

**Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children
from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism**



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Calendar of events June - Sept 2006

Date	Place	Main organizer	Event, Participation
11 May	Zurich	Code ExCom	ExCom
14 June	Sunny Beach, Bulgaria	Kuoni Scandinavia, Animus Association	Bulgarian tourism industry
29-30 June	Quito, Ecuador	UNWTO	Ist Regional Seminar on Ethics in Tourism
31 July (pending confirmation)	Belize City, Belize	ECPAT USA	Signing ceremony of the Code in Belize

**INPUTS FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THIS NEWSLETTER ARE WELCOME BY
September 22, 2006**



With the support of the
World Tourism Organization



**Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children
from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism**

an ECPAT project, co-funded by UNICEF and supported by
the World Tourism Organization

www.thecode.org

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1. ECPAT International

Luc Ferran, June 12, 2006

March 25th to April 6th:

In the context of the regional follow-up consultation on violence against children for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region (March 25 to March 28), efforts taken to combat child sex tourism were presented and discussed by delegations from all over the region.

Representatives of ECPAT International and Accor delivered presentations on implementation of Code of Conduct and collaboration between the private sector and the ECPAT network to protect children in the tourism industry. The attendance of Suzanne Mubarak lent considerable attention to this issue and non-profit - private sector collaboration on this topic.

Following this, ECPAT International held several awareness-raising workshops and training sessions on child sex tourism in Egypt. In each session, work being done to promote or implement the Code was presented. The first session, held in Cairo on March 29th, was attended by regional tourism authorities and child right agencies generated immense interest in the efforts to prevent CST and Code implementation.

The Cairo regional session was followed by smaller training sessions held in Sharm El Sheik and Aswan. In Sharm El Sheik, tour operators and child rights agencies participated in a session entitled Achieving Child Protection in Tourism (April 2nd). Specifically, representatives from First Choice Travel, Spring Tours, Apollo and UNAIDS attended. In Aswan two consecutive workshops were held for the benefit of non-governmental organizations working on child rights and who might be working with the private sector in the prevention of sexual exploitation of children in tourism (April 5th and April 6th). These workshops, entitled, Collaborating with the Private Sector to Protect Children from Sexual Exploitation in Tourism were attended by more than 50 participants from NGOs, including representatives from the ECPAT affiliate in Egypt, the NGO Coalition on Child Rights.

2. ECPAT Germany

Mechtild Maurer, June 28, 2006

DRV (German travel association), ECPAT and the GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit) have combined their strengths to bear in combating the commercial and sexual exploitation of minors. They have organised a code of conduct training workshop on combating sexual exploitation of children in tourism in Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic 3-4 May 2006.

25 representatives from German and Dominican tour operators, incoming agencies, destination managers, tour guides and also NGOs, tourism experts, tourism authorities, German and Dominican police, public prosecutors were sensitised and trained how to implement the protection of children from sexual violence in tourism. The chair of the code of conduct steering committee Kaspar Hess from Hotelplan and the German vice ambassador have joined the workshop. The aim of the workshop was to inform about the situation of children and young people in the region.

The participants have debated the implementation of the code of conduct measures by the tour operators, the local tourism industry, the authorities, exchanged good practices in the tourism sectors and agreed upon ways of cooperation. They discussed very concrete measures. For example, if someone observes a prospective customer making arrangements with a child, what should they do? And how can one draw the attention of fellow travellers to the problem?" Included in the workshop programme was a visit of the shelter of MAIS (Dominican ECPAT group) where many concerned children and their parents find support. The participants have been impressed about the work of MAIS.

Positive outcome of the workshops were the increase of motivation of the participants to set up measures concerning sexual exploitation of children, the will of communication between the different stakeholder groups in cases of suspecting situations, the promise to held sensitizing meeting for their staff.

3. Childwise (ECPAT Australia)



Anneka Farrington, June 20, 2006

New Child Wise Tourism Training Materials Launched in Berlin



Child Wise Australia has long been committed to the prevention of the sexual abuse and exploitation of children in ASEAN tourism destinations.

Since 1999, the AusAID-funded Child Wise Tourism program has been working directly with National Tourism Administrations in seven ASEAN countries to provide action-oriented training for tourism sector employees.

During the Taskforce Meeting in Berlin in March 2006, a new Child Wise Tourism training package was launched. The highly-respected one-day workshop is now supported by a colourful, user-friendly Participant Handbook. A comprehensive Trainer's Manual and a Power Point presentation have also been produced. All materials have been translated into five ASEAN languages.

The materials are now in use across the region and have received high praise. Child Wise Tourism training is an opportunity for signatories to the Code of Conduct to fulfil their staff training obligations. For further information please contact Anita Dodds (anita@ecpat.org), or Anneka Farrington (anneka@ecpat.org) on +61 3 9645 8911.

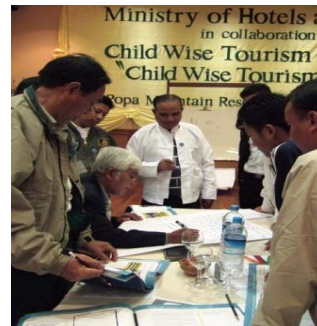
ASEAN Businesses Support Campaign to Prevent Child-Sex Tourism

In May 2006, Child Wise held a successful Business Breakfast in Hanoi, Vietnam attended by over seventy representatives of high-profile local and international businesses operating in Vietnam. Proudly co-hosted by the Vietnam National Administration of Tourism and the Australian Embassy in Vietnam, the Business Breakfast encouraged the business sector to become involved in supporting a critical public education campaign to stop child-sex tourism in Vietnam.

Following the high level of interest and enthusiasm demonstrated by the corporate sector in Vietnam, Child Wise plans to hold similar events in six ASEAN capital cities during July.

This initiative is a step toward fulfilment of the Stockholm Agenda for Action which states the following: *'..mobilize the business sector, including the tourism industry, against the use of its networks and establishments for the commercial sexual exploitation of children...'*

For further information please contact Anita Dodds (anita@ecpat.org) or Anneka Farrington (anneka@ecpat.org) on +61 3 9645 8911.



4. CODE SECRETARIAT

Camelia Tepelus, June 12, 2006

April 3-4, Washington DC, US Mid-term Review on Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in America - the Code Secretariat attended this event organized jointly by Shared Hope, ECPAT USA and the John Hopkins University Protect Project, and provided input regarding the implementation of the Code in USA in the child sex tourism panel.

April 20-21, St. Paul, Minnesota, “United front against trafficking of children in tourism” – the Code Secretariat made a presentation on the Code and the need for additional members of the US travel industry to join this initiative. The conference was organized by the University of Minnesota Department of Human Rights, was well covered by the local press, and a press release was also issued by the US State Department, making specific reference to the Code.

April 27, Guatemala City, Guatemala, National Forum on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism – the Code Secretariat made a presentation at this event organized by UNICEF Guatemala. Other speakers shared experiences from Latin American countries including Brazil and Costa Rica. This was the first public debate on the topic in Guatemala, and has received significant press coverage.

May 11, Zurich – Code Executive Committee meeting. The Code Executive Committee members, Kaspar Hess (Chair), Luc Ferran (Vice-Chair), Lotta Sand (Treasurer), Andreas Müsseler (DRV), Fabiana Gorenstein (Brazil Ministry of Tourism) met in Glattbrugg, at the offices of Hotelplan. The objective of the meeting was to follow-up from the 2006 AGM held in March in Berlin, to review the work agenda and discuss the work program for 2006-2007 which is the third year under the UNICEF funding framework. A presentation was made by Karolina Frischkopf of ECPAT Switzerland regarding the new standard implementation procedure to be further elaborated and used in the future.

The decisions taken by the Executive Committee include the finalization of the standard procedure together with the required forms, adoption of the Code logo, the objectives and work program for 2006-2007, etc.



Code Booklet Printing Project, call for inputs: examples of implementation.

In the period June-August, the Code Secretariat will review and reprint the existing Code of Conduct booklet which includes an overview of the project and examples of implementation by different companies. This booklet is aimed primarily at the tourism private sector. The reprint will be based on the 2004 edition (available on the Code website/The Code at a glance). The reprint will be published in English, French and Spanish.

All partners are welcome to suggest by July 15 inputs as follows:

- the content has to be an example of action by a signatory company, fitting under one of the Code criteria: example of policy, of language in contracts, samples of awareness raising materials for tourists, etc.
- permission should be given by the tourism company for the reproduction of text and logo.
- the total length of the input should be max 1 page, including pictures, other graphics, etc.
- if the text is in a language other than English, please send in the translation to English. If the text is also available in Spanish and French, please include it.

As the publication has to be kept to 45 pages, it will not be possible to include all inputs received, as well as the existing examples from the 2004 edition. However, all interested stakeholders are encouraged to send in contributions, as they will be collected by the Secretariat to form a database for educational and awareness raising purposes. It is aimed for the English version of the booklet to be ready by the end of August, and the Spanish and French versions to be completed by the end of September.

New Code of conduct leaflets and campaign stickers will also be reprinted.



5. Fundacion Paniamor, Costa Rica

María Teresa Guillén, June 27, 2006

Costa Rica strengthens its position against commercial sexual exploitation of children and teenagers in tourism



During the inauguration of the main tourism fair in Costa Rica, EXPOTUR 2006, the new Tourism Minister (2006-2010), Carlos Ricardo Benavides, listed the fight against commercial sexual exploitation of minors and stated his commitment to continue the country efforts to combat CSEC:



“The drug traffic in some of our small tourist cities, is damaging increasingly our good reputation and corrupts the youth living in these areas. The same happens with the dirty and repugnant flagel of CSEC. Through such illicit activities, our youth, girls and boys, end up finding in this development not the opportunities and prosperity which they so much need, but a decadent life changing their values. We have to relaunch the campaigns against sexual exploitation of children and target those comercial activities which, underneath the legal cover create the context of this cowardly crime which destroys our youth. It’s the duty of the Instituto Costarricense de Turismo to see that the various state organs operate in coordination against this crime. We will not escape this responsibility”

On the other hand, previously at the EXPOTUR inauguration, Fundación Paniamor, the Association of Costa Rican Tourism Professionals (ACOPROT), the Costa Rican Association of Tour Operators (ACOT), World Vision Costa Rica, Fundecooperación and Save the Children Sweden, presented the new communication campaign of the project on the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children and Teenagers against CSEC.

The new campaign, which includes press ads, radio and TV spots, consists of two lines of communication: - the penal responsibility, which aims to inform on the damaging and criminal carácter of participating in sex acts which involve teenagers: and – the social responsibility, which highlights the minor as subject of legal protection, explaining the bases of responsible and sustainable tourism.

The Code of Conduct Project is an initiative supported by the World Tourism Organization, ECPAT Internacional and a groups of scandinavian tour operators, which requires the participation and commitment of the tourism industry to prevent and sanction CSEC in relation to tourism. The Code of Conduct is implemented in Costa Rica since 2003, Ander the coordinatio of Fundación Paniamor, together with ACOPROT, ACOT, World Vision, and the financial support of Fundecooperación and Save the Children Sweden. In Costa Rica over 180 companies (hotels, tour operador, cruise chips personnel, car rentals and taxis) have joined the Project.

6. Defence for Children, ECPAT Netherlands

Theo Noten, June 19, 2006

Op Reis Dagen (On Holiday Days) organised by TUI Netherlands

TUI Netherlands organizes every year three 'On Holiday Days - Op Reis Dagen' to inform travel agencies and their front office employees about new developments. This year it was the first time that sustainable tourism was a specific subject. ECPAT was given seven minutes per group (there were 16 groups of three people a day) to inform them about child sex tourism and which role travel agency employees can play in combating the worldwide problem. In total 150 people were informed on what they can do. It turned out that many of them knew about customers who were looking for information on destinations where it was possible to have sex with young people. Not many agencies however had a management policy how to deal with such customers. As a result the TUI sustainable tourism manager concluded that the company should do an information and awareness campaign towards the agencies.

Dutch Holiday Fair gives attention to sustainable tourism

At the start of the Dutch Holiday Fair in January 2006 there was a special event organized on sustainable tourism in cooperation with IDUT (the Sustainable outbound tourism network) and there was a stand in which all participating organisations had a so-called 'feel-box'. ECPAT and TUI shared a box in which one could feel a policeman's cap. On the box there was a text saying that TUI and ECPAT cooperate and that we want the travellers to join in to help protect children and report cases of exploitation and abuse. ECPAT was present at the Dutch Holiday Fair for the 11th consecutive year and distributed about 10,000 luggage tag folders (photo attached).



Coin stickers win tourism school contest

Every year ECPAT organises a contest for tourism students, adopted by Code of Conduct signatory Oad Reizen, to develop information material/gadgets to inform travellers about child sex tourism. In the 2005-2006 final in March 2006 twelve schools participated. The students from the Tourism School 'De Rooi Pannen' Eindhoven won. They created stickers for euro coins with the text: stop child sex tourism. The stickers can be stuck on 5, 20, 50 cents and on 1 and 2 euro coins. About 175,000 stickers are going to be distributed in the Netherlands, mostly by students of the tourism schools (photos attached).



Inflight video against child sex tourism available in Dutch

The ECPAT inflight video has got a Dutch version nowadays. The famous Dutch actor Huub Stapel volunteered to do the voice over. Since the first of March 2006 this inflight spot is part of the 'before landing' program on long haul flights to 'risk' destinations on Arke Fly, the TUI Netherlands charter company. Also other Dutch aircarriers are allowed to screen this Dutch spoken and Dutch subtitled spot.

ECPAT interview in ArkeFly-er inflight magazine

In the inflight magazine ArkeFlyer Summer 2006 a page size article about the inflight video and the collaboration between TUI and ECPAT has been published (photo attached)

Annulment ANVR member after TV programme about child sex tourism

After the broadcast of the TV programme Under Cover (SBS6) in May 2006 about child sex tourism, in which ECPAT Netherlands program manager Theo Noten and ANVR director Romana Engeman participated, a Dutch travel agency which arranged holidays for child sex tourists has been expelled from the ANVR.

IDUT (Sustainable outbound tourism network) conference CSR and Tourism

On 31 May 2006 the IDUT Conference *CSR and Tourism: A change in culture!?* took place in the Higher Education School Inholland, Diemen (Amsterdam). About 120 people participated in this working conference on Corporate Social Responsibility in Tourism. The two Dutch signatories to the Code of Conduct were present (TUI and Oad), but furthermore not very many companies were there. Only a few out of the adventurous travel market. There were however policymakers from several ministries (Economic affairs, Foreign affairs). ECPAT and Accor did a workshop twice with the title *'There is no profit in Corporate Social Responsibility- Motives to engage in corporate social responsibility'* in which there was attention for the Accor-ECPAT partnership in the Code of Conduct and how this fits in the overall Accor Sustainable development policy. One of the conclusions was that the Dutch government should have a more visionary and steering role and support the private sector and NGO's in their efforts to achieve a more sustainable development of tourism.

7. Respect (ECPAT affiliate) Austria

Astrid Winkler, June 28, 2006

Code of Conduct Kenya Update

Facilitator's Guide for hotels developed and launch of hotels staff training at the Coast

As part of the respect-coordinated donor-financed project on implementing the Code in Kenya, a trainer manual has been developed since the first signing of hotels in beginning of February 06. This training manual has been specifically designed for personnel within the tourism sector in Kenya. By training hotel personnel, one of the six criteria for implementing the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism is fulfilled. The training package consists of three modules. Each one comes with a facilitator's guide and a PowerPoint presentation. This modular approach gives flexibility of organising the training during one half a day workshop or during two or three occasions. Approximate training time is 3 to 4 hours. Module 1 is focusing on providing an introduction to the problem of commercial sexual exploitation of children; Module 2 is about the global and Kenyan response to it; Module 3 is dealing with concrete actions which can be undertaken by hotels in the framework of implementing the Code of Conduct. The Manual is being distributed through the hotel's association (KAHC) which is a signatory to the Code too.

An experienced trainer was identified. He started already with delivering training to key-staff of signatory hotels.



Kenyan Tourism Minister takes personal action against hotels allegedly involved in facilitating child prostitution

In May, Mr Morris Dzoro, Tourism Minister, and the chair person of the KAHK, Kenyan Association of Hotel Keepers and Caterers, Lucy Karume, accompanied personally policemen when raiding a hotel in Mombasa. The action followed admission by three girls that they had been having sex with two tourists there. Mr Dzoro told the *Nation* in an interview that he had interviewed mothers of the three schoolgirls, who confirmed that they regularly offered their daughters, aged between eight and 14 years, to the tourists for sex in exchange for cash. This hotel did not have a valid license. (Source: *Daily Nation*, May 22, 2006)

Apart from that, more hotels were suspected of facilitating child prostitution and sexual exploitation of minors. The Minister confirmed that he would regularly carry out those raids as long as he receives complaints from members of the public. A swoop by administration and regular police netted 82 alleged commercial sex workers – 41 of them under 18 years old. Those above 18 years may be charged with loitering while those below this age will be dealt with according to direction from the Children's Department. (Source: *Daily Nation*, May 21, 2006.)

UNICEF Kenya Country Office addressed a complaint on the fact that underage girls had been arrested. Joanne Dunn, UNICEF Chief of Child Protection in Kenya, criticized that arresting children, publicly humiliating and incarcerating them, while, at the same time, failing to arrest the tourists involved would not stop the practise of Child Sex Tourism and would only further the abuse of affected children. She reminded the Government that Children would not engage in prostitution because they are bad, but because they are poor, UNICEF reiterated its commitment to working closely with both Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife and Ministry of Home Affairs/Children's Department to address this issue and to continuing in developing supportive partnerships with industry and the judiciary.

8. ECPAT Sweden

Helena Klingvall, June 22, 2006

Focus on child sex tourism – campaign, lobby action and meeting with the tourism minister

ECPAT Sweden has been working on the problem of Child Sex Tourism (CST) in various ways during the spring 2006. The goals, and results, so far have been;

** to get a minister to 1) take the general responsibility for CST and 2) support the French initiative*

In October 2005, the French minister of tourism, Mr Leon Bertrand, presented at a meeting for EU-ministers of tourism at Malta, a proposal of joint governmental action against child sex tourism. Since October, ECPAT Sweden has followed what Sweden has done to support France on this great initiative. However, Sweden did not react to the initiative at all and one of the reasons for this was that the Minister of Tourism Ulrika Messing did not find it her responsibility. ECPAT therefore wrote to Mrs Messing and asked for a meeting. Information on the French initiative was also sent to different members of parliament. This resulted in that both the left party and the Christian Democratic Party asked questions to the Minister.

5 months later, on May 29th, ECPAT Sweden got the opportunity to meet with Mrs Messing. Her response, at the end of the meeting, was that Sweden will say yes to the initiative and support France in developing the initiative. This is planned to be done at the next TAC-meeting in Brussels June 30th.

** to get the problem of Child Sex Tourism on the agenda in the media through presentation of a new report and a debate article based on the result of the report*

A project involving 30 young people was conducted during February-May. After having received training on the situation on Child Sex Tourism from ECPAT Sweden, the participants called all 349 members of parliament in Sweden to ask questions on (among others);

- 1) What their political party is doing on CST and what they can do after the election in September 2006,
- 2) If they think Sweden shall join the French initiative

- 3) If they think Sweden shall give the combating of CST a higher priority and take a more active role in EU than today

The results show that there is a big difference between what the members of parliament thinks that Sweden is doing against CST and what Sweden is actually doing. The result also shows that there is a strong support from all political parties for Sweden to join the French initiative. There is also a strong support for Sweden to take a more active role in the EU than today.

The results were summarised in a report by ECPAT Sweden and released to the media on June 12th. The Secretary-General of ECPAT Sweden was interviewed in national TV. The debate article was published in three newspapers in the beginning of June.

** Run an awareness-raising campaign in magazines*

An information advertise has been produced and published in several magazines. A sticker (see illustration below) and information buttons are also parts of the campaign.



Joint Scandinavian training for signatories – Oslo, Stockholm and Copenhagen

The Swedish Internet based travel agency Resfeber.se signed the Code of Conduct with ECPAT Sweden in 2003. Resfeber.se also owns the travel bureaus Resfeber.dk. and Reisefeber.no in Norway and Denmark, that has until now not been implementing the Code.

During April and May, ECPAT Sweden coordinated a training for the staff in the three countries on child sex tourism through assistance of ECPAT Norway and Denmark. The training was the first step in the implementation process for the Norwegian and Danish companies. The policies that Resfeber.se earlier have signed will now also be signed by Oslo and Copenhagen.

Signatories annual reporting

Efforts have been done to get all Swedish signatories to send in their annual reports to the Code Secretariat. All but one have now reported for the year 2005 and the reports will be put on www.thecode.org as soon as the Secretariat has possibility.

THANK YOU!

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