Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents Teenagers and the Internet

X Report to the OAS Secretary General on the measures undertaken by the Member States to prevent and eradicate Sexual Exploitation and Abuse of Children and Adolescents

Commercialization of children and adolescents in the Americas.

Organización de los Estados Americanos

Instituto Interamericano del Niño, la Niña y Adolescentes

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Acronyms and abbreviations

BRICIB- Brigada Investigadora del Cibercrimen (Chile)
CRCConvention   on the Rights of the Child
CMCComputer-mediated   communication
CPICParliamentary   Commission for Pedophilia Investigation (Brazil)
CONAPREDESComisi   n Nacional para la Prevenci n de los Delitos de Explotaci n Sexual
Explotaci n (Panama)   DASDepartamento Administrativo de Seguridad (Colombia)
DIJIN - Direcci n de Investigaci n Criminal e Interpol (Colombia)
DIJ - Direcci n de Investigaci n Judicial (Panam)
DIVINDATHigh Tech Crime Division (Per) U.S.A. United
States   United States of America
CSECommercial Sexual   Exploitation of Children and Adolescents
          ICACInternet Crimes Against Children
          IDRCInternationalDevelopment Research Centre
(Canada)   CIDACanadianInternational Development
Agency
IINInter-American Children's Institute   ICBFInstituto
      Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar (Colombian Family
Welfare Institute)
         INAUInstituto del Ni o n y el Adolescente del Uruguay
            ICMECInternationalCenter for Missing and Exploited Children
(U.S.) INTERPOL- International Criminal Police Organization
IPEC - International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labor
ISNAInstituto   Salvadoreñ o para el Desarrollo Integral de la Niñ ez y la
Adolescencia   MIMDESMinistry of Women and Social Development (Per)
            MINTICMinisterio de Tecnologías de la Informaci n y las Comunicaciones
(Colombia)   NCMECNational Center for Missing and Exploited Children (U.S.A.)
NCECCNational   Child Exploitation Coordination Center
(Canada)   NNANChildren and Adolescents
OASOrganization   of American States
OIJ- Organismo de Investigaci n Judicial (Costa Rica)
         OIJ- Organismo de Investigaci n Judicial (Costa
Rica) IOMInternational   Organization for
Migration ILOInternational Labor Organization
SEDH/PRSecretariat for Human Rights of the Presidency of the Republic (Brazil)
            SENNIAFSecretariat for Children, Adolescents and the Family (Panama)
            SENNIAFSecretariat for Children, Adolescents and the Family (Brazil)
            SENNIAFSecretariat for Children, Adolescents and the Family (Panama)
            SENAMEServicio Nacional de Menores (National   Service for Minors) (Chile)
ICTInformation and Communication Technologies
UNICEFUnited Nations Children's Fund VGT-Virtual
Global Taskforce

Glossary

The United Nations   Committee on the Rights of the Child
The Optional ProtocolThe Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

This text speaks of the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, and refers to women and men when it mentions adults. The use of the generic masculine form is based on a criterion

of economy of language and aims at a more fluid reading, without any discriminatory connotation.

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The Inter-American Children's Institute (IIN), pursuant to OAS General Assembly Resolution AG/RES. 1667 (XXIX-O/99) of June 7, 1999, annually submits a report to the OAS Secretary General on the measures undertaken by Member States to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents (CSEC) in the Americas.

On this occasion, the X Report to the Secretary General has been prepared with a thematic emphasis on the relationship between the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents and the Internet.

The growing importance of new communication technologies in the daily life of the population as a whole and the differential appropriation of these technologies by the new generations have made the Internet a new social space to which children and adolescents have access and in which they interact intensively and with little adult supervision. This opens up a new scenario for the realization of rights such as access to information, expression, assembly and access to culture, but in this new space new versions of the old threats and forms of violation of these rights also emerge. Examples of these are the expressions of violence, discriminatory content and new forms of production and commercialization of images with sexual content, thus configuring a new modality of CSEC.

One of the characteristics of CSEC is precisely the ability to make permanent and rapid modifications that lead it to adapt to changes in the environment, use the resources it offers, evade regulations and expand its markets.

The States of the region have on several occasions expressed their concern about the relevance that these new forms of CSEC are taking on at the global level and their growing presence in the region. In view of this, they have been forced to generate new mechanisms to fulfill their role as guarantors of the rights of children and adolescents. They face the need to permanently and efficiently update their legal and technical tools as well as the capacities of their human resources in order not to be overtaken by the criminal organizations that profit from these activities.

This new reality generates the need to include in the inter-institutional coordination leading policies against CSEC in the different countries, new actors related to the use of technology and communications, as well as to generate efficient and efficient international coordination in accordance with the deterritorialization of these criminal practices.

This publication - which has been made possible thanks to the cooperation of the People's Republic of China - contains a summarized version of the 10th Report to the Secretary General prepared by the IIN. It provides an account of the efforts being made by the States to address this reality.

It was prepared within the framework of the actions developed by the *Inter-American Program for the Prevention and Eradication of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, Smuggling and Trafficking of Children and Adolescents.* It has been nurtured by official information provided by the

States directly or through their reports to the monitoring bodies of the United Nations System, the Inter-American System and other organizations at the regional level. To this end, the IIN relies on the ANNAObserva network composed of technical liaisons designated by the competent state agencies in 19 countries of the 33 active OAS Members, whose contact information is available on the Inter-American Observatory's website.

It contains a characterization of the virtual environment and its impact on the lives of children and adolescents, which includes contributions from a series of applied research recently carried out in the American region. This research reports on different expressions of sexual violence which do not always constitute CSEC but which may be associated with it or may be preliminary steps to overt forms of exploitation. Such is the case of Morphing, which consists of tricking images to produce scenes with explicit sexual content1, Grooming or Sexual Solicitation, Flaming, introduction of violent messages in communication2, Cyberbullying, Exposure to unwanted content, Spamming, Theft and Virtual Fraud. The aforementioned research points to a growing tendency among adolescents to engage in risky sexual behaviors in their interactions through computer-mediated communication. Among these behaviors, Sexting stands out, a practice associated with child pornography without the apparent mediation of third parties.

The core of the X Report contains a systematization of the responses received by the Member States to the annual consultation on the measures adopted to prevent and eradicate CSEC in their respective jurisdictions, highlighting those actions related to the online world. Finally, it contains a series of recommendations that we hope will be useful in guiding public policies aimed at protecting children and adolescents from sexual exploitation through new technologies.

With this publication, which is being produced simultaneously in English and Spanish, the IIN intends to continue providing States and organizations working for the protection of children's rights with up-to-date knowledge of the evolution of the problem in the region and the responses that institutions have been implementing to eradicate it.

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1   Morphing is a special effect used to modify people's faces to transform them into those of other people. This effect, which has been used in cinema for example, is used to trick adult pornography images or even non-pornographic images, in scenes of child sexual exploitation.

2   Flaming is hostile and insulting interaction on the Internet. Those people who engage in violent introduction of controversial topics and who cause the exchange to become violent are known as flamers".

Introduction

The international community has been actively mobilized against the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents prior to the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

However, it is the CRC that is the first international norm to recognize the right of children to special protection from sexual violence3 by stating: *States Parties undertake to protect the child from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. To this end, States Parties shall, in particular, take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures to prevent: (a) the inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity; (b) the exploitation of a child in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices; (c) the exploitation of a child in pornographic performances or materials.*

Seeking to ensure the best achievement of the purposes of the CRC, the United Nations General Assembly approved in 2000 the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography4, where the following are understood:

a) Sale of children means any act or transaction whereby a child is transferred by one person or group of persons to another for remuneration or any other consideration;
b) Child prostitution means the use of a child in sexual activities for remuneration or any other form of remuneration;
c) Child pornography means any representation, by whatever means, of a child engaged in real or simulated sexually explicit activities, or any representation of the genital parts of a child for primarily sexual purposes. (Art.2)

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child5 periodically reviews the progress made by each State Party in fulfilling its obligations under both standards6. In ratifying the CRC, the country undertakes to *indicate the circumstances and difficulties, if any, affecting the degree of fulfillment of the obligations under this Convention. They (the reports) should also contain sufficient information to enable the Committee to have a full understanding of the implementation of the Convention ( ) (Art. 44, CRC).*

Similarly, States ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol must submit, two years after the Protocol enters into force, *a report containing a general description of the measures it has adopted to implement the provisions of the Protocol* (Art. 12). Subsequently, they will add to the CRC Periodic Report additional information on the implementation of the Optional Protocol or, if they are signatories but not Parties to the CRC, they will submit their progress in implementing the Optional Protocol every 5 years.

The Committee can and usually does request further information through a list of questions, which the State Party answers prior to the face-to-face session in which Committee Members and National Delegations meet.

To date, the following OAS Member States have submitted general reports on the provisions of the Optional Protocol: Costa Rica 2007, Guatemala 2007, Chile 2008, USA 20087 , El Salvador 2010, Ecuador 2010. The reports of Argentina, Colombia, Mexico and Nicaragua will also be discussed at the next sessions.

1.1.   World Congresses

One of the suggestions and recommendations reiterated by the Committee in relation to CSEC is the development by States of national plans that follow the guidelines agreed upon by the international community at the First World Congress against CSEC in Stockholm in 1996.

On that occasion, 122 countries participated and approved the Declaration and Plan of Action against Sexual Exploitation. The specific lines of action agreed upon at this Congress are still in force in the elaboration of national action plans, including: 1. Coordination and Cooperation; 2.

The First World Congress was followed in 2001, as soon as the Optional Protocol was approved, by the Second World Congress in Japan. Prior to this Second Congress, six preparatory meetings were held: in Bangkok (Thailand), in Dhaka (Bangladesh), in Rabat (Morocco), in Montevideo (Uruguay), in Budapest (Hungary) and in Philadelphia (USA). The IIN led the Montevideo meeting. 8

In 2008, the III World Congress against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, also preceded by regional and thematic meetings around the world. During these years, the world has been changing and with it the concerns related to the new manifestations of CSEC, in particular those that are carried out, circulated and transmitted through the new information and communication technologies (ICT). The centrality of the issue in the III World Congress and in the Rio de Janeiro Pact to Prevent and Eliminate Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents**, are an example of this.

Although the declarations signed at the World Congresses are covenants of good faith that do not legally bind States, they are relevant both politically and technically, since they set parameters for the specific treatment of the issue.

1.2.   The X Report: CSEC and the Internet

In light of the above, this Tenth Report to the Secretary General focuses on the problem of commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents and the Internet and is organized as follows:

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3   See also articles 19 and 39 of the CRC.
4   Hereinafter referred to as the "Optional Protocol**.
5   Hereinafter the Committee ".
6   Article 43 of the CRC and Article 12 of the Optional Protocol.

7   The United States of America has not ratified the CRC but has ratified the Optional Protocol.
8   For more information on the Montevideo Commitment** (November 9, 2001) emanating from the Regional Governmental Congress on the Sexual Exploitation of Children, please contact www.iin.oea.org/declaracion_congreso_expl._sexual.htm.

First, a characterization of the virtual environment and its impact on the lives of children and adolescents is presented. The opportunities and risks associated with this new environment are discussed, particularly those related to CSEC. The tensions raised are illustrated through the systematization of a series of applied research recently carried out in the American region.

Secondly, a systematization of the responses received by Member States to the annual consultation on the measures adopted to prevent and eradicate CSEC in their respective jurisdictions is presented, highlighting those actions related to the online world.

Finally, a series of recommendations are made available that we hope will be useful in guiding public policies aimed at protecting children and adolescents from sexual exploitation through new technologies.

Methodology

Taking into account the level of mobilization on the issue experienced by the continent in 2008, as well as the institutional efforts to launch the ANNAObserva International Program, the methodology of this 10th Report to the Secretary General is partially innovated with the intention of focusing on a specific aspect of CSEC - sexual exploitation through the Internet - and to make effective use of the resources that both the IIN and the Member States have already invested in the issue.

For this reason, the traditional annual consultation of Member States is carried out, but with specific questions on CSEC and the Internet, which, in addition to providing a state of the situation from the point of view of the States, follows the Stockholm categories: cooperation and coordination, prevention, protection, recovery and reintegration, and children's participation.

The annual consultation addressed to the Representatives to the Directing Council of the IIN is answered by 15 of the 33 active OAS Member States: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America and Uruguay.

This official information is supplemented by official public data from the website of the Committee on the Rights of the Child. The reports sent by Member States in follow-up to the *Optional Protocol to the CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography*, which as of the date of preparation of this document includes the following countries: Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala and the United States of America, are taken as a source.

Finally, the analysis of comparative legislation carried out by the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC) in 2010 is included. Based on the cooperation agreement between IIN and ICMEC, the latest update of ICMEC's global review of legislation related to child pornography in the world since 2004 has been made available.

PART I

3. CSEC and the Internet

The number of Internet users in the Americas has grown by 253.9% in the period 2000 -2009. In December 2009, there were an estimated 446,483,050 Internet users, which represents 24.8% of the total number of users in the world (1,802,330,457) and 48% of the continent's population9.

However, the number of users differs among the regions that make up the American continent. Of the continent's users, 58% are in North America, a subregion where Internet penetration is already very high, reaching 76% of the population, making it the geographic area where the number of new users joining the network is growing relatively less every day. In contrast, the number of users in the Caribbean has increased by 1549.8% in the period 2000-2009. Internet penetration in the Caribbean is currently similar to that of Central America, 22.7% and 22.6% respectively, and somewhat lower than in South America, where it reaches 36.5% of the population.

There is a strong growth trend in the number of users in Latin America and the Caribbean. However, the difference between developed and developing countries is still significant. The following table compares the distribution of the continent's population by sub-region with the percentage of Internet users in each of the sub-regions.

Region	% of the Population of the American continent	% of Internet users
North America	36.7	58.1
Central America	16.5	7.7
The Caribbean	4.4	2.1
South America	42.3	32.1
Total	100	100

Source: *Internet World Stats. Usage and Population StatisTIC.* (http://www.internetworldstats.com/stats2.htm)

In the last 5 years, not only have the number of Internet users and coverage in the world increased exponentially, but there are also other technological advances that allow more material with sexual content to be available to more people. Among these changes are: the increase in bandwidth and storage capacity, wireless access to the Internet even through mobile telephony, applications that allow the exchange of videos and images instantly and in high quality, either *peer to peer10* files or through social networks, among others.

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9   Data from *Internet World Stats. Usage and Population StatisTIC*, updated as of December 31, 2009. Available at: http://www.internetworldstats.com/stats2.htm

10   A colloquial way of referring to so-called peer-to-peer networks, peer-to-peer networks or peer-to-peer networks. In these networks there are neither client computers nor server computers. P2P networks allow the direct exchange of information, in any format, between the interconnected computers ''. (Wikipedia)

As tools and platforms are developed that enable the self-generation of content and the free exchange of information that promotes the right to free expression of children, a scenario is opening up in which sex offenders have more possibilities to share images and have contact with children in a previously unknown way.

For this reason, the international community has expressed its concern when detecting the different ways in which children and adolescents may be being exploited through ICTs.

3.1. Internet as a new social space

Along with the expansion of the Internet, a vast literature has been developed on the phenomenon from different disciplines and theoretical and methodological positions. In order to summarize the interpretations, we can say that there are two major opposing discourses: technophilic versus technophobic.

For the former, ICTs and the Internet are the means to achieve results long desired by humanity, ranging from greater and active political participation to the emancipation of oppressed groups. It is attributed with the possibility of leaving poverty behind through access to strategic information for large contingents of the population by correcting "failures" in the labor market, and has been a source of hope because of certain characteristics supposedly intrinsic to the network: its open, diffuse and non-hierarchical nature, or its tendency towards cooperation among the different actors.

On the contrary, for "technophobes" the Internet is practically a catastrophe. They argue that ICTs and the Internet do nothing more than perpetuate old forms of domination and cultural hegemony; that they are another means for the world elite to reproduce its economic, political and cultural power, but now through a system that monitors and controls the planet's users (Barindelli, 2010).

Among the rather optimistic authors, we find Manuel Castells (2001) who considers that the Internet and all aspects of social life are so strongly intertwined that it makes no sense to separate them. At the beginning of his PhD on the Information and Knowledge Society he points out: *Internet is the fabric of our lives at the moment. It is not the future. It is the present. The Internet is a medium for everything, it interacts with society as a whole and, in fact, despite being so recent, it is its societal form.*

At present, a co-construction between social relations and technology is taking place. The extreme views on both the great and terrible effects of the Internet do not take into account the enormous margin of variability that the network has, nor the incidence that both producers and users exert on this variability. To quote Jes s Martín Barbero (Bonder, 2008: 920), the *Internet is not only a means of communication, but also a new social space.*

Children and adolescents are the "natives" in this new social space. Marc Prensky (2001) provocatively poses the distinction between digital natives and immigrants: the former are the people for whom digital technology has been their socialization environment and the latter are those who have had to adapt to a new language but who think and process information in a fundamentally different way from the natives".

Different kinds of experiences lead to different brain structures , says Dr. Bruce D. Perry ()it is very likely that our students brains have physically changed () But whether or not this is literally true, we can say with certainty that their thinking patterns have changed (Prensky, 2001:1).

His idea is provocative since it proposes a cognitive distance between generations that exceeds the mere ease of handling technology that young people may often have. Although the author directs these ideas to the imperative need to rethink contents and particularly educational methodologies, it is interesting to include this radical view" in the face of the evident existing generation gap in ICTs.

Without going so far in the implications of early immersion in the virtual environment, we can recognize that most of the adults in charge of children and adolescents are unaware of the possibilities of the Internet. They are unaware of the possibilities of the devices their children use, the possibilities of the software installed on those devices and what they do when they are connected. Awareness and information actions on the benefits and risks associated with this new social space make sense so that both families and educators have more elements to support and protect children.

Some of the skills that, according to Prensky (2001:2), children have developed due to their early and dense immersion in digital media are the ability to receive information very quickly, to process several topics or subjects in parallel, to access knowledge from different points or in a disorderly manner" and not following the traditional systematic and step-by-step learning model.

These are skills that have to do with networking, simultaneity, vertiginousness and the logic of the video game. For Saz Rubira (2004), some of the strengths of video games are the following:

- They are appropriate for the development of visual-motor skills, laterality, and spatial and temporal organization.
- They favor instantaneous and continuous repetition until the situation is mastered, acquiring a sense of control.
- They are one of the most direct entrances to the computer culture and the culture of simulation.
- They are very seductive and motivating in themselves.
- They allow covert learning that overcomes resistance to formal learning.
- They facilitate the exercise of fantasy.

It is a way of acquiring knowledge and integrating into a culture different from the one their parents had. Although it is not exclusive to today's children to learn about the world through games, the intermediate space created on the Internet has its own particularities.

By playing, children exercise their motor and psychological functions while discovering and measuring the evolution of their aptitudes. Winnicott (1990) says: *Playing has a place and a time It is not inside (...) nor is it outside. (...) To play is to do (...) It is always good to remember that play is in itself a therapy. (...) In it, and perhaps only in it, the child or the adult is free to be creative.* Play is fundamental in the process of differentiation and in the development of self-awareness, since it creates a space in which the child or the adult is free to be a creator.

intermediate that originates the cultural experience. Through play they discover and internalize the symbolic and material context in which they find themselves.

The process by which children internalize the social structure (socialization), takes place in the different social spaces in which they interact: one of them, more and more important every day, is inter-net. *For the first time in history, the current generation of children, born between the mid-nineties and the beginning of the year 2000, are being introduced to/in the media (culture, the world, subjectivity) through the digital intermediary ( ) (*Piscitelli, 2006: 182).

Bern rdez Rodal's (2006:69) article has a very illustrative beginning by describing a place and what some people do, feel and think during their first minutes in that place. The reader may feel that he knows, that he knows about what he is reading. But the place is Habbo Hotel, a *cyber-place specifically created for teenagers to have a space where they can interact; a place that they consider their own, that they enjoy, that they can build to suit themselves, where being together creates intimacy*, and the people described are teenagers of different sexes and ages who have previously chosen their virtual bodies and have entered the space of interaction offered by the videogame. [11]

A trend in recent years has been the development of applications where playing is transiting, interacting and creating in a virtual world that simulates reality. For example, in *Second Life12* , as its name indicates, each resident interacts continuously with the other avatars13 . Communication between them (i.e. between users) can be via chat, instant message or voice. The virtual bodies live in the space created for them. There they participate in various activities in which they meet friends or meet new friends: from going to a bar to listen to good music to traveling to unknown virtual territories. It is possible to create the avatar, modify its appearance and behavior, create the house where it lives, its garden, the way it dances, and so on. Even commerce simulates reality, as virtual property and services can be traded within *Second Life* (Barindelli, 2010).

On the Internet, children and adolescents experience social roles and update their self-image. The Internet is a space that serves as the "street" or the "meeting place", that public place where adults do not dominate the interaction and where adolescents socialize and define themselves together with their tribe, their gang, their peers. The non-presence of adults, particularly parents, is constant and sought after by adolescents.

It is in this space of belonging to their peers that the individual identity of adolescents begins to take hold. Interaction is the center of their interest and that is why the latest changes in technologies and their applications are increasingly attractive and relevant to them.

As early as 1959, Erwing Goffman proposed from sociological theory that the meaning of social action is given by the interactive situation from which it arises and that this situation is not unpredictable.

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[11] http://www.habbo.es/community

[12] Teenagers between 13 and 17 years old can play in Teen Second Life (http://teen.secondlife.com/), where adults are not allowed to enter. Regarding the real possibilities of controlling the age of those who surf certain sites, there is a strong discussion at international level.

[13] *An* **avatar** *is a computer user's representation of himself/herself or alter ego whether in the form of a three-dimensional model used in computer games, a two-dimensional icon (picture) or a one-dimensional username used on Internet forums and other communities, or a text construct found on early systems such as MUDs. It is an object representing the user. ( ) This sense of the word was coined by Neal Stephenson in 1992 novel Snow Crash, who co-opted it from the Sanskrit word* avatāra, *which is a concept similar to that of incarnation."* (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avatar_%28computing%29). Cf. also http://wiki.secondlife.com/wiki/Avatar/es

The Internet is not only visible, but is ordered by means of rules, rituals and norms. Many of the categories used to explain face-to-face interaction can be applied to shed light on the processes of self construction carried out by today's children and adolescents on the Internet.

For example, the fact that these are communicative actions that always include a self-presentation component. Not only in the physical world, but also in the virtual world a great effort is made to elaborate and maintain a "personal" facade. Teenagers have an "appearance" to look after and an impression to convey, both in the offline and online world.

This image projected by the actor is not random, arbitrary or timeless, but is a standardized expressive equi- pment"; it is composed of attributes that already have social consensus. Precisely one of the keys to the socialization process is the acquisition of the ability to adequately define a situation and adopt the façade "most appropriate for that situation" (Barindelli, 2010).

In principle, it would seem that in Internet interaction there are more possibilities to dose" or to control the signs of self-presentation. It is possible to manage the level of exposure, from information that is hidden to technological resources that are not always available, nor with any interlocutor. But is it that face-to-face interaction is so much more compromising than online interaction?

In addition to the above, there is a certain ease of starting and ending the interaction, a lesser degree of stimulus. Within some programs it is possible to block contact with certain users and above all the feeling of freedom and impunity is given in ordinary situations such as being able to chat in parallel with more than one person and to be eating and watching the news. These activities would be frowned upon in face-to-face interaction.

However, this does not transform online interaction into a place without rules. If we bear in mind that for teenagers and young people the Internet is a means of expanding their interaction and communication networks, achieving group membership, increasing their employment, economic and autonomy opportunities, acquiring knowledge through short and inexpensive training (low-cost certification) and feeling on the crest of the wave "of a global process which augurs a possible and desirable future14 , they obviously have strong reasons to ensure that the presentation they make of themselves is the best possible.

Bern rdez Rodal (2006:78) wonders: why, if cyberspace is a privileged place to dispense with the body, is it fooled so little? *When we enter chat rooms and observe the conversations that take place there, we will see above all how adolescents make a great effort, first, to control the image they project of themselves, and second, to adequately interpret the information about the data offered by others, because, after all, building an attractive identity on the net seems almost as laborious a task as it can be in face-to-face interactions.*

We can rehearse some possible answers to the author's question: a) much of online interaction is a sort of continuation of face-to-face interaction, insofar as it takes place with friends or friends of friends" (acquaintances); b) children and adolescents must appeal to socially consensual attributes to define online situations and to predefine the online environment; c) children and adolescents must appeal to socially consensual attributes to define online situations and to predefine the online environment.

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[14] Cfr. Research results presented in: Bonder, 2008:926

c) because the user has been at the center of the design and production of content for years on the web, so that the child or adolescent user is immersed in a social space of great interoperability, interactivity and instantaneity, where traces are multiple and easy to follow; d) because by using the symbolic code of words, much more is said about the speaker than simply what is literally enunciated (Barindelli, 2010).

In short, children and adolescents do not "cheat" too much when interacting on the Internet, partly because they are not interested and partly because they cannot.

However, online interaction is not the same as face-to-face interaction. The choice of the virtual body and its skills, the nicknames, the customization of more and more elements of the applications, among others, are options that the virtual world allows that the physical world does not. Many voices have been raised to highlight the possibilities offered by the Internet for freedom of expression and for experimentation with multiple identities, particularly from groups that are oppressed or discriminated against in different ways.

It is this very characteristic of the network that enables false "identities" that is of such concern when it comes to protecting children and adolescents on the Internet. For example, grooming is a violent activity based on the deception of the identity of those who seek to establish trust with a child or adolescent through the Internet, in order to subsequently obtain a sexual benefit from the child.

The ways in which the sexual exploitation of children and adolescents has manifested itself have changed with technological changes. These changes have begun to be recorded in the literature on the subject and in the systematizations of regional projects. Undoubtedly also in the experience of the continent's social operators, which we seek to reflect on the basis of the systematization of the consultation carried out with the Member States.

3.2.   CSEC and Internet violence

The sexual exploitation of children and adolescents is an abusive exercise of power, in which the child is in a clearly unequal situation: less power, less strength, younger age, etc. The various forms of CSEC are among the most numerous forms of sexual violence against children.

Sexual violence violates physical and psychological integrity, dignity and the ability to develop trusting relationships. Violence is a political issue, insofar as it is a way of doing "in the relationship between human beings. The abusive relationship is a product of cultural, economic and social-historical factors and, in this sense, society as a whole must question what are the beliefs and practices that enable violence.

It is not uncommon to find discourses that attempt to reduce the problem of child sexual exploitation to the perverse behaviors of a few pedophiles. CSEC is a phenomenon that has been

should be understood in a general context of abuse of power. This means that it is a culturally sustained and legitimized problem, which refers to socially established asymmetrical power relations that permeate the subjectivity of many. The male-female asymmetry, the child-woman asymmetry

The inequity in the coverage of basic needs, inequalities in access to opportunities, are some of them.

The socio-cultural context can be observed both in the demand for children and adolescents for sexual exploitation and in the number of accomplices required to carry out these crimes. The socio-cultural context is also reflected in the conditions that strongly constrain the horizons that many children and adolescents have to choose where they go according to the opportunities that society offers them to build their life projects.

On the demand side, it should be noted that not all legislations on the continent have added the figure of the exploiter-client" as responsible and therefore punishable, in the context of a paid sexual relationship with a person under 18 years of age. In countries where legislation is clear in penalizing the exploiter-client, there is a social and cultural tolerance that affects judicial decisions. In the VIII Report to the Secretary General (2008), a comparative table was presented on specific and subsidiary criminal offenses applicable to the exploiter-client and their corresponding penalties. In this opportunity, we will focus on the comparison of legislative advances in criminalizing the exploitation of children and adolescents in pornography.

With regard to accomplices and sometimes contradictory social assessments, it is worth reflecting on the strong rejection of sex crimes and sexual exploitation in particular in public opinion and the series of actions that make it possible: The recruitment agencies, document forgers, shop owners, those who transport victims of trafficking, but also young people who translate child pornography for a few dollars, cab drivers who take tourists to places where there are young boys "exploited in prostitution and immigration officials who carry out lax border controls, just to give an example of the number and variety of actors involved in these crimes.

As far as the victims are concerned, it should be noted that social beliefs and practices are embodied in a particular way in each person. Nevertheless, violent family, community and institutional contexts are the prelude to many situations of commercial sexual exploitation. When thinking about victims, in addition to taking into account information regarding the real opportunities offered by society to minors and a series of other variables, the analysis must include consideration of the levels of social and cultural violence suffered by children, since every day there are children and adolescents of different ages, ethnicities, social classes and religions, who learn and reproduce more or less violent and/or discriminatory forms of relationships and construct their subjectivity in these environments.

Society as a whole must question expressions of violence against children and act to eliminate them. The family and the State have a duty of special protection against sexual violence, and particularly with regard to CSEC through the Internet, there are other potential agents of protection: the technology industry, the media and the school.

3.3. Some empirical approaches to understanding sexual violence against children and adolescents through the Internet

Several studies have been conducted in the region that seek to characterize different aspects of the CSEC and Internet problem. The main results of recent research funded by the project "Rights and Justice in the Social Movement on the Internet", coordinated by *IIJusticia* with the support of IDRC Canada and CIDA Canada, will be shared.

As we have been pointing out, the commercial sexual exploitation of children is a particular form in which violence against children manifests itself. Just as in offline situations there are types of violence that do not include CSEC, so in online environments social and interpersonal violence is broader than CSEC in ICTs.

The research conducted by the Paniamor Foundation (2009) takes a broader view of computer-mediated violence and, in this sense, provides elements to be taken into account. The study asks about the state of the art of research on *Adolescence, Cyberspace- CMC and Violence*, based on what is reported by formal, reliable and relevant secondary sources published in the last five years. After the analysis of 10 publications corresponding to 8 countries of the world, the following conclusions are reached:

- The existence of social violence in virtual spaces frequented by children and adolescents is recognized, although research focuses on the different modalities of interpersonal violence, mainly of a sexual and/or emotional nature.

- Expressions of violence are identified in which minors play an important role as recipients, but also as producers and propagators of violence.

- The following forms of interpersonal violence are recognized in the 10 studies analyzed: Child Pornography, Morphing15 , Grooming or Sexual Solicitation, Flaming16 , Cyberbullying, Exposure to unwanted content, Spamming, Theft and Virtual Fraud.

- They point to a growing tendency among adolescents to engage in risky sexual behaviors in their interactions through CMC. Among these behaviors, Sexting, a practice associated with child pornography without apparent mediation by third parties, stands out.

- They highlight the scope and potential influence on the socialization process of adolescents in this new context. In the research analyzed, this is associated with the characteristics of the virtual environment: greater geographic reach, accessibility, undefined and uncontrolled permanence of harmful and/or illegal material, indiscriminate and unquantifiable access to minors, anonymity, as well as the dual regulation of inappropriate behavior and the resulting impunity.

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15 Morphing is a special effect used to modify people's faces to transform them into those of other people. This effect, which has been used in cinema for example, is used to trick adult pornography images or even non-pornographic images, in scenes of child sexual exploitation.

16 Flaming is hostile and insulting interaction on the Internet. Those people who engage in violent introduction of controversial topics and who cause the exchange to become violent are known as flamers".

- They emphasize the absence of adult accompaniment or the ineffectiveness of their intervention, which appears to be associated with the lack of knowledge of the uses that minors make of the web and the general lack of knowledge of ICTs. This situation causes adults to lose their power as referents in the process of accompanying adolescents on the subject and in setting limits on Internet use and access to content. This happens to parents as well as to educators and other adult referents.

- Research mainly emphasizes the risky behaviors in which adolescents engage, with little reference to protective behaviors. This is of particular concern to Paniamor, given that it is often adolescents who exercise violence against their peers.

From the last points analyzed by Paniamor, it is clear that the role of the education sector is fundamental. Despite this centrality, there are few tools and concrete actions aimed at supporting teachers in their educational role in relation to ICTs, their possibilities and risks.

The research conducted by Zareth Díaz and Ra l Rojas (2009), provides a hermeneutic look at concrete cases of adolescents who starred in photos and videos with sexual content in Colombia. It deals with the analysis of teachers in concrete situations and in this sense, it is a significant complementary contribution.

First, the authors distinguish 4 situations in which Colombian adolescents have posted photos or videos with sexual content that have been transmitted through the network, either by cell phones or social networks on the Internet:

a. Children and adolescents who record themselves or know that they are being recorded. They identified two types of situations: a) children exploited in prostitution who use the Internet as a means of propaganda; b) children victims of bullying, for whom victimization is part of the circuit of violence, either because they are being blackmailed or because they use their own victimization as a means to gain some popularity in the face of an absolutely hostile context.

b. Children and adolescents who record themselves or know that they are being recorded, but do so in a context of intimacy. These children and adolescents are using the technology as part of their experimentation and within the framework of trust. They are subsequently betrayed when the images and videos are made public.

c. Children and adolescents who do not know that they are being recorded and, therefore, there is an abusive intrusion into their privacy. Sometimes they are victims of subsequent extortion.

d. Children and adolescents who are the victims of montages or harmful uses of their image for defamatory purposes.

Secondly, the authors visualize these situations in the school. Not only the victims are present, but also sometimes the perpetrators of violence, the artifacts (e.g. the use of cell phones in the classroom, the instantaneous propagation of videos and photos by bluetooth) and the facilities: there are videos recorded in schools and economic transactions.

The objective was to analyze the behavior of local actors in the face of these events and the strategies implemented by the education sector in this regard. The main results are not very promising, as they reveal a lack of understanding of the phenomenon of CSEC and new technologies on the part of educational authorities,

and the lack of preventive strategies and little capacity for subsequent reaction, including the restitution of violated rights.

The interviews reveal a denial of the facts and improvisation once the events have taken place, with a strong contradiction between a discourse that minimizes the problem but simultaneously punishes the child, even to the point of expulsion from school.

This raises a warning regarding the impact on the right to education of CSEC victims to be taken into account in the region. Expulsion from school and denial of enrollment in other educational centers in the area due to scandal" are harsh and unacceptable consequences of the social stigmatization of CSEC victims.

Another aspect uncovered in this study is the increasing difficulty in differentiating CSEC and other forms of sexual violence. New media have blurred the traditional distinctions between sexual abuse and commercial exploitation. The content of what is produced has changed and with it the existing discussion about the terminology used to describe sexualized material (images, text and audio files) related to children.

This is worth considering, since concerns about language are not simply a matter of semantics, but the term used will have implications for all those interested in eradicating the continued exploitation of children through the use of new technologies (Quayle, Loof, Palmer, 2008). For example, the use of the expression "child pornography" has been criticized for the active character it implies, hiding in the Spanish language, the quality of victim of the child protagonist of the representation and the impossibility of consenting to such an action.

However, beyond the healthy criticism of the approach from which the phenomenon is enunciated, what is happening is the broadening and diversification of the ways in which children's rights can be violated through technology. The strong distinction between sexual abuse and commercial sexual exploitation is blurred in the context of ICTs, if we consider that situations of abuse of children and adolescents in the domestic sphere can produce images and sounds that are then commercialized. In the context of new technologies it is difficult to differentiate activities, given that the images themselves become a *form of currency since, within the online community, they acquire a certain status and act as merchandise to be exchanged. Once they circulate on the Internet, they may end up on a pay-to-view site, where money does change hands* (Quayle, Loof, Palmer, 2008).

This happens even in cases where the images were taken surreptitiously and the child is unaware that they were published, marketed and sometimes even produced. It also makes it difficult for some local authorities, who are afraid to prosecute teenagers for "pranks", for example when a teenager secretly films a video of other teenagers having sex and then publishes it.

Beyond the legal and conceptual problem that arises from the violation of rights among adolescents, it should be taken into account that these apparently "domestic" ways of generating images and videos with sexual content can have strong consequences on the adolescent victims: from psychological and emotional effects to later physical attacks. There are children who have to change their names, families who move from their place of origin, etc. because they cannot sustain the ubiquitous and perpetual presence of certain images accessible to everyone.

What happens when it is the children themselves who make their images and videos available to the public?

The Argentinean association Chicos.Net (2009) set out to conceptualize the use of Web platforms. 2.0. that adolescents make based on the case of a specific social network. Indeed, they verified that the vast majority of adolescents have a high number of contacts/friends suggesting links that go beyond the relationships they have in physical life.

This is a research that analyzes 250 Facebook profiles of adolescents between 13 and 18, residents of Buenos Aires and belonging to high and medium-high socioeconomic sectors. Some of its main results are:

- At older ages, more friends/contacts, with girls having more friends than boys.
- Three quarters of adolescents post up to two hundred photos. Female adolescents post more photos than males and attach great importance to being liked by others through the image conveyed by their photos.
- Regarding personal information (scattered on the walls, profiles, photo comments and groups), almost all the adolescents in the sample have published their full name, school they attend, town where they live, date of birth and e-mail address; many of them post photos of their home. In several cases, they publish their cell phone; in a few cases, they have also published their landline phone number and home address.

The level of exposure leads the researchers to conclude that the adolescents investigated use the social network as a public place in which to show themselves, express themselves and meet their peers. Do digital natives "have a new notion of what is public, what is private and what is intimate?

The study by Laura Le n (2009) attempts to answer this question from the point of view of Peruvian adolescents in the 4th and 5th years of high school in a school located 20 kilometers from Lima. This is a district with a low socioeconomic level but with a strong social organization.

It concludes that the criteria stated by adolescents on what to publish in public and in private follow classical patterns. The transgressions to these patterns are made by a minority of adolescents and are explained by them as they seek popularity or, on the contrary, when they try to hide images that would evidence inappropriate behavior for their age.

However, contrasting this discourse with the concrete practice of adolescents shows inconsistencies. To prove this, the author not only compares the information provided with the concrete profiles of the children in the Hi5 social network, which is massively integrated by adolescents, but also with the information provided by the children in the Hi5 social network.

The study participants - but also consults them on 4 practices that lead to the risks17 most commonly addressed by the literature on the subject. They are:

- *Have a public profile, which gives access to all the information that has been published.*
- *Publish personal images*
- *Chat with extra os*
- *Going to personal meetings with strangers.*

Regarding these practices and the risks associated with them, the adolescent participants in the Peruvian study expressed the following opinions:

First of all, the infection of computers with viruses or exposure to pornography does not seem to disturb them or to be risky for them. The same is true for the practice of chatting with strangers. The resources of the medium, such as the possibility of blocking and deleting unwanted contacts, make adolescents feel that they have control over their interactions, so they do not react with fear if a stranger talks to them about sex, for example.

With regard to the display of personal photographs, adolescents are concerned about the possibility of their photos being usurped, altered and distributed without their consent. However, they act inconsistently with respect to their discourse, since most of them publish their photos on their profile on the Hi5 social network. Sixty-one percent of them have public profiles, which means that any Internet user can access the uploaded photographs (and not only their contacts or friends of friends, which can easily exceed one thousand people).

The greatest concern is expressed in the face-to-face encounter with people they have contacted through the Internet. Adolescents recognize such a situation as very risky. Despite this, more than a quarter of the adolescents surveyed had previously attended a face-to-face encounter.

In order to attend such meetings, adolescents take some preventive measures such as always being accompanied and meeting in public places during the day. However, little is known about the protection strategies that adolescents in the region are probably developing.

Research emphasizes the factors that increase risk and place adolescents in a situation of lack of protection. Some of the aspects that stand out are the lack of supervision, the absence and/or ineffectiveness of adult accompaniment and the poor preparation of teachers (Paniamor, 2009). This is associated and potentiated with the omnipotence and the perception of invulnerability inherent to this phase of life development.

Through this synthesis of four research studies produced in the region using different methodologies and with different objectives, we hope to contribute to the understanding of the complexity of the relationship between CSEC and the Internet.

PART II

4. CSEC and the Internet in the countries of the Inter-American system

The second part of the X Report to the Secretary General is mainly composed of the systematization of the responses to the regional consultation18 sent to the OAS Member States. Of the 33 active OAS countries at the time of the consultation, responses were received from 15: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America, the United States of America and Uruguay19.

The responses were systematized according to the categories from the Stockholm Declaration and Program of Action, with the understanding that they are valid for thinking about the main aspects that a public policy for the protection of children and adolescents from sexual exploitation should have. They are: Coordination and Cooperation, Protection, Prevention, Recovery and Restitution, and Child Participation. To these five categories is added an initial question about the country's knowledge of the state of the CSEC situation.

Under each category, the information obtained from the countries through the consultation is incorporated. Not all the information provided by the Member States is included, but only that which is directly related to addressing CSEC in the area of ICTs. This information was also enriched with the Concluding Observations issued by the Committee on the Rights of the Child in follow-up to the commitments assumed by the States in ratifying the *Optional Protocol to the CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography*.

Finally, this Part II of the Report includes the comparative legislative analysis conducted by ICMEC and kindly provided to IIN for dissemination.

4.1. Diagnostics on CSEC through the Internet

In addition to the classic Stockholm categories, an initial question is added to establish a baseline diagnosis of the CSEC problem in each of the countries and, in particular, whether there have been efforts to specifically diagnose the problem of CSEC through the Internet.

This section aims to give an account of the scope and main problem areas of technology-mediated CSEC in the Member States: in which modalities does the problem manifest itself, in which geographical areas, under the complicity of which actors, linked to which other activities or social conjunctures.

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17 The main risks reported in the literature are: the theft, alteration, dissemination or misuse of personal photos or videos; exposure to pornography and other harmful content; infection by viruses and spyware; grooming, harassment and sexual abuse; cyberbulling and being caught by a sexual exploitation network.

18 Annex 1: Protocol of questions sent to OAS Member States.
19 Annex 2: Sources of information for the drafting of Part II of this Report, by Member State.

In **Argentina,** situations of sexual exploitation linked to ICTs have been detected, such as child pornography, sending content of a sexual nature (mainly photographs and/or videos) through mobile devices (Sexting) and online harassment (Grooming).

In **Brazil** there is a record of cases of child pornography, intimidation and harassment, especially aggravated by the widespread use of social networks. To address this problem, the Human Rights Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic signed, at the end of 2008 on the occasion of the III World Congress, a cooperation agreement with the Federal Police Department and the NGO Safernet, for the implementation of a Federal Hotline to receive reports of crimes against the human rights of children and adolescents committed on the Internet. The agreement guarantees wide dissemination of the site <www.denunciar.org.br>, as well as the availability of complaint forms on the websites of the Secretariat and the Federal Police. The agreement also provides a guideline for addressing and monitoring the results of such reports between the signatory agencies.

Numerous situations of sexual exploitation linked to ICTs have been detected in **Canada.** In 2008, 1,368 incidents involving the production and distribution of child pornography were reported to the police, of which 149 were linked to the contact of children through the Internet.

The *National Child Exploitation Coordination Center* (NCECC) of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police was created in 2003 in response to the realization that the Internet was increasingly being used as a facilitator of child sexual exploitation crimes. There is also a national hotline called Cybertip.ca. From September 2002 to March 2010, Cybertip.ca has processed more than 38,000 citizen complaints. This hotline also promotes education and awareness of the issue.

In March 2009, NCECC, in cooperation with 35 police departments and Cybertip.ca, conducted Canada's largest-ever Internet child sexual victimization project. This investigation resulted in over 50 arrests on charges of sexual assault, sexual interference20 and production, possession and distribution of child pornography. For more information, please refer to the Report submitted to the Committee on the Rights of the Child under the Optional Protocol21.

In **Chile**, it is only recently that the first formal complaints about cyberbullying have been received from parents who have discovered their children talking to strangers in chat rooms and communities. The method used by the harassers consists of making contact with children and/or adolescents, accessing the chat channels where they usually connect. The perpetrators enter by changing their identity, sex and age, pretending to be minors -or simply as well-meaning adults-, and try to arrange a videoconference seeking to establish a friendship. The objective is to maintain a virtual sexual relationship. The victims, generally between 12 and 14 years of age, are persuaded to perform sexually suggestive acts on the Webcam. Sometimes the perpetrators begin to blackmail the children or promise them gifts in order to establish a greater degree of commitment in the relationship. Some of them even arrange direct appointments, establishing physical contact with the potential victims in order to commit sexual abuse.

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20 In English: *sexual assault, sexual interference and possessing, making and distributing child pornography*.
21 Cfr. *Canada's First Report on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography as submitted to the United Nations on February 3, 200. http://www.*pch.gc.ca/pgm/pdp-hrp/docs/2009-01/rpt-eng.pdf

Colombia has a website www.internetsano.gov.co, where, among other activities, child pornography can be reported. In 2009, a total of 2,171 complaints were received regarding websites with pornography involving minors on the Internet. The DIJIN's Computer Crime Office reported to the Ministry of Information Technology and Communications that 1,034 sites should be blocked by Internet Service Providers (ISPs). So far in 2010 a total of 5,650 complaints have been filed and of these a total of 1,309 websites with pornographic content involving minors have been determined to be blocked by ISPs.

Investigations and control operations have been carried out in video game arcades, Internet, theaters, establishments open to the public, terminals and airports, resulting in the arrest of 34 adults in 2008 and 49 adults in 2009 for crimes involving children related to the stimulation of prostitution, pornography, pimping and sexual exploitation.

In the case of **Costa Rica**, the Prosecutor's Office for Sexual Crimes and Domestic Violence reports the existence of cases where the subject contacts the victim on social networks (such as Hi5) and tells them that he has a modeling company. There are also reports of family members or people close to the victim recording videos of children and adolescents with pornographic content and then disseminating them via cell phones. Since 1998, when the Prosecutor's Office was created, 136 complaints have been filed for the crime of dissemination of pornography, 82 for the crime of manufacture or production of pornography and 13 cases for the crime of possession of child pornography.

In 2006, a research on child pornography and the inter- national and national legal frameworks was published in which a series of recommendations for its criminalization, prosecution and sanction are presented: *Marie-Laure Lemineur Retama: El combate contra la pornografía infantil en Internet. The case of Costa Rica.*

Ecuador's National Council for Children and Adolescents is carrying out a project to monitor events and Internet content related to child pornography and the sale of children and adolescents.

In **El Salvador** there are morning and evening television programs, mainly for young people presenting music and entertainment videos, where messages are placed "at the bottom of the screen, with cell phone numbers of people, mostly men, who say they are 20, 30 or 40 years old and want to meet women or girls 15 years old and older" to start a friendly or dating relationship. This same practice is registered in many radio stations in the country. The same type of messages are transmitted at all hours, under this modality of reception and derivation of "little messages" via mobile phones.

On the other hand, two Web addresses have been identified in El Salvador that are used by traffickers to contact children and adolescents. These sites offer positions as maids or to work in homes abroad, covering the full costs of documentation, transportation and food. The use of social networks such as Hi5, Facebook and others, where traffickers upload fake profiles, has also been reported. After choosing their future victim, they make friends with them, investigate them through the contacts that the victim offers; traffickers use open sources on the Internet, ask them for their cell phone and landline numbers, after having generated trust in the social network, they call constantly to obtain information using the technique of social engineering. When they have enough information about the victim and the family, they set up work appointments where they tell the victims that if they do not leave with them they will kill their family.

family. According to the Department of Technological Crimes-Interpol El Salvador, a number of cases of this type have been registered.

The Institute for the Integral Development of Children and Adolescents (Instituto para el Desarrollo Integral de la Niñ ez y la Adolescencia, ISNA) counts by month and year the number of CSEC cases handled. This information is collected and processed by the Childhood Information System (SIPI) creating an electronic database that allows disaggregating indicators by age, sex, schooling, revictimization, origin, nationality and length of stay under the jurisdiction of an institution that provides protection measures.

The United States **of America** has significant information from the launching of the *Safe Childhood* Project, which has been in operation since 2006. As of May 2009, 2,312 victims of child pornography were detected, more than 1,000 of them from the project. Another relevant source of information is the CyberTipline, managed by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). The CyberTipline receives reports from the public and from computer service providers; such reports can be considered indicators of the occurrence of the problem, although they do not represent confirmed facts.

Panama has received information on situations of sexual exploitation via the Internet from other countries. The investigations target foreign legal entities and the route indicates that it arrived in Panama, the IP being registered in another country. Although the Attorney General's Office has a computer expert, he cannot investigate computer crimes because according to the legislation he cannot be part of the investigation and simultaneously an expert.

The **Peruvian** National Police has a High Technology Crimes Division (DIVINDAT) in charge of identifying traffickers who use the Internet to recruit children and adolescents for sexual exploitation. Traffickers communicate with their victims to recruit them, using tools such as public profiles created in social networks such as Facebook, Hi5, MySpace, thus achieving sufficient information about their victim. One of the purposes is to force them to send child pornography on a daily basis.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that there is no quantitative data to confirm the results of the study carried out in 2007 by the Ministry of Social Development on the *Nature and Extent of Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Sale of Children.* The results of this study indicate the existence of sexual exploitation against children and adolescents, mainly in the lower socio-economic sectors and in situations of family instability and substance abuse.

In **Uruguay,** cases of child pornography have been detected which have been successful from the police and judicial point of view. It has also been reported a methodology that consists of **"**charging**"** the victim's cell phone card in exchange for images with pornographic content that are then uploaded to the Internet. This methodology is potentially very dangerous because of its ability to be carried out from any cell phone with photographic or filming capabilities.

4.2. Coordination and Cooperation to address CSEC through the Internet

This section seeks to understand the inter-institutional arrangements and the routes through which CSEC situations are handled.

Argentina has a Research and Monitoring Team for Children and New Technologies whose objective is to study the use of ICTs by children and adolescents and to detect the vulnerabilities to which they are exposed in order to develop actions to prevent and combat them.

On the other hand, the Argentine Federal Police is part of the Technology Crimes and Criminal Analysis Division and, at the provincial level, specialized units are being created to address the different modalities of CSEC.

Complaints about rights violations in cyberspace are channeled through the Judicial Branch, which in turn may request the collaboration of the Investigation and Monitoring Team for Children and New Technologies.

Brazil is consolidating the use of a Federal Hot Line. The cooperation agreement established between the organizations involved in its implementation has two main objectives. Firstly, to improve the flow of procedures between them, giving it greater speed and generating more effective responses to the cases identified. Second, to widely disseminate the appropriate channels for the registration of complaints.

Currently, complaints can be registered in the channels provided by these institutions, namely: www.direitoshumanos.gov.br/disque100 - SDH / PR (provisional); www.dpf.gov. br DPF; www.denunciar.org.br - Safernet; www.denunciar.org.br. br DPF; www.denunciar.org.br. br DPF; www.denunciar.org.br. br DPF; www.dpf.gov. br DPF; www.direitoshumanos.gov.br/disque100. br DPF; www.dpf.gov. br DPF.

In **Canada**, as part of the National Strategy for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation on the Internet, Public Safety has partnered with the Canadian Child Protection Centre, a charitable organization managed by Cybertip.ca, to report suspected cases of child sexual abuse on the Internet. In this respect, Cybertip.ca provides a valuable service to the police in that it analyzes the reports and forwards only the relevant ones to the appropriate law enforcement agency. In this way, police forces can devote the maximum of their resources to investigations.

Cybertip.ca also builds a list of websites that host child pornography and distributes it to Internet Service Providers (who voluntarily block them).

On the other hand, there is the National Child Exploitation Coordination Centre (NCECC), which has a dedicated Victim Identification Unit that collaborates daily with national and international agencies in an effort to identify child victims depicted in sexual abuse images. In addition, it provides support to Canada's Integrated Child Exploitation Units (ICUs), which are staffed by investigators dedicated to studying the facilities provided by the Internet for Child Sexual Exploitation. Units currently exist in the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick.

Finally, it works in collaboration with INTERPOL, through the *Virtual Global Taskforce* (VGT), an international partnership of law enforcement agencies created to combat child sexual exploitation on the Internet.

In **Chile**, the Investigative Police, within its organic structure, has the Cybercrime Investigation Brigade (BRICIB), in charge of detecting and investigating illicit conduct on the Internet, providing evidence to the different courts and prosecutors' offices in the country, when the use of tools and/or information technologies in the commission of crimes is detected, and training and educating investigators specializing in computer crimes". Among its functions, it is in charge of the investigation of all crimes involving underage victims, especially the creation, distribution and storage of child pornography through the Internet". Through its web page, reports of production, commercialization and/or storage of pornographic material involving minors can be made.

In the private sector, the telecommunications company VTR (Vía Transradio Chilena) has a policy aimed at protecting children and adolescents from the new phenomena arising from the misuse of technology, which includes the development of a series of initiatives such as the Safe Internet Recommendations Manual and various campaigns.

In **Colombia**, the Ministry of Information Technologies and Communications is the agency responsible for regulating technical measures to prevent unauthorized access to the network of content related to the sexual exploitation of minors. It has also regulated the creation of self-regulatory systems and codes of conduct for the use of global information networks issued by the legal representatives of Internet providers, servers and administrators.

In addition, State and civil society organizations have worked together to define criteria for classifying CSEC-related content, which are used by the competent authorities to classify websites. This classification allows administrative investigation and prosecution bodies to proceed against this crime. The Ministry of Information Technologies and Communications, based on this classification of pages provided by the Administrative Department of Security (DAS) and the National Police, requires Internet Access Providers to block this type of sites. Once these pages are blocked, an administrative investigation is initiated and sanctions are imposed. If the contents are found on foreign servers, international cooperation agreements are used to attack this scourge.

Investigations relating to CSEC and the Internet are carried out by the Administrative Department of Security, the National Police and the Computer Crimes Office of the National Prosecutor General's Office. These investigations are carried out on the basis of complaints filed in different scenarios and through the web site: www.internetsano.gov.co.

In **Costa Rica**, there are units specialized in crimes of CSEC on the Internet, both in the Public Ministry and in the Judicial Investigation Agency (OIJ). In San Jos , there is a prosecutor designated to be exclusively dedicated to the investigation of all crimes related to commercial sexual exploitation, including Internet pornography. Outside of San Jose, there are specialized prosecutors who handle sex crimes, including those mentioned above, or prosecutors who have priority knowledge of this type of crime. The largest number of pornography cases

The cases are transferred to the San Jos Prosecutor's Office and, when a case is presented outside this city, support is provided or the case is transferred to the San Jos Prosecutor's Office.

Ecuador reports having a Decentralized National System for the integral protection of children and adolescents that articulates and coordinates public and private agencies, entities and services. These agencies define measures and procedures, sanctions and remedies to ensure the enforcement, exercise, enforceability and restitution of the rights of children and adolescents. The Agency for the Communication of Children and Adolescents is responsible for monitoring and overseeing the media.

El Salvador has a number of units within the National Police responsible for monitoring rights violations in cyberspace. In addition, INTERPOL's Technological Crimes Department conducts investigations related to CSEC and collaborates with the Trafficking in Persons Department in the Border Division, the Elite Division against Organized Crime and the Criminal Investigation Division. El Salvador coordinates investigations of transnational cases among INTERPOL member countries.

Complaints are channeled through the Attorney General's Office, the National Civil Police and the Peace Courts. The complaint is initially sent to the Attorney General's Office within the legal term of 08 hours; the Public Prosecutor's Office is in charge of directing and coordinating the investigation, assisted by the National Civil Police and, subsequently, with the evidence collected, it is judged in a court of the Judicial Branch. An investigation of the crime of CSEC can also be initiated OFFICIALLY or by NOTITIA CRIMINIS.

The United States **of America has a** CyberCrime Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program, a national network of 59 Task Forces that assist state and local law enforcement agencies in developing an effective strategy against cyber enticement and child pornography cases. It was created in response to the growing number of children and adolescents using the Internet, the proliferation of child pornography, and the online activity of overage predators seeking unsupervised contact with potential underage victims. Building on this Network, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention has increased its capacity to address these types of crimes. In 2008, for example, its work resulted in the arrest of more than 3,000 individuals.

In addition, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, through its CyberTipli- ne, receives complaints from Internet service providers regarding the existence of child pornography on their servers. It has also created a coalition against child pornography, made up of representatives of the private sector (banks, credit card companies, Internet service companies) who wish to ensure that their products or services are not used in connection with child pornography.

The Department of Justice recently appointed a national coordinator to act as the Department's liaison with all federal agencies involved in the development and implementation of a national strategy to combat child sexual exploitation.

In **Jamaica**, the Trafficking in Persons Act (2007) and the Child Pornography Act (2009) provide for complaints to be coordinated by the Ministry of National Security with technical and psychosocial support from agencies such as the Child Development Agency, the Office of the Ombudsman for Children and Adolescents, and the Child Protection Agency.

The Ministry of Children, the Ministry of Labor and Social Security through the Child Labor Unit, the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Health.

Panama does not have specialized units to deal specifically with CSEC and the Internet. Child pornography is addressed through the Program for the Care of Victims of CSEC, which operates within the National Secretariat for Children, Adolescents and the Family. It has a Victim Attention Protocol that establishes action routes for channeling CSEC situations and serves as a guide for public officials responsible for providing attention to victims.

Like other countries, Panama has a toll-free telephone line that receives information and channels complaints to the Sexual Exploitation Section of the Judicial Investigation Directorate or the Public Prosecutor's Office at the national level. Both institutions receive complaints and initiate investigations of CSEC cases. The central authority that deals with CSEC situations with international components is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. There are plans to have a Specialized Unit headed by a Public Prosecutor specializing in CSEC at the national level.

Peru has two specialized Divisions of the National Police to address the violation of rights in cyberspace: Against Trafficking in Persons and High Technology Crimes.

The Peruvian Network against Child Pornography is a civil society association that seeks to eradicate networks of producers, distributors and consumers of child pornography in Peru and Latin America, mainly those that operate via the Internet. To this end, it organizes talks and training workshops and dissemination, information and awareness-raising campaigns on child pornography; it promotes spaces for reporting child pornography via the Internet, through its Web page where it receives anonymous reports on pages containing child pornography.

Reports of possible cases of sexual exploitation of children and adolescents through the Internet may be filed with the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division and the High Technology Crimes Investigation Division of the National Police, which will then investigate and report them to the Specialized Criminal Prosecutor's Office. They can also be channeled through the helpline *Línea 100* of the National Program Against Family and Sexual Violence of the Ministry of Women and Social Development, or the toll-free line of the Ministry of the Interior. The latter refers the reports to the National Criminal Investigation Directorate of the National Police, which in turn has a Human Trafficking Investigation Division. Finally, they can be filed with the Public Prosecutor's Office, specifically with the Criminal Prosecutor's Offices. Criminal Prosecutors intervene in the investigation from the police stage and formalize the complaint before the Judicial Power.

In **Uruguay**, only the Ministry of the Interior has a unit specialized in complex crimes, which includes an operational area for computer crimes. Complaints relating to CSEC-NA in cyberspace are channeled through the judicial channel.

4.3. Protection against CSEC through the Internet

The purpose of this section is to compile the legislative and legal advances for the protection of children and adolescents against CSEC from 2008 to date.

To address sexual exploitation through ICTs, **Argentina** has the Computer Crimes Law, which introduces reforms to the Penal Code with respect to computer crimes. This law establishes the punishment of 6 months to 4 years imprisonment for anyone who produces, finances, offers, trades, publishes, publishes, facilitates, discloses or distributes, by any means, representations of persons under 18 years of age engaged in sexually explicit activities or any representation of their genital parts for predominantly sexual purposes. It also penalizes anyone who organizes live shows of sexually explicit representations involving minors; and anyone who facilitates access to pornographic shows or provides pornographic material to minors under 14 years of age. The punishment is also applicable to anyone who possesses this type of material for the purpose of distribution or commercialization. In this case, the punishment will be from 4 months to 2 years.

It also has a Law on the Prevention and Punishment of Trafficking in Persons and Assistance to its Victims. Extraterritorial complaints are channeled through INTERPOL.

In **Brazil**, the Statute of Children and Adolescents was significantly modified with regard to pornography by Law No. 11.829 of 2008. Among these changes, the following stand out: criminalization of the possession of pornographic material, as well as of conducts that, indirectly, facilitate its production and dissemination; criminalization of the dissemination of pornographic material by any means, including telematic means; criminalization of those who adulterate pornographic images, etc.

Extraterritorial complaints can be made through the websites www.direitoshuma-nos.gov.br/disque100 (Human Rights Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic), www.dpf.gov.br or www.denunciar.org.br (Safernet), or by telephone at 55 61 3212 8400.

Canada reports that it has comprehensive criminal legislation to address all forms of child sexual exploitation, including commercial sexual exploitation of children on the Internet. The use of the Internet to communicate with a child for the purpose of deceiving or facilitating the commission of an abduction or sexual offence against the child is prohibited. On May 6, 2010, the Government of Canada introduced legislation to enhance the protection of children from sexual exploitation on the Internet. This bill requires Internet service providers to report online child pornography.

In **Colombia,** the Ministry of Communications defines technical and administrative measures aimed at preventing access by minors to any form of pornographic-graphic information contained on the Internet. It also promotes self-regulation and the adoption of codes of conduct for the use of global information networks through the legal representatives of Internet service providers, servers and administrators. Jointly between the office of computer crimes and the police, the procedure for the chain of custody in the Digital Evidence for cases of child pornography on the Internet was carried out.

In addition, Law 1329 (which amends Title IV of Law 599 of 2000) and Law 1336, which strengthens Law 679 of 2001, were issued in 2009.

The new regulation establishes, in the first place, that tourist service providers, hotels, airlines and Internet cafes must adopt effective codes of conduct that promote prevention policies and avoid the use and sexual exploitation of children and adolescents in the development of their activities. It establishes that the Ministry of Communications and the territorial entities will have the authority to require Internet service providers to report on the control mechanisms or filters they use to block pages with pornographic content involving minors. Internet providers should, in turn, incorporate mandatory clauses in Internet portal contracts concerning the prohibition and blocking of pages with child pornography content. In addition, they should give access to their networks to the judicial and police authorities in the process of following up an IP number from which violations of the law have occurred.

Finally, the new legislation increases the penalties for crimes related to CSEC. It establishes a penalty of ten to twenty years imprisonment and a fine of 1,500 legal minimum wages for those who photograph, record, film, produce, disclose, sell, buy, possess, carry, store, transmit or exhibit, by any means, representations of sexual activity involving minors under 18 years of age, or for those who feed Internet databases with child pornography. Said penalty is increased by one third to one half when the perpetrator is a member of the victim's family.

In **Chile**, the Senate has recently approved the bill that penalizes sexual harassment of minors, virtual child pornography and possession of child pornographic material. This initiative seeks to incorporate modifications to the Penal Code, criminalizing child pornography produced through the use of the image or voice of a child or adolescent and its virtual manipulation, or when these are incorporated into a pornographic production making it appear that the victim actually participates in the sexual actions presented.

In **Costa Rica,** the legal and judicial tools to prosecute sexual exploitation in general are found in the penal codes of the Penal Code and in the regulations contained in the Code of Criminal Procedure. It is reported that at the judicial level there are specialized personnel to investigate crimes related to ICTs. The Judicial Investigation Agency (OIJ) has a Computer Crimes Section. At the Public Prosecutor's Office level, a prosecutor has been appointed in San Jos to investigate crimes related to CSEC. There are also specific protocols and guidelines for investigating these crimes.

Investigations for crimes related to Internet pornography almost always involve people of different nationalities. When a case of this nature is received through INTERPOL, it is referred to the Computer Crimes Section of the OIJ, and depending on the results of the investigation, it is coordinated with the authorities of the country where the investigation was initiated. The investigation is always in charge of the Public Ministry with the intervention of the OIJ, the INTER-POL and authorities of the country of origin. On the other hand, the Public Prosecutor's Office can investigate sexual crimes that occurred outside of Costa Rica, when it was committed against a Costa Rican and his or her rights.

In **El Salvador,** the tools to prosecute CSEC through ICTs are the criminal provisions established in the Penal Code in relation to the use of the Internet. These provisions refer to the inducement, promotion and favoring of erotic sexual acts; obscene exhibitions; pornography; and the use of persons under 18 years of age and incapable or mentally deficient persons in pornography and the possession of pornography. Extraterritorial complaints are channeled through the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic and the respective courts.

The Law for the Integral Protection of Children and Adolescents has been drafted and will enter into force in January 2011. This legal instrument establishes inalienable rights, ranging from sexuality issues and due care in cases of pregnancy to the regulation of travel outside the country and rights such as privacy, image and intimacy.

In the United States **of America**, electronic communications service providers that are aware of child pornography on their servers are required by federal law to report it to the *CyberTipline* of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

In addition, law enforcement officials have shut down numerous child pornography channels on the Internet, such as commercial child pornography sites, newsgroups and bulletin boards. These actions serve not only to effectively control this misuse of the Internet, but also as a deterrent.

Jamaica enacted the Child Pornography Act in July 2009, which criminalizes the production, possession, importation, exportation, and distribution of child pornography material, with penalties of up to 20 years imprisonment and fines of up to $1,000,000. In 2010, the Cybercrime Law (2010), which provides for legal sanctions for the misuse of computer data and other unauthorized access in general. The Act complements legislation relating to child pornography. The JCF also maintains relations with international organizations such as INTERPOL.

In **Panama,** the Penal Code refers to the use of the Internet as a means of executing, capturing and disseminating material allusive to CSEC, thus establishing limits to the information disseminated through this channel. The fundamental tool for the investigation of Internet crimes involving pages with sexual content exhibiting figures of children and adolescents is the monitoring of the websites where the sending originates.

On the other hand, Panama has a law that adopts measures for the protection of minors in relation to the exhibition and production of pornographic material. In this regard, cybercafes restrict access to pornographic materials to minors through the application of software.

In relation to the channeling of CSEC complaints within the territory, the Pan-Mexican legislation allows for such complaints to be made anonymously and personally. When reports are published in the media or on the Internet, ex officio investigations are carried out. The complaint may be filed with the Sexual Exploitation Section of the Judicial Investigation Division, the Public Prosecutor's Office. When the complaints are extraterritorial, they are channeled through the request for international assistance based on Multilateral Conventions or Bilateral Treaties, by the Principle of Reciprocity between States, and by INTERPOL.

In **Peru,** the legal tools to prosecute CSEC through ICTs refer to the figure of child pornography, penalized through the reformed Penal Code, and a series of laws: the Law that Prohibits Access by Minors to Websites with Pornographic Content; the Law against Trafficking in Persons and Illicit Trafficking of Migrants and its Regulations; the Law that grants power to the Prosecutor to intervene and control private communications and documents in exceptional cases; the Law that incorporates and modifies articles of the Penal Code referring to crimes against Sexual Freedom - rape -, sexual exploitation and child pornography.

Trinidad and Tobago is working on the Children's Bill 2010, which provides for increased penalties for the offenses of prostitution and enticement of children, as well as the criminalization of the sexual grooming of children for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation.

In **Uruguay,** the tools for prosecuting sexual exploitation through ICTs are Laws 17.559 and 17.815, the Criminal Courts and the Courts Specializing in Organized Crime. On the other hand, extraterritorial complaints are channeled through the Judicial Branch, in coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior and INTERPOL.

4.3.1.   Comparative table of legislation on child pornography

The following is a comparative table on child pornography legislation by the *International Center for Missing and Exploited Children* (ICMEC).

Member State	Legislation specific to child pornography[1]	Child pornography defined	Crimes committed through the use of the computer[2]	Simple position [3]	ISP complaints [4].
Antigua & Barbuda					
Argentina					
Bahamas					
Barbados					
Belize					
Bolivia					
Brazil					[5]
Canad					[6]
Chile					
Colombia					
Costa Rica			[7]		
Dominica					
Ecuador					
El Salvador					
United States of America					
Grenada					
Guatemala					
Guyana					
Haiti					
Jamaica					

Member State	Legislation specific to child pornography[1]	Child pornography defined	Crimes committed through the use of the computer[2]	Simple position [3]	ISP complaints [4].
M xico					
Nicaragua					
Panam					[8]
Paraguay			[9]		[10]
Per					
Dominican Republic					
St. Kitts & Nevis					
St. Lucia					
St. Vincent & the Grenadines					
Suriname					
Trinidad & Tobago					
Uruguay			[11]		
Venezuela					

	No
	Yes

Notes22:

[1] For the purposes of this report, we are looking for specific laws that outlaw and/or punish child pornography offenses. Labor legislation alone that simply prohibits the worst forms of child labor,'' which includes child pornography, is not considered child pornography-specific legislation. Moreover, countries in which there is a general prohibition of pornography, regardless of whether the individuals depicted in the photographs or films are adults or children, are not considered to have legislation specific to child pornography,'' unless there was an enhancement of sentences specifically established for offenses committed against child victims.

[2] For the purpose of meeting the requirements to be declared a law enforcement offense, we have been trying to find specific mention of computer, computer systems, the Internet or any similar reference (even if such mention is of a "computer image'' or something similar) in the definition of child pornography. Where any other terminology is used in national legislation, an explanation is provided at the bottom of the engraving.

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22   Notes 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11 are self-translated from the original ICMEC English text.

[3] Simple possession", for the purposes of this table, refers to possession, independent of the intention to distribute the material.

[4] While some countries may have general reporting laws (*i.e.,* anyone with knowledge of a crime must report the crime to the appropriate authorities), only those countries that specifically require ISPs to report suspected child pornography activities to law enforcement authorities (or any other law enforcement agency) are included as having ISP reporting laws. It should be noted that there are also provisions in some national laws (mainly in the European Union) that limit the liability of ISPs provided that ISPs remove illegal content once they become aware of its presence; however, such legislation is not included in this section.

[5] The law on Childhood and Adolescence penalizes those who provide the means or services to disseminate photos or images of child pornography. The criminal punishment of those who provide services or means of dissemination becomes effective upon failure to interrupt access, for example if they are informed by the police or the judiciary that these services or means are being used to disseminate child pornography. In short, ISP members can be prosecuted if they disseminate child pornography and do not cooperate with government agencies. Correspondence from Alexandre Ghisleni, Embassy of Brazil, Washington, D.C., to Sandra Marchenko, Deputy Director, International Center for Missing and Exploited Children (May 13, 2009).

[6] Canada is currently debating a bill entitled "Child Protection Act, Online Sexual Exploitation (Bill Number C-58)". It would mandate reporting of suspected child pornography by ISPs and would provide penalties for ISPs that fail to do so.

[7] Article 174 of the Costa Rican Penal Code penalizes those who produce, disseminate, distribute, trade or possess by any means... pornographic materials.

[8] Although there is no mandatory reporting requirement directed specifically to PSIs, Article 231-I of the Panamanian Penal Code establishes that whoever has knowledge of the use of minors in pornography or activities of a sexual nature, whether such person obtained such information by reason of his responsibilities, work, business, profession, or by any other means, if he fails to report it to the authorities, such omission shall be punished with imprisonment. In the event that the commission of a crime (pornography or child sexual activity) is not proven, the complainant will be exempt from any legal liability on account of this report. E-mail from Isabel Fernndez, Embassy of Panama, Washington D.C., to Jessica Sarra, Director of Global Operations, International Center for Missing & Exploited Children (April 12, 2006).

[9] Article 1 of Paraguayan Law No. 2861/06 imposes sanctions on anyone who, by any means, produces or reproduces "child pornography.

[10] Although PSIs are not specifically mentioned, Article 7 of Paraguay's Law No. 2861/06 mentions that anyone who witnesses child pornography assaults must immediately report them to the Police or the Public Ministry and provide, if appropriate, information regarding the location, size, and eventual destruction of the image, and for the identification, apprehension and punishment of the perpetrators. Anyone who fails to comply with these obligations may be sentenced to imprisonment or up to three years or fined.

[11] Law 17.815 of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay criminalizes certain child pornography offenses without taking into account how they were committed (e.g. in Article 1: in any manner in which child pornography is made or produced"; Article 2: in any manner that facilitates the commercialization, dissemination, exhibition, storage or acquisition of child pornography").

4.4. Preventing CSEC through the Internet

This section seeks to report on the main preventive measures taken by the countries and, if possible, a report on their impact or evaluation. The protocol of questions also asked about awareness-raising and human resources training activities.

In **Argentina,** a great deal of work has been done to prevent risky behavior and promote good practices in the use of ICTs. At the federal level, workshops have been held for adolescents, as well as technical training for law enforcement personnel, the judiciary, education and health professionals, members of the community and children's organizations.

In **Brazil,** an important prevention action developed by the NGO Safernet stands out, such as the preparation of an educational booklet entitled "Saferdicas", which has been republished by the Human Rights Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic. However, they consider that it would be a mobilization of greater impact if the dissemination could be done through schools, mainly because the federal government has programs to strengthen digital inclusion as a public policy. This process is under construction.

With respect to the cyber-industry, the progress made by the Parliamentary Commission for the Investigation of Pedophilia (CPI), which accessed information never before available on major suppliers and networks, enabling progress in police investigations and accountability in exemplary cases, is noteworthy.

In **Canada**, Cybertip.ca has worked, through the Canadian Coalition Against Child Exploitation on the Internet, to raise awareness of the issue and collaborate with Internet Service Providers. In January 2007, in conjunction with Canada's largest Internet Service Provider, it implemented the *CleanFeed* project, aimed at reducing accidental access to child sexual abuse images and discouraging attempts to access or distribute child pornography. Through this project, Cybertip.ca has created and maintains an up-to-date list of foreign-hosted Internet sites associated with child sexual abuse images. The organization provides this list to participating Internet Service Providers, whose filters automatically reject access to these sites. Cybertip.ca offers the public a wide range of educational and awareness materials for children, youth, educators and parents, as well as support and referral services.

In addition, on February 8, 2010 - Safer Internet Day - Cybertip.ca launched a national awareness campaign: *The Door That s Not Locked*, an easy-to-use website that raises awareness about what children do online and the risks associated with such activities, and provides safety tips and strategies for children, parents and teachers. A recent survey conducted by the Canadian Child Protection Centre showed that parents are satisfied with the website and that it provides them with the information they are looking for.

For its part, Public Safety Canada is providing funding to the *Community Resources Society (DIVERSEcity)*, to develop an Internet Child Sexual Exploitation of Children education and awareness campaign targeting South Asian communities in Surrey, British Columbia and surrounding regions. Recently, it also provided funding to the *Safe Online Outreach Society* for a "Safe Internet" program that includes information on how to prevent child sexual exploitation on the Internet for service providers and youth professionals in four aboriginal communities in British Columbia.

In **Chile**, SENAME together with the agency Romero y Nalegach, took on the challenge of designing and implementing a national dissemination campaign, focused on grooming prevention through self-care strategies, aimed at pre-adolescents and responsible adults.

In the same line of action, SENAME, together with the advertising agency La Firma, inserted in three Internet portals a banner called www.chlgultas.cl offering alleged sexual services of minors. In only two weeks it received more than 8 thousand visits. Once users entered the site, an advertisement was displayed stating: *child sex trade in Chile is considered a crime*. This campaign sought to detect possible exploiters and to send a clear signal that exploitation is a crime.

In **Colombia,** the Ministry of Information and Communication Technologies launched the "Healthy Internet" national project. Within the framework of this project, a multi-media communication strategy was designed to prevent and counteract sexual exploitation and sex tourism with minors on the Internet. This campaign seeks, in an informative and educational manner, to involve all Colombians in the prevention of this crime. In this sense, it appeals to the entire population to report cases of CSEC.

This campaign enabled the creation of a national toll-free hotline for providers and users of global networks, informing them of the legal implications of their use in relation to the Law. A Web site www.internetsano.gov.co was created, where complaints can be filed against events of child sexual exploitation and where websites offering sexual services with children and young people can be reported.

Support for this campaign is evidenced by the fact that state institutions, the Colombian IT and Telecommunications Commission and private companies have included the Internet Sano logo, its Web site and toll-free line on their Web pages. This information also appears on the bills of companies providing home telephone and Internet services.

On the other hand, within the framework of the working group on new technologies that was formed between MINTIC and Red Paz, the code of conduct *"Your 10 digital behaviors"* was created, codes of conduct for a responsible use of Information and Communication Technologies, working towards the Good Digital Citizen, with topics such as Privacy, respect for copyright, integrity and personal safety and the safety of others. These codes are disseminated in Compartel telecenters, educational institutions benefited by the Computadores para Educar program, schools and public institutions.

Finally, the MINTIC is working on the formulation, validation and socialization of the *National Policy for the Responsible Use of Information and Communications Technologies* and on the design of the *National Policy for the Responsible Use of Information and Communications Technologies.*

The objective is to develop a new integral communication strategy aimed at promoting the appropriation and responsible use of the Internet, with an emphasis on children and adolescents.

In **Costa Rica**, there is research on the relationship between new technologies and violence against children and adolescents, particularly carried out by the PANIAMOR Foundation23.

In addition, as part of the celebrations of the International Day of Telecommunications and the Information Society, several research studies on the topic of Adolescence, ICTs and Violence were presented. Information and printed educational material was distributed to raise awareness of this topic among the population. In addition, a virtual campaign was launched aimed at adolescents to delegitimize violence in cyberspace and build a culture of peace in their virtual interactions: *suave un toque.com.*

In addition, talks have been given to teachers, parents, and workshops on the safe and responsible use of the Internet with adolescents. National forums have been formed to discuss the issue and social networks and digital media are used to mobilize opinion on CSEC and the Internet.

Ecuador reports that it has not implemented specific measures aimed at preventing the unsafe and irresponsible use of ICTs.

El Salvador has an Anti-pornography Board that seeks to promote a reform to the Tele-communications Law, which would make it mandatory for Internet service providers to keep for a period of 12 months a record of the pages visited by the IP addresses in their charge. This would make it possible to provide reliable evidence for an investigation into the crime of child pornography.

On the other hand, at the National Police level, in the INTERPOL Division, a series of training courses were held specifically aimed at combating techno-crimes related to CSEC: Recognition of the trafficker in the network (oriented to police, psychologists and metropolitan agents); investigation in technological crimes (for prosecutors of the Unit of Crimes against Minors and Women in their family relationship); review of filters in cybercafes as a preventive action in the use of ICTs related to CSEC (oriented to metropolitan agents). In this same line of action, the General Directorate of Migration and Alien Affairs, in coordination with the National Police, has trained agents in various areas of the country -particularly in places far from the metropolitan area, semi-urban and/or rural areas- on the subject of trafficking in persons and interview methodology to avoid re-victimization of the victims of this type of crime. The Migration Delegates have also been trained in the identification and detection of victims of trafficking, for their immediate attention and referral to the competent institution.

Several information campaigns aimed at combating CSEC have been developed. In this regard, the INTERVIDA Private Foundation published 392 radio spots of the National Campaign *"Child Pornography is not a game, it is a crime; report it to 911"*; they distributed

23   Uso de Tecnologías de Comunicación e Informaci n en J venes de 12 a 18 años del Gran rea Metropolitana", Expresio- nes de Violencia Interpersonal y Social en el Ciberespacio, desde la vivencia adolescente: estado del arte", Identificaci n y caracterizaci n de los sitios virtuales mayormente frecuentados por personas adolescentes en Costa Rica", Conocimientos, Actitudes y Pr cticas asociados al uso de Internet en adolescentes. CAP study in schools of the Gran rea Metropolitana de Costa Rica".

5,000 stickers, 2,000 posters, billboards and the back of buses. The Salvadoran Institute for the Integral Protection of Children and Adolescents and CARE El Salvador developed the campaign *Mi Cuerpo Me Pertenece (My Body Belongs to Me)*, a campaign with a strong local component, seeking to bring this problem closer to the different localities of the country.

In the **United States of America**, various federal agencies and non-governmental organizations carry out campaigns to raise awareness and prevent CSEC crimes on the Internet.

The Department of Justice launched a National Awareness Campaign in 2008 to educate young people about Internet safety and, in particular, to encourage them to *Think Before You Post*. In the same year, the Department of Education's Secretary of Education, along with the Chairmen of the Federal Trade Commission and the Federal Communications Commission, launched a guide to help parents talk to their children about Internet safety. The guide is part of the federal government's *Online Alert* program, a program designed to help parents in three areas related to their children's Internet activities: inappropriate behavior, inappropriate contact, inappropriate content.

On the other hand, La Red Hisp nica de Comunicaci n (HCN) produced a video for online distribution that illustrates the dangers children face on the Internet and urges parents to be in- formed and involved in supervising their children's Internet and cell phone activities. The iKeepSafe organization developed a public campaign (including television, print, radio and web ads), entitled *Know Where They Go*, that demonstrates how, in the digital world, children can travel anywhere and why it is important for parents to monitor the sites children visit and who they talk to.

Finally, I Know Better created a public campaign entitled *Exploiting a Child is a Felony*, aimed at warning potential sexual predators on the Internet that exploiting a child is a serious federal crime.

They also report that various federal government agencies conduct training activities on the issues covered by the Optional Protocol to the CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

The Government of **Jamaica** has a defined Information and Communication Technology strategy, which is implemented by the Central Office of Information Technology, located in the Prime Minister's office.

In **Panama**, as part of the prevention strategy, awareness-raising and training activities have been carried out for officials of the Directorate of Domestic Trade of the Ministry of Commerce and Industries. The objective is to provide officials with the necessary tools to identify CSEC modalities, specifically those that are promoted via the Internet. Officials of this Directorate carry out inspections of the premises to ensure that the operators who receive their license through this institution comply with the requirements established when they are granted the Notice of Operation.

In **Peru**, the Ministry of Women and Social Development carried out a campaign aimed at young people in relation to the use of ICTs: *Chatea Seguro, Chatea pensando (Chat safely, Chat while thinking)*. The objective of this campaign was to raise awareness among the young population of the risks present on the Internet (violence, abuse, abuse of the Internet, etc.) and to raise awareness of the risks involved in the use of ICTs.

sexual abuse and sexual exploitation), aiming to protect the moral and physical integrity of children and adolescents who use the Internet.

Under the law prohibiting access to pornography by minors in public Internet booths, a number of measures must be taken in establishments to prevent this from occurring. Establishments must have a space for minors in a visible place of the owner, administrator or tenant, who are responsible for ensuring that minors do not access pornography. They are also obliged to implement security mechanisms in the machines intended for children and adolescents and to have posters, signs or others that indicate the prohibition of access to pornographic and violent pages by minors.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that no CSEC prevention activities have yet been developed in their country.

In **Uruguay**, through Plan Ceibal (one computer per child), training spaces, awareness campaigns and filters have been set up in the portable computers that are given to children and adolescents as part of the Plan.

4.5. Recovery and Restitution of rights of children and adolescents victims of CSEC through the Internet

This section seeks to learn about protection measures, care programs and interventions for the restitution of rights of CSEC victims. The scope and existing conditions for providing care to sexually exploited children and adolescents in each country were asked.

In **Argentina**, assistance to children and adolescents who are victims of CSEC is provided through the National Secretariat for Children, Adolescents and the Family, following the Guidelines and Protocol for Assistance to Victims of Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children. They report that the main challenges in relation to the issue are to avoid the re-victimization of children and adolescents during the judicial process and to achieve effective coordination between the agencies involved in the course of the restitution of the victims' rights.

In terms of the lessons learned, it is mentioned that other forms of rights violations linked to ICTs have been found, so CSEC should not be limited to the use of the Internet. In this regard, Argentina suggests the need for ongoing monitoring of the new uses of new technologies.

In **Brazil**, the Secretariat for Human Rights has a great concern for identifying and protecting victims of sexual exploitation crimes on the Internet, manifested in the implementation of the Hot Line. However, it considers that identification is extremely difficult due to the very nature of the crime, which often involves transnational actions, as well as the ease of propagation of images and files regardless of their geographical location.

In cases where it is possible to identify the victims, the Federal Police, the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office and the Federal Justice must proceed to activate the protection services that make up the System of Guarantee of Rights, with a view to minimizing the damage caused to the victims. The Ministry of Social Development and the Ministry of Health develop complementary actions for the care of children and adolescents victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

In **Canada**, the National Health Insurance Program - often referred to as *Medicare* - is designed to ensure that all residents have reasonable access to necessary hospital and medical services on a prepaid basis. The roles and responsibilities of the health care system are shared between the federal and provincial-territorial governments.

The government recognizes that continued vigilance is necessary in the fight against all forms of child sexual exploitation. The multi-pronged approach to this issue in the country aims to: ensure a comprehensive legal framework and policies that are in place to effectively deter such exploitation; support the development of effective law enforcement tools and coordinated strategies to address child sexual exploitation, including through national and international cooperation and collaboration; ensure that offenders are held accountable; support victims as well as children and young people at risk of such exploitation.

Chile has a welfare coverage in the line of reparation programs and has developed a highly specialized system of care, with technical guidelines at the national level for the care of children and adolescents who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The main objective of this care system is to interrupt the exploitation, resignify the exploitation experience and reintegrate the victims into their families and communities.

However, Chile still does not have any studies or systematizations of the situations of children and adolescents assisted in the SENAME network of programs who are victims of sexual exploitation through the Internet. The main challenges are to know how many children and adolescents come to the SENAME network programs for reparation of ESC provoked through the Internet; to know the particularities of this new form of exploitation; and to formulate proposals and/or technical recommendations for the models of attention of the specialized projects.

On the other hand, it is considered necessary to strengthen coordination with the Public Ministry and the Investigation Police, in order to define an agenda focused on the timely investigation and interruption of CSEC situations through virtual spaces.

In **Colombia,** comprehensive care and restoration of the violated rights of children and adolescents who are victims of sexual exploitation is provided through the ICBF. The ICBF offers various types of care depending on the victim's situation: boarding school, out-of-school care, support intervention and the Shelter and Development Program.

By means of the Attention through the Shelter and Development Line, specialized attention is provided to boys, girls and adolescents in street and sexual exploitation situations. This modality involves a comprehensive process of search, recruitment, permanent reception (with no day or time limit for arrival) and constant care (7 days a week, 24 hours a day).

In addition, within the framework of the Agreement between ICBF and the Prosecutor's Office, Integral Care Centers for Victims of Sexual Violence were created in several cities of the country, where trained psychosocial assistance is provided.

In **Costa Rica**, the entity in charge of the special protection of children and adolescents is the Patronato Nacional de la Infancia (PANI). This institution, the governing body for the rights of children and adolescents, has institutional shelters or provides homes for children who need to be separated, temporarily or permanently, from their families.

With the application of the Cyclical Model of Articulated Responses and institutional protocols, victims have been identified and the exercise of rights has been restored, but there are still no final records of the situations.

On the other hand, the Prosecutor's Office has been able to identify victims, from the criminal intervention, and has referred them to the Judicial Branch's program of attention to minors. In this type of situation, the approach and investigation is carried out with the intervention of social workers and psychologists. However, due to the nature of these crimes, many times the victim considers that she had an active participation" in the facts, because in the majority of cases she consented " for example the exposure to a camera, which provokes guilt. This sometimes makes it difficult for the victim to cooperate with the investigation. Another difficulty is that sometimes there is a pornographic image of the underage person, but the victim cannot be identified.

The main challenge identified is the need to have personnel, both in the Judicial Investigation Agency (OIJ) and in the Public Prosecutor's Office, with the proper training to carry out these investigations that require specific knowledge.

Ecuador reports that it does not have adequate assistance coverage for children and adolescents who have been victims of CSEC. In relation to the identification and subsequent restitution of victims' rights, the main challenges relate to the creation of an electronic monitoring and follow-up system and a route for the restitution of victims' rights.

In **El Salvador,** immediate attention consists of providing safe shelter, health care, food, clothing and social integration activities such as school or vocational workshops. The agency in charge of developing intervention and victim care actions is ISNA. It is reported that although the assistance coverage is projected at the national level, it needs to be improved, since it still lacks the resources to achieve the integration of the victims into the home, in stable economic conditions and in social conditions that guarantee the receipt of educational, health or vocational training services.

With respect to victims of CSEC in the ICT environment, it has been difficult to detect them. Although there have been known cases where images of children and adolescents filmed by their boyfriends" or partners are disseminated through cell phones, there are still no fully confirmed cases of their having been uploaded to the Internet. In such cases, working with the victim's family has been key to prevent the affected children or adolescents from being expelled from their homes. In this regard, the criminal nature of these acts in schools has been explained.

The main challenge for El Salvador is to achieve greater expertise in the investigations, with the capacity to return the findings in precise and clear judicial evidence against the exploiters or traffickers.

The main lessons to be shared refer, on the one hand, to the need to sufficiently and efficiently inform the population at risk and the general population of children and adolescents. And on the other hand, to provide them with spaces for greater exchange among them, with the peer-to-peer methodology, which will allow them to reproduce warning or prevention messages more effectively than the formal actions of the institutions.

In **the United States of America**, the Department of Justice instituted Project Safe Childhood to combat the proliferation of sexually exploitative crimes against children.

committed through technology. It is implemented in partnership between U.S. Attorneys, the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section of the Department of Criminal Justice, an Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force, the FBI, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S. Marshals Service, advocacy organizations, and state and local law enforcement officials.

In addition, the CyberCrime Center developed the National Child Victim Identification System, a digital child pornography image search system designed to help law enforcement officers around the world identify and possibly rescue the children depicted in those images and prosecute the predators.

One of the major concerns of the United States of America is unaccompanied or separated alien children entering the country, as they may be particularly vulnerable to exploitation. As a result, significant efforts are devoted to their identification and the restoration of their rights.

Jamaica reports that health services for Jamaican children are provided through the island's public health centers and the Bustamante Children's Hospital in the Kingston metropolitan area.

On the other hand, the framework for the restitution of victims' rights is the *Victims Charter*, which attempts to redress imbalances between the protection of the rights of offenders and those of victims. This includes: a) victim compensation, with State responsibility for funding any proposed compensation scheme; b) State protection of children and other vulnerable groups within communities; c) understanding the causes and consequences of domestic and family violence; and d) voluntary victim support within communities.

The Victim Support Unit (VSU) of the Ministry of Justice provides advocacy, legal support, crisis intervention, counseling and psychological care to individuals against whom commercial sexual exploitation crimes have been committed. It was established in 1998 and is the first of its kind in the Caribbean.

In **Panama**, assistance to victims of CSEC is provided through the Direct Attention Program, which operates within the National Secretariat for Children, Adolescents and the Family (SENNIAF). This program has an interdisciplinary team made up of social workers and psychologists and a Victim Attention Protocol. The program proposes the elaboration of an Individual Attention Plan that includes both the training of the person for income generation and the family component.

The current scope of the Direct Attention Program is in the Capital City, specifically in the areas of Pedregal, Tocumen, 24 de Diciembre, Mañanitas. There are plans to replicate it nationwide. For the time being, no cases involving the use of the Internet have been found in the Victim Attention Program.

In **Peru,** the National Police carries out permanent virtual patrols through its High Technology Crimes Division of the National Police, which have made it possible to detect and identify possible victims of sexual exploitation, particularly child pornography. Once the case has been identified,

is made available to the competent authority, national and/or international, to punish those involved and, if possible, to recover the affected victims.

The Ministry of Women and Social Development, through the National Integral Program for Family Well-being, is in charge of two Residential Care Centers: "Hermanas Adoratrices" (Con-venio con Hermanas Adoratrices) in Lima and "Santa Lorena" in Iquitos, where comprehensive care is provided to adolescent victims of sexual exploitation.

Trinidad and Tobago reports that health care is provided free of charge and universally through hospitals and health centers, although the mode of treatment is not specifically tailored to the needs related to commercial sexual exploitation of children.

Uruguay reports that it has residential assistance coverage, which, however, is not adequate for children and adolescents who are victims of sexual exploitation. This type of victim requires special and specialized care. The main lesson learned from Uruguay is the awareness of a new problem or a new expression of an old problem. This new modality cannot be conceptualized from the traditional institutional thinking and even less, attacked from the current practices, so the implementation of specialized attention devices is required.

4.6. Children's Participation

In this section we are interested in compiling those experiences that have incorporated the participation of children and adolescents as a fundamental principle in any of the phases of the integrated policy to prevent and eradicate CSEC, in any of its forms.

In **Argentina,** awareness-raising workshops on this topic have been held with the participation of young people in the provinces of La Pampa (Santa Rosa) and Salta. The aim of these workshops is for the young people who have participated in the experience to act as replicating agents. As a triggering activity, the elaboration of posters for a prevention campaign was proposed.

Chile has developed an outpatient methodology for intervention with articulated and process responses that allow the co-construction with the child or adolescent of his or her treatment plan. In this way, children and adolescents can recognize achievements in their care processes. On the other hand, in Chile there is an NGO that uses theatrical pedagogy as a participatory strategy to favor the reparation of children and adolescents who are victims of CSEC. This practice also favors the development of group work and fosters awareness of the sense of belonging to a group, which makes it possible to integrate bonding elements.

Similarly, the families and significant adults of the children and adolescents are integrated into intervention processes in order to evaluate and strengthen their protective capacities. At the same level, communities, especially leaders of social organizations, play an important role in the approach and prevention of sexual exploitation.

Finally, children and adolescents who are victims of sexual exploitation participate in activities carried out within the framework of campaigns to raise awareness and promote their rights and against sexual exploitation. They also participate in the National Day for the Fight against Sexual Exploitation", and especially in the "No Excuses" Campaign.

In accordance with the National Plan for the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents 2006-2011, **Colombia** includes among its lines of action the participation of children and adolescents. On the other hand, prevention activities include actions aimed at children and adolescents, at the level of prevention and promotion of participation as a mechanism to promote their rights.

In **Costa Rica**, the PANIAMOR Foundation has been developing a series of awareness-raising and positioning experiences that have included the participation of children and adolescents. In this sense, within the framework of the celebration of the International Safer Internet Day, massive awareness-raising processes were developed with the participation of adolescents and adults. Educational materials were distributed and there was extensive press coverage. In addition, social networks were used as a means of dissemination and linking people on Facebook and blogs, among others.

In this same line of action, the regional video contest *Tecnología Si: con ctate con responsabilidad* was held. The purpose of this contest was, on the one hand, to learn the point of view of adolescents who use ICTs, to promote critical reflection on the risks, responsibilities and possible solutions in the interaction with ICTs, and to involve the participating children and adolescents in a virtual network of participation on this topic. On the other hand, the *Network for the Right of Children and Adolescents to the Safe and Responsible Use of ICTs*, an entity co-founded by Paniamor, could obtain data to analyze the views of children and adolescents on different topics.

On the other hand, the Patronato Nacional de la Infancia through the Juntas de Protecci n a la niñ ez y la adolescencia has carried out a series of workshops, forums, and prevention fairs, where it has worked with various forms of art, poetry, song and dramatization, performed by the young people themselves and aimed at young people in order to raise awareness and provide strategies to recognize indicators and denounce situations.

Finally, within the framework of the work plan of the CONACOES Prevention Subcommission, workshops are being planned for adolescent men in the six communities prioritized within the National Plan, to review the patterns of male socialization and strengthen protective factors that will induce them to better exercise their masculinity, where the sex trade is not part of the slogan of being a man".

Ecuador reports that the principle of strengthening opportunities for the participation of children and adolescents is in operation. This is reflected, for example, in the organization of the Children and Adolescent Councils promoted by the National Council for Adolescents and the Cantonal Councils, at the national and sectoral levels, respectively.

The strengthening proposal aims at consolidating particular life projects which are directly linked to the generation of local capacities and to the possibility of generating political conditions which make it possible to make viable the exercise of the right to participation. The strategy for strengthening these spaces implies coordination with other agencies of the National Decennial System for the Integral Protection of Children and Adolescents directly linked to children.

In this regard, mention should be made of the action of the National Sexuality and Love Education Program, which formed a technical secretariat for the territorialization of ministerial policies in order to improve the knowledge of adults who are directly involved with children,

children and adolescents. The methodology used implies a dynamic insertion strategy, so that the set of actions undertaken does not have a defined end; no absolute methodological parameters are established in the direct work with children and adolescents.

In **El Salvador,** the development of workshops under the *methodologies of peers, multiplying agents and systemic ecological analysis* has been very relevant. These modalities imply that children and adolescents identify risk situations and opportunities for greater protection through the family, community and society. Another modality of participation of children and adolescents that has given good results is the *itinerant puppet theater* exhibition. In this instance, workshops are held where children and adolescents make their own puppet, build the environment or stage, create and develop scripts and make collective presentations of plays alluding to CSEC, based on pointing out to their peer groups (other children or adolescents) the high and serious violation of rights that this problem represents for their interests.

In **Panama**, SENNIAF is responsible for conducting training and information sessions with children and adolescents who are members of the Direct Attention to Victims Program and their families. SENNNIAF's Children's Clubs program assists children and trains them on sexual abuse, teaching them how to identify and channel it. It aims to prevent their incorporation into commercial sex activities. The Children's Clubs are spaces for child participation where the population is provided with training in rights and their active integration into community issues is promoted.

Peru has a Consultative Council for Children and Adolescents as a consultative body of the Directorate for Children and Adolescents of the General Directorate for the Family and the Community of the Ministry of Women and Social Development (MIMDES). The purpose of this consultative body is to recognize and reaffirm the participation of children and adolescents as an inalienable right and a key element in the fight to eradicate child sexual exploitation. In this way, it seeks to encourage the strengthening of children and adolescents' organizations and other appropriate forms of empowerment and participation that guarantee their full citizenship and strengthen the social capital they constitute.

It should be noted that this Council acts as a consultative body of the Directorate for Children and Adolescents of the MIMDES, in matters of public policies on children and adolescents that are binding on them, and is empowered to issue opinions, submit proposals and support the oversight mechanisms of the System for Comprehensive Care of Children and Adolescents.

5. Recommendations

The recommendations are addressed to OAS Member States, with the understanding that it is the States that are the ultimate guarantors of children's rights. However, as the CRC indicates, all social actors (families, businesses, schools, communities, etc.) have a specific responsibility to protect children from sexual exploitation.

The following are recommendations for protecting children and adolescents from rights violations on the Internet and/or through ICTs, The recommendations are based on the international agreements adopted by the Member States at the World Congress III against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, the thematic bibliography gathered for the drafting of this Report and the information provided by the Member States that responded to the IIN consultation.

The recommendations are organized, as is the rest of the Report, according to the Stockholm categories. These lines of action are of great relevance for thinking about the comprehensiveness of a public policy aimed at the protection of children and adolescents from sexual exploitation.

A premise common to all recommendations is that children and adolescents have the right to be protected with the same decisiveness in the virtual context as in the physical world and that therefore, the public authorities of the three branches of government responsible for making decisions, creating laws and policies and/or ensuring their enforcement, should be involved in the process of developing and implementing public policies and good institutional practices aimed at protecting and defending the rights of children and adolescents in this context.

1.   Statement of Position

Some Member States report that they have a ci-
partial figures on the number of children affected by CSEC. For this purpose, various indicators are used, such as number of complaints (police and/or hotlines), number of cases in the justice system, number of children in programs for the reparation of rights due to sexual violence, among others. However, there are important challenges to correctly diagnose the problem in both quantitative and qualitative terms in most of the region.

Tips for teenagers:

- Never give out personal information such as address, telephone number, password or name of the school you attend.

- Never post your personal photos on a public profile or send them to strangers, and never upload photos that could be considered suggestive.

- Don't date people you meet online.

- Before meeting face-to-face with someone you meet on the Internet, discuss it with adults important to you. Never go on a date without the company of a trusted adult.

- You only need to use the

It is recommended to reduce the existing knowledge gaps with respect to:

- Number of reports of CSEC cases in their various modalities, broken down by source of the report (web, telephone, in person at various agencies, etc.), sex and age of the victim, locality or geographic area of the victim and of the perpetrator.

- Number of children or adolescents treated for sexual violence within the framework of the various institutions that make up the child protection system in each country.

- Number of perpetrators tried and convicted for sexual violence against children or adolescents.

- To identify, characterize and evaluate the impact of the forms in which interpersonal and social violence mediated by ICTs occurs.

- To learn more about the roles that underage women play as producers and perpetrators of sexual violence through ICTs, in order to understand their motivations and implement preventive and restorative actions.

- Investigate what are the actual behaviors of children online: have they developed individual or group protection measures? what are they and how effective are they?

2.   Cooperation and Coordination

Most of the Member States that responded to the IIN consultation have cross-cutting entities to address the problem of sexual violence against children. However, key actors in these areas, such as Ministries of Telecommunications, Data Protection Agencies or representatives of the technology industry, are not always present in these areas. It is recommended that effective channels be created for joint action with these stakeholders through existing inter-institutional bodies.

The partnership between the public and private sectors is of great relevance in the relationship between CSEC and the Internet. It is recommended that the development and adoption of codes of conduct and other corporate social responsibility mechanisms be strongly encouraged for Internet access providers, mobile telephone companies, cybercafes and other key players.

The ICT sector can, among other actions: a) collaborate in the removal of all illegal or harmful content for minors, if there are clear agreements and procedures in place before the removal of the content; b) collaborate in the removal of all illegal or harmful content for minors, if there are clear agreements and procedures in place before the removal of the content.

Some security tips from Facebook:

- Never share your password with anyone.

- Adjust the security settings to the level you are comfortable with and check them regularly.

- Be cautious about posting and sharing personal information, particularly information that could be used to identify or locate you offline, such as your address or phone number.

- Report content or users who violate the Terms of Use.

- Block and report anyone who sends you unwanted or inappropriate messages.

b) collaborate with the identification of those responsible for the violation of the rights of children and adolescents;

(c) to contribute to the research and development of effective mechanisms for age confirmation of users of chat rooms and forums for individuals.

minors, and have moderators to ensure that adults are not filtered; d) promote developments that strengthen protective factors in the interaction between children and adolescents on the Internet; e) collaborate in the identification of victims.

It is also recommended that agreements be established with national, regional and international financial institutions to track and reject transactions originating from the distribution and consumption of child pornography.

3.   Protection

It is recommended that the intentional production, distribution, receipt and possession of child pornography material (including virtual images and depictions of children for the purpose of sexual exploitation) be criminalized, as well as the consumption and access to this type of material when there has been no physical contact with the child.

It is recommended that the offices responsible for prosecuting and punishing crimes on the Internet be provided with trained human resources, an adequate budget and the necessary investigative resources to enable them to carry out their work effectively and in accordance with the latest generation of technological possibilities.

Also take the necessary legislative measures to require Internet access providers, mobile phone companies, search engine operators and other key players to report the existence of websites with child pornography and child sexual abuse images, to remove them, and to develop indicators to help evaluate the results and improve these efforts.

It is recommended that effective means of denunciation be established through which citizens can report illegal or harmful activities for children on the Internet.

4.   Prevention

It is recommended to carry out national campaigns of
awareness-raising aimed at parents, teachers, organizations of underage persons, etc.

UNICEF recommendations to families:

- *Teach your children to make a rational use of new technologies, highlighting their positive elements in the field of knowledge, communication and entertainment.*

- *Negotiate with the children the time of use of the computer and the Internet, as well as the services to be obtained there.*

- *To warn about the unreliability of certain information published on the Web, since anyone can enter data without it passing through any filter to guarantee its authenticity or rigor.*

- *It is recommended to use filters to limit the accessible web pages.*

- *It is recommended to access the pages visited by children and adolescents in order to know their contents and the risks that their use may entail.*

- *Encourage children and adolescents to communicate any content detected on the network that may be perceived by them as annoying or unwanted.*

The aim is to raise awareness about the advantages of a safe and responsible use of ICTs, as well as the risks associated with a careless and abusive use of them.

In particular, educational campaigns should be implemented to provide children and adolescents with information on how to protect themselves, seek help and report cases of child pornography or situations that bother them. Strategies that children and adolescents are already using for self-care should be strengthened and disseminated.

Media education is recommended from school and at home, training adolescents in a critical attitude as receivers and producers of content in the different formats presented by the media.

The generation gap requires specific actions. Although it is not possible to resocialize an entire generation, it is possible to raise awareness by stressing that adults continue to be responsible for the integral protection of children even if they do not know about technologies and by encouraging the recognition of the potential of the Internet in the development of all people. This will favor the approach of fathers and mothers to the use of technologies, promoting dialogue with their sons and daughters.

Include in the curricula of elementary and middle schools, the responsible use of technology as a transversal thematic axis and not specifically in the area of information technology, associated with the contents of ethics and citizenship education to integrate the problems derived from its use.

Disseminate existing reporting channels and inform citizens of the responsibility and effectiveness of reporting illegal activities found on the Internet.

5.   Recovery and Reintegration

A major weakness that has been detected, both in empirical studies and in official information received, is the difficulty in actively searching for CSEC victims on the Web.

A first step, even without locating the victim, is to seek the broadest and most effective removal of all content with CSEC images and sounds on the web. Once an offensive image, video or audio file that violates children's rights has been uploaded to the web, it can be passed from hand to hand and the possibility of permanent removal is lost. However, part of the victims' reparation process should include these efforts, emphasizing the removal of the same on those social networks or sites most frequented by the victim's close environment.

The authorities responsible for the prosecution of online crime, in conjunction with the ICT sector, should strive to identify victims of CSEC and provide this information to law enforcement agencies.
  The corresponding protection bodies.

The bodies and entities responsible for the restitution of violated rights of children and adolescents should provide the specialized assistance required by the victims of sexual violence on the Internet. In this regard, it is essential to provide ongoing training of human resources who, in addition to knowing how to help victims without revictimizing them, are knowledgeable about new technologies and the modalities that CSEC can assume in this new environment.

A difficulty has also been detected in visualizing as victims children and adolescents who have been induced, deceived or who have irresponsibly provided information through the network that violates their rights. This difficulty should be kept in mind when designing awareness and education campaigns, since if the educational sector or families do not recognize the role of children as victims, it will be more difficult for them to take action to repair the damage that these children have suffered and are suffering.

Administrative and judicial procedures related to CSEC and the Internet should be respectful of the privacy of children and adolescents, avoiding, through all procedures within their reach, the double victimization of children and adolescents. In this sense, there are different initiatives in the region aimed at minimizing the suffering of children who give their testimony in judicial venues. This involves adjusting the legal frameworks that regulate the procedures, the training of personnel in dealing with children and the availability of appropriate technology.

6.   Children's Participation

The participation of children and adolescents is central in all phases of the implementation of a policy for the protection of children and adolescents from CSEC. This statement takes on special relevance when we think of prevention and protection in the virtual environment, where they feel at home " and the adult protectors do not.

The promotion of a self-care attitude among children and adolescents is of great importance, since there are many instances in which they find themselves alone making decisions while interacting in the network. Children and adolescents should be educated to be able to identify risks, favoring their active participation in activities specially designed for each context and age.

Awareness-raising campaigns must deliver specific messages, containing a positive and non-fear-based approach, i.e., one that resembles the daily experience children have on the Internet. They must differentiate between when a message is addressed to a child and when it is addressed to an adolescent: as in the physical world, online activities vary significantly according to the age of the person. Children should be integrated into the design of such messages and strategies, starting with the language used.

The development of educational programs must incorporate in all their phases, as a fundamental condition, the significant participation of minors. Knowing and respecting the logic of action of children and adolescents on the Internet is the basis for respecting them as persons and for protecting them from the risks they run in this area.

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7. Annexes

Annex   1Protocol of Questions to Member States.

Question protocol

1.   Statement of Position

This section aims to give an account of the scope and main problem areas of CSEC in the Member States: in what modalities the problem manifests itself, in what geographical areas, under the complicity of what actors, linked to what other activities or social conjunctures.

Please attach recent existing **public diagnoses** and answer the questions below:

1.1.   Do you have quantitative and qualitative data that allow you to measure the problem of CSEC in your country? Highlight what you consider appropriate.

1.2.   Regarding the specific topic of the X Report on CSEC and the Internet", have you detected situations of sexual exploitation linked to ICTs in your country? Which ones? Have you detected any particularly novel modality that you would like to warn about?

2.   Cooperation and Coordination

This section seeks to understand the inter-institutional arrangements and the routes through which CSEC situations are handled.

Please attach recent existing **public protocols or roadmaps** and answer the questions below:

2.1.   Through which inter-institutional agreements are CSEC situations dealt with at the national and international level? Is there a central authority? Is there a clear route for referral? To which institution(s) do local actors in the different geographic areas of the country turn when faced with a CSEC situation?

2.2.   Regarding the specific topic of the X Report on CSEC and the Internet, do you have specialized units and/or collaboration with social organizations that allow you to effectively address rights violations in cyberspace? How are complaints of this type channeled?

3.   Protection

The purpose of this section is to compile the legislative and legal advances for the protection of children and adolescents against CSEC.

Please **attach recent legislation, regulations or other instruments** and answer the questions below:

3.1.   Have there been any legal or judicial reforms for the protection of children and adolescents from CSEC since 2008?

3.2.   Regarding the specific topic of the X Report on CSEC and the Internet", what legal and judicial tools does the country have to prosecute sexual exploitation through ICTs? How are extraterritorial complaints handled?

4.   Prevention

This section reports on the main preventive measures taken and, if possible, their impact or evaluation.

4.1.   Have there been any preventive activities, awareness-raising, information campaigns, etc. that you consider worth mentioning after 2008? In particular, if training activities have been carried out, who were the recipients and how did they take place? Are there any unmet needs in terms of human resources training?   Which ones?

4.2.   Regarding the specific topic of the X Report on CSEC and the Internet", have preventive activities for the safe and responsible use of ICTs been implemented in the country? Is there coordination with the industry in this regard?

5.   Recovery and Reintegration

This section seeks to identify the assistance measures and interventions for the restitution of rights of CSEC victims.

5.1.   Does the country currently have adequate assistance coverage for children and adolescent victims of CSEC? What is the scope, conditions and institutional character of such coverage?

5.2.   Regarding the specific topic of the X Report on CSEC and the Internet", has it been possible to identify and subsequently restore the rights of the victims? What are the main challenges and lessons learned?

6.   Children's Participation

In this section we are interested in compiling, if any, those experiences that have incorporated the participation of children and adolescents as a fundamental principle in any of the phases of the comprehensive policy to prevent and eradicate CSEC.

6.1.   Have innovative experiences been implemented that include the participation of children and adolescents in the prevention, protection and restitution of rights in any of the modalities in which CSEC is manifested? What has been the methodology used?

7.   CONTACT PERSON:

Annex 2 - Resolution adopted by the General Assembly June 2010, held in Lima, Peru , AG/RES. 254824 (XL-O/10)

The aforementioned resolution states in its operative part:

To take note of the progress made in the implementation of the Inter-American Program for the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation, Smuggling and Trafficking of Children and Adolescents, and to urge the IIN to continue implementing the aforementioned Program, in accordance with the planning established therein.

1.   To instruct the Secretary General to continue coordinating the development of this program directly with the IIN, the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Section of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security and the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) as appropriate, in addition to the support and advice of other competent bodies and agencies of the Organization of American States (OAS).

2.   To recognize the work carried out by the Inter-American Institute to update the Observatory on the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation, Illicit Trafficking and Trafficking of Children and Adolescents, including the publication of a virtual bulletin called AnnaObserva, which allows States to obtain periodically updated information on this issue.

3.   To take note of the document issued by the Virtual Course-Workshop on Good Practices in Addressing Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, held in 2009, which brings together the experiences of Argentina, El Salvador and Guatemala, and to urge the IIN to continue promoting the dissemination of this type of activities.

4.   Welcome with satisfaction the creation in 2009 of the Special Electronic Bulletin on Violence, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as the portal entitled Our Voice in Color, which is a novel tool within the framework of the OAS, where for the first time an exclusive and permanent space is opened for the participation of children.

5.   To request the IIN to continue to provide advice to Member States, upon request, in their efforts to adopt or amend domestic legislation to combat commercial sexual exploitation, smuggling and trafficking of children and adolescents, including legislation relating to travel authorizations and immigration controls, as well as in the training of human resources and technical assistance to National Commissions and other agencies involved in the prevention and eradication of this crime.

6.   To urge Member States, Permanent Observers, international financial organizations, regional and sub-regional organizations and civil society organizations to contribute to the financing of this Program and to the specific fund of the Observatory on the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation, Illicit Trafficking and Trafficking of Children and Adolescents.

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24   Accessible in the official document Cuadrag simo Período Ordinario de Sesiones, Lima, Per , June 2010 At: http://www.oas.org/consejo/sp/AG/resoluciones-declaraciones.asp

7.	To urge member states to consider signing and ratifying, ratifying or acceding to, as appropriate, international instruments related to combating the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents and combating the smuggling and trafficking of children, These include the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention), adopted in 2000, and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, adopted in 2000, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted in 1989, and its Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, adopted in 2000, the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, adopted in 1980, the Inter-American Convention on the International Traffic in Minors, adopted in 1994, and the Inter-American Convention on the International Return of Children, adopted in 1989, and to urge States Parties to take the necessary measures to comply in a timely manner with the obligations contained in those instruments.

8.	To promote among Member States the adoption and implementation of joint procedures for the repatriation of children and adolescents who are victims of trafficking, which define the procedures to be followed by governments as guarantors of the best interests of children and adolescents and based on the principles enshrined in the national legal framework and applicable international law.

9.	To urge Member States to establish and, where appropriate, strengthen comprehensive and interdisciplinary care programs for children and adolescents who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation, smuggling and trafficking, particularly those who have acquired HIV/AIDS, as well as measures to be considered to mitigate their various consequences.

10.	To request the IIN to report to the General Assembly at its forty-first regular session on the implementation of this resolution, the execution of which shall be subject to the availability of financial resources in the program-budget of the Organization and other resources.

**Annex	2Sources of information for the preparation of Part II of this Report, by Member State.**

OAS MEMBER STATE	ANSWERS to the IIN-OAS consultation	Official information by Optional Protocol	ICMEC Study (Model Legislation Study)
Antigua and Barbuda	No		Yes
Argentina	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bahamas	No		Yes
Barbados	No		Yes
Belize	No		Yes
Bolivia	No		Yes
Brazil	Yes		Yes
Canad	Yes		Yes
Chile	Yes	Yes	Yes
Colombia	Yes	Yes	Yes
Costa Rica	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dominica	No		Yes
Ecuador	Yes	Yes	Yes
El Salvador	Yes	Yes	Yes
United States of America	Yes	Yes	Yes
Grenada	No		Yes
Guatemala	No	Yes	Yes
Guyana	No		Yes
Haiti	No		Yes
Jamaica	Yes		Yes
M xico	Yes		Y

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