**Consultation on the report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children**

***Looking back, looking forward***

**October 2019**

1. The Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (OSRSG-VAC) welcomes the opportunity to contribute to this consultation. The Special Rapporteur (SR) is a key partner for OSRSG-VAC and the mandate is committed to supporting and cooperating closely with the SR.
2. This submission is focussed on the question in the Call for Inputs related to the way forward and priorities for the SR’s future work.

**2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and data**

1. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) remain a crucial reference for efforts to prevent and address the sale and sexual exploitation of children. Building on the SR’s thematic report on this topic, the mandate’s future work could include:

* Engagement with the global process of reviewing SDG indicators to ensure they capture the sale and sexual exploitation of children adequately;
* Advocating for the development of complementary national and regional SDG indicators;
* Advocating for Member States to strengthen data collection on the sale and sexual exploitation of children more generally (e.g. through national household surveys such as the VAC surveys, school-based surveys and administrative data);
* Advocating for Member States to incorporate action to tackle the sale and sexual exploitation of children in their efforts to implement the SDGs at the national level; and
* Advocating for Member States to address the sale and sexual exploitation of children in the framework of monitoring SDG implementation.

**Sexual exploitation of children in the context of travel and tourism (SECTT)**

1. The UN World Tourism Organization’s recent adoption of the Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics has provided an important new tool for advocacy regarding SECTT. The mandate’s future work could include:

* Advocating for Member States to ratify and implement the Convention;
* Advocating for the UNWTO to support parties to the Convention in fulfilling their obligations related to combating the exploitation of children; and
* Promoting the inclusion of SECTT as a key dimension of monitoring the implementation of the Convention, including through engagement with the World Travel and Tourism Council and the World Committee on Tourism Ethics.

1. Building on the SR’s last report on the sale and sexual exploitation of children in the context of sports, the mandate could consider:

* Following up on the recommendations of the report related to mega-sporting events, in close cooperation with sports organizations and the Centre for Sport and Human Rights.

**Terminology Guidelines for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Luxembourg Guidelines)**

1. Although the Luxembourg Guidelines have been endorsed by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, further work is needed to promote their consistent use by Member States and the UN system. The mandate’s future work could include:

* Promoting the use of the updated terminology in relevant instruments, resolutions, reports or guidance generated by the UN system;
* Promoting the use of the updated terminology in relevant instruments, resolutions, reports or guidance generated by regional organizations; and
* Advocating for Member States to amend national legislation and policy to bring them in line with the Luxembourg Guidelines.

**Online child sexual exploitation and abuse**

1. The growth and evolution of online child sexual exploitation and abuse demands the sustained attention of Member States and all other relevant stakeholders. Building on the SR’s thematic report on this topic, the mandate’s future work could include:

* Continued advocacy with Member States to bring their legislative framework for dealing with child sexual exploitation and abuse fully in line with international human rights standards;
* Advocating with Member States to address the lack of funding for national and international efforts to combat online child sexual exploitation and abuse;
* Promoting the use of the Model National Response (MNR) developed by the WePROTECT Global Alliance, with particular attention to areas where implementation of the MNR has so far been weak;
* Advocating with Member States to ensure that industry is taking effective action to tackle online child sexual exploitation and abuse, including through appropriate regulation.

**Sexual exploitation by UN personnel**

1. UN efforts to prevent and address sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by UN personnel need to be further strengthened. The SR could seek to join the High-Level Steering Group established by the Secretary-General to provide leadership on the issue of SEA perpetrated by UN personnel and to ensure a coherent system-wide approach to this issue.