Dynamic Coalition on Child Online Safety

Submitted by anjanbose on Mon, 2012-07-23 11:37

Meeting type:
Dynamic Coalition

Meeting Description:

Identify key challenges faced during the work of the last period and what was done to solve those issues
Last year’s meeting identified digital citizenship as one of the core themes that have emerged through the work of the members. What are the main learning from that perspective. What tools and models worked and what did not
How can the global advocacy forum of the IGF be better used to influence the policy makers concerning child online protection and how individual members of the Dynamic coalition can be identified with relevant core expertise and experience to lead such processes
Share activities and lessons learnt through the work done by individual members during the past year.

Transcript:
[DYNAMIC COALITION ON CHILD ONLINE SAFETY .docx]

Report

Reported by:
Anjan Bose

A brief substantive summary and the main events that were raised:

The chair started by giving a background of the coalition and the rationale for such group at the IGF for those who have joined new.
The session started with a formal presentation from Nevine Tewfik of MCIT, Egypt, who highlighted how the dynamic coalition on child online safety was instrumental in advancing the child online protection work in Egypt and also shared the work done around content creation in the localised arabic language on child online safety, the work done with Microsoft, the survey done in collaboration with GSMA and also the privacy guideline for online protection for children in collaboration with OECD.

High level of social networking penetration among children in Egypt particularly Facebook was confirmed in the studies along with mobile phone usage.
Information about the recently hosted Arab IGF in Kuwait was also shared with the members of the coalition.

Finally the formation of a working group on legal issues at the ITU regional workshop in Algeria was highlighted.

During the discussion session, the members introduced their work and also highlighted the key areas of interest for them and challenges faced during the last year.

The members come from various disciplines whereby the focus varied from education and awareness for children and parents to those who worked extensively with marginalized children and youth and also those who run specific care services and helplines. Agencies like ICMEC shared their work related to model legislation and work with the Financial Coalition against child pornography as deployed in USA and East Asia Pacific, which needs to be taken up in other regions. The hotlines from Brazil (Safernet) shared the work of 9 helplines operating in Brazil and how a financial coalition has been initiated.

e-NACSO representative from Poland, Agnieszka shared the work done by the group (consisting of 19 members )- One of the new trends and focus of the work done by them is on children and e-commerce. In this relation, since children are targeted by private companies, both managing their budget and online practices along with their privacy is crucial.

Janice Richardson from INSAFE network reflected on the move from safer internet to better Internet and how this has impacted the work of the organisation involved in her network. A best practice survey with activities done with 7 year old children was shared and move towards working with Teens and peer models was recommended for the future.

A process for accreditation of schools based on e safety policies were being developed and the chair shared similar work done by ECPAT Internation in the CIS region , where certification process is put in place as a pilot project for introducing robust internet safety mechanisms in schools.

Also the Annual Safer Internet Day run by INSAFE was highlighted and the success of the event every year and its global participation was highlighted.

Jutta Kroll of Digital opportunites foundation of germany (one of the founding members of the dynamic coalition on child online safety) mentioned their current work with social workers to work with children and youth towards building their
resilience as a remedy for addressing risks and how the project aims at achieving that.

Jim Prendergrast, who spoke on behalf of the work done by Microsoft highlighted the need to evaluate and listen to young people's voice in order to make sure that the services that are currently developed resonate with their actual requirements and needs.

Danish media council also shared the work done by them with youth. It was highlighted that the focus from Internet as a media should now be shifted to the users and their empowerment.

Susie Hendrie from GSMA shared the work done by them and highlighted the need for informed policy making, research and how industry self regulation can achieve positive outcomes. She also highlighted the need for positive use of technologies and opportunities for young people so that we can move from protection to empowerment.

Yanis Lee of dotkids foundation (new member of the coalition) shared the work done in relation to .kids gtld at the ICANN. Veronica from Child focus presented the work done by them around help lines and hotlines involving sexually abuse children and providing skills and capacity to such units and also a specialised project called chatwise that is developed to provide online help to victims.

JeoungHee Kim of ITU shared the ITU COP project and the gave breakdown of the structure of the project and its objective and how many of the members of the dynamic coalition is involved in it and moving it forward. She also highlighted the upcoming pan African COP summit to be held in Uganda in June next year. The representative from European Broadcasting Forum highlighted an emerging issue in the form of convergence of digital television broadcast and Internet in one smart device and how the two mediums are regulated differently traditionally (broadcasting being tightly regulated in general and the Internet not). The challenges with Hybrid televisions where the content comes from two vastly different platforms were presented.

The chair shared the work done by ECPAT International around child protection globally in 75 countries, the global monitoring reports produced to assess the situation of commercial sexual exploitation of children in different countries and
the work with the virtual global taskforce around Legislative engagement strategy and collaboration with law enforcement.

Finally the session ended by discussing how to move forward and reflections of the work done. It was mentioned by Janice of Insafe that it is a pity that the members do not interact much between the IGF and we should find better way to interact and plan sessions and identify one or two projects per year and move forward with it. It was also mentioned that the work of the dynamic coalition should be linked up with other sessions and present in those session as a representative of this coalition. The chair acknowledged the comments and discussed the reformating of the structure for the next IGF to have pre agreed items discussed in more details.

Council of Europe mentioned the new VGT/Interpol legislative strategy which ECPAT is also going to present at the upcoming conference of the Virtual global Taskforce in Abu Dhabi.

It was highlighted that even though the group meets at the IGF once a year, continued interaction takes place between the members and is helpful for connecting and sharing related information.

As a chair, ECPAT highlighted the need for investigative support, identification and subsequent rehabilitation of victims of online sexual exploitation and abuse and the fact that even though education and awareness initiatives are vital and key components in dealing with child exploitation online, a holistic approach that involves better policies, harmonized laws and relevant care and protection services including development of reporting hotlines are equally crucial. In this regard, the states should prioritise their resource allocation, and scientific research studies should be conducted to better assess the scale and extent of children who are abused online.

Conclusions and further comments:

1) Good platform for sharing experience and the members come with different set of expertise and experience
2) Need to avoid duplicatio of efforts.
3) Propose panels as Dynamic coalition representation
4) Better sharing between members between IGF
5) The dynamic coalition should be able to present at the plenary sessions to give better visibility and understanding to the issue of child protection.

Gender Report Card
Please estimate the overall number of women participants present at the session: The majority of participants were women
To what extent did the session discuss gender equality and/or women's empowerment?:
It was not seen as related to the session theme and was not raised
Provide the name of the organiser(s) of the Meeting and their affiliation to various stakeholder groups:
ECPAT International - Civil society, International child rights organisation
Members - from all disciplines - Private sector, Law enforcement, Civil society, Academics and researchers, practitioners. The members represent the interest of children from all around the world, covering Africa, Americas, Asia and Europe.
Have you organised a Meeting (Dynamic Coalition, Open Forum, Side Session) before? If yes, please provide links to report(s):
Yes, starting from 2007 every year until 2011 http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/2010/contributions/dynamic_coal_cos_shar m... Also submitted report for 2010 and 2011 to the secretariat by email
Name of Remote Moderator(s):
Jim Pendergast
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