



Initiative

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In Poland, Accor Hotels sign the Code of Conduct for the protection of children

As part of their social commitment, Accor hotels in Poland (Orbis) signed the ECPAT "Code of Conduct for the protection of children from sexual exploitation".

The signature of the Code of Conduct by Orbis (Accor in Poland)

On 9 October 2012, a press conference was held on the occasion of the signature of the Code of Conduct by Orbis (Accor in Poland), in the presence of the Polish Police Commander in Chief and the Nobody's Children Foundation.

Created in 1998, the Code of Conduct is the result of collaboration between **players in the tourism industry**, such as Accor, and the **NGO ECPAT (End Child Prostitution, Pornography & Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes)**.

Laurent Picheral, General Manager in Poland, highlights the following: *"The protection of children is one of our 21 commitments in the framework of PLANET 21, the Accor group's sustainable development programme. The Code of Conduct is a major step towards more responsible tourism in Poland. As the Polish leader in the hotel industry, we display good practices that help improve our social impact. Together with our partners, we would like to educate and inform customers in order that this issue is prevented and subject to awareness raising in Poland."*

Hotels commit to the protection of children

As part of the signature of the Code of conduct, hotels in the region have implemented an **action plan** aimed at training their employees to prevent the sexual exploitation of children, informing customers and sharing this approach with their suppliers.

To date, **over 600 employees** have been **trained** in order to identify a risk situation, know how to react and know the **procedures to be followed internally** (with Department heads) and externally (with Nobody's Children and the Police, if necessary).

All hotel managers were also trained with regard to the procedures for reporting sexual tourists and the issue is regularly addressed during briefings held by Department heads. Furthermore, a booklet has been distributed to all employees as a reminder of Accor's commitments and the steps to be taken when faced with a situation that is suspected or proven to be a case of child sex tourism.

Lastly, the Orbis hotels are also involving their customers, in particular by distributing an awareness-raising booklet.

Accor and the protection of children against abuse

The fight against sex tourism involving children has been **one of the priorities of the Group's sustainable development programme since 2002**. With the launch of PLANET 21 in April 2012, Accor **strengthened its commitment** by expanding it to the protection of children against abuse.

Between 2006 and 2011, **70,000 employees** were trained to identify cases of sex tourism involving children and to react appropriately. By 2015, **70% of the hotels** in the Accor network will have committed to the protection of children.

To find out more about the Group's commitment in the fight against sex tourism involving children

ECPAT is a global network of organisations made up of more than 80 groups across 75 countries working together to eliminate the sexual exploitation of children for commercial purposes, of which the Nobody's Children Foundation is the representative in Poland.