

3-7
JUNE
2024

HOTEL
CROWNE
PLAZA
SAN JOSÉ
LA SABANA



SAN JOSÉ, COSTA RICA | 4 JUNE 2024

AGENDA FOR ATTENDEES TO THE CROSS-SECTOR DIALOGUE

FOCUS: FACILITATED A CROSS-SECTOR DIALOGUE ABOUT THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE OF CHILDREN AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL AND POSSIBLE WAYS OF ADDRESSING CHALLENGES AND GAPS ACCORDING TO THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AROUND THE ROLES OF THE TRAVEL AND TOURISM, TRANSPORT AND FINANCE SECTORS, INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES, FOSTERING PROTECTIVE ENVIRONMENTS AND AN ACTIVE CHILD AND YOUTH PARTICIPATION*

8:00 - 9:00

Registration

9:00 - 9:30

Opening Ceremony

Welcoming remarks by senior representatives of the Government of Costa Rica, the ECPAT International Network and the Americas Regional Working Group for the protection of Children in Travel and Tourism (GARA).

Explanation of the methodology for the day by Mr. Guillaume Landry, Executive Director, ECPAT International

9:30 - 10:30

Opening Panel: Challenges to address sexual exploitation of children in the post-COVID era.

(Panel 30 mins, questions/answers 30 mins)

This opening section will allow a framework understanding on the current situation of sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism and its interactions with other manifestations and contexts, in light of the recent reports of the Special Rapporteur and the Special Representative. Instead of a keynote speech, and to re-inforce the idea of a dialogue for the day, the panel moderated by ECPAT International will allow both UN authorities to explain the main highlights of their reports, and to go further in analyzing together the identified challenges and what needs to be done to address them, with a focus in the Americas region.

Dr. Najat Maala M'jid, United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children (UNSRSG),

Ms. Mama Fátima Singateh, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Sale and Sexual Exploitation of Children. (Remote connection, To be confirmed). Moderator: Mr. Guillaume Landry, Executive Director, ECPAT International

* Methodology: discussion working groups around certain aspects of the phenomena to extract learning and compare approaches and strategies forward.



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10:30 - 11:00

Coffee break

11:00 - 12:30

Group debate: aligning a common understanding of child sexual exploitation in travel and tourism in the Americas.

Following a distilling of regional challenges and possible way to address them, the participants will break to groups by sub-region: 1) North America (excluding Mexico) and Anglo-speaking Caribbean, 2) Central America, Mexico and Dominican Republic (two groups), and 3) South America (two groups). Each group will identify the top five trends they see in travel and tourism that present challenges in protecting children, and highlight up to 8 most pressing actions that could curb the issue.

Work in groups

12:30 - 14:00

Lunch

14:00 - 17:00

Group debate: distilling challenges by areas

14:00 - 15:00

First rotation

15:00 - 16:00

Second rotation

16:00 - 17:00

Third rotation

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14:00 - 17:00

Group debate: distilling challenges by areas

Having aligned a common understanding of the child sexual exploitation situation in the region and how it is addressed, by taking into account points of view of different sectors and countries during the morning, this session will allow group debates for specific topics of interest. Participants will pre-register to one of the tables matching their topic of interest for each of the 3 rotations (having each participant the opportunity to participate in discussions over 3 different topics). Each table will discuss, guided by a facilitator, over a specific topic. Each table will answer specific questions. Pre-designated facilitators will use a standard information consolidation template of the findings, that will be collated by a group to gather the agreements and recommendations of the group. Based in a registration closed in the week before the event, participants will receive materials and guiding questions to prepare for the tables they signed-up to.

Table 1: The role of the finance sector in the fight against sexual exploitation of children.

Table 2: The growing threat of organized crime in sexual exploitation of children in the Americas.

Table 3: How child and youth participation can contribute to preventing sexual exploitation of children?

Table 4: What does it mean to prevent sexual exploitation of children?

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The
Americas

COLLECTIVE
ACTION
End Child Sexual
Exploitation
and Abuse
The San José Dialogue



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14:00 - 17:00

Table 5: Codes of conduct, the learning between voluntary measures, national voluntary codes and national mandatory codes.

Table 6: The transport sector in its interaction with travel and tourism as a protective environment for children.

Table 7: On-line platforms and their role in protecting children in travel and tourism.

Table 8: How can the unregulated forms of voluntourism be addressed in the Americas?

Table 9: International travelling sex offenders, extraterritorial legislation and sex offender registries.

Table 10: The role of the informal sector in travel and tourism and child protection from sexual exploitation.

17:00 - 17:30

Plenary

Recap for the day

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