fund, UNICEF, and the National population Commission to generate accurate and research-based data that would ultimately ensure informed and evidence-based programming for effective child protection in Nigeria.

B. A Survey on Violence against Children in Nigeria has been concluded and the final data will be released in October 2014.

C. Nigeria will use data obtained from the Survey on Violence Against Children in Nigeria to identify and prosecute child sexual abuse.

POLICY TARGET NO 4

Reducing as much as possible the availability of child pornography online and reducing as much as possible the re-victimization of children whose sexual abuse is depicted.

Operational Goal: *Encourage participation by the private sector in identifying and removing child pornography material located in the relevant State, including increasing as much as possible the volume of system data examined for child pornography images.*

- A. The government of Nigeria, using relevant agencies including the Nigeria Police and the National Film and Video Censors Board raids film distribution networks, especially the famous Alaba International market in Lagos to ensure that child pornography materials do not get into circulation.
- B. The government of Nigeria is continuously identifying major routes of distribution of child pornography in Nigeria. As a result, the relevant government agencies have been proactive in removing such material from shops and prosecuting offenders.
- C. The relevant government agencies in Nigeria will continue to collaborate with the private sector and civil society groups to ensure that child pornography materials are not distributed in Nigeria. In addition, the Nigeria Police, the Ministry of Justice and other relevant government agencies will continue to apprehend and prosecute offenders.

Operational Goal: *Increase the speed of notice and takedown procedures as much as possible without jeopardizing criminal investigation.*

- A. In view of the steps being taken by the appropriate government agencies, the Nigerian government is committed to ensuring that cases involving child sexual abuse online are expeditiously investigated and disposed of.
- B. The establishment of the National Joint Task Force for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Other Related Forms of Violence Against Children in Nigeria ensures that child victims of sexual assaults are supported so that they do not suffer as result of their unsavory experiences in the hands of perpetrators of child sexual abuse online.
- C. The government of Nigeria will continue to adopt measures that would protect victims of child sexual abuse against victimization and stigmatization.