Global Points of Contact Directory pursuant to A/77/275 : "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security" containing the progress report on the discussion of the open-ended working group on the security of and in the use of information and communication technologies 2021-2025

The Kingdom of Morocco supports the development of a Global Directory of Contact Points under the auspices of the United Nations, as a confidence-building measure, in full conformity with the meetings of the open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021-2025.

1) <u>Views on the establishment of a directory of contact points</u>

∗ Morocco considers that the implementation of this directory will contribute to the strengthening of exchanges and cooperation between States, in order to **(i) enhance coordination**; **(ii) increase the effectiveness of interventions in cases of "cyber-crises"**, and **(iii) promote the resolution of conflicts by peaceful means**, namely through dialogue and Diplomacy;

∗ The **Directory will provide a <u>transparent, predictable, and stable environment</u> that will consolidate peace and security in cyberspace**;

∗ The establishment of the directory is also **in line with expectations and objectives of the standards for responsible behavior developed within the framework of the Governmental Group of Experts (GGE)**, in particular, those inviting Member States to encourage cooperation and exchange of information, to prevent harmful practices and respond to requests for assistance from other Member States;

∗ The **upcoming meetings of the OEWG will provide an opportunity to discuss some points that could contribute to the success of this project, including** :
  1. **The prerequisites and competencies of the designated representatives, at the national level, and their backgrounds (political, diplomatic, or technical);**
  2. **Related capacity-building actions, and measures to ensure a regularly updated directory;**
  3. **Procedures to put forward in case of using this directory to ensure information sharing and exchange.**

2) <u>Experiences at regional and sub-regional level:</u>

∗ The reports of the previous GGEs and the first OEWG recognized the work accomplished by **regional and sub-regional organizations, and their initiatives** to **designate interlocutors or establish directories of focal points in charge of security in the use of digital technologies**. In this aim, <u>we highlight the need to capitalize on these experiences</u>;

∗ Morocco is a Member of **the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Computer Attack Warning and Response Center, and the Forum of Security Incident Response Teams (FIRST),** as well as **African Computer Attack Warning and Response Center (AfricaCERT)**;

∗ OIC-CERT focuses mainly on the promotion and strengthening of relations between Member States in the field of cyber security and allows the exchange of information related to cyber terrorism and cybercrime. In addition, it conducts trainings and awareness programs in the cyber security sector, and ensures cooperation in research and technological development. The Center provides its Members with access to a platform of identified contact points, in order to exchange on the challenges inherent to cyber-attacks;

∗ **Morocco has joined AfricaCERT**, which aims to promote and strengthen cybersecurity in Africa, and encourages States of the region to share their experiences and jointly develop measures to deal with security incidents and global emergencies. **AfricaCERT also supports the establishment and maintenance of dialogue with all stakeholders of the African cyber ecosystem, through the membership of various points of contact thus promoting information sharing**;

∗ **Morocco is a Member of FIRST,** which provides its Members with a **directory of technical contact points for the rapid dissemination of information about computer incidents**. The objective is to encourage cooperation and coordination in the prevention of incidents and to promote information sharing.