

PRESS RELEASE - Release Date 19th April 2011

IRISH EXPERT TO ADDRESS CONFERENCE IN TAIWAN STRENGTHENING THE INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE TO FIGHT INTERNET CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

ECPAT's International Conference on Child Online Safety puts Taiwan centre stage in the worldwide fight against the distribution of child pornography over the Internet. Taking place in Taipei on the 21st and 22nd April, Irish expert, Paul Durrant, CEO of the Irish Internet Service Providers Association (ISPAI), joins speakers from around the globe pooling their expertise to improve counter-measures against this insidious exploitation of children and approaches to raising parental awareness to protect their children's safety online.

Speaking before his departure for Taipei, Mr. Durrant said his talk will be highlighting the need for initiatives to keep pace with the ever evolving digital landscape. He maintains that vigilance of the Internet-using public remains a key factor in the fight against child abuse material being distributed over the Internet. The Irish Internet Hotline (www.hotline.ie), established in 1999 and run by the ISPAI, has continually increased their technical expertise to meet advances on the Internet and has now been invited by ECPAT to share this globally. Mr. Durrant continued "as the complexity of distribution methods being used moves from open websites to peer-to-peer technologies, ISPs and law enforcement face new challenges to react swiftly against misuse". He will demonstrate techniques to trace sources of illegal content in these complex environments and highlights that international procedures must also be refined to ensure a rapid response.

Taipei Representative in Ireland, Dr. Harry Tseng, emphasised the importance of international cooperation between governments, Internet telecommunications industry, non-governmental organisations and law enforcement in this endeavour. He is delighted that Taiwan is hosting this important ECPAT event and that Ireland will represent the European ISP industry to share the technologists' view on how best to respond in this vital matter. The borderless nature of the modern Internet necessitates international cooperation and communication and it is reassuring to see this conference bringing expertise from neighbours like Japan and S. Korea and countries as far a field as USA, Latvia, Australia, UK and Ireland.

Since its foundation, ECPAT Taiwan has been fighting against all forms of commercial sexual exploitation in a bid to end child prostitution, child pornography, and child trafficking for sexual purposes. To protect child safety on the Internet, eliminate online illegal content and eradicate child pornography, ECPAT Taiwan joined the International Association of Internet Hotlines (INHOPE) network in 2005. INHOPE, of which ISPAI Hotline.ie was among the first members, represents Internet Hotlines all over the world and through meeting regularly to share knowledge and best practice, hotline members worldwide cooperate to tackle the global problem of illegal child pornography being distributed online.

Other international speakers at the conference will share their proficiency in such varied issues as: child online safety advocacy experience and strategies toward parents and children; best cooperation models between the police, hotlines and industry; and,

jurisdictional and industry perspectives on the challenges presented by new technologies. This two day conference will culminate in a round table discussion among participants and is a impressive example of the trans-jurisdictional cooperation that is crucial in tackling the global problem of the production of child sexual abuse content in the physical world and the fact that it is now being distributed using the ever more advanced techniques of the Internet.



Paul Durrant, ISPAI with Dr. Harry Tseng, Taipei Representative in Ireland.

-ends-

Above photo or an alternative may be downloaded from

<http://www.ispai.info/imgs/SU140001.JPG>

<http://www.ispai.info/imgs/SU140004.JPG>

For more information contact:

ISPAI +353 1 294520

Taipei Representative Office in Ireland +353 1 678 5413

ECPAT Taiwan +886 2 25996199