This input is submitted pursuant to the note from the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs dated 30 August 2022 on the above matter.

2. Malaysia is of the view that the proposed establishment of the global points of contact directory could benefit from the experience of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Points of Contact (PoC) Directory. A brief summary of the latter initiative is as follows:

**ARF PoC Directory on Security of and in the Use of Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs)**

3. The ARF has established the ARF PoC Directory at the regional level as one of its Confidence Building Measure (CBM) initiatives. The initiative was co-led by Malaysia and Australia, and was adopted by the 26th ARF Ministerial Meeting in August 2019.

4. The ARF PoC Directory is envisioned as one of the practical measures addressed in the ARF Work Plan on ICTs Security. The work by the ARF Inter-Sessional Meeting on ICT Security has highlighted the importance of members knowing whom to contact in their own country, and in other countries, to address concerns relating to ICT security incidents as well as manage and respond to such incidents.

5. The purpose of the initiative is to assist ARF Participants in:

   i. Reducing tensions and the risk of conflict arising from misunderstanding and misperception of ICT security incidents, which could lead to miscalculation and possible escalation;

   ii. Facilitating near real-time communication in the event of ICT security incidents of potential regional security significance; and

   iii. Sharing of information on ICT security incidents.

6. The Directory consists of relevant senior- and working-level PoCs from all participating ARF members, reflecting their unique domestic circumstances. Participation is voluntary, and the Directory will be available to ARF members only.
7. If a given ARF Participant has a central agency or body designated by its government to coordinate the nation’s conflict prevention, crisis management and response efforts in relation to ICT security, a single PoC could be provided for all ICT security incidents of regional significance.

8. However, for ARF Participants which do not have a single coordinating PoC nominated by the government, the Directory may hold entries for personnel contacts from diplomatic, national policy and security coordination, law enforcement and technical authorities.

9. The Directory is not intended to produce a comprehensive listing of each government’s ICT security officials, nor to identify hierarchies or lead agencies. The Directory is rather intended to list major contacts in order to facilitate exchange information on ICT security incidents in the context of national, regional and international security.

10. Direct contact with senior level officials will only occur with regard to incidents of potential regional security significance, which should be agreed by the countries concerned. For ICT security incidents outside of such circumstances, communication should only occur between the working-level contacts. Senior-level officials may only be contacted by other identified senior-level officials.

11. If senior-level counterparts are unavailable, senior officials may contact working-level officials in relation to ICT security crises. Contact details include both telephone numbers and email addresses of senior- and working-level contacts. Countries can provide either or both, depending on capabilities as well as availability of staff.

12. Senior officials may provide direct telephone numbers or provide the number of an aide or assistant. Entries will indicate whether contacts are available 24/7 or within business hours, and language(s) spoken. Technical PoCs may provide additional contact details for information exchange.

13. The Directory will be updated and recirculated regularly to ensure that the PoCs remain current. The validation of PoCs is conducted by way of a basic e-mail connectivity test.

14. In case the Directory overlaps with other existing directories for ICT security incidents, the countries concerned will discuss and decide on the processes and procedures to be applied based on mutual consent.

15. To date, 20 out of 27 ARF Participants have submitted their points of contact for the Directory.