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World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

Worldwide initiatives on Internet safety for children

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day is held every year and commemorates the anniversary of the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 17 May 1865 and the creation of the International Telecommunication Union. The aim is to raise awareness of the potential of information and communication technologies (ICT) to improve societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide. It also shines a spotlight on topical issues of concern in the use of ICT.

Reflecting the theme of this year's World Telecommunication and Information Society Day—"protecting children in cyberspace", governments, industry and non-governmental organizations from around the world marked the day in a variety of ways, as described in the reports from Suriname (pages 33–36), Qatar (pages 37–39), Hong Kong, China (pages 40–42), and Israel (pages 43–44). A snapshot of celebrations worldwide follows on pages 45–49.





To raise awareness of the need to protect children online, a group participates in an annual walk through Suriname's capital, Paramaribo

Suriname takes action to protect children online

It is a tradition in Suriname that, every year in April, a walking trip called the *Avondvierdaagse* takes place over four days in the capital city, Paramaribo. This year it proved to be the perfect occasion for launching activities to mark World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2009 under the theme of "protecting children in cyberspace".

These activities were organized by the Telecommunication Authority of Suriname (*Telecommunicatie Autoriteit Suriname*, or TAS). They ranged from sponsoring a group to participate in the marathon walk, to organizing an essay contest for children, and producing a short film that was aired several times on national television in the run-up to 17 May. In addition, a code of conduct was formulated and a manual was adopted for a *Safe Internet Diploma* course for children.

Raising awareness

Amidst a colourful parade of folklore and modern culture, music from brass bands and carnival-like costumes, a group of 33 people (including TAS staff), took part in long walks through the streets of Paramaribo from 15 to 18 April. The group joined members of *Weid Mijn Lammeren* ("feed my lambs"), a foundation that works to help children and families. Everyone took turns to carry a 2.5-metre-wide banner displaying the theme, "protecting children in cyberspace", as well as the ITU and TAS logos. The theme also appeared on the T-shirts worn by the participants.

Another way of raising awareness of the issues was through the essay competition that was organized for children of up to 18 years old, with the aim of encouraging them to think about safety online.



Minister of Education and Community Development Edwin Wolff (left) holds a copy of the manual for the Safe Internet Diploma, presented to him by Minister of Transport, Communication and Tourism Richel Apinsa (right)

► The winners in each age category received computer equipment and other prizes, including iPods. The first three prizes in the secondary school category went to Carolyn Kromokaryo, Elfrid Wielzen and Malgie Avikaar, while those in the primary school category were won by Lalita Ceder, Sharita Yates and Semaja Velantie.

The 24-minute film, produced by TAS in cooperation with the Youth Affairs department of the Ministry of Justice and Police, was another valuable tool for warning of the potential dangers online. It portrayed various youngsters over a single school day, all making different choices about how they use the Internet. At the climax of the story, an adult sharply criticizes an assistant for not keeping an eye on the schoolchildren's activities.

Code of Conduct

TAS held several meetings of a committee made up of telecommunication providers, Internet service providers, cybercafé owners and representatives from the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Public Housing, the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the National Youth Institute. These talks led to the development of a code of conduct for all children who wish to use the Internet.

After pinpointing the possible negative effects of going online, the committee surveyed young people themselves for their views. The survey was conducted by the National Youth Institute and revealed that young people in Suriname strongly disapprove of certain types of online behaviour. The results were incorporated into the final version of a 12-point "Code of Conduct" (see box), which was presented on 15 May to Minister of Education and Community Development Edwin Wolff by Jetty Olff, Director of TAS. Ms Olff underlined that alongside technical solutions in hardware and software, "the behaviour of youngsters themselves is also extremely important in using the Internet." She appealed to all young people to act responsibly online. "The Code of Conduct that we laid down is indispensable in this respect," Ms Olff commented.

In addition, Suriname's Minister of Transport, Communication and Tourism Richel Apinsa presented Mr Wolff with a copy of the manual for a course that allows children to gain a Safe Internet Diploma. Materials for the diploma can be downloaded online and used by students everywhere. The course is expected to be integrated into the Surinamese education system.



TAS Director Jetty Olff (right) hands a first prize in the essay contest to secondary school student Carolyn Kromokaryo (left), and looking on is the Minister of Education and Community Development Edwin Wolff

"It is the task of governments to take all efforts to see to it that children have safe access to the information that they can retrieve from the Internet," Ms Apinsa said. She called on parents and teachers, as

well as the judicial authorities, to intensify efforts in monitoring and supervising children in order to prevent them from being abused via the Internet. On the initiative of her ministry, a national ICT committee has been established which "is actively engaged in coming up with proposals to formulate a national ICT policy, in the process of which safety aspects will also be included," Ms Apinsa explained.

"We want to encourage our children, as far as possible, to make use of modern technology; but on the other hand, we also have to protect our children against digital dangers," Mr Wolff stated. He commended TAS for providing the tools to achieve this goal. "I am convinced that these tools will be useful to schools, teachers, parents and, especially, pupils — and in this way we will be able to contribute to the education and development of our children," he said.

TAS Code of Conduct for a Child-Safe Internet

Things you really should not do on the Internet:

- ▶ Visit unsecured, public websites that ask for private information about you
- ▶ Establish contact with strangers, for example in chat rooms
- ▶ Visit websites with pornographic material
- ▶ Pose nude in front of a webcam
- ▶ Visit websites that engage in Satanism or promote suicide
- ▶ Visit websites that stir up hatred and/or discrimination
- ▶ Play violent games
- ▶ Visit websites that engage in violence
- ▶ Participate in lotteries with unknown organizers
- ▶ Visit websites where you can gamble
- ▶ Spread pictures of yourself and of others and gossip
- ▶ Bully others or spread information about them (for example via chat rooms or e-mail)

Computers for children

As well as dangers, the Internet has many benefits — it is a powerful way of enriching knowledge, noted Ms Olff. In this regard, she mentioned the Magellan laptop computer, developed in Portugal and which had been given to participants in ITU's World Telecommunication Policy Forum, held in Lisbon in April 2009. The laptop "has built-in software to

protect children against the dangers of the Internet,” explained Ms Olff, which allows various possibilities, “from blocking undesired websites to programming the daily period of time during which children can be active on the Internet.” A pilot project will be implemented in Suriname in cooperation with ITU, under which Magellan computers will be distributed to a school to be selected by TAS.

Telecommunication service providers play a part

There are three telecommunication service providers in Suriname, namely Telesur (the incumbent) and the new players Digicel and Uniqa. Telesur organized events for World Telecommunication and Information Society Day in Nickerie, a district on the Atlantic Ocean in the west of Suriname. These included a 5-km walk and a 7.5-km run on 16 May, in which some 3000 children and parents took part.

Meanwhile, the broadcaster Radio 10 aired its popular talk show *90 Seconden* (or “90 Seconds”) and focused on the topic of protecting children in cyberspace. Lyrio Gomez, the acting Director of Uniqa, was interviewed in the studio and answered live, phone-in questions from the public. Many listeners gave their opinions on the topic — including people from as far afield as the Netherlands. On 17 May itself, Uniqa sent messages to all its mobile phone subscribers, congratulating them on World Telecommunication and Information Society Day.

The day received a lot of attention in Suriname, through media coverage in features and news reports. In addition, the huge banners erected by TAS in several public places will continue to be installed nationwide until 2010, meaning that few people will fail to notice the importance of this year’s theme.



Competitors finish a run organized by telecommunication provider Telesur in Nickerie, in the west of Suriname



Dr Hessa Al Jaber, Secretary General of ictQATAR (right), presents a prize to Jihad Atallah, one of the winners of the art competition

Qatar promotes cybersecurity for its children

Art competition winners rewarded

More than 500 pupils from schools across Qatar took part in an art competition on “protecting children in cyberspace” to mark World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2009. The competition was organized by the Qatar Computer Emergency Response Team (Q-CERT) to allow children to illustrate their understanding of cybersecurity.

The five entrants who submitted the best drawings each received a certificate and a notebook computer from Dr Hessa Al Jaber, Secretary General of Qatar’s Supreme Council for Information and Communication Technology (ictQATAR). In addition, Q-CERT will provide everyone who entered the competition with anti-virus software and a one-year update subscription, together with a special card listing tips on Internet safety.

Q-CERT was established by ictQATAR to safeguard and improve the security of information and communication systems. Q-CERT works with government agencies, businesses, and the citizens of Qatar to address threats to cybersecurity, protect sensitive information,

and ensure the safety of Internet users, especially children.

In order to produce their drawings and paintings for the competition, children had to research the topic of cybersecurity. This meant that they could then also use their discoveries to adapt their own behaviour. The hundreds of expressive entries received for the contest showed that many children were aware of dangers when using the Internet. Many depicted computers that were infected with viruses, while others focused on the role of parents and the risks of encountering online predators. However, only limited types of threat were portrayed in the artwork, indicating that more efforts need to be made to educate young people in their understanding of cybersecurity and the risks they face online.

“As countries all over the world mark World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, we marvel at how the telecommunications industry has rapidly evolved from telegraphing to tweeting,” said



The winning entry by Jihad Atallah

► Dr Al Jaber. She added that the theme this year, “protecting children in cyberspace”, reminds us of how advances have not only brought tremendous benefits, but also require us to be vigilant in ensuring that new technologies are used for good. Cyberbullying seems to be increasing, “and countless, easily accessed websites and chat rooms are filled with detailed information on extreme, vulgar, bigoted, and violent activities,” Dr Al Jaber commented. “Protecting children on the Internet is both an individual and a community responsibility. Everyone who cares about young people must play a role in keeping them safe — parents, teachers, family, and friends,” she stressed.

Director of Q-CERT, Khalid Al Hashimi, explained that the goal of the art competition was to raise awareness among children about the importance of cybersafety. “We encouraged teachers to discuss the topic openly in the classroom and let the children conduct independent research to better understand the many cybersafety issues. Teachers need to educate their students on cybersecurity, but students should also have the motivation to learn more,” he said.

The winners’ artwork and other notable entries can be viewed at www.qcert.org/qcert-images/competition-gallery/.

Advice for the public

In 2007 Qatar launched a national information security programme to help keep both adults and children safe online. Q-CERT has issued a number of special publications that relate to protecting children in cyberspace. One, entitled “Cyber Bullying”, was used in a workshop organized for children in middle and high schools, while a cybersecurity workshop was held for high schoolchildren to examine the issues.

Q-CERT also provides advice for parents and the general public. This is contained in its publications “Cyber Security Tips for Parents” and “The Educator’s Role in Safe Computing,” as well as at an online resource on a variety of common security topics (www.qcert.org/tips/). Readers are pointed in the direction of parental control software, for example, which allows children’s online activities to be monitored, and limited to suitable times and websites. Children’s visits to social networking sites can also be tracked, as well as the invitations they receive from their online contacts.

However, technical means to protect children are not enough by themselves. As Dr Al Jaber put it: “Whether adults use parental control tools, or simply monitor kids’ online activity, it is up to each one of us to be part of a culture of responsibility; a culture that

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

Qatar promotes cybersecurity for its children

upholds our values and heritage while protecting our children so they can grow into well-adjusted, productive adults."

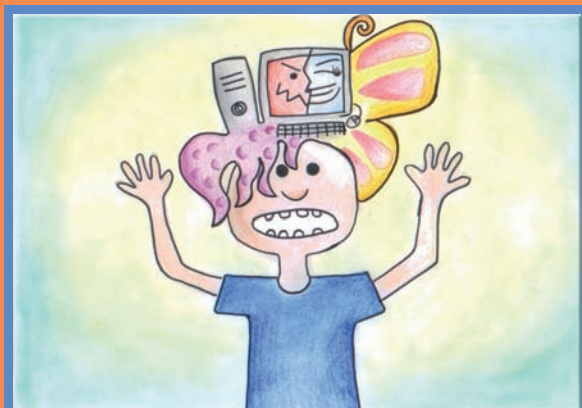
The development of a school curriculum on cybersecurity is the next step envisaged by ictQATAR. In addition, it is committed to constructing a website that will be part of the government's online portal known as *Hukoomi*, and which will include a facility for children

and others to report problems that they encounter online. The site will contain policies, best practice, tools and resources on all aspects of cybersafety. "ictQATAR is committed to working across national boundaries on this critical issue," Dr Al Jaber said, adding that it will be "an active participant in the Child Online Protection initiative", launched by ITU jointly with international partners.

The winning entries in an art competition showed how children in Qatar are becoming aware of the need to use the Internet safely



Nada Mahmoud



Noor Ali Al Jassim



Abdullrahman Abdulla Al Blooshy



Khalid Abdu Aitah

Launch and Prize Presentation Ceremony

Theme 2009: Protecting children in cyberspace



Winners of the Geocaching Hunting Competition and CAHK Trophy

Hong Kong, China

Young people become involved

With the support of Hong Kong's Office of the Telecommunication Authority, the Communications Association of Hong Kong (CAHK) organizes events to mark World Telecommunication and Information Society Day and raise public awareness of issues connected with information and communication technologies (ICT). The co-organizer of the celebrations in 2009 was the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups. Around 1800 teenagers, from more than 500 schools and colleges, took part in the activities, assisted by some 50 volunteers and with the involvement of more than 20 companies in Hong Kong.

Contests spread enthusiasm

On 16 May, celebrities, leading ICT companies, government officials, journalists, and over 200 students attended an event to launch the celebration and learn more about the future of ICT. A prize-giving ceremony was included for the winners of an art contest open to secondary school students and those at



In the art contest, Nit Shun Hei won the first prize in the secondary school category



During the communications tour, students look at a model of developments at Hong Kong's Cyberport

CAHK



Leung Cheuk Yiu won the second prize for secondary school students

tertiary educational institutions. They had been asked to produce a four-panel cartoon to illustrate the theme of protecting children in cyberspace, and 672 entries were received from more than 50 schools. Famous artist, Ah Chung, was present to give in-depth advice to participants. The competition winners received travel coupons, sponsored by now.TV.

In the afternoon, a *Geocaching Hunting Competition* took place, in which teams of four students had to use location-based and wireless technologies to find five access points across Hong Kong and carry out tasks there within a time limit of three-and-a-half hours. A team leader stayed at a control centre and used a computer to find clues about the next point on the hunt, and then send the information to teammates via a mobile device. The computers were models from One Laptop per Child (OLPC), donated by CAHK.

The entertaining game was designed by Hong Kong Baptist University's Research Centre for Ubiquitous Computing, while mobile devices were supplied by Nokia (HK) Limited and access to a mobile network and SIM cards were provided by Hutchison Telecommunications Hong Kong. Out of 40 teams in the contest, the fastest, winning team was from the secondary section of Kowloon Tong School, and each member received the latest model of a Nokia handset, sponsored by the company.



Students visit the Office of the Telecommunication Authority, Hong Kong

Another important highlight was the CAHK Trophy: ICT Quiz Competition, designed to encourage local students to equip themselves with knowledge and skills in ICT. With the support of TraxComm Ltd, about 400 questions were set in English and Chinese, focusing on ICT-related websites, including that of ITU. Each team had to answer 20 questions, and the winners (Queen Elizabeth School Old Student's Association, Tong Kwok Wah Secondary School) received the trophy and the latest Sony Ericsson mobile phone hand-sets, donated by the company.

Communications tour

In an extension to the day's activities, on 23 and 25 May a *Communications Tour* was arranged, with more than 900 students participating. Groups spent half a day at companies that opened up sites not normally accessible to the public. As well as the Office of the Telecommunications Authority, the firms involved included Cable TV Hong Kong, China Mobile Hong Kong Co Ltd, CSL Ltd, Hong Kong Communications Equipment Co Ltd, Hong Kong Cyberport Management Co Ltd, Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, Hutchison Telecommunications (Hong Kong) Ltd, PCCW Ltd, SmarTone-Vodafone, and TraxComm Ltd. To learn

more about how communication technologies are applied in everyday tasks, the students could also visit major users of ICT: the Airport Authority Hong Kong, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Ltd, and Hong Kong Jockey Club.

At each site, informative visits were arranged to such facilities as data centres, switching centres, and broadcasters' newsrooms. A local developer of computer games demonstrated a new product that the students could try, while satellite operations and services were explained at REACH Stanley Satellite Earth Station. At some companies the visitors heard about working in ICT, and the event was a golden opportunity for the students to meet with top executives and discuss how they might pursue careers in these new and important technologies.

The Communications Association of Hong Kong (CAHK) is a non-profit organization for the industry, with some 100 members in broadcasting, fixed and wireless communications, and other areas of ICT. Since 1985, CAHK has been a member of five Advisory Committees of the Office of the Telecommunication Authority, and contributes to advice on policies for developing services that can benefit the public of Hong Kong. It has led celebrations of World Telecommunication and Information Society Day since 2007, and it seeks to promote international exchanges among young people.



Israel's Minister of Communications Moshe Kahalon pictured with children surfing the Internet at the school in Sderoth that was a venue for the symposium

Gil Hadani/Alpix photo agency (handout)

Israel holds symposium via videoconference

Focus on parental responsibility

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2009 was celebrated in Israel on 17 May with a symposium that connected three places across the country via videoconferencing technology. The event focused on parental responsibility in protecting children in cyberspace. It was initiated by the Ministry of Communications and carried out jointly with the Israel Internet Association, the incumbent telecommunication operator Bezeq, and the People for Wise Use of the Internet (ESHNAV) non-profit organization.

Entitled "Children on the Internet: the Wonderful, and the Wild, World of Cyberspace", the symposium was held in the southern town of Sderoth, in the major city of Tel Aviv, and in the Arab town of Baqa Al-Gharbiya in the north of Israel. They represented three geographic sectors of Israel: urban centres, Israeli Arab towns, and the southern periphery.

The first part of the event, shared through videoconferencing, was devoted to keynote speeches from Sderoth, delivered by Israel's Minister of

Communications Moshe Kahalon, Bezeq's Chief Executive Officer Avi Gabai, Internet Association President Rimon Levi, and local mayor David Bouskila.

Mr Kahalon made an analogy between the Internet and cars. He said that cars have important advantages such as quickly transporting us from one place to another, but they can also become highly dangerous if driven unwisely, and so young people who have just learned to drive must have their parents' guidance. He added that the Internet is the same and stressed that parents must understand that they have to be aware of what their children are doing online and with whom they are interacting, and must give children all the information essential for their safety. Mr Levi also underlined the importance of parents not abandoning their authority and responsibility when it comes to the Internet, even in the face of the superior technical knowledge of their children.

Sderoth was linked with the Kibbutzim College of Education in Tel Aviv, where most of the panel of



The symposium in Sderoth

experts was located, and with the Al-Qasemi Academic College of Education in Baqa Al-Gharbiya. The audience in Sderoth was composed largely of schoolteachers, parents and children, while students formed most of the audiences at the two colleges.

A half-hour lecture was held separately in the three venues, under the auspices of ESHNAV. It outlined the advantages and dangers that the Internet presents to children, and how parents ought to deal with these. The lecture also emphasized that while parents may know less about the Internet than their children, they still know more about real life, and therefore must not underestimate the guidance they need to provide to their youngsters concerning safe and wise conduct online. Many examples were given of the dangers that may await children and adolescents on the Internet, including paedophiles and various forms of cyberbullying, and possible countermeasures were put forward. Emphasis was placed on the importance, above all else, of parental awareness, and it was suggested that parents should sit with their children at the computer, explain all the dangers, and advise them how to use the Internet safely.

Finally, the three venues were reconnected via videoconferencing for a panel discussion, moderated from Sderoth. From Baqa Al-Gharbiya, panelist Nimr Biyaa, Supervisor of Arab Sector Digitization at the Ministry of Education, described the state of digital culture within Israeli Arab society and the ministry's activity in this regard. Speaking from Tel Aviv, Dorit Bachar, Supervisor of Information Technologies and Ethics at the Ministry of Education, outlined the ministry's educational projects on Internet use, conducted in collaboration with ESHNAV. Representing the Kibbutzim College of Education, its Deputy Head Rivka Vadmani spoke about how the students (and future teachers) learn to teach wise Internet usage, based on a model developed jointly with the Israel Internet Association, while psychologist and lecturer at the college, Anat Bargol-Shakked, explained the unique characteristics of cyberbullying.

Also in Tel Aviv, Tzviya Elgali, lecturer and researcher on digital culture at Bar-Ilan University, stressed how parents should commit themselves to taking educational responsibility for the online behaviour of their children, and introduced various resources that would guide them on how to go about this task. Rather than spying on children, open communication is the answer, she said. Advocate Jonathan Klinger, a member of the ESHNAV management, talked about the need for citizens to have more knowledge about what type of online behaviour is considered illegal.

In Sderoth, Mr Kahalon was asked about the Ministry of Communications' policies with regard to Internet infrastructure, including in the Arab sector. The minister said that great importance is placed on expanding Internet connectivity in Israel, and there is a regulatory policy of promoting universal deployment of, and access to, the most advanced Internet infrastructure.



Snapshot of celebrations from around the world

Regional events

The **African Information Security Association (AISA)** organized a forum for all key stakeholders on “Protecting Children and Young People Online,” to promote the adoption of policies and strategies that will protect children in cyberspace and promote their safe access to online resources. It took place at the AISA Secretariat in Lagos, Nigeria.

The **Arab ICT Organization (AICTO)** celebrated the day by organizing (with ITU) a conference on “Protecting Children in Cyberspace,” as well as an exhibition showing the latest technologies. In addition, a workshop on cybersecurity for children and teenagers took place at the Elgazala Technopark, in Tunis, Tunisia.

The **Cyber Peace Initiative** was launched by the Suzanne Mubarak Women’s International Peace Movement. To mark this year’s day, the Cyber Peace Initiative launched the online “1st Arab Family Safety Kit” for Arabic-speaking countries. This kit includes

manuals for parents and children, and was originally developed by Insafe, a project funded by the European Commission.

The **European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA)** marked the day by promoting a set of posters to raise parents’ awareness of the need to enhance the safety of children using virtual worlds and the Internet. ENISA believes that it is crucial for parents to become educated, empowered and engaged in ensuring that children have a truly positive experience online.

The **Internet Users Association** (*La Asociación de Usuarios de Internet*), based in Madrid, Spain, was the umbrella for many events in the Spanish-speaking world, predominantly in Latin America. Among them was a musical composition contest, as well as many conferences, seminars and educational activities. In an online concert, musicians from many countries uploaded videos of their performances onto YouTube.

► The **South Asia Mobile Forum (SAMF)** organized a round-table discussion on protecting children in cyberspace. Taking part were representatives of government, the telecommunication sector and Internet service providers, as well as leading journalists. In addition to the threats children face, they also considered practical tools to help minimize the risks.

National events

Bangladesh

The **Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC)** organized six divisional seminars and published a booklet and other materials about protecting children.

The **Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission** based its celebrations in the city of Chittagong in a programme spread over two days. It included an ICT exhibition, a seminar, classes in ICT and various competitions. There were also associated television programmes, and the *Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission* selected a theme song for the celebration, which can be heard and downloaded via the website (www.btrc.gov.bd/wtisd/). The aim was to build awareness among young people and help connect the unconnected.

Bolivia

The government of the **Department of Cochabamba**, in central Bolivia, organized a series of meetings and exhibitions on 18 May on the topic of protecting children in cyberspace. Taking part were the education ministry, universities and the telecommunication regulatory authority.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Protecting Children in Cyber Space



Organized by:



Cameroon

Non-governmental organization, **i-Vission International**, celebrated the day in partnership with the University of Douala. A seminar was held on cybercrime and the ways children are exploited in the Cameroonian context. Experts revealed the roots of cybercrime and how traps can be avoided.

China

HiPiKids was founded in 2008 as a technology company focusing on providing children with a better online experience via proprietary software and devices to connect to the Internet. To mark the day, it launched in Beijing a "Kids Internet Operating System" called HiPiCUBE.

Democratic Republic of the Congo

The **Cabinet du Vice Premier Ministre Chargé de la Reconstruction** (Office of the Vice-Prime Minister in Charge of Reconstruction) held a conference in Kinshasa-Gombe on 19 May on the topic of protecting children in cyberspace. It included a detailed presentation of the problem and advice about how parents and children can ensure that they use the Internet safely.

Dominican Republic

The **Instituto Dominicano de las Telecomunicaciones (INDOTEL)** launched on 18 May an initiative named *Internet Sano en República Dominicana*. Its purpose is to help children and teenagers surf the Internet in a secure and responsible way, as well as to promote use of the Internet to create a culture of knowledge, creativity and innovation.

France

Internet Sans Crainte is the French national programme to raise awareness of the online risks for young people. It represents France in the European

Union project *Safer Internet Plus*. It marked the day by promoting a special programme for teenagers between the ages of 12 and 16, which can be viewed at www.internetsanscrainte.fr/espace-jeunes/accueil.

India

The **Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers**, the **Computer Society of India**, and the **Institute of Engineers** organized events in the city of Vadodara, Gujarat. These included a talk on child online protection solutions to members of the three organizations, as well as to the public at large.

The **Odisha Telecom Development Forum (OTDF)** held an event in Bhubaneswar, the capital of the State of Orissa. Among its aims were raising awareness of the issues related to protecting children in cyberspace, and identifying appropriate tools and resources.

Japan

The **ITU Association of Japan (ITU-AJ)** held a ceremony in Tokyo and presented awards to people who have contributed to ITU-related activities, or who have assisted the field of ICT in developing countries. Winner of an award from Japan's Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications was Professor Yukio Hiramitsu, former chairman of Study Group 11 in ITU's Telecommunication Standardization Sector.

Lebanon

The **Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Lebanon**, in coordination with the **Higher Council for Childhood** (under the Ministry of Social Affairs), organized a round-table discussion on 14 May. Internet service providers, non-governmental organizations and members of the legislative Internet committees shared their vision of a protected Internet space for children, and how it can be achieved.



► Mauritania

The **Secretary of State in Charge of Modernizing Administration and ICT** (*Secrétariat d'Etat Chargé de la Modernisation de l'Administration et des TIC*) organized a day of debate on the theme of "The Internet for the whole family and in total security". Over 400 participants took part, representing all types of stakeholder. Also, a website was created to distribute parental control software.

Nigeria

Hugtech Information Links organized a *National Youth Summit on the Information Society*, held at the Continuing Education Centre of the University of Nigeria, in Nsukka. The goal of the event was to raise awareness in academic communities of the issues of the emerging information society.

Representatives of **Paradigm Initiative Nigeria** and **Microsoft Nigeria** visited a secondary school in Lagos on 15 May to discuss with pupils the need for young people to use ICT positively.

Oman

Personnel from the **Information Technology Authority (ITA)** visited schools across Oman to raise awareness of the need for Internet safety. ITA also marked the day by launching its Computer Emergency Response Team (ITA CERT), whose mission includes the protection of children in cyberspace. The team will conduct a one-year campaign for students and parents using education kits, and it provides a website for children at www.cert.gov.om/kids/.

Pakistan

The **Pakistan Fair and Exhibition Corporation** held, on 17–19 May in Lahore, the *Pakistan Telecom Expo and Conference 2009*. During the event, all stakeholders (policy-makers, regulators, operators and industry) were called on to promote the protection of children in cyberspace and their safe access to online resources.

Peru

Peru's **National University of Engineering (INICTEL-UNI)** held its *Fifth International Technological Week* under the theme "Child Protection in Cyberspace". It took place in Lima on 18–22 May as a forum for ICT professionals, researchers and students. There was an exhibition of the latest technologies, mainly by telecommunication companies.

Poland

The **Association of Polish Electrical Engineers (SEP)** organized a meeting in cooperation with school and university students and young research personnel.





A workshop for children was held by the Arab ICT organization

The *III National Meeting of Students and Teachers of the Schools of Communications* focused on the theme of “protecting children in cyberspace”, and the *II Inter-University Students’ Scientific Conference* looked at “protecting the individual in cyberspace”. Also, a round-table conference on “Poland on the way to the information society” took place under the patronage of the Speaker of the Polish Sejm (the lower house of parliament).

Russian Federation

The **UN Information Centre in Moscow** organized, on 12–15 May, an exhibition entitled “The Territory of the Safe Internet”, within the framework of the ICT exhibition *Expocomm-2009*. A round-table discussion also took place on “protecting children in the information society”. Leading the project was the National Organizing Committee for the Year of the Safe Internet.

Sudan

The **Youth National Training Centre** organized workshops and cultural events, along with technical presentations. The overall goal was to raise awareness and to help children focus on the need for protection online.

Turkey

The **Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA)** organized an international panel discussion on 15 May, involving such stakeholders as telecommunication operators, service providers, NGOs and governmental agencies. Participants examined the threats to children, as well as global strategies for protecting children in cyberspace. ITU’s Telecommunication Development Bureau Director Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid was a keynote speaker at the event.

Uganda

The **Commonwealth Association of Uganda (CPAUG)**, **I-Network**, **UNDP Uganda** and the **Uganda Communications Commission** organized several events, in partnership with Uganda’s ICT Ministry. These included an ICT exhibition, a Youth ICT Forum, and a National Symposium that focused on the theme of “protecting children in cyberspace”.