

## Plans for 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the CRC

### ECPAT Korea(TACTEEN NAEIL)

To celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child, ECPAT Korea is planning to hold or participate in events listed below:

#### **Panel Discussion on the need to amend the laws to prevent the sexual exploitation of children**

- ECPAT Korea is planning to hold a panel discussion with different groups of participants – child support professionals, legal practitioners, parents, and children.
- The discussion topic will be on the current legal system related to the sexual exploitation of children such as statutory rape, age of consent, prostitution of children, and punishment of children in sex-selling.
- In 2019, ECPAT Korea worked hard to raise the age of consent to protect children from sexual exploitation. SAGYE Times and ECPAT Korea worked together for the media coverage on the statutory rape and age of consent. The age of consent in Korea is 13, which is very low, and the court accepts the offender's excuse of being in a 'romantic relationship' with the victim child.
- Also, many victim children of child prostitution are punished by the law rather than protected by it. The current law defines child victims into two different categories – one, a victim child who was abused by others, and the other, an 'actively involved' child who 'willingly' participated in the sex-selling. If a child is labeled as 'involved' child, he or she cannot receive any support programs, and often they are sent to the correctional system where they have to face and stay with the actual offenders of the crime.
- To correct such loopholes of the current legal system and to protect children from further victimization, ECPAT Korea is opening a panel discussion to promote this topic and make a new change.

#### **Asian Children's Summit in Bangkok, Thailand**

- ECPAT Korea is participating in the Asian Children's Summit in Bangkok, Thailand. The Summit is held by ASEAN, SAARC, CRC Asia Coalition, and other CSOs to celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UNCRC.
- The overall theme of the Children's Summit is SDGs, and the sub-themes include online

child protection, children on the move, climate change, and child participation.

- ECPAT Korea has submitted the participation application to ECPAT International for the Summit and will be participating the event with child delegates.
- The planned dates for the Summit is in November(possibly in 3<sup>rd</sup>~4<sup>th</sup> week), and ECPAT Korea is currently waiting for more detailed information from ECPAT International.

Events will be executed as planned except in the cases of inevitable changes to consider.

Thank you very much!

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Team manager

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