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**PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM FOREIGN CHILD SEX OFFENDERS**

**CAMBODIA ACTION PLAN**

41 members of the Cambodia National Police, Cambodia Prosecutors, the National Committee for Counter Trafficking (NCCT) and Cambodia General Department of Immigration joined together from 1-4 July 2019 to focus on transnational child sexual exploitation.

We recognise that Cambodia is a target for foreign child sex offenders. The offenders include foreigners who sexually exploit children during their travel in Cambodia and foreigners who sexually exploit Cambodian children online.

We are committed to work together to protect children from foreign child sex offenders by taking the following actions:

**PREVENT**

Prevention is better than cure. Preventing these crimes starts with us!

**We will:**

* Conduct training for our police, immigration, NCCT, and prosecutors to understand and take action to prevent these crimes.
* Conduct surveillance and awareness raising at hotspot locations where the offenders prefer to travel.
* Educate our children and build community awareness about the risks of foreign child sex offenders.

**INVESTIGATE**

The crimes committed by travelling child sex offenders and online child sex offenders are different from Human Trafficking. We agree that transnational child sexual exploitation requires special attention and resources for improved investigations.

**We will:**

* Recommend the establishment of a special unit/taskforce to address transnational child sexual exploitation.
* Improve our investigation procedures (have an investigation plan, apply the law, improve our online investigations).
* Ensure timely action to follow-up hotline tips, share intelligence, gather evidence and collect victim statements.
* Take a new approach when dealing with offenders (calm, listening, no anger).
* Establish a register of offenders.

**PROTECT**

Investigation and court procedures can increase the trauma for child victims. We agree that law enforcement needs to improve our attention to victims.

**We will:**

* Apply a victim-centred approach to these investigations.
* Focus on child-friendly approaches during the investigation, pre-court procedures and trial.
* Prevent revictimisation of child victims (protect children from further trauma in the interview and court procedures).
* Involve suitable partners when working with child victims (eg. NGOs).
* Take care of our welfare and the wellbeing of our staff when we are working on these crimes.

**PROSECUTE**

Cambodia has already signed international conventions, enacted child protection laws and established relevant committees. Now we need to take action. It is not enough to know the law, we must implement the law to protect children.

**We will:**

* Ensure judiciary and prosecutors are aware about transnational child sex crimes and the relevant laws.
* Be aware of the law and apply the law to ensure offenders are prosecuted.
* Build better partnerships between police and prosecutors.

**PARTNER**

Protecting children from foreign child sex offenders requires cooperation of all partners. We agree to work together.

**We will:**

* Build better partnerships (police, prosecutors, NCCT, immigration, NGOs, private sector, tourism sector, etc).
* Share intelligence with other countries and support international investigations.
* Ask for help and reach out to national and international partners.
* Request more joint training workshops on transnational child sexual exploitation (for police, immigration, NCCT, prosecutors).