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For immediate release

## **NAPCAN position statement: online child abuse material**

NAPCAN supports any effort – by mandatory and/or voluntary means – to stop child abuse material being available on the Internet.

NAPCAN urges both industry and government to take all steps to prevent or reduce the availability and distribution of child abuse material online.

Australia has international legal obligations to protect children. Australia ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1990. Under the treaty, the Australian Government is legally bound to prevent:

- (a) The inducement or coercion of a child to engage in any unlawful sexual activity;
- (b) The exploitative use of children in prostitution or other unlawful sexual practices; and
- (c) The exploitative use of children in pornographic performances and materials.

The Convention underpins all NAPCAN's work.

**Ends**

### **For further information please contact:**

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### **Notes to the editor:**

1. Article 34, Convention on the Rights of the Child.
2. NAPCAN (National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect) is a leading advocate for the prevention of child abuse and neglect. NAPCAN's goal is to bring about the changes necessary in individual and community behavior and in government policy to stop abuse and neglect before it starts.

NAPCAN also works directly with children and young people conducting innovative programs to strengthen protective behaviors build resilience and life skills. NAPCAN also assists 'at risk' parents by working in local communities building inclusive networks and strengthening local support of children and families. For further information go to: [www.napcan.org.au](http://www.napcan.org.au)