Dear Heads of Delegation,

The third substantive session of the UN Open-ended Working Group on ICTs in the context of international security, which is taking place next week from 25-29 July, presents a unique opportunity for stakeholders to meet after a long hiatus to continue discussions of various issues related to international cyber security.

As an independent, non-partisan think tank located in the Indo-Pacific, the Australian Strategic Policy Institute supports the development of public policy on national security, defence, cyber and critical technologies and issues related to information and foreign interference. Through original, empirical, data-driven research; partnerships with organisations from around the world; and training, workshops, exercises and conferences, ASPI contributes to building strengthened national security, cyber and tech capabilities in Australia and the Indo-Pacific region.

On the occasion of next week's meetings of the UN Open-ended Working Group, I have the honour of inviting your Permanent Mission to the UN and/or your Delegation for the UN Open-ended Working Group on ICTs in the context of international security for the following:

- A presentation of the report: The UN norms of responsible state behaviour in cyberspace: Guidance on implementation for Member States of ASEAN. This in-person side-meeting will take place at UN Headquarters, from 9:00-9:45am on Wednesday 27 July at Conference Room A.

Based on engagements with over 150 ASEAN member state officials, the report provides government officials valuable practical guidance as they consider how to demonstrate implementation of the UN norms.

This informal meeting offers an opportunity to discuss the issue of implementation of the UN norms of responsible state behaviour in practical details; and for participants to share suggestions or seek advice on ways to encourage, facilitate and support implementation efforts at the national level.

- A discussion on: Cyber-enabled theft of intellectual property (IP), sensitive business information and trade secrets, and measures to strengthen national resilience. This in-person side-meeting will take place at UN Headquarters, from 9:00-9:45am on Thursday 28 July at Conference Room A.

ASPI is currently delivering a two-year project that aims to globally raise support for the implementation of the G20 norm that ‘no country should conduct or support ICT-enabled theft of intellectual property, including trade secrets or other confidence business information, with the intent of providing competitive advantages to
companies or commercial sectors.’

After an introduction of the project aims and activities, participants are encouraged to share views and assessments on the issue of cyber-enabled theft of IP, and identify opportunities for capacity building engagements.

To register your interest to participate, please contact icpc@aspi.org.au indicating which session(s) you would like to attend. Please note: The meeting is accessible for UN grounds pass holders only; ASPI is unable to facilitate UN access.

Finally, allow me to extend my sincere appreciation for your support and continued collaboration with ASPI throughout our capacity building engagements. I look forward to meeting with you and your colleagues during this UN OEWG session.

Yours faithfully,

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