

RESOLUTION

Subject: Requesting Public Assistance in Solving Crime

The ICPO-INTERPOL General Assembly, meeting in Marrakesh, Morocco, from 5 to 8 November at its 76th session:

CONSIDERING that the distribution of child abuse material within a country is a matter of internal criminal policy, but that the export of such material is a matter of international concern,

ACKNOWLEDGING that child abuse material, which is evidence of child sexual abuse, is often produced in one country with a view to its distribution worldwide over the Internet,

CONSIDERING the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child,

MINDFUL of Article 9 of the Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest, 23 November 2001), concerning offences related to child pornography,

STRESSING that child abuse material in the hands of the police is often the only evidence of the crime committed,

MINDFUL of the need to ensure a proper balance between the rights of the perpetrators and the rights of the child victims,

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION the profound impact that digitalization and distributed networks, especially the use of public information systems such as the Worldwide Web, have had on police/public interaction,

BEARING IN MIND that when such material is discovered the victims are often unidentified and will remain so in spite of intensive efforts by the international law enforcement community and that, as long as the perpetrators are free, many more children run the risk of being sexually abused,

RECALLING that under Article 26 (b), (c) and (e) of INTERPOL's Constitution, the General Secretariat shall serve as an international centre in the fight against ordinary crime and as a technical and information centre,

ENDORSES the initiative to publish information on the INTERPOL website to enable the public to assist INTERPOL's member countries to identify the child sex abuse perpetrators, victims or crime scenes, in compliance with INTERPOL's rules on the processing of police information, and so long as the consent of the NCB that provided the information has been obtained and no facial images of the child victims are published;

STRESSES that each case must be treated individually, and that consideration may only be given to publishing information to the public if and when the NCB that provided the information establishes that all other avenues of investigation have been exhausted, including a diffusion to all National Central Bureaus.

Adopted.