Regular Institutional Dialogue

Responding to the call to establish a permanent, inclusive, transparent institutional dialogue, with broad participation, under the auspices of the United Nations, as enunciated in the 2021 OEWG and GGE reports, the UN Program of Action is a recognition that now is a time for action - concrete action and cooperation are needed more than ever to address the challenges posed to international peace and security by the malicious uses of cyberspace.

And Australia joins over 50 states to support and promote the Programme of Action, as a vehicle to take this work forward.

In line with statements related to the program of action of Egypt and France and many other cosponsors, the UN POA will consolidate and leverage greater political awareness and commitment to pre-empt and respond at the speed of relevance, providing all states the ability to use cyberspace for peaceful and prosperous purposes, and safeguarding the benefits of a free, open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful cyberspace.

As capacities to implement the framework of responsible state behaviour in cyberspace differ worldwide, many States require concrete support and cooperation in their efforts to implement this framework.

And as malicious cyber activities grow in scale, sophistication and severity, the need to support these States in addressing their vulnerabilities becomes even more urgent.

The PoA proposal aims at establishing a permanent, inclusive, results-oriented instrument to further international cooperation and support States in the implementation of existing commitments.

The POA would support tailored capacity-building based on States’ assessments of their needs, to develop exchanges of best practices and experiences between relevant experts,

Align with the statement of France and Egypt yesterday on the capacity building elements of the POA - POA is an opportunity to further cooperation and capacity building; dedicated funding mechanism

Multi stakeholder organisations can make a valuable contribution to the POA - The evolving equities of non-government stakeholders in cyberspace and technology make public-private partnerships essential: often the first affected
by ICT incidents, protector of critical infrastructure, benefactor and beneficiary of two-way expertise – cooperation with the multistakeholder community practically impacts security, lifts capacity, and creates a reinforcing cycle of development.

Note Swiss proposal – that OEWG could recommend establishment of the POA in the first annual progress report. Depending on our discussion and decision on the structure and content of the annual report, this proposal warrants further consideration.

Also, Australia can support the practical proposals from the EU on how the OEWG can provide a forum to discuss and elaborate the POA proposal in an open way, and very much appreciate Thailand’s point that the POA must be aligned with and complimentary to the OEWG.

Thank you.