|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION** 16th meeting, Geneva, 4 February 2020 |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  | **Document CWG-COP-16/9-E** |
| **4 February 2020** |
| **English only** |

Report by the Chairman of the Council Working Group   
on Child Online Protection

OUTCOME OF THE SIXTHEENTH MEETING  
OF THE COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION

|  |
| --- |
| **Summary**  This report summarizes the main results of the sixteenth meeting of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP), held on 4 February 2020, in accordance with ITU Council Resolution 1306 and ITU Plenipotentiary Resolution 179 (Rev. Dubai, 2018). |

# 1 Introduction

1.1 The sixteenth meeting of CWG-COP was held on 4 February 2020 at ITU Headquarters in Geneva. Approximately 70 participants, representing governments, private sector, civil society, academia, international and intergovernmental organizations, participated both physically and remotely in the meeting, which was chaired by Mr Abdelaziz Alzarooni (UAE).

# 2 Welcoming remarks

2.1 The Secretary-General of the ITU, Mr. Houlin Zhao opened the meeting: he warmly welcomed all the participants in the room. He mentioned that the year 2019 was a landmark in child online protection because it marked the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the rights of the Child (CRC). Since one-third of the people connected online are children, he stated that it was important for countries to work further, as technology alone will not solve the problem and protect them from the dangers they are exposed to online. On this matter, he mentioned how the ITU’s COP guidelines represent a solid starting point to support a broader international effort.

2.2 The Chairman welcomed the participants and thanked the Secretary-General for his presence and support. He expressed how interesting he found today’s agenda items and gave the floor to the first presentation.

**3 Adoption of the agenda**

3.1 The [Agenda](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CLCWGCOP16-C-0001/en) was adopted as drafted.

# 4 Information reports

* 1. The following documents were presented:
* [Presentation](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CLCWGCOP16-C-0005/en) on ITU's work and activities in Child Online Protection
* [COP Guidelines](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CLCWGCOP16-C-0004/en) review process 2019-2020

# Discussions

* 1. The contribution from the Secretariat gave an update on the COP initiative in several countries worldwide. ITU also presented the COP Kids session which was held during the Futurecasters Summit that took place on 8-10 January 2020 where a group of children from 7-13 years old designed and debated a child online protection mascot and its story.
  2. The Chair made the proposal to post the mascot online which would help promote the new revised COP Guidelines.
  3. The [contribution](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CLCWGCOP16-C-0008/en) from the Broadband Commission Working Group on Child Online Safety stated that a final report focusing on minimising the risk of violence, abuse and exploitation online was presented to the UN in October 2019. In addition, the working group developed a universal declaration for children online safety and Member States have been invited to sign and join the declaration.
  4. ITU Secretariat gave an [update](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CLCWGCOP16-C-0004/en) on the revision process and the roll out of the COP Guidelines. It recalled that according to Resolution 179, the four set of Guidelines needed to be updated and two new specific aspects had to be taken into account (emerging technologies and children with disabilities). Since the beginning of the revision in July 2019, different drafts have been prepared and the final versions are now being prepared. In addition, the Secretariat presented the timeline for the roll out. The roll out will start once the final drafts for the Guidelines are completed. This should be from the 10th of February to the 10th of April. Ideally, a Member State would cover the costs of the roll out, and partners would help support and do the training.
  5. After the contributions from the Broadband Commission and the Secretariat, the Chair stated that he appreciates the efforts of the secretariat and the expert working group for the last few months on the Guidelines. The Chair also encouraged everyone to participate in the roll out phase and the after period with the implementation of the Guidelines.
  6. Hereafter the Chair opened the floor for contributions from the stakeholders.
  7. The [contribution](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CLCWGCOP16-C-0002/en) from Poland presented the results of a survey demonstrating that while 90 percent of children use internet, 50 percent of parents do not control what their children do on the internet or on their phones. The representative further stated that UKE is focusing on five educational priorities.
  8. The [contribution](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CLCWGCOP16-C-0006/en) from Australia highlighted that the country is newly focusing its efforts on the protection of children on the television and radio. The country is also targeting its efforts on new actions to address terrorist and extreme violent content online.
  9. Azerbaijan presented the [country’s efforts](https://www.itu.int/md/S20-CLCWGCOP16-C-0007/en) on Child Online Protection. In addition to the specific legislation, the representative explained that public awareness has been put in place and that technical measures were established to regulate what children do online.

# Outcomes of the sixteenth meeting of the CWG-COP

* 1. The Chair stated that a report will be prepared which will include both the fifteenth and the sixteenth meetings of the CWG-COP.
  2. The COP Mascot will be posted online.
  3. The Chair recommended more involvement and participation of the stakeholders at the meetings as this is a unique platform for information sharing and lessons learned.

**Abdelaziz Alzarooni (UAE)  
Chair, CWG-COP**