

20 MARCH 2024

**SINGAPORE'S INPUT TO INITIAL BACKGROUND PAPER
ON CAPACITIES REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
GLOBAL POINTS OF CONTACT DIRECTORY
TO BE PREPARED BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT**

Singapore believes that cyber capacity building is key in supporting States' implementation of Confidence Building Measures (CBMs), including the Global Points of Contact (POC) directory. Through capacity building, States will acquire the requisite competencies to operationalise the Global POC directory to facilitate communication and cooperation and in turn, build trust and confidence between States. Singapore also supports the efforts of the open, informal, cross-regional group of the OEWG Confidence Builders' led by Germany, to advance discussions on the interconnectedness of CBMs and capacity building.

2 Singapore has been actively working with our ASEAN partners on strengthening regional efforts in the area of CBMs, including through the strengthening of regional CERT-CERT cooperation and capacity building initiatives, to enhance our collective cybersecurity posture and promote responsible State behaviour in cyberspace. In this regard, Singapore is working with ASEAN Member States to operationalise the ASEAN Regional CERT which has been approved recently at the 4th ASEAN Digital Ministers Meeting hosted in Singapore in February 2024.

3 ASEAN will be convening a Taskforce to oversee the scope and operationalization of the ASEAN Regional CERT, including a Terms of Reference. The development of a clear Terms of Reference will also be used to guide the onboarding of POCs for the effective functioning of the ASEAN Regional CERT. This will allow us to facilitate coordination and information sharing between ASEAN Member States' national-level CERTs, develop and maintain an ASEAN Points of Contact network of cybersecurity experts and organisations, and to facilitate and conduct regional cybersecurity exercises among others.

4 **Singapore will also submit a concept note shortly with guidelines for onboarding POCs** to support States in the operationalization and utilization of the global POC directory, drawing from Singapore's experience and feedback from our capacity building efforts at the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence and the operationalization efforts for the ASEAN CERT.

5 This effort reflects the ASEAN region’s strong commitment to enhancing the implementation of CBMs. We look forward to learning from the experiences and insights gained by other regions including the OSCE, OAS and others on the successful implementation of their respective POC directories and the onboarding of POCs.

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