

Name of Dynamic Coalition	Child Online Safety
Representative in the main session	John Carr
How has the work of the DC during the COVID-19 pandemic helped contribute to the socio-economic renewal of the economy ¹	We helped raised awareness of the scale and nature of the harm and threats of harm a greater number of children have experienced during lockdown in respect of increased exposure to issues and concerns which have been present on the internet for many years. These were significantly magnified and concentrated by the extended nature of the lockdown in many countries. Hotlines around the world reported higher levels of illegal postings of child sex abuse materials, police forces reported higher level of arrests. The volume of calls to child helplines increased dramatically in many countries.
Has the work of the DC during the COVID-19 pandemic identified any activities related to its work that could contribute to the socio-economic renewal of the economy after the pandemic ends	One take away from the crisis is the need to conduct further systematic research to better understand the extent to which the economic impact of the crisis has affected children and their families. Has this pushed, some of these children to either move online to sell sex services as a mean of survival. ECPAT and other members of the DC have heard anecdotal reports of such practices growing.
How can this DC, in collaboration with other DCs, engage the wider IGF community to develop innovative ways to achieve global, inclusive socio-economic renewal, and get the SDGs back on track?	In order to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of the child in times of crisis such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and perhaps other currently unforeseeable events which may require similar large scale and broad based responses, it is necessary to widen the perspective beyond simply one of protection. The closing of schools had a huge impact on children's right to education (SDG 4). The digital divide became more obvious. A great many families, particularly among lower income strata, had neither the devices nor the bandwidth to allow their children to participate in home schooling. We propose to partner with the DC on

¹ For example: *identifying ways to ensure access and safety for groups at risk; addressing issues of connectivity, sustainability and freedom of speech under the crisis*

	<p>connecting the unconnected and other interested parties from the wider IGF ecosystem to discuss how the digital gap has affected millions of children and their families who prior to COVID-19 were not labelled as “unconnected” however in times of crisis were not equipped to allow proper schooling with a view to together seeking ways to insert this topic on the broader SDG discussions happening at UN level.</p>
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