

WeProtect Global Alliance Board Meeting

Summary, June 2023

The WeProtect Global Alliance Policy Board met on 13 and 14 June 2023. The Board papers focused on a diverse range of topics, including:

- The next Global Threat assessment
- Governance update
- Global Summit - next steps.

The following actions and/or next steps were agreed upon:

The next Global Threat Assessment

Natalia Greene from PA Consulting gave a brief on the progress of the Global Threat Assessment (GTA). Some of the comments from the Board were that:

- The research should take a global view on the rates of adoption of safety technologies, recognising that many countries have limited resources to implement such solutions
- It should consider how best to categorise the severity of harm typologies
- There is a need to factor in boys' experience of abuse in the right way
- Safeguarding should be added as one of the cross-cutting principles in the research
- The report should reiterate the importance of well-resourced child protection systems as well as social and behavioural change interventions including parenting programmes and other evidence-based programmes to address child sexual abuse.

Governance update

- The Board noted Iain Drennan's appointment as a Member of the Management Board of the Stichting.
- The Board also noted the value of renewing and refreshing its membership to enable new voices to participate, reflecting the Alliance as a whole.
- The Chair confirmed that a full governance review would take place ahead of the December Board meeting, as scheduled in the original review.

Summit – next steps

The discussion revolved around a few key points, including:

- There was consensus around the strong benefits of being able to meet and convene as a community and Alliance.
- In a more geopolitically complex world, global representation and accessibility were important. Child sexual abuse online could not be seen as a "Western" issue.
- The focus should be on the purpose of the Summit – we should aim to break out of echo chambers and reach out to some of those who did not necessarily agree with our position. The Alliance was in an important position to extend global reach and bring in others.
- It was important to try and maintain a regular biennial rhythm for the Summit.
- There was limited support for a "joint event" (i.e. a collaboration with other events) – it would likely dilute focus and be more impractical to arrange.
- The Board agreed that the option of a joint event with another partner should not be pursued. All other viable options should be considered, with a particular focus on maintaining the Summit's biennial rhythm and ensuring broad participation.