Conference Services

CODE OF CONDUCT
FOR PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL
EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN TOURISM

Maria Petrova
Animus Association Foundation

COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN

- Over 2 000 000 children are victims of commercial sexual exploitation worldwide
- 60% of the identified Bulgarian victims of trafficking over the period 2000 – 2003 are girls under 18
- 625 children identified as involved in the worst forms of child labour in the streets of five big cities /2004/

SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN TOURISM

- Growing number of abuse committed by tourists and foreign visitors
- The responsibility of tourism industry
- The potential of tourism industry
PUBLIC-PRIVATE CO-OPERATION IN THE PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF MINORS IN TRAVEL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY

- A joint initiative of the Organization of Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Bulgarian NGO Animus Association Foundation (AAF), the Bulgarian State Agency for Child Protection (SACP) and the Austrian NGO ‘respect’
- Introducing a new approach to combating trafficking and sexual exploitation of children – the involvement of tourism industry
- Development of the Code of Conduct for Prevention of Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children in Tourism

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN TOURISM

- Part of worldwide effort for the protection of children from sexual exploitation
- Declaration of voluntary agreement
- Permanent Monitoring Committee

MEASURES FOR PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

1. To establish a corporate ethical policy against commercial sexual exploitation of children,
2. To provide preliminary and follow up training to the personnel in Bulgaria and abroad,
3. To introduce clauses in contracts with suppliers of tourism and travel services, insuring non-allowance of sexual exploitation of children,
4. To provide information to travelers by means of catalogues, brochures, films showed during the trip, web-sites, etc. developed by the company or provided by partner organizations,
5. To provide information to key organizations involved with the protection of children from sexual exploitation in the country and abroad,
6. To present yearly reports in the form of standard survey forms to the Permanent monitoring committee,
SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

- Limitation of trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents.
- Protection of the human rights and cultural values in Bulgarian society
- Establishment of the image of Bulgaria as a safe and attractive tourist destination

ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

- Bulgarian Business Leaders Forum
- Bulgarian Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Bulgarian Hotel and Restaurant Association
- Bulgarian Association of Travel Agents
- Bulgarian Tourism Chamber

- PMK hotels
- Hotel Ambassador
- Correct Lee Travel
- USIT Colours Bulgaria
- Radisson SAS Grand Hotel Sofia
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

TRAINING MANUAL

- Nature and scope of the sexual exploitation of children (SEC)
- Reasons for SEC in tourism
- Consequences of SEC
- Roles and responsibilities
- Possible actions on the part of the tourism industry for countering SEC