UNICEF FOLLOW UP TO WORLD CONGRESS III AGAINST SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

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UPDATE ON ACTIONS TAKEN TO DATE

- Over the past 15 years, UNICEF has played a key role in supporting the organization and follow up to the three World Congresses against Sexual Exploitation of Children.

- At global, regional and country levels, UNICEF’s follow up to World Congress III against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents is closely linked to the follow up to the UN Study on Violence against Children (UNSVAC).
UPDATE ON ACTIONS TAKEN TO DATE

- In every country, consistent with the UNICEF Child Protection Strategy, UNICEF is supporting national governments in:
  1) The strengthening of child protection systems at national and local levels (e.g. laws, policies and comprehensive services for children) and
  2) The promotion of change in social norms and behaviors harmful to children

➤ thereby contributing to the protection of children from all forms of violence and exploitation, including sexual exploitation
EXAMPLES OF REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LEVEL ACTIONS

- **South Asia** - support to the South Asia Initiative to End Violence against Children (SAIEVAC), launched in June 2010

- **West and Central Africa** – support to countries on how to address violence against children in schools – including sexual acts in exchange of good marks/reports, or payments for schools fees or supplies
  - Publications produced in support of advocacy efforts and programmatic action
EXAMPLES OF REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LEVEL ACTIONS

Latin America and the Caribbean

- Support to governments in the development/implementation of national plans and legislative reforms as well as their enforcement, and strengthening of child protection systems with special attention to sexual exploitation, including trafficking

- Development of a regional violence prevention strategy incorporating efforts to address sexual exploitation and trafficking

- Development of regional strategy on the prevention of sexual exploitation and trafficking with focus on how to change norms and behaviors

- Systematization of experiences and work under way in various countries, including Central America
EXAMPLES OF REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LEVEL ACTIONS

In Middle East and Northern African region

- Support to a study on inter-personal violence among youth in Lebanon, investigating the exposure of teenagers and young people to sexual abuse

- The research included the development of training materials for social workers; an interactive guide for educators on how to work with the teenagers; a peer-to-peer magazine used as a tool and reference by teenagers in times of abuse; and “an a media awareness toolkit documentary (Against My Will!),” which maps out misconceptions, behaviors and possible solutions to teenagers regarding relationships
EXAMPLES OF REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LEVEL ACTIONS

- **East Asia and the Pacific**
  - Development of a model on how to cost prevention strategies for violence against children, including child sexual abuse

  - Support to collection and analysis of data on VAC, including sexual violence; development and implementation of NPAs, MOUs, national committees coordinating action to prevent and stop sexual exploitation and trafficking in children
EXAMPLES OF GLOBAL INITIATIVES

- Launch of a two-year global campaign to achieve universal ratification and effective implementation of the OPSC by 2012, in collaboration with key partners including the SRSG on VAC

- Together for Girls initiative to end sexual violence against girls launched in September 2009

  - UN agencies, the US government and private sector launched
  - Support to countries in collection and analysis of data on sexual violence against girls and development of a comprehensive policy and programme response
EXAMPLES OF GLOBAL INITIATIVES

- Efforts to address the impact of information and communication technologies on children

- Collaboration with the private sector in the prevention of sexual exploitation in travel and tourism through support to the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism

- Analysis of studies on violence against children and evaluation of programmes supported by UNICEF and partners addressing different forms of violence against children, including sexual exploitation and trafficking in children, to document effective interventions and lessons learned