

Outline of the Plan for the Prevention of Sex Crimes Against Children (Basic Plan on Measures against Child Sexual Exploitation) 2022

Provisional
Translation

Current Plan

The Plan was developed at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime in April 2017 with a focus up to the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games

Situation and challenges

- Spread and diversification of tools, etc., to mediate contact with perpetrators
- Cases of child pornography and child prostitution arising from social media remain at a high level
- Necessity to strengthen collaboration with the international society and information dissemination, etc.



Formulation of the new Plan

- While maintaining the six pillars in the current Plan, new policies based on the current situation and challenges have been added to measures that should be continued in future for each pillar
- A summary of policies which the government should carry out over the next five years, based on the current law
- Follow up on progress

Newly added policies

1. Enhancement of public awareness for the eradication of child sexual exploitation, development of social awareness, and strengthening of collaboration with international society

- Promote efforts aimed at eradicating child sexual exploitation through collaboration and coordination between local organizations and agencies by dissemination of information by relevant government ministries.
- Implement guidance through on-site inspection by national or local governments or self-inspection by travel agencies, so that the provision of child prostitution services in violation of the law should not be carried out.
- Implement a “Youth Sexual Violence Prevention Month,” carrying out collaboration and coordination between government ministries, local governments and other related organizations, and raise awareness of preventing a variety of youth sexual violence, including video production of sexual acts and the “JK business” , disseminate contact information for consultation on sexual violence.
- Carry out efforts in collaboration with relevant government ministries and agencies based on the “Action Plan to End Violence Against Children,” which documents efforts in the areas of abuse, sexual exploitation and sexual violence.

2. Support for children and families to ensure the sound growth of children without victimization by sexual exploitation

- Promote “Life Safety Education”, education to learn about the importance of life, value their lives, respect themselves and others as well as to prevent them from becoming a perpetrator of sexual crimes or sexual violence, victim or spectator.

3. Promotion of measures to prevent the occurrence and spread of victimization that focuses on tools and places used for child sexual exploitation

- Promote the strengthening of voluntary measures by individual operators, while participating in child protection activities by social media companies and implementing information provision related to the actual state of victimization.
- Discover inappropriate posts on social media through cyber patrols and promote measures for posting warning messages while investigating the introduction of effective methods such as using AI.
- Promote preventive measures through public-private collaboration, aiming to eradicate sexual exploitation such as harm associated with video production of sexual acts and the “JK business” and compensated dating.
- Understanding and analysis of places of victimization and provide information to related organizations with the cooperation of relevant government ministries.

4. Prompt protection of child victims and the promotion of appropriate support

- Create an environment that is easy for consultation utilizing social media, in addition to interviews, etc., with Child Guidance Centers, educational institutions and the Legal Affairs Bureau.

5. Strengthening of crackdowns in line with the situation of victimization and rehabilitation of offenders

- For sexual offenders held in a correctional facility, implement interviews by specialists such as social workers and doctors of medical institutions from the time at the correctional facility and strive to prevent reoffending through linkage to after release treatment of diverse content and methods by the medical institutions, responding to each person’s characteristics and needs.
- Promote measures to prevent sexual offender recidivism in collaboration with national and local public organizations, through the provision of support for preventing recidivism including counseling for sexual offenders in the local community after completion of criminal proceedings.
- Implement the required reviews based on the legal systems and operations of other countries and technical knowledge, such as installing a GPS monitoring device for sexual offenders on parole.

6. Establishing and strengthening of the foundation for realizing a society where children will never become victims of sexual exploitation

- Ensure that, in principle, educational staff who commit sexual violence against students are disciplined and dismissed from their positions, as well as encouraging further use of the official gazette information search tool, which makes information searches such as disciplinary dismissal records over the past 40 years possible.
- Regarding childcare qualifications, investigate a system similar to the Education Personnel Certification Act special provision for those whose specific license has been revoked, and investigate the creation of a system in which information will be shared and published related to business suspension orders for babysitters who have committed sexual violence and the like.
- Further examine the potential for introduction of a system for requiring certification about history of sexual crime, etc., when working in educational or childcare facilities and other places where children belong to.
- Regarding harassment of competitors through the possession, taking or distribution of photos or videos with sexual intent, including cases which involve children, promote efforts for the prevention of these, such as raising awareness about the issue, while collaborating with related organizations and the relevant ministries.
- For the development of criminal law that deals with the sexual victimization of children, carry out the required reviews of the law based on the outcome of deliberations of the Legislative Council regarding criminal law dealing with sexual crimes.