Global Alliance against Child Sexual Abuse Online

New Zeland

Policy target 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 database) managed by INTERPOL by at least 10% yearly
Operational Goal:	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
Actions ALREADY UNDERTAKEN	
Description of the actions <u>already</u> <u>undertaken</u>	In New Zealand there are three law enforcement agencies that investigate offences involving the sexual abuse of children and young persons. These agencies are the New Zealand Police (Police), the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) and the New Zealand Customs Service (Customs). For many years now these three agencies have worked collaboratively at both the policy and operational level in these investigations and have signed memorandums of understanding and working protocols.
	Victim identification is considered of very high importance between the three agencies and has led to the development and signing of a protocol dedicated to this particular issue. In New Zealand, victim identification and rescue is a priority not only for children abused in New Zealand but also for those abused overseas. To this end, working relationships have been established with organizations such as the Interpol Working Group, sharing and contributing to the ICSE database and also with the United States Department of Homeland Security to proactively investigate cases.
	All three agencies in New Zealand regularly contribute images to ICSE.
	Police have an analyst currently undertaking training in ICSE in Korea. Police will have the one authorised trainer in New Zealand able to train others. DIA was one of the first agencies to use Microsoft DNA image identification software. Recent successes include:
	o the identification of 6 victims (NZ)
	o the identification and rescue of 4 victims (UK)
	DIA provides access to ICSE database for other agencies.
	The signed victim identification working protocols document outlines the collaborative approach between the agencies, it explains the operational roles of each agency and the objectives and the expectations of working together. This document binds the agencies to work as one on cases to identify child sexual abuse victims. The protocol ensures liaison with other government and non government organisations dedicated to the protection of children such Child, Youth and Family Services and School

	Principals Network.
	Standardised investigation protocols for online child exploitation investigations have been developed and signed by the three agencies.
Actions that WILL BE UNDERTAKEN	
Description of the actions that will be undertaken and timeframe	The three agencies have agreed that they will all meet quarterly for training and discussions around investigations. The training involves the sharing of new software, investigation techniques and processes and allows the agencies to share their individual expertise and abilities.
	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. This will be completed later this year.
	Currently a national database that all three agencies can access is being implemented. This will allow the free communication and exchange of information to make it more effective to investigate children being sexual abused. This database will be operational within a few months (by June 2013).
	Police working with other agencies (including social, education and health) on development of policies and processes to better protect children through the Children's Action Plan. Initiatives include:
	• Introduction of Child Abuse Prevention Orders. Civil orders designed to protect children from high-risk abusive adults. Offences in the criteria for issuing an order will include the new offence of indecent communication with a child
	• Introduction of a mandatory regime 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 for the identification and response to child abuse, neglect or maltreatment
	Police working with other justice sector partners to develop a Sex Offender Register and Management System for adults who pose a risk of sexual offending against children. Bill is to be introduced by the end of July 2013 and enacted in Feb 2014.
	Police and DIA are creating a school uniform data base for victim identification.

Policy target No. 2: Enhancing efforts to investigate cases of child sexual abuse online and to identify and prosecute offenders

Operational Goal:	Improve the joint efforts of law enforcement authorities across Global Alliance countries to investigate and prosecute child sexual abuse 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
Actions ALREADY UNDERTAKEN	
Description of the actions already undertaken	All three agencies proactively investigate offences involving grooming, child sexual exploitation as well as the production and trading of abuse images. The three agencies freely share information and intelligence and undertake joint investigations on a taskforce basis. Investigative and forensics resources are made available to each other and all requests for interagency assistance are prioritized. This liaison extends to international bodies dedicated to combating the sexual exploitation of children. Consequently information and intelligence is both received in New Zealand as well as transmitted overseas and results in operational activity detecting and investigating offending.

Customs formed the Child Exploitation Operations Team (CEOT) which consists of two officers that predominantly work on cases of child sexual abuse. This not only covers the importation and exportation of hard copy child sexual abuse imagery at all the ports in New Zealand but also extends to investigations where the Internet is the means used to import/export or trade this material.

The three agencies work together on the identification of offenders as a 'Task Force' approach. When information is received or one of the agencies has a potential person of interest the information is shared with the other agencies, this allows the taskforce approach for the interrogation of the individual government databases to establish who the offender maybe. All three agencies work under different Acts of Law and by combining them as a task force shows that investigations can be worked on more swiftly and effectively.

DIA is an active member of Virtual Global Task Force (VGT) – attended Dubai conference with Police and Customs.

DIA covert investigators are active in social networks and have had a number of national and international successes; DIA is active in peer to peer networks; is Chair of an Interpol working party; and Provides training at the Europol course for combating the exploitation of children.

DIA works to identify trends in networks used to exploit children and contributes to international intelligence.

DIA is active in identifying technical solutions and cooperation with international agencies e.g. Websniper software is endorsed by Interpol and is currently being used by 30 member countries. |

	Police Online Child Exploitation New Zealand team (OCEANZ) is a specialist team to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of child exploitation images:
	• Standardised investigation processes introduced between three agencies (Police, DIA and Customs)
	• Police work with overseas ESPs who host the child exploitation material to track and trace users and distributors
	• Police develop close relationships with providers in order to be able to link overseas addresses and hosts to identify New Zealand users and victims.
	• Police active members of the VGT and other international law enforcement agencies – FBI. Innocent Images International Taskforce (IIITF).
Actions that WILL BE UNDERTAKEN	
Description of the actions that <u>will be undertaken</u> and timeframe	Affidavit, search warrant and sentencing submissions are shortly to be standardized across the three agencies. Proposed legislative amendments will see widening of the offence of possession of objectionable images and the creation of a new offence of indecent communication with a child. It is also proposed that the prosecution of certain offences in the Films, Videos and Publications Classification Act 1993 will no longer require the leave of the Attorney General, thus making this process shorter and less complicated.
	DIA has recently taken the lead in two international operations – Ubique and Ible. DIA is working with the Ministry of Justice to identify and address issues with accessing evidential material in other jurisdictions i.e. transnational warrants and MLAT (mutual legal assistance treaty).
	Legislative change is proposed to improve investigate and prosecution of use and distribution of child images:
	• increasing the maximum penalty for possession of an objectionable publication from 5 years' imprisonment to 10 years' imprisonment
	• increasing the maximum penalty for distributing or making an objectionable publication from 10 years' imprisonment to 14 years' imprisonment
	• creating a presumption of imprisonment for repeat offenders, so that any person convicted of a child exploitation images for a second time will be sentenced to a term of imprisonment, and
	• creating a new offence of indecent communication with a child.

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	

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
Actions ALREADY UNDERTAKEN	
Description of the actions already undertaken	All three agencies actively support both governmental and non-government agencies dedicated to protecting children and rescuing victims of abuse. For example, all three agencies support and promote the work of a non-governmental agency called Netsafe. Netsafe provides advice and assistance to parents on the protection of children whilst they are online. All three agencies are listed as partner agencies to Netsafe.

Customs sends out press releases on a regular basis regarding investigations that have been undertaken and the sentence imposed by the Courts. This is to educate the public that the sexual abuse of children is real and it is happening in New Zealand and not just in other countries.

DIA is an active member of Interpol's networks. DIA have built relationships with online service provides e.g. Facebook, and works with NGOs, such as ECPAT Child ALERT ("Ending Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Child Trafficking for Sexual Purposes").

Police OCEANZ group present to the School Principals Network on risks and issues with children online

Police Online Child Exploitation New Zealand team (OCEANZ) has agreement with the School Principals Network for a single point of contact to improve victim identification. Police and DIA are creating a school uniform data base for victim identification. |
| **Actions that WILL BE UNDERTAKEN** | |
| ***Description of the actions that will be undertaken* and timeframe** | Customs, Police and DIA will continue to work together in making the public aware of the true reality of this abuse. The media have conducted documentaries in the past and the agencies will continue to keep this in the media so parents can be aware of this sexual 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. |

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 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.
Operational Goal:	Increase the speed of notice and takedown procedures as much as possible without jeopardizing criminal investigation
Actions ALREADY UNDERTAKEN	
Description of the actions already undertaken	The DIA provides operates a voluntary website filtering system for New Zealand that is strongly supported by ISP and telcos - currently has 100% mobile coverage, approximately 90% coverage for residential internet use and 70% for businesses. Netsafe provides a software mechanism enabling members of the public to report instances of online inappropriate activity involving child sexual abuse. DIA is trialing in association with the Department of Corrections a scheme to monitor the Internet access of persons subject to supervision orders for accessing child sexual abuse material. Police OCEANZ group contribute to improved prosecutions of offenders through the use of victim impact statements. Police go back to the country of origin of victims to obtain Victim Impact Statements to strengthen the prosecution and empower victims to prevent re-victimisation .
Actions that WILL BE UNDERTAKEN	
Description of the actions that will be undertaken and timeframe	Changes to legislation for presumption of imprisonment for repeat online child exploitation. Creation of a new offence of indecent communication with a child to improve the investigation and prosecution of perpetrators grooming children online.