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JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUITY and DIVERSITY

Recommendation / Comments of the
Twelfth Report on the Sexual Exploitation of Children in Trinidad and Tobago with specific
focus on Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

Treatment for Victims of Child Pornography and Prostitution

- 4.58 The Committee recommends that MOE, TTPS, CATT and MOH note the recommendations by UNICEF in APPENDIX III regarding the programmes and services be targeted to the treatment of the specific issue symptoms of the child**

Recommendation 1:

Efforts should be made to accelerate the completion of the Child Registry with the relevant legislation

Response:

This project is under the remit of the Child Affairs Division, Office of the Prime Minister. The Division has indicated that the first phase (the design phase) of the project was completed September 2019.

Recommendation 2:

Training of personnel across all sectors with the required skills and competences for the prevention, detection, treatment and care of children with respect to prostitution and pornography

Response:

A Working Committee has been established to develop a Child and Adolescent Mental Health Plan that includes the prevention and treatment of children who may be experiencing trauma related to prostitution and pornography. The first phase of the plan namely; the data collection process has been completed and the other phase of developing reporting tools should be completed by December 2019.

Recommendation 3:

Improvement of the fines, governance structure and capacity to increase the protection of victims of child pornography and child prostitution.

Response:

As noted in the response to recommendation 2, the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Plan should allow for the development of the appropriate governance structure and capacity required to increase the protection of victims of child pornography and child prostitution at our health institutions.

It should be noted that the fines are under the Sexual Offences Act of which, the Ministry of National Security can make recommendations.