

WePROTECT Global Alliance Board Meeting 13 December 2019

The WePROTECT Global Alliance (WPGA) Board met in Addis Ababa, 13 December 2020. The meeting was hosted by African Union Board representative H.E. Amira Elfadil and chaired by Ernie Allen, Chair of the WPGA. Management Board members Baroness Joanna Shields (Founder of WePROTECT) and Maud De Boer-Buquicchio (UN Special Rapporteur) were in attendance, as were permanent Board members Steve Grocki (US Department of Justice), Antonio Labrador Jimenez (EU Commission), Dana Humaid Al Marzouqi (UAE Ministry of Interior) and Becky Kirby (UK Home Office). Robbert van den Berg (ECPAT International), Jacqueline Beauchere (Microsoft), Cornelius Williams (UNICEF), Harold O'Connell (INTERPOL), Julie Inman Grant (Australian e-Safety Commissioner), Julie Cordua (Thorn) and Brigette de Lay (Oak Foundation) completed the Board, with apologies from Hisham Mundol (Children's Investment Fund Foundation).

Global Summit reflections

The Board reflected on the recent AU-hosted Global Summit of 11 and 12 December and agreed that an ambitious agenda had been delivered effectively. Key actions included:

- A comprehensive lessons learned exercise to be undertaken
- A full summit report to be completed and shared
- Follow-up communications, including a link to the plenary presentations, to be issued to delegates

Future priorities

The Board discussed future priorities for the independent WPGA once it had transitioned out of the UK government in April 2020. Agreed priorities included ensuring a smooth transition out of the UK government; strengthening membership engagement through improved outreach and a strong communications plan; and a new best in class website to provide a 'one stop shop' for members' needs. Key actions included:

- A strategic paper and accompanying workplan to be developed by the secretariat and circulated to the Board for agreement
- A detailed future operating budget to be circulated to the Board for agreement
- A consultation process on future membership commitments to be launched
- Board committees to be established, the first of which should be a fundraising committee

Industry Voluntary Principles

The Board discussed a proposal for the WPGA to play a role in promoting any future Voluntary Principles that were agreed between technology companies and Five Country members (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, UK and US). The aim of these principles would be to provide a framework to combat online child sexual exploitation and abuse and drive collective action. The Board noted potential risks and challenges but agreed that endorsement of the principles presented an opportunity to strengthen collaboration and place the WPGA at the centre of future international efforts. Key actions included:

- The Chair to respond to the Five Country letter and agree to the request for the WPGA to play a role in promoting the Voluntary Principles
- In parallel, discussions on plans for end-to-end encryption to continue