



THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

STATEMENT

by H.E. Ambassador Dang Dinh Quy
Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam
at the Security Council Arria-Formula Meeting: Cyber Stability,
Conflict Prevention and Capacity Building
New York, 22 May 2020

Mr. President,

First I would like to thank Estonia, Belgium, the Dominican Republic, Indonesia and Kenya for making this event possible.

I thank all briefers for their contribution and our special thanks for Prime Minister Jüri Ratas for being with us today.

In this digital age, information and communications technology (ICT) has become, not just essential, but indispensable. We witness it first hand during this COVID-19 pandemic. ICT is the ship that helps us navigate through this difficult time.

ICT brings about great opportunities; it also makes us vulnerable to malicious activities.

Cyber crimes have increased in number, diversity and severity. They disrupt essential activities of governments and people, endanger people's lives and assets, and threaten critical infrastructures for public safety and security.

Therefore, we must work together to ensure that the cyber space at national, regional and global levels be safe, friendly, open and stable to meet legitimate needs and interests of all states and people and contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security.

To that end, we would like to stress the following:

First, states have the *responsibility* to ensure strict adherence to fundamental principles of international law.

Second, *cooperation* among states and between states and the private sector is crucial and must be request- and need-based. Regional organizations, besides global ones, can play an important role in this regard.

In Southeast Asia, cyber crimes cost ASEAN member states about \$120-200 million a year. We are expeditiously working towards an ASEAN-owned set of voluntary, practical norms of State behavior in cyberspace on the basis of UN GGE 2015 report. We have also prioritised close cooperation and capacity building through training and preparedness initiatives. Cyber stability gains even more prominence in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Last month, under Viet Nam's Chairmanship for 2020, ASEAN for the first time held two Summits via VTC namely the Special ASEAN Summit and Special ASEAN+3 Summit on COVID-19.

Third, the development of *normative framework* on cyberspace needs to be through a participatory, transparent and inclusive government-led process under the auspices of the United Nations.

Mr. President,

Viet Nam is no stranger to grave cyber attacks and crimes. We are strongly committed to cooperating with the United Nations and other partners to ensure cyber stability for peace, security and development.

I thank you./.