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Child Prostitution,
Child Pornography &
Trafficking of Children
for Sexual Purposes

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: 2017 To: 2018

Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

To our stakeholders:

I am pleased to confirm that *ECPAT Philippines* reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely Yours,

Dolores Alforte
Executive Director

Part II. Description of Actions

Areas of Action: Join and/or propose partnership projects on corporate sustainability
Engage companies in Global Compact-related issues

ECPAT Philippines, as a local civil society organization that works to end the commercial sexual exploitation of children in the Philippines recognizes the utmost importance of involving the private sector in upholding its cause. For the last 2 years, ECPAT Philippines has continually engaged the following businesses and organizations:



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Tourism-related companies. In its fight against the sexual exploitation of children in travel and tourism (SECTT), ECPAT Philippines has conducted education sessions to tourism frontliners in major tourist destinations, raising the awareness of hotel staff, tourist drivers, tour guides, tourist police and local tourism officers on their important role in eliminating SECTT. As the ones to most likely witness potential cases of abuse, ECPAT arms them with useful information on how to identify and handle suspicious cases that will arise in their watch. In 2017, a milestone was achieved when ECPAT successfully lobbied a provincial ordinance in Bohol which requires all tourism-related businesses to adopt a child protection policy as part of business permit renewals.

Money Transfer Services. As money transfers are often used by foreign sex offenders to send money to Filipino perpetrators of online sexual abuse of children, ECPAT conducted a series of awareness raising session and consultation with managers of *Palawan Pawnshop*, a popular money transfer agency.

Academe. ECPAT Philippines has been a long-time partner of *College of St. Benilde (CSB)* in providing scholarships to disadvantaged children. CSB allots four (4) scholarship slots for ECPAT-assisted children every school year, recognizing the fact that access to education is one vital key to keeping children from falling prey into the sex trade, and to having access to positive opportunities in the future. Likewise, the University of the Philippines Interior Design Batch of 2019 renovated the ECPAT shelter for girl survivors of sexual exploitation, providing a more conducive space for the children to heal and recover.

Partnership with religious organizations. *The Church of Sweden* has been providing support to all ECPAT programs and projects. Likewise, *Vision HimPossible Ministries*, has helped ECPAT sustain the basic needs of girls at the temporary shelter.

Non-Government Organizations. ECPAT Philippines is a part of the Civil Society Coalition on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, a network of over 20 child-focused NGOs that monitors the implementation of the UNCRC in the Philippines.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

Through our partnerships and collaboration with different organizations in the private sector, we were able to achieve the following:

- **3198 tourism frontliners** in major tourist destinations including Metro Manila, Bohol, Boracay Island, Siquijor, Angeles City and other areas nationwide were educated on how to spot and respond to cases of child sexual exploitation on travel and tourism.
- **110 child survivors and young volunteers living in vulnerable communities** were provided with direct services such as educational, health, legal and psychosocial assistance.



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- **13,109 children, families, and community members** in highly-affected communities were educated on children's rights, child protection laws and reporting mechanisms.
- **1089 law enforcers, local government officials, and civil society organization** workers were trained on strengthening existing practices of investigation, rescue and case management of child victims of sexual exploitation.