

Summary Report for the ITU-UNICEF Open Forum at IGF 2014

On September 5th, 2014, during the 2014 IGF at Istanbul, the ITU and UNICEF held an open forum for the releasing of the updated versions of the Guidelines for Industry on Child Online Protection.

The session was organized in the form of panel discussion with two parts. In the first part, panelists who are key contributors participated in the preparing of the Guidelines introduced details about the Guidelines, followed by a Q&A session. In the second part the panelists talked more about the rollout of implementation plan of the Guidelines and ongoing or future activities on Child Online Protection, also followed by a Q&A session.

In the first part, panelists introduced the significance of the newly updated version of the Guidelines, the process of preparing the document with multi-stakeholder and multi-sector participation, the enhancement and merit of the updated Guidelines as compared to its old version, and its implication to relevant industries and broadcasters.

The second part of session revolved around implementation plan. In representing their own organization respectively, panelists introduced in detail the plan of implementation, and activities to be organized in the near future in echoing the release of Guidelines for Industry. Good examples are such as ITU's plan for regional events and roundtable discussion for COP, UNICEF and GSMA's pilot workshops in five countries in Latin America to rollout the Guidelines to mobile operators, and GSMA's capacity building program with reference to the Guidelines. Also, panelists looked into the good prospects of implementation of the Guidelines. Questions mainly come to how to ensure successful implementation and impact evaluation of the Guidelines. Answers made clear that metric-based standards are being developed for monitoring the implementation and measuring the impact of the Guidelines.

The forum was a success and it has been proven helpful for promoting both the updated version of Guidelines for Industry on COP and the COP community as a whole.