



IJM Submission On:

*Online Safety (BOSE) Amendment  
Determination 2023*

## I. Introduction

Thank you for this opportunity to provide a submission on the draft *Online Safety (Basic Online Safety Expectations) Amendment Determination 2023*. We welcome the Government's commitment to strengthening Australia's Online Safety regime.

[International Justice Mission](https://www.ijm.org/)<sup>1</sup> (IJM) is a global organisation that protects people in poverty from violence. We partner with local authorities in 31 program offices in 16 countries to combat slavery, violence against women and children, and other forms of abuse against people living in poverty. Since 2011, IJM has worked closely with all levels of the Philippine Government, international law enforcement, community service organisations, survivor leaders, and other relevant stakeholders to combat online sexual exploitation of children, with focus on the trafficking of children to produce first-generation child sexual exploitation material (CSEM) especially via livestreaming video ("livestreamed child sexual abuse").

*What is livestreamed child sexual abuse?*

Livestreamed child sexual abuse is a particularly egregious form of online harm whereby adults produce new child sexual exploitation material for paying sex offenders around the world. This crime involves the real-time sexual abuse of a child by a third party, directed by the remote offender, who often specifies the type of abuse they wish to see. It is perpetuated through common, popular messaging and video-chat applications.

Although no country is immune from this crime, the Philippines is believed to be the epicentre of this form of online exploitation. A recent study conducted by IJM in partnership with the Nottingham Rights Lab in the UK found that in 2022 alone nearly half a million Filipino children were trafficked to produce new child sexual exploitation material.<sup>2</sup>

*Livestreamed child sexual abuse is a growing global crime*

Livestreaming child sexual abuse cases have also recently been identified across dozens of countries, including Romania,<sup>3</sup> Ghana,<sup>4</sup> and Thailand.<sup>5</sup> Australian children are also victims of child sexual abuse production and distribution via livestreaming. According to the Australian Center to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE), "Australian children as young as eight are being coerced into performing live-streamed sexual acts by online predators, who often record

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ijm.org/>

<sup>2</sup> IJM (2023), *Scale of Harm: Estimating the prevalence of trafficking to produce child sexual exploitation material in the Philippines* <https://www.ijm.org.ph/resources>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/paedophiles-philippines-romania-national-crime-agency-b2112832.html>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/registered-sex-offender-paid-to-watch-live-streamed-child-abuse>

<sup>5</sup> DISRUPTING HARM IN THAILAND: Evidence on online child sexual exploitation and abuse, available at [https://www.end-violence.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/DH\\_Thailand\\_ONLINE\\_final.pdf](https://www.end-violence.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/DH_Thailand_ONLINE_final.pdf), p. 58 ("The victimisation of children via video calls is a common form of OCSEA, according to [the Thailand Internet Crimes Against Children task force] TICAC, and live-streaming of CSEA has appeared in the caseload of DSI. In addition, one foreign law enforcement agency notes that Thailand accounts for 5% of its total reports to date on live-streamed CSEA.")

and share the videos on the dark net and sexually extort victims into producing even more graphic content.”<sup>6</sup>

### *Australian offenders fuel demand for this crime*

Offenders who pay for the livestreamed abuse of children often come from Western countries, such as US, UK, EU, Australia, Germany and Canada. A study by the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) found that 256 Australians spent AUD\$1.3 million to view live streaming child sexual abuse from the Philippines over a 13-year period. This amount was spent over 2,714 separate payments.<sup>7</sup> According to the [Anti-Money Laundering Council](#) in the Philippines, Australia has been consistently ranked the 3<sup>rd</sup> top source of OSAEC<sup>8</sup>-related remittances flagged as “suspicious transactions” by financial institutions, both in terms of volume and PhP value since 2015.

### *The tech sector must do more to combat this crime*

Livestreamed child sexual abuse requires urgent attention by tech platforms because it involves repeated hands-on sexual abuse of predominantly pre-pubescent children by trusted adults in real-time as directed and paid for by foreign – including Australian – sex offenders. Detection, reporting, and technological prevention of this type of online abuse is critical because the victims are being repeatedly abused “live.” IJM’s 2020 study of livestreamed child sexual abuse in the Philippines found that victims were abused on average for two years prior to intervention, in part because technology and financial sector companies failed to prevent, detect and report in real-time the crimes happening on and through their platforms.<sup>9</sup>

The digital industry has the technical expertise and resources to ensure that children are not abused through the use of their services and platforms. Our recommendations for the BOSE would strengthen the expectations placed on the online industry to meet their responsibility for preventing and stopping online harms.

## **II. Overall Recommendations**

We are pleased to see that the proposed amendments introduce explicitly an expectation for service providers to ensure that the “best interests of the child” are a primary consideration throughout the development and implementation stages of an online service. This expectation would make Australia’s online safety scheme consistent with the objectives underlying Article 3 of the Convention of the Rights of the Child (“UNCRC”),<sup>10</sup> which states

*in all action concerning children ... the best interests of the child shall be the primary consideration*

In order to align with this expectation, service providers would need to consider the needs of children who would be users of their services *or* who would be affected or abused by others’ use of those services, and to work out how to best support those needs in the design and

<sup>6</sup>AFP warn about fast growing online child abuse trend, Sept. 2021,

<https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/afp-warn-about-fast-growing-online-child-abuse-trend>

<sup>7</sup> Brown R. Napier S & Smith R 2020. “Australians who view live streaming of child sexual abuse: an analysis of financial transactions.” *Trends & issues in crime and criminal justice* no. 589. Canberra: Australian Institute of Criminology [https://www.aic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-05/ti589\\_australians\\_who\\_view\\_live\\_streaming\\_of\\_child\\_sexual\\_abuse.pdf](https://www.aic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-05/ti589_australians_who_view_live_streaming_of_child_sexual_abuse.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> OSAEC – Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children

<sup>9</sup> IJM (2020) *Online Sexual Exploitation of Children in the Philippines: Analysis and Recommendations for Governments, Industry, and Civil Society*.

<sup>10</sup> [Convention on the Rights of the Child text | UNICEF](#)

operation/implementation of those services. These would include the need for children to be safe from exploitation risks, protection and support of their health and wellbeing, and their physical, psychological and emotional development. Service providers must anticipate and address the needs of children and give primary consideration to the best interests of the child when developing new technology and operating their services, even when this comes into conflict with a service's commercial interests. We recommend that there be accompanying explanatory material to guide service providers in interpreting the "best interests of the child" in accordance with the UNCRC and by consulting with survivors with lived experience of abuse.<sup>11</sup>

We recommend that the expectation to give primary consideration to the best interests of the child be for **all digital services that impact on the rights of the child**, not only for services that are "used by, or accessible to, children."<sup>12</sup>

Along with proposed subsection 6(2A) and proposed provisions that relate to preventing access by children to class 2 material, the best interests of the child are promoted when the following measures are implemented:

- a) Setting prevention of online harm as an expectation for service providers – children's best interests are safeguarded when online services are designed and implemented so as to prevent the online harm from occurring in the first place.
- b) Preventing retraumatisation by taking steps that limit/prevent the viral spread of illegal and harmful content;
- c) Requiring of online service providers robust, actionable reporting to the regulator and/or law enforcement that would help identify and bring offenders to justice, identify the victim, bring them to safety, stop the ongoing harm, and that provides all information permitted by law to disclose, as opposed to the minimum required by law; and
- d) Considering safety risks posed by the online service to *all* children who may be impacted by the use of the online service, not just end-users who are children. In the case of livestreamed child sexual abuse, many of the child victims are not end-users of the digital platforms through which the abuse occurred but they are harmed by users accessing those platforms from Australia, along with users in other countries such as the Philippines.

## ***Recommendations on Proposed Amendments***

**1) Prevention as an Expectation.** The proposed amendments include as an expectation investment in systems, tools and processes to improve the prevention and detection of material or activity on the service that is unlawful or harmful. However, IJM recommends that the BOSE also introduce the expectation to build the platform safe by design in the first place, to prevent online harm from occurring on those platforms.

Electronic service providers can only protect the best interests of the child by taking a preventative approach. As the survivor group Phoenix 11 says:

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<sup>11</sup> For example, the following article expands on the best interest of the child in the context of the online child sexual exploitation cases: <https://qmro.qmul.ac.uk/xmlui/bitstream/handle/123456789/80562/4%20-%20Best%20Interest%20of%20the%20Child%20%28Article%29.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

<sup>12</sup> Proposed subsection 6(2A).

*“It should go without saying, but we need to point out that every one of our child sexual abuse images was created illegally. It is our privacy that is violated each time an image of our child sexual abuse is accessed, possessed or shared.”<sup>13</sup>*

Online sexual exploitation of children needs a preventative approach. We cannot wait for children to be sexually abused before we decide to intervene. Much of the harm caused by child sexual abuse online can be technologically prevented and disrupted when companies across the tech sector deploy broadly safety technology, including hashing, image-classifiers, grooming detection, and real-time “live” CSAM detection.

**2) Best interests of the child and CSAM virality.** Each time an image of child sexual abuse is shared, that child is revictimized. When designing services with the best interests of the child in mind, virality is a critical component to ensuring child welfare. The impact that virality of harmful material goes far beyond CSAM or pro-terror content. Because of the devastation with which virality can traumatize and re-traumatize children, service providers should be required to prevent the virality of illegal content.

**3) Online safety protections should extend beyond end-users, in keeping with the best interests of the child.** The BOSE sets out expectations that relate to the safety of *end-users*; however, the safety risks and impacts of internet misuse on Australian platforms are not confined to online harms to end-users. Unfortunately, many children are subjected to devastating abuse and harm through the use of online platforms at the hands of adult end-users – without being users of the platform themselves.<sup>14</sup> IJM’s 2020 study of livestreamed child sexual abuse in the Philippines<sup>15</sup> found that Australians accounted for nearly 1 in 5 offenders who engage in livestreamed sexual abuse of children in the Philippines. None of the child victims were Australian end-users, yet online platforms available in, and used by Australians, were weaponised for that harm.

The *Online Safety Act* defines “online safety for Australians” as follows:

online safety for Australians means the capacity of Australian to use social media services and electronic services in a safe manner.

“Capacity to use ... in a safe manner” includes ensuring that all Australians have access to social media and electronic services that have preventative safety technology built into them from the start, in order to prevent Australians from using platforms in a dangerous manner that causes online harm (irrespective of where a potential victim resides.) Using a service safely not only refers to the safety of the user, but also the safety of anyone who could be harmed by that user’s use of the service. An individual cannot be said to have the capacity to use a gun safely, for instance, merely because it contains safety mitigations to prevent him from harming himself but also because it contains safety mitigations that prevent him from *harming others* by its use.

For example, in 2022 the U.S. passed a law that requires new passenger vehicles manufactured by 2026 to be equipped with drunk driving prevention technology. Companies are creating an alcohol sensor to detect breath alcohol content and **prevent** cars from being driven by drivers with alcohol levels above the legal limit. This U.S. drunk driving prevention requirement is in the federal Infrastructure Bill (under “Impaired Driving”). A recent press release from the technical working group explains the proposed

<sup>13</sup> Phoenix 11 Statement. <https://protectchildren.ca/en/press-and-media/news-releases/2021/phoenix-11-apple-statement>

<sup>14</sup> In IJM’s study, *Online Sexual Exploitation of Children in the Philippines: Analysis and Recommendations for Governments, Industry and Civil Society* (May 2020), of the 92 case files of livestreamed sexual abuse of children reviewed, none of the victims were themselves end-users. They had, however, suffered horrific sexual abuse at the hands of adults, with their abuse livestreamed via online platforms to other adult end-users. The median age of the child victims was 11 years old, with the youngest being 3 months old – clearly too young to be an end-user of an online platform.

<sup>15</sup> IJM (2020) *Online Sexual Exploitation of Children in the Philippines: Analysis and Recommendations for Governments, Industry, and Civil Society*.

technology. Essentially, that law requiring prevention technology will give Americans the “capacity to use vehicles in a safe manner,” insofar as it relates to potential drunk driving—for the safety of the driver (the “user”), for the safety of others on the road (other “users”), and also for the safety of non-users—passersby, children playing on a playground, etc.

The same can become true for Australians using social media and electronic services, by creating a “new normal” where devices, apps, platforms, etc. are built with prevention technology installed in them to make them safe for use for all.

This definition of “online safety for Australians” should be reflected in the BOSE provisions, to hold the tech industry accountable for

- 1) Safety of end-users (both adult and children);
- 2) Protection of children who may not themselves be users of the platform or service but who may be exploited by end-users; and
- 3) Identification and restraining of Australians who pose an online threat to vulnerable children around the world.

We recommend having an explanatory note that give specific guidance to ensure this understanding in the provisions that refer to the “ability of end-users to use services in a safe manner”, such as subsections 6(1), 63)(f) and 10(1).

#### **4) Artificial Intelligence can help prevent, disrupt, or mitigate online sexual exploitation of children.**

*AI-generated CSAM exacerbates the global problem of child sexual abuse and exploitation online.*

- IWF published how their analysts are spending precious time determining whether real children are depicted in thousands of AI-generated CSAM that look very realistic. The need to identify which images are those that need to be sent to law enforcement for victim identification and safeguarding wastes limited resources dedicated to child protection.
- Even if a child was not physically abused, their real face could be used in AI-generated CSAM, thus violating their privacy, dignity and harming them in other ways.
- The spread of AI-generated CSAM can further normalise offenders consuming CSAM and sharing it with others, thus creating more demand for it.

*AI-Generated CSAM emphasizes the need for Safety by Design.* More broadly, the reality of AI-generated CSAM is a prime example for why tech companies must embed safety by design into their product design processes before rolling out technology. The misuse of AI tools to create CSAM may have been preventable through adopting a safety by design approach in the development of those AI tools, by using hashes to remove CSAM from data sets used to train AI models, for instance. The proliferation of livestreamed child sexual abuse through common video call and livestreaming technologies without any mitigation efforts shows the impact of the failure of the tech sector to adopt a safety by design approach. In keeping with the best interests of the child, we recommend that safety by design be mandated as an expectation and included from the start in new technologies. Child safety due diligence assessments should become the norm for all new technology, similar to human rights due diligence in the business sector.

*AI-based Safety Technology Exists to Use AI to Protect Children, Not Harm Them.* Instead of AI used to create CSAM, thus normalizing the most abhorrent content, AI-based safety

technologies such as IWF-trained SafeToWatch (SafeToNet),<sup>16</sup> can be used by tech platforms to combat CSAM, thus normalizing safety by design and safe technologies.

*Real children are sexually abused to produce CSAM.* Nearly half a million real children are being sexually abused to create CSAM in the Philippines for sale to offenders around the world, according to IJM's 2023 *Scale of Harm* study.<sup>17</sup> While AI-generated CSAM is critical to address, real children continue to be sexually abused in person to produce CSAM at massive scale and they deserve to be urgently brought to safety and protected.

## 5) Transparency reporting can be collaborative.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development examined the top-50 platforms' transparency reporting and their policies and procedures in relation to child sexual exploitation and abuse. The report found that i) 80% of platforms provided no detailed policy on OSAEC, ii) 60% of platforms did not issue a transparency report on CSEA, and iii) information on transparency reports is inconsistent and uneven, making sector-wide analysis difficult, if not impossible.<sup>18</sup> As eSafety, Ofcom, and other regulators regulate the tech sector, governments can harmonise standardised transparency reporting.

The BOSE Transparency Reports have been a critical first step in holding the tech sector to account. The amendments can further the impact of these reports by:

- a) Collaborating with other governments to develop standardised reports.
- b) Require service providers to evaluate high-risk jurisdictions for specific harms (such as financial sextortion in West Africa, livestreaming CSAM in the Philippines) and then implement more stringent protections and mitigations for illegal content being produced or distributed from these regions.
- c) Assess the way in which service providers collaborate with law enforcement to support report investigations. In IJM's experience supporting law enforcement in the Philippines, Nigeria, Ghana, and Kenya in investigations of suspected child sexual abuse online, we have seen a need for improved tech sector responsiveness to law enforcement requests during the investigative process. By including a metric to assess their responsiveness to law enforcement requests, these services will be held to a higher account.

## **Recommendations for additional amendments**

**1) Create the expectation of new child sexual abuse material detection and prevention.** Recognising the severe and ongoing harm caused by CSAM, the Australian Government should introduce and enforce amendments to BOSE that mandate the detection of new or first-generation child sexual abuse material. New child sexual abuse material can often indicate ongoing harm to a child who may be in imminent threat of more abuse. The expectations set out in BOSE need to be such to deter Australian users from committing online child sexual exploitation offences. At present, the focus of tech companies and regulators on the detection, reporting and removal of known CSAM may have

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<sup>16</sup> SafeToWatch was trained against CSAM of categories A & B as defined under UK sentencing guidelines, the most severe abuse categories. The dataset was of the highest reliability due to the painstaking work of IWF analysts. In addition to CSAM, the network was trained to recognise explicit sexual acts between adults, or pornography, as well as sexual art and finally, subjectively sexual material. This was to force the network to make a distinction between CSAM and lawful sexual material.

<sup>17</sup> International Justice Mission (2022) *Scale of Harm*.

[https://assets.ijm.app/IJM\\_Scale\\_of\\_Harm\\_2023\\_Full\\_Report\\_5f292593a9.pdf](https://assets.ijm.app/IJM_Scale_of_Harm_2023_Full_Report_5f292593a9.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (2023) *TRANSPARENCY REPORTING ON CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE ONLINE*. <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/deliver/554ad91f-en.pdf?itemId=%2Fcontent%2Fpaper%2F554ad91f-en&mimeType=pdf>



unintentionally incentivised offenders to produce and share new CSAM because they are much less likely to be caught.

2) **Enhance law enforcement collaboration requirements.** Facilitate stronger collaboration between technology companies and law enforcement agencies in addressing the issue of CSAM by establishing a standardised framework outlining the obligations of tech companies to swiftly provide digital evidence to law enforcement during investigations related to suspected CSAM activities. This framework should include clear guidelines on the timeline and level of assistance required, ensuring a more efficient and timely response to combat the exploitation of children.

4) **Implement stronger technology risk assessments.** Similar to the UK model outlined in Volume 3 by Ofcom, digital service providers should be required to conduct comprehensive feature-based risk assessments of their technologies. Service providers should develop plans to mitigate identified risks, especially those associated with functionalities such as live-streaming, pseudonymity, anonymity, and end-to-end encryption. This proactive approach will help anticipate and address potential vulnerabilities, ensuring that technology is developed and used responsibly.

5) **Establish a Block List for CSAM Sharers:** Service providers should be required to take measures to block individuals convicted of sharing CSAM from accessing the service or particular content on the service. Similar to restraining orders, individuals found guilty of such crimes should be prohibited from using social media platforms to prevent further exploitation of children. This would be similar to the requirement under section 10(4)d) of the *Online Safety Act 2023 (UK)*.<sup>19</sup> This measure aims to create a safer online environment by restricting the access of known offenders to platforms where they could potentially harm more victims.

### III. Amendments by Section

| Division 2 – Expectations regarding safe use   |   |
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| <p><b>BOSE Provision</b></p> <p>6 (1) The provider of the service will take reasonable steps to ensure that end-users are able to use the service in a safe manner.</p>  | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>The <a href="#">Anti-Money Laundering Council</a> in the Philippines, Australia has been ranked the 3<sup>rd</sup> top source of OSAEC-related remittances in terms of volume and Philippine Pesos since 2015. This nearly 10-year steadiness as a top offending country means we have not sufficiently placed enough emphasis on deterrence of OSAEC-related transactions from Australia to the Philippines.</p> |
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Include a new provision.</p> <p><i>Additional Expectation</i></p> <p>The provider of the service will take considerable and reasonable steps to ensure that offenders of child sexual abuse are not able to use the service to create, distribute, or produce child sexual abuse material.</p> |   |

<sup>19</sup> <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2023/50/section/10/enacted#section-10-2>

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| <p><b>BOSE Provision</b></p> <p>6 (2) The provider of the service will take reasonable steps to proactively minimise the extent to which material or activity on the service is unlawful or harmful</p>  | <p><b>Survivors of Online Sexual Exploitation Comments</b></p> <p>“We know that they created these platforms for good, so they should find ways to prevent abuse from occurring on their platform... If possible, applications that do not detect the abuse should be shut down from public access.”</p> <p><i>Survivors Call for Action – UK Online Safety Bill</i></p>   |
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| <p><b>Draft BOSE Amendment</b></p> <p>(2A) The provider of the service will take reasonable steps to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in the design and operation of any service that is used by, or accessible to, children.</p>   | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>Children are frequently abused online without themselves having access to, or being users of, digital platforms. This is often the case in livestreamed child abuse, where children as young as two months old are sexually abused by adults and their abuse livestreamed. We recommend that the expectation to give primary consideration to the best interests of the child be for <b>all digital services that impact on the rights of the child</b>, not only for services that are “used by, or accessible to, children”.</p> |
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Amend the provision.</p> <p>(2A) The provider of the service will take reasonable steps to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in the design and operation of any digital service that is used by children, <del>or</del> accessible to children, or impacts on the rights of the child.</p> |  |
| <p><b>BOSE Provision</b></p> <p>6 (3) (a) developing and implementing processes to detect, moderate, report and remove (as applicable) material or activity on the service that is unlawful or harmful.</p>  | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>The United States recently passed a law requiring all cars manufactured after 2026 to include a breathalyser to prevent drunk driving. Car manufacturers have come together to develop a technology that will be deployed come 2026 to prevent a car from starting if the driver’s BAC is above the legal limit.</p> <p>In the same way, tech companies possess the collective resources to come together and develop prevention technology to stop child sexual abuse.</p>  |
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Amend the provision.</p> <p>“developing and implementing processes to prevent, detect, moderate, report and remove (as applicable) material or activity on the service that is unlawful or harmful.”</p>   |  |
| <p><b>Draft BOSE Amendment</b></p> <p>6 (3) (e) ensuring that assessments of safety risks and impacts are undertaken, identified risks are appropriately mitigated, and safety review processes are implemented, throughout the design, development, deployment, and post-deployment stages for the service.</p>   | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>Under the UK Online Safety Act, Ofcom’s proposed risk assessments consider platform features that are high risk. For example, the ability to livestream is a high-risk platform feature that is easy for child sexual abuse offenders to exploit for the purposes of abusing children. Similarly, Ofcom lists end-to-end</p>   |



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|   | <p>encryption, pseudonymity, and anonymity as other high-risk platform features.</p> <p>By including platform features in the risk assessment, the full potential for harm is assessed.</p> <p>eSafety Commissioner recently reported that <a href="#">one in eight complaints of CSAM</a> involved the perpetrator directing the child to perform explicit acts via a webcam or smart phone.</p> |
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Amend the provision.</p> <p>“ensuring that assessments of safety risks, <del>and</del> impacts and <b>risky platform features</b> are undertaken, identified risks are appropriately mitigated, and safety review processes are implemented, throughout the design, development, deployment, and post-deployment stages for the service.”</p> |   |
| <p><b>Draft BOSE Amendment</b></p> <p>6 (3) (g) having staff, systems, tools and processes to action reports and complaints within a reasonable period of time in accordance with subsection 14(3)</p>  | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>Foreign law enforcement investigating suspected child sexual abuse crimes require swift and accurate digital evidence to support their investigations. By establishing a formal process for this support, law enforcement will be able to conduct the investigation and safeguard the child as quickly as practicable.</p>  |
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Add a provision.</p> <p>6(3)(i) “having staff, systems, tools, and processes to support law enforcement investigations and requests for evidence in a timely manner.”</p>   |   |
| <p><b>BOSE Provision</b></p> <p>6 (3) (h) investing in systems, tools and processes to improve the prevention and detection of material or activity on the service that is unlawful or harmful</p>  | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>Existing prevention technology such as SafeToNet’s <a href="#">SafeToWatch</a>, <a href="#">DragonflAI</a>, or Apple’s <a href="#">NeuralHash</a> can be deployed on either the service itself or the device to prevent the creation, production, and dissemination of child sexual abuse material.</p>   |
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Add a provision and establish it as an expectation.</p> <p>6(3)(j) “deploy systems, tools and processes already in existence to prevent and detect material or activity on the service that is unlawful or harmful.”</p>  |   |
| <p><b>BOSE Provision</b></p> <p>8 (1) If the service uses encryption, the provider of the service will take reasonable steps to develop and implement processes to detect and address material or activity on the service that is unlawful or harmful.</p>  | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>Existing prevention technology such as SafeToNet’s <a href="#">SafeToWatch</a>, <a href="#">DragonflAI</a>, or Apple’s <a href="#">NeuralHash</a> can be deployed on either the service itself or the device to prevent the creation, production, and dissemination of child sexual abuse material.</p>   |
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Amend the provision.</p> <p>“If the service uses encryption, the provider of the service will take reasonable steps to develop and implement processes to <b>prevent</b>, detect and address material or activity on the service that is unlawful or harmful.”</p>  |   |
| <p><b>Draft BOSE Amendment</b></p> <p>8A(1) If the service uses or enables the use of generative artificial intelligence capabilities, the provider of the service will take reasonable steps</p>   | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>The safety risks and impacts of internet misuse on Australian platforms are not confined to online harms to end-users; many Australians</p>   |

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| <p>to consider end-user safety and incorporate safety measures in the design, implementation and maintenance of artificial intelligence on the service.</p> <p>(2) If the service uses or enables the use of generative artificial intelligence capabilities, the provider of the service will take reasonable steps to proactively minimise the extent to which generative artificial intelligence capabilities may be used to produce material or facilitate activity that is unlawful or harmful.</p>  | <p>are involved in exploiting and causing online harm to others, both within and outside of Australia. Many children are subjected to devastating abuse and harm through online platforms, without being end-users of the platforms themselves</p>   |
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Amend the provision.</p> <p>(1) If the service uses or enables the use of generative artificial intelligence capabilities, the provider of the service will take reasonable steps to consider <del>end-user</del> <b>the online safety of end-users and other persons who may experience online harm through end-users misusing the service</b> and incorporate safety measures in the design, implementation and maintenance of artificial intelligence on the service.</p> <p>(2) If the service uses or enables the use of generative artificial intelligence capabilities, the provider of the service will take reasonable steps to proactively minimise the extent to which generative artificial intelligence capabilities may be used to produce material or facilitate activity that is unlawful or harmful.</p> |  |
| <p><b>Draft BOSE Amendment</b></p> <p>10 (1) The provider of the service will take reasonable steps to consult and cooperate with providers of other services, and to take reasonable steps to ensure consultation and cooperation occurs between all relevant services provided by that provider in order to promote the ability of end-users to use all of those services in a safe manner.</p>   | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>The <a href="#">Anti-Money Laundering Council</a> in the Philippines, Australia has been ranked the 3<sup>rd</sup> top source of OSAEC-related remittances in terms of volume and Philippine Pesos since 2015. This nearly 10-year steadiness as a top offending country means we have not sufficiently placed enough emphasis on deterrence of OSAEC-related transactions from Australia to the Philippines.</p>  |
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Amend the provision.</p> <p>“The provider of the service will take reasonable steps to consult and cooperate with providers of other services, and to take reasonable steps to ensure consultation and cooperation occurs between all relevant services provided by that provider in order to promote the ability of end-users to use all of those services in a safe manner <b>and to prevent the recidivism of child sexual abuse material creators, producers, and disseminators.</b>”</p>   |  |
| <p><b>Division 3 – Expectations regarding certain material and activity</b></p>   |  |
| <p><b>BOSE Provision</b></p> <p>11 Core expectation – provider will take reasonable steps to minimise provision of certain material</p>   | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>There should be an expectation on tech companies to take steps to limit online communities of offenders and web forums that exist for the purpose of encouraging discussion about child sexual abuse among its members, facilitating the online distribution of child abuse material, and providing tips and techniques for grooming children and evading detection. Similar to Ofcom's Draft Illegal Harms Codes of Practice (<a href="#">Annex 10</a>), this should encompass paedophile manuals.</p> <p>Such communities normalise offenders' behaviour, provide encouragement and validation, and enable offenders to share and learn tradecraft, thus decreasing the likelihood</p> |

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|  | that individuals will seek help and increasing the chances of their offending escalating, and helping them to evade detection and prosecution.  |
| <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Add provision.</p> <p><i>Additional expectation</i></p> <p>(2) The provider of the service will take reasonable steps to minimise the extent to which the following material is provided on the service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) material that instructs in child sexual exploitation and abuse activity, including paedophile manuals</li> <li>(b) material that instructs in preparatory child sexual exploitation and abuse activity (“grooming”) including paedophile manuals</li> <li>(c) material that instructs in how to avoid detection and prosecution for producing and distributing class 1 material;</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: “paedophile manuals” includes all written material, transmissions and forums</i></p> |   |
| <p><b>New proposed provision</b></p> <p>11A Additional expectation – provider will take reasonable steps to prevent access by children to class 1 material</p>   | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>Along with the requirement on tech companies in 11(1) to minimise the extent to which class 1 material is available on the service, there should be an additional expectation on providers to take steps to prevent children from accessing the class 1 material that may exist on the service despite the measures in subsection (1).</p> <p>A reasonable step that could be taken to ensure that provision of certain material are minimised on the service, and that children are prevented from accessing class 1 material on a service, would be to implement on-device solutions.</p> |
| <p><b>IJM Recommendation:</b> Add provision.</p> <p><b>“11A Additional Expectation – provider will take reasonable steps to minimise provision of certain material</b></p> <p><i>Additional expectation</i></p> <p>11A (1) The provider of the service will take reasonable steps to ensure that technological or other measures are in effect to prevent access by children to any class 1 material on the service.</p> <p><i>Reasonable steps that could be taken</i></p> <p>(2) Without limiting subsections (1) and (3) of this section, reasonable steps for the purposes of those subsections could include the implementing of on-device or client-side solutions.</p>  |   |
| <p><b>Division 4 – Expectations regarding reports and complaints</b></p>   |   |
| <p><b>BOSE Provision</b></p> <p>13(2) The provider of the service will ensure that the service has clear and readily identifiable mechanisms that enable any person ordinarily resident in Australia to report, and make complaints about, any of the following material provided on the services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) cyber-bullying material targeted at an Australian child;</li> </ul>  | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>According to the <a href="#">Anti-Money Laundering Council</a> in the Philippines, Australia has been ranked the 3<sup>rd</sup> top source of OSAEC-related remittances in terms of volume and Philippine Pesos since 2015. This nearly 10-year steadiness as a top offending country means we have not sufficiently placed enough emphasis on deterrence of OSAEC-related transactions from Australia to the Philippines.</p>  |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(b) cyber-abuse material targeted at an Australian adult;</li> <li>(c) a non-consensual intimate image of a person;</li> <li>(d) class 1 material;</li> <li>(e) class 2 material;</li> <li>(f) material that promotes abhorrent violent conduct;</li> <li>(g) material that instructs in abhorrent violent conduct;</li> <li>(h) material that depicts abhorrent violent conduct.</li> </ul>   | <p>There should be an expectation on tech companies to take steps to limit online communities of offenders and web forums that exist for the purpose of encouraging discussion about child sexual abuse among its members, facilitating the online distribution of child abuse material, and providing tips and techniques for grooming children and evading detection.</p> <p>Such communities normalise offenders' behaviour, provide encouragement and validation, and enable offenders to share and learn tradecraft, thus decreasing the likelihood that individuals will seek help and increasing the chances of their offending escalating, and helping them to evade detection and prosecution.</p> |
| <p><b>IJM Recommendation:</b> Amend the provision</p> <p>“13(2) The provider of the service will ensure that the service has clear and readily identifiable mechanisms that enable any person ordinarily resident in Australia or has experienced online harm by any person ordinarily resident in Australia to report, and make complaints about, any of the following material provided on the services:</p> <p>...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) material that instructs in child sexual exploitation and abuse activity, including paedophile materials</li> <li>(j) material that instructs in preparatory child sexual exploitation and abuse activity (“grooming”), including paedophile materials</li> <li>(k) material that instructs in how to avoid detection and prosecution for producing and distributing class 1 material</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: “paedophile manuals” includes all written material, transmissions and forums</i></p> |   |
| <p><b>Draft BOSE Amendment</b></p> <p>14(1A) The provider of the service will take reasonable steps (including proactive steps) to detect breaches of its terms of use and, where applicable, breaches of policies and procedures in relation to the safety of end-users, and standards of conduct for end-users.</p>   | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>Consideration must be given to the safety risks posed by the online service, to <i>all</i> persons who may be impacted by the use of the online service, not just end-users. In the case of livestreamed child sexual abuse, many of the child victims are not end-users of the digital platforms through which the abuse occurred.</p>   |
| <p>14(1A) The provider of the service will take reasonable steps (including proactive steps) to detect breaches of its terms of use and, where applicable, breaches of policies and procedures in relation to the safety of end-users and other persons who may experience online harm through misuse of the service, and standards of conduct for end-users.</p>   |   |
| <p><b>Draft BOSE Amendment</b></p> <p>14(2) The provider of the service will take reasonable steps (including proactive steps) to ensure that any penalties specified for breaches of its terms of use, policies and procedures in relation to the safety of end-users, and standards of conduct for end-users, are enforced against all accounts held or created by the end-user who breached the term of use and, where applicable, breached the policies and procedures, and standards of conduct, of the service.</p>   | <p><b>IJM Comments</b></p> <p>Consideration must be given to the safety risks posed by the online service, to <i>all</i> persons who may be impacted by the use of the online service, not just end-users. In the case of livestreamed child sexual abuse, many of the child victims are not end-users of the digital platforms through which the abuse occurred.</p>   |

14(2) The provider of the service will take reasonable steps (including proactive steps) to ensure that any penalties specified for breaches of its terms of use, policies and procedures in relation to the safety of end-users, or relating to the creation or sharing of material or engaging in activities on the service that may be unlawful or harmful and standards of conduct for end-users, are enforced against all accounts held or created by the end-user who breached the term of use and, where applicable, breached the policies and procedures, and standards of conduct, of the service.

**BOSE Provision**

15(2) The provider of the service will ensure that the service has clear and readily identifiable mechanisms that enable any person ordinarily resident in Australia to report, and make complaints about, breaches of the service’s terms of use and, where applicable, breaches of the service’s policies and procedures and standards of conduct mentioned in section 14.

**IJM Comments**

According to the [Anti-Money Laundering Council](#) in the Philippines, Australia has been ranked the 3<sup>rd</sup> top source of OSAEC-related remittances in terms of volume and Philippine Pesos since 2015. This nearly 10-year steadiness as a top offending country means we have not sufficiently placed enough emphasis on deterrence of OSAEC-related transactions from Australia to the Philippines.

**IJM Recommendation:** Amend the provision.

15(2) The provider of the service will ensure that the service has clear and readily identifiable mechanisms that enable any person ordinarily resident in Australia, or has experienced online harm by any person ordinarily resident in Australia, to report, and make complaints about, breaches of the service’s terms of use and, where applicable, breaches of the service’s policies and procedures and standards of conduct mentioned in section 14.

**Division 5 – Expectations regarding making certain information accessible**

**Draft BOSE Amendment**

**18A Additional expectation – provider will publish transparency reports**

- (1) The provider of the service will publish regular transparency reports, at regular intervals of no less than 1 month and no more than 12 months, with information regarding:
  - (a) the service’s enforcement of its terms of use, policies and procedures and standards of conduct mentioned in section 14;
  - (b) the safety tools and processes deployed by the service (including in relation to a service’s key features), and their effectiveness;
  - (c) metrics on the prevalence of harms, reports and complaints, and the service’s responsiveness; and
  - (d) the number of active end-users of the service in Australia (including children) each month during the relevant reporting period.

**IJM Comments**

The BOSE Transparency Reports have been a critical first step in holding tech companies accountable for the child sexual abuse material that is created, produced, and disseminated on their platforms. The requirement for transparency reports can be strengthened by:

- a) Collaborating with other governments to develop standardised reports.
- b) Requiring service providers to evaluate high-risk jurisdictions and implement more stringent protections for content being distributed from these regions.
- c) Assessing the way in which service providers collaborate with law enforcement to support report investigations. In IJM’s experience supporting law enforcement in the Philippines, Nigeria, Ghana, and Kenya in investigations of suspected child sexual abuse online, we have seen a need for urgent tech sector responsiveness to law enforcement during the investigative process. By including a metric to assess their responsiveness to law enforcement requests, these services will be held to a higher account.

**IJM Recommendation:** Amend or add subsections.

(c) metrics on the prevalence of harms, reports and complaints, categorised by country or jurisdiction, and the service's responsiveness;

(e) metrics on law enforcement requests for information and the service's responsiveness.

Also, further strengthen transparency reporting by collaborating with other regulators to standardised information to be required for transparency reporting.

#### **IV. About IJM**

International Justice Mission (IJM) is a global organisation that protects people in poverty from violence. As the largest anti-slavery organisation in the world, IJM partners with local authorities in 31 program offices in 16 countries to combat slavery, violence against women and children, and other forms of abuse against people who are poor. IJM works with local authorities and governments to rescue and restore survivors, hold perpetrators accountable, and help strengthen public justice systems so they can better protect people from violence.

#### **V. About IJM's Center to End Online Sexual Exploitation of Children**

IJM's Center to End Online Sexual Exploitation of Children protects children in the Philippines and scales the fight against this crime globally. The Center leverages and shares effective practices and models from IJM's Philippines program to enhance justice system and private sector responses to online sexual exploitation, resulting in sustainable child protection and offender accountability.

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## Annex A: Headlines of Australian Offender Production, Distribution, and Receiving of Livestreamed Child Sexual Abuse

- *AFP helps Filipino authorities arrest three women in livestream child abuse sting*<sup>20</sup>
- *Sydney man jailed for livestreaming sexual abuse of a Filipino child*<sup>21</sup>
- *Australian convicted for livestreaming sexual abuse of Filipino children*<sup>22</sup>
- *Australians are paying as little as \$18 to watch child sexual abuse live streamed directly from The Philippines*<sup>23</sup>
- *Western Australian man jailed after ordering livestreamed child sex abuse from the Philippines*<sup>24</sup>
- *256 Australians spend more than \$1.3 million watching child sexual abuse online*<sup>25</sup>
- *The live streaming of child sexual abuse in the Philippines has skyrocketed during the COVID-19 pandemic with perpetrators in Australia accounting for nearly a fifth of offenders*<sup>26</sup>
- *Four years' jail for Victorian man who paid Filipina to livestream sexual abuse of children in her care*<sup>27</sup>
- *Malone was sexually abused online aged eight. Many perpetrators are in Australia*<sup>28</sup>
- *Australian accused of child sex tourism arrested in the Philippines*<sup>29</sup>
- *Jail for man who exploited girls in the Philippines*<sup>30</sup>
- *Former public servant Ian Ralph Schapel jailed for abusing children from the Philippines online*<sup>31</sup>
- *Child sex tourist jailed for 'depraved' acts*<sup>32</sup>
- *How police zeroed in on vile teacher's child abuse live streams*<sup>33</sup>
- *Phillip John Ryan: Geraldton paedophile jailed over online abuse of dozens of children in the Philippines*<sup>34</sup>
- *'A danger to the community': Child sex pest's mega jail term*<sup>35</sup>
- *Man, 61, guilty of live-streaming child abuse walks free from court*<sup>36</sup>

<sup>20</sup> <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-05-12/afp-assists-philippines-livestream-child-abuse-sting/8521820>

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/sydney-man-jailed-livestreaming-sexual-abuse-filipino-child>

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.ijmuk.org/news/australian-convicted-for-livestreaming-sexual-abuse-of-filipino-children>

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/technology/australians-comprise-over-20-per-cent-of-a-growing-audience-paying-for-livestreamed-child-sex-abuse/news-story/b718b3a705e63f6c9f97f9a9f44498b5>

<sup>24</sup> <https://ijm.org.au/news/western-australian-man-jailed-after-ordering-livestreamed-child-sex-abuse-from-the-philippines/>

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-02-19/australians-paying-to-watch-child-sex-abuse-online/11979844>

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/malone-was-sexually-abused-online-aged-eight-many-perpetrators-are-in-australia/xc8epp10a>

<sup>27</sup> <https://osec.ijm.org/news-and-insights/news-updates/four-years-jail-for-victorian-man-who-paid-filipina-to-livestream-sexual-abuse-of-children-in-her-care/>

<sup>28</sup> <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/article/malone-was-sexually-abused-online-aged-eight-many-perpetrators-are-in-australia/xc8epp10a>

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.smh.com.au/world/australian-accused-of-child-sex-tourism-arrested-in-the-philippines-20160901-gr6x8x.html>

<sup>30</sup> <https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/jail-for-man-who-exploited-girls-in-the-philippines-20211006-p58xq6.html>. Also <https://7news.com.au/news/crime/vic-man-who-preyed-on-filipino-kids-jailed-c-4164514>

<sup>31</sup> <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-08-03/paedophile-ian-schapel-jailed-for-abusing-children-online/101294978>. Also <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10107455/Retired-South-Australian-public-servant-Ian-Schapel-67-sexually-exploited-kids-Philippines.html>

<sup>32</sup> <https://www.couriermail.com.au/questnews/john-joseph-power-child-sex-tourist-sentenced-in-brisbane-supreme-court/news-story/a072ac217e0176ffc873a9761b870ed3>

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.cairnspost.com.au/truecrimeaustralia/police-courts-cairns/how-police-zeroed-in-on-russell-owen-lorbacks-payperview-child-abuse-habit/news-story/af00dae1f98a313f4e63de0ecfa7d86e>

<sup>34</sup> <https://thewest.com.au/news/crime/phillip-john-ryan-geraldton-paedophile-jailed-over-online-abuse-of-dozens-of-children-in-the-philippines--c-6985189>

<sup>35</sup> <https://www.geelongadvertiser.com.au/truecrimeaustralia/police-courts-geelong/batesfords-roger-allan-rivo-jailed-for-12-years-on-child-sex-offences/news-story/7f485b4ee4919495bf765e0b93eba0b5>

<sup>36</sup> <https://australianseniorsnews.com.au/news/man-guilty-of-live-streaming-child-abuse-walks-free-from-court/>

- *Greens candidate who ran against Prime Minister at 2019 election charged with child sex offences<sup>37</sup>*
- *Australian businessman sentenced in Philippines for child sex crimes<sup>38</sup>*
- *WA man charged with 111 child abuse related offences<sup>39</sup>*
- *Victorian man jailed for child abuse offences, after his arrest led to rescue of children in the Philippines<sup>40</sup>*
- *Victorian man jailed for live distance child abuse offences<sup>41</sup>*
- *Brisbane man jailed for 8 years for abusing children overseas<sup>42</sup>*
- *Melbourne man, 61, sentenced for child abuse offences<sup>43</sup>*
- *Adelaide man jailed and 15 young victims rescued after international child abuse investigation<sup>44</sup>*
- *Sydney man jailed and child rescued in the Philippines<sup>45</sup>*
- *71-year-old man jailed for live distance child abuse<sup>46</sup>*
- *Sydney man charged with ordering live distance child abuse<sup>47</sup>*

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<sup>37</sup> <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-06-10/greens-candidate-jonathan-doig-chaged-with-child-sex-offences/12338828>

<sup>38</sup> <https://www.smh.com.au/world/asia/australian-businessman-sentenced-in-philippines-for-child-sex-crimes-20180221-p4z11m.html>

<sup>39</sup> <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/wa-man-charged-111-child-abuse-related-offences>

<sup>40</sup> <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/victorian-man-jailed-child-abuse-offences-after-his-arrest-led-rescue>

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/victorian-man-jailed-live-distance-child-abuse-offences>

<sup>42</sup> <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/brisbane-man-jailed-8-years-abusing-children-overseas>

<sup>43</sup> <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/melbourne-man-61-sentenced-online-child-abuse-offences>

<sup>44</sup> <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/adelaide-man-jailed-and-15-young-victims-rescued-after-international-child>

<sup>45</sup> <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/sydney-man-jailed-and-child-rescued-philippines>

<sup>46</sup> <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-media/media-releases/71-year-old-man-jailed-live-distance-child-abuse>

<sup>47</sup> <https://www.afp.gov.au/news-centre/media-release/sydney-man-charged-ordering-live-distance-child-abuse>

## **Annex B: Livestreamed Child Sexual Abuse and New Production Cases**

### **'DREADFUL' DEVON CHILD ABUSER JAILED FOR 18 YEARS**

UK-based offender paid Filipino facilitators and directed them via Skype as he watched and recorded 102 hours of livestreamed sexual abuse of up to 46 child victims.

### **QUEENS MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT FOR PRODUCING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

In two months, US-based offender paid and directed Filipino facilitators to engage in sexual acts with children and reordered over 50 video conferences depicting the abuse, some livestreamed via Skype.

### **PAEDOPHILE, 74, DIRECTED CHILD ABUSE FILMS ON SKYPE 7,000 MILES AWAY FROM HIS HOME**

Over a 3-year period, UK-based offender paid 8 facilitators to carry out sex acts and livestream the abuse of female children (aged 6 and 9) in the Philippines via Skype.

### **FIVE YEARS IN JAIL AND WORLDWIDE TRAVEL BAN FOR BRITISH TEACHER WHO WANTED TO ABUSE YOUNG FILIPINO CHILDREN**

UK-based offender sent at least 15 wire transfers to adult facilitators in the Philippines for images and livestreamed videos of children being sexually exploited; in addition, he attempted to arrange travel to the Philippines over Skype conversations.

### **EX-BRITISH ARMY OFFICER JAILED FOR ONLINE CHILD SEX ABUSE IN PHL**

Over a 2-year period, UK-based offender made nearly 50 payments to direct and view livestreamed child sexual exploitation material (CSEM) of multiple Filipino children via Skype.

### **CONVICTED CHILD SEX OFFENDER BEHIND BARS AGAIN FOR ILLICIT SKYPE RELATIONSHIP WITH FILIPINO CHILDREN UNDER 12**

Over a 4-and-a-half-year period, Australia-based offender paid a Filipino family over \$26,000 for continued livestreamed CSEM of two sisters (age 2 and 7 when the abuse began) via Skype.

### **MAN GETS 30 YEARS FOR MAKING CHILD PORN USING KIDS IN PHL**

US-based offender directed Filipino facilitators to perform sexual acts on children (infants to age 10) while he watched via Skype, in exchange for money.

### **PAEDOPHILE WHO PAID FILIPINO MUMS FOR PICTURES OF NAKED DAUGHTERS IS JAILED**

Over a 3-year period, UK-based offender communicated with facilitators in the Philippines via Skype and provided 36 payments for CSEM of girls aged 5 to 12 years old.

### **KANSAS MAN SENTENCED FOR PRODUCING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

US-based offender travelled to the Philippines to film himself engaging in sex act with minor females as well as communicating via Skype with a child's mother and directing her to livestream CSEM depicting an 8-year-old female.

### **BUSINESSMAN ADMITS PAYING FOR ONLINE CHILD ABUSE FROM PHILIPPINES**

Over a 2-year period, UK-based offender directed an adult facilitator for livestreamed abuse of Filipino children (as young as 10 years old) via Skype, in exchange for over £5,500.

**SHELBY COUNTY MAN SENTENCED TO 27 YEARS IN PRISON FOR SENDING MONEY TO FILIPINO MOTHERS IN EXCHANGE FOR CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

Over a 3-month period, US-based offender directed Filipino facilitators over Skype to share sexual images and videos of their children in exchange for payments via MoneyGram.

**JAIL FOR MAN WHO EXPLOITED GIRLS IN THE PHILIPPINES**

Australia-based offender directed 13-year-old Filipina girl over Skype to undress and perform lewd acts in exchange for money.

**VILE SEX PREDATOR PAID POOR FAMILIES IN THE PHILIPPINES TO ABUSE THEIR OWN CHILDREN AS YOUNG AS THREE AS HE WATCHED ON SKYPE**

Australia-based offender directed adult Filipina women over Skype to perform sexual acts on children in exchange for money; he had at least 13 victims aged between three and nine years old who were abused on 74 occasions.

**FORMER RTÉ PRODUCER FILMED HIMSELF SEXUALLY ABUSING A GIRL IN THE PHILIPPINES**

Among multiple child exploitation offenses, Ireland-based offender paid an adult facilitator in the Philippines to send him CSEM depicting a 13-year-old girl over Skype.

**MAN PAID \$40 TO WATCH FILIPINO CHILD ABUSE**

On multiple occasions, Australia-based offender used Skype to direct livestreamed shows of girls under 16 in the Philippines in exchange for money.

**BRITISH PENSIONER, 68, IS JAILED FOR 12 YEARS AFTER PAYING £3,000 TO MOTHER IN THE PHILIPPINES TO RECEIVE SEXUAL ABUSE IMAGES OF HER SIX-YEAR-OLD CHILD**

UK-based offender admitted to 67 separate offences, including using Skype to contact the mother of the child in the Philippines and making online payments in order to facilitate the sexual exploitation of the child victim and sending images of the abuse.

**WINNIPEG MAN WANTED IN PHILIPPINES FOR ALLEGEDLY PAYING TO WATCH CHILD SEX ABUSE**

Canada-based offender is wanted for wiring thousands of dollars to facilitators in the Philippines for child exploitation offenses including livestreaming the sexual abuse of children via Skype.

**EX-DJ MARK PAGE 'ARRANGED SEX WITH PHILIPPINE CHILDREN**

UK-based offender is charged with multiple child exploitation offenses that occurred from 2016 – 2019, including directing Filipino children to perform sexual acts over Skype in exchange for money.

**NYC 'ORIGINAL GEEK' IN CHILD PORN CASE TARGETED KIDS VIA INSTAGRAM, SKYPE: FEDS**

Over a 4-year period, US-based offender engaged in sexually explicit Skype communications with at least eight underage victims, in the U.S. and abroad, between the ages of 13 and 17. He was charged with producing child pornography after prosecutors alleged, he directed children to send him sexually explicit images and videos after targeting them via Skype.

### **BEAUFORT COUNTY MAN SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS FOR PRODUCTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

US-based offender admitted to assaulting a 22-month-old victim approximately five times between September 2019 and December 2019, and live streaming these assaults over Skype to an offender in the UK.

### **MAROUBRA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CHILD ABUSE, GROOMING CHARGES**

Australian-based offender pleaded guilty to procuring a child under 16 for unlawful sexual activity and possessing and transmitting child abuse material, after using Skype to groom and approach the victim.

### **TWISTED PAEDO 'USED FORNITE & CALL OF DUTY TO PREY ON KIDS & FORCE THEM TO POSE NAKED AS COPS FIND 2,000 ABUSE IMAGES'**

Previously convicted Spain-based offender made 81 payments to at least 26 victims between the ages of eight and twelve using online gaming platforms, then convinced them to appear naked on Skype.

### **THE FALL OF A SERIAL SEXTORTIONIST**

Mexican-based offender was sentenced to 34 years in prison for the production of child pornography after using multiple social media platforms, including Skype, in a sextortion scheme that victimized more than 100 girls and women around the world.

### **LAS VEGAS MAN SENTENCED TO 12 YEARS IN PRISON FOR DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIAL**

US-based offender was sentenced to 12 years in prison for distributing images of CSAM after Skype reported his account to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children regarding the upload of files containing CSAM.

### **ST. PAUL MAN SENTENCED TO 43 YEARS IN PRISON FOR TARGETING MORE THAN 1,100 MINOR VICTIMS IN SEXTORTION SCHEME**

Over a period of several years, US-based offender victimized more than 1,000 young girls through a sextortion scheme that utilized multiple social media platforms, including Skype.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE FOR CHILD ABUSE FANTASY**

Australian-based offender pleaded guilty to one count of making or reproducing child exploitation material after using Skype to fantasize about the sexual abuse of a young girl in "disturbing and graphic detail."

### **AYDIN COBAN SENTENCED TO 13 YEARS FOR SEXUAL EXTORTION OF AMANDA TODD**

Netherlands-based offender was sentenced to 13 years for extortion, two counts of possession of child pornography, child luring and criminal harassment after using multiple social media platforms, including Skype, to demand web shows from a teenage girl over a period of 3 years until she died by suicide.

### **Norfolk man jailed for child sex offences in the Philippines**

06/10/2023 - A man 'stage managed' the sexual abuse of children in the Philippines by paying for videos of them, having described in "graphic and disgusting" detail what he wanted to happen to them. Hockley, of Canterbury Way, Thetford, appeared at court for sentencing having been previously found guilty of arranging or facilitating child prostitution or pornography in that he intentionally arranged the

sexual exploitation of children between May 1, 2015, and January 22, 2017. He was also found guilty of three counts of making indecent photographs of children on or before August 17, 2017, two counts of distributing indecent photos of a child and one offence of possessing an extreme pornographic image. Charles Myatt, prosecuting, said those offences were discovered after police had taken devices belonging to Hockley in relation to another offence - sexual communication with a child under 16 between April 2 2017 and May 8 2017 - which he was also convicted of. Hockley had been communicating with the girl, then aged under 12, on Facebook in a sexual way "totally inappropriate for a girl of that age".

### **Head teacher who groomed dozens of children on social media jailed**

23/09/2022 - A British head teacher who groomed at least 131 children worldwide using social media has been jailed, the National Crime Agency (NCA) has said. Nicholas Clayton, 38 and from Wirral, used Facebook Messenger to contact children as young as 10, the NCA said. Children's charity the NSPCC voiced concerns that Meta, which owns Facebook, plans to introduce end-to-end encryption on its messaging platform. Andy Burrows, head of child safety online policy at the charity, said: "Clayton's case highlights the ease with which offenders can contact large numbers of children on social media with the intention of grooming and sexually abusing them." Private messaging is the frontline of child sexual abuse online. It's therefore concerning that Meta plans to press on with end-to-end encryption on Facebook Messenger, which will blindfold themselves and law enforcement from identifying criminals like Clayton."

### **American gets 30 years in PH child porn case**

16/07/2023 – WASHINGTON: A Chicago man has been sentenced to 30 years in prison for soliciting sexually explicit photos and videos from young girls in the Philippines. Karl Quilter, 58, pleaded guilty last year to sexual exploitation of children, the US Attorney's Office for the North District of Illinois said. Quilter enticed at least nine girls in the Philippines to produce sexually explicit photos and videos and send them to him via Facebook, Viber and Skype between 2017 and 2020, it said.

### **Man, 19, accused of offering and selling sex videos, nabbed in Cebu City**

01/08/2022 - CEBU CITY, Philippines: A 19-year-old man, who was arrested for allegedly promoting and selling of self-produced videos of himself performing sexual acts to various male victims, including minors, underwent an inquest proceeding today, August 1, 2022. The National Bureau of Investigation Central Visayas Regional Office (NBI CEVRO) in a statement identified the accused as Romilo Romero, 19, a resident of Barangay Bulacao in Cebu City. On July 29, 2022, a composite team of the National Bureau of Investigation Anti-Human Trafficking Division (NBI AHTRAD), NBI CEVRO, Department of Justice Inter-agency Council Against Trafficking (DOJ IACAT) from Manila, DOJ IACAT-7, and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) conducted these two pronged operations: an entrapment and rescue operation and to serve a warrant to search, seize, and examine computer data. Allegedly, Romero used social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter to promote and sell sex videos.

### **PNP seeks court aid to track down sexual predators on social media**

29/07/2022 - MANILA, Philippines: The Philippine National Police (PNP) has sought a regional trial court's permission to acquire information from social media giants Facebook and YouTube about the people behind "Usapang Diskarte" – an online account encouraging child sexual abuse.

### **UPDATE: Mother who pimped out 9 year old daughter jailed alongside 2 pedophiles**

14/07/2022 - A mother was arrested yesterday for forcing her 9 year old daughter into prostitution. The 26 year old woman, Chantra, was arrested after she posted sexy pictures of herself on Facebook, adding she had a child sex video and underage sex photos for sale. The post soon went viral on social media resulting in members of the public contacting police. Chantra confessed a man contacted her via Facebook in April last year asking to have sex with her daughter in exchange for 3,000 baht. The woman says she took the money because her family was poor. The young mother drove to a hotel in Nakhon



Pathom province to meet the man and recorded him having sex with her daughter. She confessed she sold it to other men via Facebook for 500 to 800 baht at a time.

### **Thai tutor arrested for making child porn with boys**

18/07/2022 - An alleged pedophile wanted by the US and Thai Cyber police has finally been tracked down and arrested thanks to a local boxing gym owner. If found guilty the 20 year old part time teacher faces between three and 10 years imprisonment and a fine between 60,000 baht and 100,000 baht. The tutor, named Mai, sexually assaulted children between the ages of 7 and 15 years old, tricking them into making child pornography videos and making money by allegedly uploading them to the OnlyFans platform. A 31 year old woman named Somjit notified police that Mai promoted an OnlyFans account on Facebook, adding she was afraid he might sell child sex videos via that platform.

### **Convicted Sex Offender Sentenced to 20 Years in Prison for Child Pornography Offenses**

12/07/2022 – BOSTON: A Greenfield man was sentenced today in federal court in Springfield for receiving child pornography. The defendant used Facebook messenger to communicate with a minor in the Philippines and receive pornographic images of the child. Fox induced a minor in the Philippines to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of producing images of that conduct. Specifically, Fox used Facebook messenger to communicate with the minor and to receive the pornographic images. In exchange for the images, Fox sent Western Union payments to the Philippines.

### **Former Montgomery County Teacher Pleads Guilty to Multiple Child Exploitation Offenses After Traveling to the Philippines to Have Sex with Children**

29/06/2022 – PHILADELPHIA: United States Attorney Jacqueline C. Romero announced that Craig Alex Levin, 66, of King of Prussia, PA, pleaded guilty to six counts of child exploitation offenses before United States District Court Judge Harvey Bartle, III, stemming from his travel to the Philippines over a nearly three-year period for the purpose of engaging in illicit sexual conduct with minor children, some as young as 12 years of age. He also engaged in commercial sex trafficking by brokering the sale of a minor girl, who was pregnant at the time, for sex with an adult sex offender in exchange for money. Prior to and during his travels, Levin created and maintained Facebook accounts that he used to communicate with minors in the Philippines for the purpose of enticing them to engage in illicit sexual conduct with him during his visits to the island nation. In addition, the defendant used Facebook Messenger to send child pornography to minors in the Philippines.

### **St. Paul man sentenced to 43 years for largest sextortion case in FBI history**

14/09/2022 - ST PAUL, Minnesota: According to the U.S. Department of Justice, from 2015 through 2020 Vang "adopted the personae of real minor girls" and posed as real people to get other young victims to produce and send him child pornography. When they refused, Vang threatened to and did release their sexually explicit images and videos. The FBI identified 1,100 minors targeted by Vang. There are victims in every state – including 50 in Minnesota – and in 13 other countries. The victims range from 12-17 years old. Born said Vang used dozens of usernames and IDs across different communications or social media platforms such as Skype, Snapchat, Facebook and Kik to lure minors into thinking that they were talking to another minor.

### **Exploiting Philippine minors through Facebook lands Texan in federal prison**

25/05/2022 - BROWNSVILLE, Texas: A 47-year-old Harlingen man has been ordered to federal prison following his conviction of receiving child pornography, announced U.S. Attorney Jennifer B. Lowery. At the time of his plea, Machietto admitted that from Dec. 1, 2017, to June 1, 2018, he used Facebook to communicate with minor girls located in the Philippines. He requested nude photos of them and sent money as compensation to their families.

### **Former Federal Agent Found Guilty of Enticing a Minor and Engaging in Sex Tourism in the Philippines**

23/05/2022 - East St. Louis, Illinois: A Cahokia, Illinois, man was found guilty as charged last week for Enticement of a Minor, Travel with Intent to Engage in Illicit Sexual Conduct, and Engaging in Illicit Sexual Conduct in a Foreign Place. According to evidence presented during trial, Joseph Albert Fuchs, III, an American citizen, met a 14-year-old girl while visiting the Philippines. Fuchs then engaged in sexual conversations with the minor using Facebook. During those conversations, Fuchs discussed ways to evade detection of her age when he would return to the Philippines to engage in sexual acts with her at a hotel. Fuchs then returned to the Philippines in March of 2019 and engaged in sexual acts with the 14-year-old minor.

### **Vallejo Man Pleads Guilty to Flying to the Philippines with the Intention of Engaging in Sexual Conduct with a Child**

28/04/2022 - SACRAMENTO, California: Balbino Sablad, 80, of Vallejo, pleaded guilty today to traveling with the intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct, U.S. Attorney Phillip A. Talbert announced. According to court documents, in 2019, Sablad flew to the Philippines with the intention of engaging in sexual conduct with a child under the age of 16. Using Facebook, Sablad had engaged in sexual chats with a person he believed was the intended minor victim and he sent the intended minor victim over \$2,000 prior to his travel to the Philippines. Before he arrived, he also discussed with a co-conspirator his plan to sexually abuse the intended minor victim in the Philippines.

### **Schemer using Facebook for sex with minors arrested in Iligan City**

23/03/2022 - ILIGAN CITY, Philippines: A scheming netizen using Facebook to lure women into illicit sex was entrapped here Tuesday by agents of the National Bureau of Investigation. Dimaporo told reporters Austria would first offer women money in exchange for footages of them naked via online Messenger and threaten to circulate the obscene video clips if they refuse to have sex with him.

### **BBC Radio DJ Mark Page, 63, 'flew to the Philippines to have sex with girl, 13, sent graphic messages about what he wanted and asked a girl, 14, to carry out sex acts on a 12-year-old', court hears**

02/03/2022 - A former radio executive allegedly flew to the Philippines to have sex with a 13-year-old girl and sent graphic messages about sex acts he wanted performed, a court has heard. Three of the offences were said to have occurred in 2016 on webcams, when he was in the UK and the children were in the Philippines, Teesside Crown Court was told. The remaining two offences were said to have happened in person after Page, who was also a DJ, travelled to the Philippines. Prosecutor Jo Kidd told the jury he set up a Facebook profile in the name of 'Thai G' and used it to contact a 13-year-old girl whilst in the Philippines in March 2019, before promising her 1,000 pesos. The court heard that Page sent graphic messages about sex acts he wanted the school children to perform.

### **Oil City Man Pleads Guilty to Child Sexual Exploitation Charge; Judge Detains Him Pending Sentencing**

08/06/2021 - Brent Lockwood, 63, pleaded guilty to one count before United States District Judge Stephanie L. Haines. In connection with the guilty plea, the Court was advised that Lockwood received computer images depicting minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct. The Court was also advised that Lockwood repeatedly expressed, during Facebook chats, his desire to travel to the Philippines for the purpose of engaging in illicit sexual activity with minor females.

### **South Florida Man Sentenced to 25 Years in Federal Prison for Exploiting Poor Children in the Philippines**

25/02/2022 - Miami, Florida: Dennis Pollard used a social media messenger application\* in 2020 to find young girls in the Philippines whom he could groom for the purpose of producing child sexual abuse material (CSAM). Pollard offered, and sometimes provided, money through wire services in exchange for pornographic images of the girls. Over nearly six-weeks, Pollard convinced a 13-year-old girl, living in poverty, to record herself performing sexual acts in exchange for money. Pollard also

directed a woman in the Philippines to record herself sexually abusing her two toddler-aged children. Pollard distributed CSAM of his victims to groom others and obtain more CSAM. In 2015, Pollard attempted to produce CSAM through a different account on the same social media messenger application.

### **Granite Falls man accused of possessing child pornography**

17/02/2022 - Granite Falls, MN: James Leroy Sanborn, 85, of Granite Falls, MN is facing four felony charges for being a predatory offender allegedly possessing pornographic photos and videos involving minors. The images in his possession were allegedly sent to him by families in the Philippines that he was helping to support. According to the criminal complaint, Sanborn said during an interview that he might have images and videos on his phone and on his Facebook Messenger app. He said he sent money to five or six families in the Philippines. He said the money was to help them recover from fires and floods or send their children to school.

### **Teen girls duped into sending nude photos**

05/02/2022 - Two men have been arrested in two locations for allegedly duping girls aged 13-15 to send them nude photos and videos of themselves in exchange for online game items. The arrests were made following complaints that some Facebook users had approached girls aged 13-15 to send their nude photos and videos in exchange for items that could be used in online games.