Global Alliance against Child Sexual Abuse Online – 2014 Reporting Form

SWITZERLAND

**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.

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

*Enhance cantonal and federal capacities on identifying victims.*

At a national conference for investigators organised by the Federal Criminal Police (FCP) on paedophile crime, the cantonal participants were called on to transmit images for inclusion in the ICSE database. Specific case studies from our Swedish guests and a case from Switzerland were used to raise the awareness of participants.

At the Cybercrime Forum of Public Prosecutors Offices-CYCO (Swiss Coordination Unit for Cybercrime Control) which will take place on 13 November 2014, a workshop will be held by victim identification specialists from INTERPOL. The aim is to raise awareness among public prosecutors offices of the needs of specialised officers and of victim identification measures.

On the following day, a victim identification day will take place for members of cantonal and municipal police corps, with the collaboration of INTERPOL. The event aims to work towards the pro-active and systematic identification of victims online according to an international model.

*Promote the ICSE database to the cantonal authorities.*

Victim identification according to the INTERPOL definition takes places nearly exclusively on or over the Internet. With the expansion of INTERPOL’s ICSE database to include hash values for forensic evaluation and the synergies between categorising images and identifying victims, the link-up of other federal and cantonal agencies with the ICSE database will be considered.

**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 images entered by the FCP into the ICSE database make an important contribution.
towards resolving pending cases or national/international investigations. To better satisfy the present-day requirements of active victim identification, we have introduced specialised training courses and awareness-raising measures for the cantonal investigation units responsible for victim identification.

We have introduced the first measures with regard to the systematic entry/comparison of seized images between the National Image Hash Value Database (NDHS) and the ICSE database. Also in the planning is a national victim identification strategy in collaboration with the cantons which will include guidelines and standards.

As a member of EMPACT (European Multidisciplinary Platform against Criminal Threats), Switzerland is involved in the implementation of the resulting OAPs (Operational Action Plans). To reach the target we are working closely with INTERPOL and Europol on a co-ordinated further development of the NDHS with the ongoing development of the ICSE database, as well as the development of a European database. Swiss know-how is therefore being continuously incorporated into the ongoing INTERPOL and Europol projects and into the projects of other countries that are establishing their own national image hash value database in preparation of linking up with the European and ICSE databases. At the same time, the FCP incorporates international know-how into national training and support programmes at cantonal level.

The progress of the measures planned and initiated by Switzerland is indeed positive. We expect the goal to be fully reached in the foreseeable future.

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

We plan to clarify whether the current NDHS can be further developed to become a national victim identification database in line with international standards. We will also clarify if synergies between image categorisation and victim identification can be used and if greater focus can be placed on victim identification measures.

We plan to draw up the necessary co-operation and victim identification strategy by the end of 2016. It will take into account a division of tasks between the cantons and the federal authorities.

The tasks of the competent national agencies will be reviewed for synergies and the necessary staff levels evaluated. This evaluation will include the question of whether international victim identification procedures can be made more efficient by financing an appropriate position at INTERPOL with regard to reaching the targets of the Global Alliance as a whole.
**Policy Target 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 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**

Amendment is in progress: consumption of child pornography will be illegal; child pornography will protect all children under the age of 18 (now 16).

The legal amendments in connection with the Lanzarote Convention were approved by parliament and entered into force on 1 July 2014. Thus, viewing child pornography is now a punishable offence. Also, pornographic images of children under the age of 18 (formerly 16) is also now a punishable offence. The ratification and entry into force of the Lanzarote Convention means that Swiss legislation satisfies international standards.

**Enhance the protection of children from sexual abuse online by, inter alia, promoting the adoption, at UN level, of relevant resolutions and by ensuring their follow-up, in particular within the framework of the Commission for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ).**

The International Police Co-operation Division at fedpol represents Switzerland in the competent UN bodies and, when necessary, consults the FCP or calls on its active participation in the appropriate UN working groups. At the 20th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Switzerland supported a relevant resolution. At its 23rd Session in May 2014, Switzerland actively supported the acceptance of the UN Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. These model strategies contain detailed recommendations on the protection of children from online abuse and the protection of those children who have already become victims of such crime. The model strategies are expected to be approved by the UN General Assembly at its 69th Session. Thus, Switzerland supports initiatives and UN resolutions if appropriate.

**Reinforce and strengthen the co-operation on international level (INTERPOL / Europol / Innocent Images International Task Force FBI).**

International co-operation with INTERPOL and Europol has been strengthened. The FCP pro-actively supports INTERPOL in categorising images to enter hash values into the ICSE database, to develop the INTERPOL „Baseline List“ and keep the „Worst of List“, and in transferring its know-how by participating in various working groups. In addition, FCP staff will take part in the FBI training course „Innocent Images Task Force“. Moreover, the FCP provided assistance to an FBI operation in the Tor network, co-
ordinated by Europol, by sending three staff members into the field for several weeks.

**Legal prosecution of transnational and technical adept crime is not possible without reinforced international coordination.** Since Internet crimes are global, complex and difficult to investigate, greater cooperation is needed between all stakeholders to develop a common strategic approach to cybercrime.

As representative for Switzerland/fedpol/FCP in cybercrime matters at INTERPOL, Europol and other organisations with similar tasks, CYCO has joined many bodies involved in fighting cybercrime and hence increased its activities at international level.

Greater international involvement has led, besides other things, to its joining the EUCTF (European Union Cybercrime Task Force), whose members include the heads of cybercrime units both from EU member and non-member states, such as Switzerland or Norway, as well as from Europol’s EC3.

Switzerland also participates in the European Financial Coalition, which involves co-operation with the private sector on combating the acquisition of child pornography through tracing financial flows. Moreover, Switzerland joined the European Cybercrime Financial Coalition in May 2014, which involves fighting cybercrime through co-operation with financial institutions.

In addition, Switzerland’s application in 2013 to become a member of the Virtual Global Task Force (VGT) was approved. The ceremony took place in Brussels in the middle of May 2014 in the presence of the American and Swiss ambassadors.

**Discover and keep under surveillance online services and communities in order to find active paedophiles.**

To enhance monitoring of online services and communities for paedophiles, CYCO has reviewed and adapted internal procedures and allocation of resources.

**Continuous optimization is undertaken on all CYCO-Projects in close collaboration with the private industry.**

CYCO has continued co-operation with Action Innocence and the EPFL (Ecole Polytechnique Federale Lausanne) to optimise ongoing projects. We also maintain contact with Internet service providers (ISPs) and other private sector stakeholders.

**Promoting the cause within the decision takers in Switzerland (politicians, chiefs of police, and so on).**

This target group has been included in various events and has been made aware of the topic and of potential for improvement. Moreover, various parliamentarians have been informed while visiting the FCP about current problems and approaches to a solution using specific practical examples.
Please assess progress made in your country to pursue this shared policy target and to reach this operational goal of the Global Alliance

All Switzerland’s objectives relating to policy target 2 have been completely fulfilled.

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

Although the above-mentioned objectives have been completely fulfilled, they must be pursued further as a basic mandate and, as part of an ongoing process of optimisation, shortcomings must be analysed and any potential exploited.

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

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

**National and international training of specialists.**

In 2013 and 2014, the FCP trained not only its own staff but also cantonal specialists in categorising images and using the NDHS. The trainees had to undergo a final exam.

FCP staff also participated in several CEPA events (Central European Police Academy) as instructors and speakers, hence passing on their know-how in the fight against transnational organised paedophile crime.

Also, the FCP organised for the second time the Cybercrime Forum between public prosecutors offices and CYCO. Participants from the world of politics, from administrative units, from universities and the media were made aware of the problem in general. Besides representatives from Switzerland, foreign speakers (FBI, Europol) and specialists from the private sectors (Microsoft) were also invited to outline the problem from their perspective and present specific operations. The forum provided the competent public prosecutors with practice-oriented training.

And: FCP staff spoke at training courses and workshops run by the Swiss Police Institute. FCP representatives also joined the European Cybercrime Training and Education Group (ECTEG) for the purpose of international co-operation and passing on information to national agencies.

Increase the number of monitored P2P networks.

After establishing contact and promoting close co-operation between the EPFL in Lausanne and the NGO Action Innocence, several projects were initiated this year to integrate further P2P networks in the existing monitoring software. Thanks to the initiated project work, CYCO will probably be able to monitor more P2P networks in 2014. The first tests went smoothly. Also, a strategy for systematic preliminary investigations of Giga Tribe users (private P2Ps) has been devised and implemented.
All Switzerland’s objectives relating to policy target 2 have been completely fulfilled.

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

Switzerland will continue to pursue the set targets as an ongoing process.
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: 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

CYCO would like to increase awareness and media exposure of the risks of child abuse across Switzerland.

The national campaign that has started under the lead of the Federal Social Insurance Office called “Youth and Media” has the primary goal of encouraging a safe, age-appropriate and responsible use of digital media by children and young people. The programme’s implementation is broadly supported and has, in the meantime, been taken up and supplemented with various media campaigns by NGOs such as Action Innocence or Pro Juventute. These campaigns are directed not only at children, but also at parents, teachers and other carers. Special focus is placed on suitable age and target-group related awareness-raising of the potential dangers of Sexting and Grooming, as well as on general media skills. Also, CYCO has increased its media presence and through active participation provides an important contribution to documentaries and political programmes. CYCO’s Annual Report calls attention to important topics and raises the public’s awareness in dealing with the Internet.

Carrying out meetings with representatives of the private sector aiming to strengthen their involvement in the fight against child pornography.

Various meetings with software manufacturers and ISPs have been held in this respect.

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

All Switzerland’s objectives relating to policy target 3 have been completely fulfilled.

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

Switzerland will continue to pursue the set targets as an ongoing process.

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) Please report on implementation of any measures announced in your country’s 2013 report
Several times per year, CYCO welcomes foreign delegations of law enforcement authorities in view to create new liaisons. During the meetings CYCO takes the chance to discuss the implementation of new projects in the field of the repression of child pornography.

During an exchange with German prosecution authorities the idea of mutual co-operation arose in order to avoid the multiple production of prevention films on the same topic and therefore save costs. The German authorities will produce the prevention films and make them available to Switzerland, whilst Switzerland intends to have the films translated into French, Italian and English in order to make them available to Global Alliance member states who are interested.

In addition, CYCO informed its foreign partners on its co-operation with the NGO Action Innocence and on the P2P monitoring software that they had developed together and made available free of charge to other prosecution authorities.

During a visit to CYCO, the head of the cybercrime unit of the Ivory Coast also showed great interest in the software. Thanks to contact with Action Innocence, the authorities of the Ivory Coast also now have the necessary know-how to search P2P networks for child pornography in their country. The FCP is maintaining contact to the authorities of the Ivory Coast especially in connection with the fight against Sextortion and similar cases, which often originate there.

Following close co-operation with the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs in connection with grant scams in Switzerland, the FCP agreed to a request by the Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation (SDC) to send specialists to Benin to train the local authorities on cybercrime.

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

All Switzerland’s objectives relating to policy target 3 have been completely fulfilled.

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

Switzerland will continue to pursue the set targets as an ongoing process.
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.

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

Cooperation with the private industry will be strengthened continuously (for example, sharing hash values).

The FCP provides private sector stakeholders who provide governments and private individuals with filter software with hash values from the NDHS database.

Also Switzerland has also provided Microsoft and Facebook since 2013 with its categorised hash values to search their databases for illegal images. Under their legal obligations, Microsoft and Facebook report the owners of illegal images to their national reporting office NCMEC (National Center for Missing and Exploited Children), which after initial verification transmits the documents to the competent law enforcement agencies via established police channels. The respective law enforcement agency then takes the appropriate measures under its national law.

As part of renewing co-operation agreements with ISPs on keeping blacklists of illegal websites, CYCO is trying to involve them more in fighting the distribution of child pornography by offering them the NDHS hash values to filter known existing child pornography.

This measure is intended to prevent or reduce as much as possible the potential for the re-victimisation of children of whom abuse images already exist, thus taking into account the rights of the victim. These measures should lead in the long term to a fall in demand, thus curbing the production of new material.

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

All Switzerland’s objectives relating to policy target 4 have been completely fulfilled.

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

Switzerland will continue to pursue the set targets as an ongoing process.

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

There are no private hotlines in Switzerland for the public to report suspicious web content. Since its establishment, this has been the function of CYCO: CYCO offers the public the possibility of reporting suspicious internet content anonymously by means of an online reporting form. This procedure hence eliminates an additional interface between the public and the police.

This approach has proven successful, since it eliminates the legal and organisational hurdles that confront private hotlines when processing incoming reports, when imposing measures to delete or block content, or introduce immediate measures in conjunction with ISPs, private sector players or the police.

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