



## Experts agree on strategy to protect children in cyberspace

### Tokyo communiqué on Safer Internet Environment for Children

**Geneva, 18 June 2009** — The Strategic Dialogue on Safer Internet Environment for Children took place 2–3 June in Tokyo, Japan. A communiqué issued at the closing highlighted agreements on developing a framework for achieving safety, promoting voluntary self-regulatory initiatives in the private sector and improving user literacy to increase awareness among children and young people as well as among parents, guardians and educators.

Draft guidelines on Child Online Protection (COP), which have been prepared in close collaboration with numerous UN agencies and other organizations, including ITU, UNICRI, INTERPOL, and the European Network Information Security Agency were reviewed at the Strategic Dialogue.

The Tokyo Strategic Dialogue represents a significant step forward to further the child safety agenda at the regional and international levels. It provided a platform for policy-makers, regulators, industry, civil society, research and academia to exchange views, experiences, guidelines and initiatives regarding key policy and strategic approaches in the area of child online protection.

The discussions examined the dimensions of child e-safety, including information about the dangers facing children online, the tools presently available to reduce risks, as well as recommendations and key activities which could be undertaken in this area.

Along with promoting educational and awareness initiatives, several technical measures such as filtering services and parental controls were also considered.

The Tokyo communiqué (see [www.itu.int/osg/csd/cybersecurity/gca/cop/meetings/june-tokyo/index.html](http://www.itu.int/osg/csd/cybersecurity/gca/cop/meetings/june-tokyo/index.html)) recommended that ITU should be the international platform for coordinating expertise in developing common codes of conduct and recommendations as well as for sharing information to protect children online.

Comments on the [Draft Guidelines](#) on Child Online Protection can be sent to [cop@itu.int](mailto:cop@itu.int) until 30 June 2009. The Guidelines will be presented at ITU TELECOM WORLD 2009 which will be held in Geneva, 5-9 October.

The Child Online Protection (COP) initiative has been developed by ITU along with UN agencies and other partners as part of ITU's Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA) and aims to tackle cybersecurity holistically.

**For more information, please visit [www.itu.int/osg/csd/cybersecurity/gca/cop/](http://www.itu.int/osg/csd/cybersecurity/gca/cop/) or contact:**

**Sanjay Acharya**

Chief, Media Relations and Public Information  
ITU

Tel: +41 22 730 5046

Mobile: +41 79 249 4861

E-mail: [sanjay.acharya@itu.int](mailto:sanjay.acharya@itu.int)