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Thematic discussion on the Briefing by the Chairperson of the Open-ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021-2025

Delivered by Gabriele Scarpa, Police Adviser at Office of Special Representative of INTERPOL to the United Nations

27 October 2025 | 3 mins | Conference Room 1

Mr Chair,

Distinguished Delegates,

- INTERPOL welcomes the consensus adoption of the final report of the Open-ended Working Group on ICTs, and its recognition of the threat posed by the criminal misuse of ICTs.
- INTERPOL supports its 196 member countries in tackling this global challenge through three interdependent pillars:
- **First**, INTERPOL provides actionable intelligence and investigative support. Through strategic partnerships with the private sector and our secure I-24/7 communication channel, we ensure that critical information reaches the right investigators at the right time, including by offering access to 19 global police databases and analytical files.
- **Second**, INTERPOL strengthens our member countries' law enforcement capacities through targeted training and tailored programs, enabling officers worldwide to effectively investigate and prosecute cybercrime.



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- **Third**, INTERPOL leads, coordinates, and supports operations across borders to identify and arrest cybercriminals, dismantle malicious infrastructure, recover illicit proceeds, and protect victims.

These efforts deliver tangible results. Earlier this year, through **Operation Serengeti 2.0**, INTERPOL united investigators from **18 African countries and the United Kingdom** to tackle **ransomware, online scams and business email compromise schemes**. Collective action led to over **1,200 arrests**, the recovery of nearly **USD 100 million**, and the dismantling of more than **11,400 malicious infrastructures**.

- As the landscape of ICT threats continues to evolve rapidly, so too must our collective response.
- This year, INTERPOL relaunched its **Cybercrime Expert Group**, bringing together over 180 experts from more than 70 countries to examine the changing threat landscape and develop forward-looking strategies for prevention and disruption, including in relation to emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence.
- We are also developing targeted initiatives to address specific and emerging threats:
 - **Project SYMPHONY** aims to enhance the resilience of critical infrastructure to cyber attacks.



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- **Project STARDUST** targets the criminal development and use of residential proxies;
 - **Project HARPOON** explores how AI can be leveraged to combat phishing;
 - And, **Project ECHO** is a new initiative to counter image-based sexual abuse.
- These initiatives are practical, operationally focused, and open for collaboration with new partners.

Mr Chair,

- INTERPOL is committed to enhancing global cyber cooperation and strengthening our collective resilience for a safer digital world, including through the **new Global Mechanism**.
- No single organization can meet this challenge alone. We therefore call upon Member States to deepen their engagement with INTERPOL's operational mechanisms, share timely intelligence, and strengthen capacity building nationally and regionally.
- **I thank you.**