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| **Council 2022 Geneva, 21-31 March 2022** |  |
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| **Agenda item: PL 1.5** | **Document C22/64-E** |
| **18 February 2022** |
| **Original: English** |
| Report by the Chairman of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection | |
| four-year Report of the Council Working Group  on Child Online Protection | |

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| Summary  This Report summarizes the activities and achievements undertaken by the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection since PP-18, in accordance with ITU Council Resolution 1306 and ITU Plenipotentiary Resolution 179 (Rev. Dubai, 2018).  Action required  The Council is invited **to consider** this report and **to submit** its recommendations to the Plenipotentiary Conference as appropriate.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  References  [*Plenipotentiary Conference Decision 11 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/DEC-011-E.pdf)[*CWG-COP website*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-cop/Pages/default.aspx) *;* [*Council R1306*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-cop/Documents/Council-R-1306%20(3).pdf)*,* [*PP Resolution 179 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts/RES-179-E.pdf) |

1. **Introduction**
   1. As per Council Resolution 1306, the Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP) is requested to prepare a draft final report for consideration by Council 2022 to be submitted to the 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-22) on the activities undertaken and achievement on these subjects, including proposals for further consideration as appropriate.

In addition, as per PP Decision 11 (Rev. Dubai, 2018), the Council at its ordinary session before the Plenipotentiary Conference shall consider the four-year reports of Council Working Groups (CWGs) and submit recommendations to the plenipotentiary conference on the need to maintain, modify, terminate or establish CWGs for the next period.

* 1. This document, therefore, summarizes the outcomes of the four CWG COP Meetings ([CWG Report-19](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CLCWGCOP15-C-0003/en) – Council 15; [CWG Report-20](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S20-CLCWGCOP16-C&source=Chair) – Council 16; [CWG Report-21](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S21-CLCWGCOP17-C&source=Chair%2C%20CWG-COP) - Council 17, [CWG Report-22](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S22-CLCWGCOP18-C&source=Chair%2C%20COP) - Council 18), which were held since ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2018.

1. **CWG-COP activities**

2.1 The main results of the [fifteenth meeting](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CLCWGCOP15-C-0003/en) of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection (CWG-COP), held on 26 September 2019, were:

* The Chair encouraged providing guidance and ideas on how to improve the number of responses from young people.
* 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.
* The CWG invited the membership to realize and be aware of the importance of evaluating the effectiveness of a given programme.
* A first liaison statement was sent to ITU-D Study Group 2 to inform delegations on the work of the Guidelines and ensure a more participatory process.
* A second liaison statement was sent to ITU-D to request further information on EG-household Indicators and the related discussion on COP indicators.

2.2 The main results of the [sixteenth meeting](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S20-CLCWGCOP16-C&source=Chair) of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection, held on 4 February 2020, were:

* The Chair stated that a report would be prepared, which would include both the fifteenth and the sixteenth meetings of the CWG-COP.
* The COP Mascot was posted online.
* The Chair recommended more proactive involvement and participation of all relevant stakeholders at the meetings, including experts and ITU COP partners, emphasizing that this was a unique platform for information sharing and lessons learned.

2.3 The main outcomes of the [seventeenth meeting](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S21-CLCWGCOP17-C&source=Chair%2C%20CWG-COP) of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection, held on 26 January 2021, were:

* The Chair stated that the meeting was very well attended and that participation in the discussion both orally and in the chat, was high, lively, and engaging.
* The Chair further encouraged ITU COP partners to participate again at the meetings of the CWG-COP as this is a unique platform for establishing collaborative approaches towards Child Online Protection.
* The Chair recommended engaging ITU Regional Offices in the CWG-COP and related meetings.
* The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia proposed to organize information sessions on COP related matters with ITU and partners.
* The Chair finally invited the CWG-COP membership to contribute to the work of the ITU-D SG2 related to COP.

2.4 The main outcomes of the [eighteenth meeting](https://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=en&parent=S22-CLCWGCOP18-C&source=Chair%2C%20COP) of the Council Working Group on Child Online Protection, held on 12 January 2022, were:

* The Chair noted the growth of the CWG-COP, with this meeting having the largest number of contributions (18 in total) and number of participants (more than 150) [since formation of the CWG].
* The Chair noted that the participation in the discussion both orally and in the chat, was high, lively, and engaging, which showed how important this CWG has become to membership to share their experiences in relation to child online protection.
* The Chair added that each contribution added a unique perspective on the holistic approach of the COP initiative.
* The Chair reminded all participants that this year was unique with three main ITU conferences providing a great opportunity to look back at a fruitful period since the last Plenipotentiary Conference allowing member states to emphasise important aspects of the relevant resolutions.

1. **Recommendations**
   1. The group recommended to Council that the CWG-COP continue its work as a unique platform for information sharing, discussion, and collaboration as well as its key role in advising ITU on its work on Child Online Protection. The group valued the quality of the meetings which helped to identify and collect best practices and lessons learned, engage, and cooperate with all relevant stakeholders in the field. The increasingly active participation in the meetings underlined the recommendation of the group for the CWG-COP to persist.

3.2 It was suggested that the terms of reference of the CWG-COP could be amended to better reflect its nature, functionality, and goals as a platform for information exchange, collection of best practices, coordination of efforts, and cooperation between stakeholders working on child online protection.

1. **Acknowledgement**

I thank the ITU membership and all ITU COP partners who actively contributed to and participated in the work of CWG-COP, the Vice-Chairs, the ITU Elected Officials, and the secretariat for their efficient assistance during the meetings.

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