



REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

Mauritius' views on the scope, structure, and content of the proposed United Nations (UN) Programme of Action (PoA) to advance responsible state behaviour in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in the context of international security

April 2023

Mauritius voted in support of res. 77/37 on the creation of a Programme of Action (PoA) to continue the international discussions regarding the use of information and communications technologies in the context of international security.

Mauritius firmly believes that such a PoA will allow us to, in complementarity to the OEWG, advance the practical work on implementing the UN framework of responsible behaviour in cyberspace established in 2021 by the GGE and the OEWG.

Mauritius is of the same opinion as France, Egypt, the United Kingdom, the European Union and many other States and recognises the following benefits of the PoA:

1. Permanent structure and inclusivity

The PoA could provide a permanent, inclusive, transparent, action-oriented, results-based and consensus driven structure to support all States in their efforts to implement the framework. It could encourage voluntary reporting by States on their national implementation efforts and help to identify the needs and challenges they face.

2. Flexibility

The PoA should be flexible enough to allow States to address emerging threats, and further develop the normative framework on the basis of consensus, if required. Many delegations have evoked during past substantive sessions that

although support for the implementation of the existing framework is urgently required, new norms may also be developed over time, if necessary. The PoA could convoke regular meetings to update the framework as appropriate.

3. Capacity building support

The PoA could aim to provide support for tailored capacity-building activities to address the needs and challenges identified by States in their efforts to implement the framework. In order to achieve this objective, it could seek to build on existing capacity building initiatives, including structures and platforms.

4. Multi-stakeholder engagement

The PoA could enhance multi-stakeholder commitment, that would allow for regular consultations with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, academia and the civil society, to consider and provide their valuable perspectives upon pertinent cyber issues.