ECPAT Taiwan invited Beyond Borders ECPAT Canada to share its experience developing the Man-to-Man campaign at its international conference held in September. The conference explored innovative ways to combat the sexual exploitation of children.

Deborah Zanke, who manages and helped create the campaign, attended the conference on behalf of Beyond Borders and learned only days prior to leaving for Taiwan that she would also be part of a meeting with the country’s president, Ma Ying-jeou.

“I was stunned,” says Zanke, admitting that the prospect of meeting the head of state was somewhat daunting. The impetus for the meeting stemmed from the presence of one of the other presenters at the conference, Professor Jaap Doek. Doek is a member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and was its chair from 2001 to 2007.

President Ma was interested in discussing how Taiwan could continue to advance its progress towards adhering to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child despite not having membership in the United Nations.

Along with Doek and Zanke, ECPAT Taiwan representatives and other presenters at the conference also attended the meeting including Alan Bell (ECPAT New Zealand) and Paul Griffiths (Queensland Police Service, Australia).

Doek encouraged Taiwan to submit a report on the country’s progress in protecting the rights of children to the committee regardless of its lack of official status. Doing so will publicly demonstrate that Taiwan is serious about the issue. The committee is apparently obliged to retain such reports regardless of a country’s membership. President Ma and his representatives made a commitment to proceed with this reporting.

Zanke says that being part of the conference as well as this important presidential meeting underlined the stature of ECPAT Taiwan and the ECPAT network. “ECPAT Taiwan has done remarkable work at both the advocacy and frontline level to protect children,” she states, adding that it is clearly a well-respected NGO in its home country as well as abroad.

Zanke’s presentation on the Man-to-Man campaign was well-received and focused on how the awareness campaign was developed and what Beyond Borders has learned along the way in terms of making the campaign a success. Other countries have expressed interest in replicating the campaign.

“That’s the real power of a network like ECPAT,” states Zanke. “It’s the ability to learn from each other and be part of a global effort to combat child sexual exploitation. Child sex abuse exists everywhere and regularly crosses borders. Unless we all act together, our efforts will not be as effective.”
**CHANGES TO CHILD TRAFFICKING OFFENSES WELCOME BUT CANADA STILL LACKS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Bill C-310, An Act to amend the Criminal Code (trafficking of persons), received Royal Assent this past June, marking a positive step toward strengthening legislation that protects victims of trafficking. But more needs to be done according to a recent global monitoring report on the status of action against commercial sexual exploitation of children in Canada. The report was produced by ECPAT International with input from Beyond Borders ECPAT Canada.

The provisions in Bill C-310 bolster Canada’s penalties for criminals who traffic victims into, through, and from Canada. Now, Canadians (and permanent residents) who traffic or enslave vulnerable populations in other countries can be prosecuted in Canada. The amendments also enhance the definition of “exploitative conduct” in the trafficking of persons offence to provide clear, specific examples for courts.

When the bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights in December, Beyond Borders was invited to present evidence. Overall, Beyond Borders supported the legislative enhancements but testified that it would also like to see additional provisions such as restrictions on travel for those found guilty of trafficking as well as the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which provides children with a direct complaint procedure to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

“What Canada needs at this point is a comprehensive national action plan to address child sexual exploitation and trafficking,” states Prof. Mark E. Hecht, Beyond Borders senior legal counsel and co-founder as well as contributor to the report. This includes a national strategy set in place to identify victims in child sexual abuse imagery. Restricting travel for those convicted of child sex crimes is also a recommendation in the report as is enhancing resources for those victimized and ensuring those resources are uniformly accessible across the country.

The full report can be found at tinyurl.com/9ru44vg.

**MAN-TO-MAN CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

Visit the campaign at endthedemand.ca.

**National Advertising**

Through a partnership with the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, we carried out a Man-to-Man advertising campaign in various markets across Canada. The campaign was highlighted in radio ads on the Corus Entertainment network and featured Little Mosque on the Prairie actor, Manoj Sood. The campaign also appeared in ads in subway stations, on buses, in airports and in men’s washrooms located in clubs and bars.

**Man Up For Max Men’s Breakfast**

Recently retired Winnipeg Goldeyes player, Max Poulin, became a campaign ambassador and hosted a breakfast exclusively for men in Winnipeg this past June. Prior to the breakfast, Max shared his own story of childhood sexual abuse at the hands of a male offender via the local media. Max’s story and his hard work attracted about 100 men to the breakfast and raised $11,000 for Beyond Borders through a silent auction and ticket sales. Comedian Big Daddy Taz and singer/songwriter Curtis Newton performed at the breakfast as well. Max hopes to organize future similar events.

**What would you do?**

One of the challenges for the Man-to-Man campaign is that generally speaking, men find it hard to discuss the issue of child sexual exploitation. In an effort to ease the conversation, we created a series of comic strips illustrated by Winnipeg artist, Scott Henderson.

The strips depict scenarios where there may be a risk of child sexual exploitation. These situations aren’t always black and white and this new feature of the endthedemand.ca website asks men what, if anything, they would do if they found themselves in this situation. We’re pleased with how the comics are being received and plan to do more.
The Supreme Court of Canada ruled in favour of a Nova Scotia teen seeking anonymity as she pursued a legal case against persons bullying her on Facebook.

The unknown culprits had created a fake Facebook profile of the girl posting details about her alleged scandalous sexual behaviour. When the girl and her father pursued a court order to reveal the identity of those behind the fake profile, they were denied an application to keep her identity confidential. The Internet service provider, Bragg Communications did not oppose her application, but two media outlets did, The Chronicle Herald and Global Television.

In its decision, the court stated, “It does not take much of an analytical leap to conclude that the likelihood of a child protecting himself or herself from bullying will be greatly enhanced if the protection can be sought anonymously.”

Beyond Borders ECPAT Canada, along with a number of other child rights advocates, were legal intervenors in the precedent-setting case. Legal counsel, Jonathan Rosenthal (with co-counsels Frank Crewe and Shannon O’Connor), acted on behalf of Beyond Borders ECPAT Canada in support of the girl's application.

“This is a great decision for children,” states Rosenthal. “The media (wrongfully) took the position that the child had to prove that she would be harmed if her name and identity were disclosed. The Supreme Court rejected this contention by applying the presumptive harm test, which rightly trumps the media’s argument of 'openness of the court' principles.”

More information on this case can be found at beyondborders.org on the Legal Action page.

**Supreme Court Decision: Beyond Borders ECPAT Canada Intervenor in Precedent Setting Cyber-Bullying Case**

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**Cybertip.ca Celebrating 10 Years**

As a founding member of the advisory committee that helped to create cybertip.ca, Canada’s tipline for reporting online sexual exploitation of children, Beyond Borders was thrilled to help celebrate its 10-year anniversary. Since its inception, the tipline has received more than 60,000 reports, been integral to nearly 100 arrests and has protected countless children. The celebration took place in Ottawa in September.

**Get the Next Newsletter Online**

After this issue, the Beyond Borders newsletter will be available online exclusively via our electronic mail subscriber list. If you’re not on the list, visit beyondborders.org and click on the “Stay Informed” tab at the bottom of the homepage.
THE COURAGE TO EXPOSE, THE STRENGTH TO SHARE

BEYOND BORDERS ECPAT CANADA
10TH ANNIVERSARY MEDIA AWARDS

MONDAY NOVEMBER 19, 2012
THE FORT GARRY HOTEL
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

PRESENTATION OF THE INAUGURAL ROSALIND PROBER AWARD:
Sheldon Kennedy, professional athlete, child rights advocate and sexual abuse survivor, will be honoured for his inspirational fight against child sexual exploitation. Be inspired by Sheldon’s incredible journey.

Join us in honouring Canadian journalists for outstanding coverage of child sexual exploitation. Their efforts ensure these heartbreaking and difficult stories do not go untold.

$60 Table of 10
$550

11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. (Doors open at 11:30 a.m.)
Luncheon & Keynote followed by Media Awards

BONUS EVENT: EDUCATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
Join others concerned with child protection and hear experts discuss current issues related to child sexual exploitation in sport as well as cyber bullying.

$75 Symposium and Media Awards, $30 Symposium only ($20 with student card)
Symposium: Monday, November 19, 2012 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. • (Coffee at 9:00 a.m.)

For information or to register: 1 204.799.4780
hello@beyondborders.org
beyondborders.org

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