



## Every Child's Right – Freedom from Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

Media Release

25<sup>th</sup> November 2008

### World Congress III against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents

This week the Government of Brazil will host an International Congress dealing with the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents. More than three thousand delegates will attend including official delegations from more than 150 governments.

Ms Carmen Madrinen, Director of ECPAT International, one of the sponsoring organisations of the Congress has expressed great disappointment that New Zealand will not be sending a delegation. She writes, "the absence of official NZ participation will clearly affect the visibility of the Pacific and more importantly the level of commitment for the follow up."

ECPAT New Zealand will be sending four representatives to the Brazilian Congress and have arranged to provide a de-briefing to government officials on their return. In view of the great public concern at recent cases of extreme child sex abuse in New Zealand, ECPAT New Zealand is hoping the Congress will lead to an increased concern to find better solutions to protect our children.

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