

OEWG – on Security of and in the use of information and communication technologies 2021-2025 6. – 10. 3. 2023 Statement of the Republic of Slovenia – Agenda item Cybersecurity Capacity Building

Distinguished Chair, Your Excellences, Dear Colleagues

Please allow me, Excellences, to touch upon some of the elements for the discussions on Cybersecurity capacity-building (CCB).

Slovenia, fully aligning itself with the position of the European Union, sees the CCB as an essential aspect of cooperation among states to promote a peaceful and secure cyberspace

The practical foundation for implementation of the framework for responsible state behaviour in cyberspace are <u>capacity-building efforts</u> as the international community's ability to prevent or mitigate the impact of malicious ICT activity depends on the capacity of each State to prepare and respond. In this respect, Slovenia calls especially for a gender-sensitive and multi-stakeholder approach to capacity-building.

Slovenia also believes that regional fora proves to be essential for the effective dialogue and cooperation among actors with shared concerns and common interests. To this end, Slovenia and France, together with Montenegro, just recently established a regional Western Balkans Cyber Capacity Centre (WB3C) hosted in Podgorica, Montenegro.

Chair,

Support to the developing countries through increased cooperation and training in the field of cybersecurity can address pertinent regional shortcomings. With establishment of the Western Balkans Cyber Capacity Centre, Slovenia, together with its partners, also aims to contribute to the exchange of information and best practices between States, and foresees technical expertise from non-governmental stakeholders to be part of these endeavours.

The activities of this Centre could be seen as a facilitation of the capacity-building within the Programme of Action, with the aim to bolster international cooperation to advance the global implementation of the normative framework.

We believe that enhancing cyber resilience regionally goes hand in hand with the increased global peace and stability in cyberspace. Thank you.

Thank you.