Global Alliance Against Child Sexual Abuse Online – 2014 Reporting Form

NEW ZEALAND

Policy Target No. 1

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

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

A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report

Police have a nominated trainer for the ICSE database to provide training and access to the database, enabling a rapid response to identifying victims and loading possible new victims onto the database. The trainer:

- has now provided training to Japan, Korea, and Vietnam Police in ISCE; and
- has provided to New Zealand Custom Service staff with training.
- New Zealand Police along with the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) are active in the ISCE database.
- NZ Customs are DIA are currently establishing the technical framework for New Zealand Customs to use the database effectively this year.

Customs, Police and DIA have agreed to undertaken regular quarterly meetings. Regular group video conferences are also undertaken by members of all three agencies in order to discuss current work and any general points of interest.

The national database has been implemented and is used extensively by Customs. The database allows for secure information sharing, de-confliction of targets, online training and instant message communication by the three agencies. This is used daily by Customs.

Police and DIA have created a New Zealand school uniform database to assist with victim identification.

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

DIA reports a dramatic increase in the number of images it has uploaded to the ICSE database (4,609 images uploaded to date in the 2013/2014 year). This has resulted in a

number of children being identified both in New Zealand and overseas.

Having a nominated trainer for the ICSE database enables a rapid response to identifying victims and loading possible new victims onto the database.

The Police trainer for the ICSE database continues to provide training at the request of ICSE administrators (Interpol).

C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up The Police trainer for the ICSE database will continue to provide training at the request of ICSE administrators (Interpol).

Customs does not have a direct connection of ICSE. Access to this tool is being developed by DIA and is likely to be implemented later this year. Customs undertakes ICSE related work via Police and/or DIA.

Policy Target No. 2

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

<u>Operational Goal</u>: Establish the necessary framework for the criminalization of child sexual abuse online and the effective prosecution of offenders, with the objective of enhancing efforts to investigate and prosecute offenders.

A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report

Customs, Police and DIA have agreed to undertaken regular quarterly meetings.

Introduction of a mandatory regime through legislation for the safety checking, Police vetting, screening and criminal history checking of adults who are working with children.

Introduction of multi agency improved policies and processes through legislation for the identification and response to child abuse, neglect or maltreatment.

A Bill is currently being considered by Parliament to modernise the law regarding objectionable publications to keep pace with technology and ensure that penalties for child exploitation material offences reflect the seriousness of the offending (the Objectionable Publications and Indecency Legislation Bill).

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

New Zealand continues to make improvements to its framework for the criminalisation of child sexual abuse on line, and to effectively prosecute offenders.

C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up Agencies will continue to meet regularly for training and discussions.

Police will monitor the implementation of safety checking, Police vetting, screening and criminal history checking of adults who are working with children.

Agencies will monitor the implementation of multi agency improved policies and processes for the identification and response to child abuse, neglect or maltreatment.

Agencies will continue to monitor and support the passage of the Objectionable Publications and Indecency Legislation Bill.

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

A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's

2013 report

Customs, Police and DIA are members of the Australasian child exploitation contact list. This group email is accessible and operated by all child exploitation enforcement personnel from Australia and new Zealand and allows for rapid operational communication as well as general information and ideas sharing.

DIA has a cooperative relationship with a number of international communication carriers. This has made it easier to execute search warrants and production orders to obtain basic subscriber information to progress investigations.

Police are members of a number of international groups whose focus is to coordinate international global investigations - Virtual Global Taskforce (VGTF); Violence Crime Against Children International Taskforce (FBI led).

Police are currently the lead agency in an international proactive operation targeting offenders that involves participation from law enforcement agencies in 15 countries to date.

During 2013 Customs led a multi-agency international operation with Police and DIA, and Global Alliance members from Australia, United States and United Kingdom. The operation led to the identification of 4 New Zealand based offenders and 2 UK based offenders. Two New Zealand victims of abuse were identified and a further child safeguarded. One UK based victim of abuse was identified with a further child safeguarded.

DIA continued to lead two international operations - Ubique and Ible.

The Law Commission is undertaking a review of extradition and mutual assistance laws in New Zealand.

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

New Zealand continues to be an active partner in the international law enforcement environment.

C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up Continue to provide assistance and lead international investigations as appropriate.

Await the outcome of the Law Commission review of extradition and mutual assistance laws.

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 results in the production of new child pornography that may be distributed online.

<u>Operational Goal</u>: 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) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report

Agencies actively issue press releases. These educate the public that the sexual abuse of children is real and that this imagery is crossing the border of New Zealand. Releases about investigations also provide opportunities for media safety messaging.

The Customs website is updated on a regular basis advising the public who travel internationally on the importation and exportation of prohibited and restricted goods being objectionable material.

New Zealand law enforcement agencies are standardising processes as part of a closer working relationship to combat online child exploitation. This includes standardising search warrant applications, victim impact statements and submissions around sentencing of offenders to improve the consistency of information provided to Judges and sentencing.

A recent Australian documentary aired on Australia's ABC network featured the work of DIA. The documentary traced the story of how two Australian men traded their young son around the world for sex. The story featured an interview with Jon Peacock from DIA's Censorship Compliance Unit, whose tenacity led to the men being arrested and the young boy saved from further abuse. The documentary featured interviews with enforcement agencies in New Zealand, Australia and the United States and emphasised the message: "It takes a network to crack a network". The broadcast highlighted the importance of cross- agency, cross-border work in this area.

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

The above work shows New Zealand's ongoing action in educating the public about these issues.

C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up

Customs has initiated an international approach with Australia, US and is currently setting up agreements with the UK. This allows New Zealand to be notified about persons convicted of child sexual abuse that intend to travel to New Zealand. With the assistance of Immigration New Zealand the offenders are either denied travel before leaving the respective country or are assessed on their arrival in New Zealand and are deported or landed. New Zealand is currently amending the law to allow authorities to hold a register and to allow New Zealand to do the same to the respective countries.

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) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report

Virtual Global Taskforce member countries regularly share Police best practices and are constantly looking for capability building opportunities especially in regards to transnational sex offenders.

Customs and Police hold quarterly meetings with NGO's discussing any new trends that have been identified either from an investigation or from information received via private sectors.

NGO's are receiving information that can be passed onto the relevant agency for further investigation or for intelligence based information.

Customs conducts regular meeting with NGOs showing operations conducted and the outcome of them. This is to show the work being conducted and how Customs is combating child sexual abuse. The NGO's are then publishing this information on their websites and use it in their press releases and presentations to the public.

Customs, Police and DIA will continue to work together in making the public aware of the true reality of this abuse.

Police OCEANZ group is actively working to increase awareness of and reduce opportunities of "sexploitation" of children as a result of their own unsafe behaviour online.

Media messaging in regards to investigations provides opportunities for media safety messaging.

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

New Zealand has built strong relationships with a number of Global Alliance countries. These are long term strategic relationships and are ongoing.

C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up Meetings with NGO's are ongoing and will continue for the foreseeable future.

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.

<u>Operational Goal</u>: Encourage participation by the private sector in identifying and removing known 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) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report

DIA operates a voluntary website filtering system for New Zealand that is strongly supported by ISPs and teicos - currently has 100% mobile coverage, approximately 92% coverage for residential internet use and 70% for business.

Police has established a single point of contact with the school Principals network to assist in the identification of New Zealand children in the victim ID processes involving New Zealand school children.

Police has established a single point of contact with Child Youth and Family (CYF) to assist with victim identification for child victims of online abuse.

Police and DIA have created a school uniform data base for victim identification.

Previously DIA reported that it was trialling in association with the Department of Corrections (the NZ prison service) a scheme to monitor the Internet access of persons subject to supervision orders for accessing child sexual abuse material. DIA has now produced a product for the Department of Corrections to operate to achieve this purpose. The New Zealand Customs Service Child Exploitation operations Team (CEOT) specialise in investigations, detections and disruption of networks of offenders who traffic imagery of child sexual abuse.

CEOT created a Victim Impact Statement that is presented to the Courts on sentencing. The information is requested from the original country that identified the victim and requested statements and affidavits from the victims and detectives. This is presented to the court at sentencing and has produced higher sentencing. By doing this it assists victims being re-victimised. The Victim Impact Statement is now utilised by Customs and Police in New Zealand. Australia is considering its potential use in their country as well.

The Objectionable Publications and Indecency Legislation Bill is currently being considered by Parliament. This Bill creates a presumption of imprisonment for repeat online child exploitation material offenders; and creates a new offence of indecent communication with a young person to improve the investigation and prosecution of perpetrators grooming children online. [This seems out of place, but was included in actions to be undertaken in the original report, so will leave it here].

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

New Zealand continues to develop and implement new processes for reducing the availability of child exploitation material on-line and reducing re-victimisation.

C) Please indicate specific actions that your country will undertake as a follow-up Agencies will continue to monitor and support the passage of the Objectionable Publications and Indecency Legislation Bill.

The Victim Impact Statement will be updated in accordance with new statistics gathered by Customs, Police and Internal Affairs and from overseas sources.

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

A) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country's 2013 report

New Zealand Customs, Police and Internal Affairs have signed up to a Task Force combating child sexual abuse. This allows quick and easy access to the three databases held by law enforcement allowing timely investigation. The Task Force is able to act

quickly, efficiently and proactively toward investigations. When information is received it is able to be proactively work on by the best agency with the support of the others. If the information is border related then Customs will investigate, if the information is domestic then Police or Internal Affairs investigate for fast and accurate investigations. This approach involves regular meetings and video calls and sharing of information to actively investigate cases of child sexual abuse, not just nationally but internationally as well.

B) Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

The three agencies have worked on a number of cases as part of the Task Force approach that have been beneficial to the public good.

C) Please indicate specific actions that will be undertaken as a follow-up

The Task Force will continue to operate as it does with monitoring its process to make changes where necessary.