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Existing International Law is applicable, but there is currently no legally binding framework – both in terms of norms rules and principles, and the means to their enforcement. The movement towards a legally binding document is a necessary prerequisite to overcome a number of challenges. For instance, there is no agreed procedure for determining the parties involved in resolving a dispute in the ICT environment.

Automated process control system (APCS) of hazardous industries, control systems of large logistics hubs are the priority target for terrorist attacks through ICT-environment. Fully supporting the initiative to create a Points of Contact directory (PoC directory) for the exchange of information about computer attacks as a mechanism for cooperation between the competent authorities of the countries, we propose to supplement this instrument with the creation, under the political sponsorship of the UN, of a network of information security services of industrial and logistics companies for early warning of computer attacks and operational exchange of best practice to localize these attacks and minimize damage from them. The presence of such a network will allow real-time collection of technical information necessary for objective attribution of the threat source. The Russian Federation has experience of such interaction between large industrial holdings.

An important contribution to strengthening the security, reliability and stability of the global information space can be the development of programs under the auspices of the UN to raise awareness of threats in the field of ICT. The most

important contributors to these programs should be academia, non-profit organizations, civil society organizations (including those representing various minorities – to share information among their members).

We consider it timely to include in the agenda of the discussions of the OEWG the issue of giving a special international status to information and communication systems that ensure the operation of vital systems for the civil population (medicine, water supply, etc.) Such systems should not be subject to sanctions and other forceful actions during the international conflicts. A new framework of norms may be needed in relation to such systems.

The international expert community could also explore the possibility of creating a mechanism to discuss the malicious use of ICTs that pose a threat to international peace and stability. An Agreement could also facilitate international legal recognition of the boundaries of zones of responsible behavior of states in the ICT environment.

Specific areas of cooperation aimed at giving legal strength to agreed norms, rules and principles are described in the proposed Concept of the UN Convention on International Information Security. They are worth considering if we are to move towards making the ICT environment a peaceful environment.