



REGIONAL FOLLOW UP MEETING TO THE CENTRAL AMERICAN PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE PREVENTION OF COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS IN THE TRAVEL AND TOURISM SECTOR 2005-2006

Panama City, Panama, 1-2 March 2007

BACKGROUND

Through the adoption of the *Declaration on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation in Tourism in Central America and the Dominican Republic* at the meeting “Prevention of commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents: Contributing to a sustainable tourism in Central America”, held in El Salvador in October 2004, the Central American tourism sector - the Ministers of Tourism and the Federation of Chambers of Tourism (FEDECATUR) - committed itself for the first time to prevent commercial sexual exploitation of children and contribute to the development of a sustainable tourism respecting children’s rights. In 2005, the *Central American Plan of Action for the Prevention of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in the Travel and Tourism Sector 2005-2006*, was therefore adopted outlining the specific activities at regional and national levels to be undertaken to reach this aim.

During the past two years, various activities ranging from awareness raising; promotion of the subscription of the *Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism*; capacity building and trainings in the sector; to information activities for dissemination to the citizenry, have been undertaken at regional and national levels. Two years later, there are important achievements to celebrate, but also pending challenges wherefore it is the moment to evaluate the efforts undertaken and agree upon strategic lines of actions for a second phase of the implementation of the Plan of Action.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the meeting are: a) to analyze achievements and challenges at regional and national levels in the implementation of the *Central American Plan of Action for the Prevention of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in the Travel and Tourism Sector 2005-2006*, and b) to identify follow up actions of the sector in the prevention of commercial sexual exploitation at national and regional levels for the 2007-2008 period.

PARTICIPANTS

Each national delegation will include one or two representatives of each of the following areas of the public and private tourism sector:

- a) Institutes or Ministries of Tourism
- b) National Chambers of Tourism

- c) Representative responsible for capacity building of the tourism sector in the Ministry of Tourism, National Chamber of Tourism, Universities and tourism training schools
- d) Private sector associated with travel and tourism (hotels, restaurants, tour operators, airlines).

PLACE AND DURATION

The meeting will be held on 1-2 of March 2007 in Panama. The venue for the meeting is Salon Orquideas of the Hotel Crowne Plaza in Panama City. For further information please consult the logistical bulletin.

The duration of the meeting is two days. It is expected that the participants arrive in Panama on Wednesday evening and return to their countries on Friday evening.



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Panama City, Panama, 1-2 March 2007

AGENDA

Wednesday, 28 February

Evening **Arrival in Panama and transfer to hotel**

Thursday, 1 March

8:00-8:30 **Registration**

8:30-8:45 **Welcome; brief introduction and presentation of agenda**

Jean Gough, Deputy Regional Director, the UNICEF Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Panama

Mercedes Romero de Perla, General Secretariat of the Central American Council on Tourism, Central American Integration System, El Salvador

Roberto Funari, Embassy of Italy, Panama

Paola Viero, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy

Carl-Fredrik Nordström, Deputy Director of the Panamenian Institute of Tourism

8:45-9:15 **Prevention of commercial sexual exploitation of children in the travel and tourism sector: The role of the private sector and the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children**

Camelia Tepelius, Secretariat Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism (ECPAT/UNICEF/WTO)

Facilitator: Sonia Eljach, Regional Advisor Child Protection, UNICEF Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Panama

9:15-9:30 **Questions and answers**

9:30-9:50 **Regional actions taken to implement the Plan of Action: achievements and challenges**
Mercedes Romero de Perla, General Secretariat of the Central American Council on Tourism, Central American Integration System, El Salvador

Facilitator: Karla de Varela, Program Officer Public Policies, UNICEF El Salvador

9:50-10:00 **Questions and answers**

10:00-10:15 **Coffee break**

10:15 -11:15 **Actions taken to implement the Plan of Action in Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Guatemala achievements and challenges**
Presentations by one/two representatives from public and/or private sector of each country

Facilitator: Justo Solorzano, Child Protection Program Officer, UNICEF Guatemala

11:15-11:30 **Questions and answers**

11:30-12:15 **Actions taken to implement the Plan of Action in Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama: achievements and challenges**
Presentations by one/two representatives from public and/or private sector of each country

Facilitator: Silvia Frean, Assistant Program Officer Child Protection, UNICEF Costa Rica

12:15-12:30 **Questions and answers**

12:30-14:00 **LUNCH**

GROUP WORK SESSION

14:00-16:00 **Group work**
Group discussions to identify lessons learned and challenges in the implementation of the Plan of Action at national level and to identify strategies and activities at national and regional level for the 2007-2008 period.

Facilitator: Ana Lucia Silva, Child Protection Program Officer, UNICEF Nicaragua

16:00-16:15 **Coffee break**

16:15-17:45 **Presentation in plenary of results of group work**

17:45-18:00 **Closure of day one**

Friday, 2 March

8:30-9:30 Experiences from Brazil and the Dominican Republic on awareness raising and capacity building efforts in the travel and tourism sector to prevent commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents

-Fabiana Gorenstein, Consultant, Program for Sustainable Tourism and Children, Ministry of Tourism, Brazil

-Rafaela Burgos, Coordinator of the Inter-institutional Commission against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, Dominican Republic

Facilitator: Marta Obando, Child Protection Program Officer, UNICEF Honduras

9:30-10:00 Questions and answers

GROUP WORK SESSION

10:00-11:30 Group work

Review of the results at national level and capacity building strategies for the travel and tourism sector on the prevention of commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents and development of capacity building strategies for the 2007-2008 period.

Facilitator: Jorge Giannareas, Program Officer Public Policies, UNICEF Panama

Coffee break during group work

11:30-13:00 Presentation in plenary of results of group work

13:00-14:30 LUNCH

14:30-15:00 Presentation and reading of draft Plan of Action to prevent commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents in the travel and tourism sector 2007-2008

15:00-15:15 Closure

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!