Honorable Chair, distinguished delegates and stakeholders,

Thank you for inviting us to contribute towards the important discussions at the UN OEWG informal inter-sessional meetings. FIRST strongly supports the UN OEWG and endorses its efforts and recommendations.

FIRST welcomes and supports the 2nd draft of the paper entitled: Draft Elements for the Development and Operationalization of a Global Intergovernmental Points of Contact (PoC) Directory.

We appreciate the emphasis on the importance of the PoC directory not to duplicate the functions undertaken by CERTs and CSIRTs.

As the global forum of incident response and security teams, FIRST has a directory of 679 incident response and security teams in 105 countries. FIRST members are CERTs with national responsibilities, private sector CERTs, academic CERTs as well as Product Security Incident Response Teams (PSIRTs). We continuously expand and update our directory of teams and professionals.

Recognizing the importance of the confidentiality of information exchange, FIRST would like to draw attention to the available cybersecurity standards developed by the incident response and security community such as Traffic Light Protocol (TLP) and Common Vulnerability Scoring System (CVSS), that can be instrumental in facilitating information classification and exchange among various participants in confident and secure manner. These standards are broadly recognized and widely deployed by the incident responders and security teams.

Finally, I would like to share with you that FIRST has recently launched an enhanced community and capacity building program; and we are eager to continue sharing our experiences with the UN OEWG community; contributing towards the implementation and operationalization of the PoC directory. We look forward to the cooperation with UNODA to explore the feasibility of technical synergizes and information exchange.

Thank you.