



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

COUNCIL FOR THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

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COUNCIL FOR THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN AND PLAN INTERNATIONAL PILIPINAS FOUNDATION INC. FORMALIZE PARTNERSHIP AT SAFER INTERNET DAY 2026

Pasig City, 24 February 2026 – The Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) formalized its partnership with Plan International Pilipinas Foundation Inc. through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) during the observance of Safer Internet Day 2026 held at Marco Polo Ortigas.

Anchored on the theme “*Ako, Ikaw, Tayo: Konektado at Protektado Laban sa OSAEC at CSAEM*,” the event gathered government agencies, development partners, private sector representatives, and youth leaders to advance collective efforts against online sexual abuse and exploitation of children.

The MOU was signed by **Undersecretary Angelo M. Tapales, Executive Director V of the CWC**, and **Ms. Pebbles Sanchez-Ogang, Executive Director of Plan International Pilipinas**. The signing was witnessed by **Atty. David John S. Vergara, Project Development Officer IV and Head of the MAKABATA Helpline 1383**, and **Ms. Selena B. Fortich**, Portfolio Manager, representing their respective organizations. In his message, Usec.Tapales underscored the importance of sustained inter-agency and multi-sector collaboration in addressing emerging digital risks affecting children. “Protecting children in digital spaces requires a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach”, he emphasized. He likewise highlighted key initiatives such as the **MAKABATA Helpline 1383**, the national reporting mechanism that provides assistance and referral services for children experiencing abuse and exploitation.

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