



Statement by

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“Cyber Stability, Conflict Prevention, and Capacity Building”

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Thank you, Excellency.

Allow me to begin by expressing appreciation to Estonia and fellow co-sponsors of this Arria-formula meeting. I also would like to thank the panelists for their valuable briefings.

As a country with around 170 million Internet users or 65 percent of our population and ever-increasing digital economy, cyber stability and security are of the utmost importance to Indonesia, and thus we are proud to be co-sponsor of this Arria-formula meeting.

The increased number of malicious cyber activities by state and non-state actors, including through proxy, jeopardize cyber stability as well as international peace and security. These activities also endanger crucial socio-economic benefits of ICTs.

In 2019 alone, Indonesia experienced more than 220 million cyber attacks. The COVID-19 pandemic brings even higher risk of cyber attacks, as people's dependence on digital tools increased.

Furthermore, cyber attacks, aimed at critical infrastructures, such as health services or civil aviation, can potentially be threatening to human lives.

In that context, Indonesia wishes to underscore the following:

First, responsible behavior in cyberspace.

Adherence to the principles of the UN Charter and international law is essential in maintaining peace and stability in cyberspace.

Indeed, controlling the behavior of malicious non-state actors in the ICTs environment, in this regard, poses special difficulties. This makes international cooperation and collaboration all the more critical.

We also emphasize that all states and entities share common responsibilities to ensure the use of ICTs for peaceful purposes.

We also welcome the set of international rules, norms and principles of responsible behaviour of States, as stipulated in GA Resolution 73/27.

Second point is the role of regional organizations in conflict prevention.

Regional organizations play an indispensable role in peacemaking on the ground. There is considerable potential yet in stepping up their presence in cyberspace, both regionally and globally, to innovatively advance the sustaining peace agenda.

Indonesia, bilaterally, and through various ASEAN mechanisms is working actively to bolster ASEAN peacemaking initiatives via the cyber front.

In that context, ASEAN CBMs through the establishment of Points of Contact, regular information exchanges, dialogues and sharing of best practices are already resulting in more meaningful collaboration with important benefits for Southeast Asia and beyond.

In this regard, Indonesia also sees the potential ways forward in linking CBMs across the region with a view to promote exchanges of regional best practices to be taken into the global scale.

The third point, the essentials of capacity building for cyber resilience.

We are mindful that digital divide affects countries and regions differently.

It is necessary to address gaps in cyber resilience among countries and regions in not only ICT infrastructure, but also in the implementation of international law and cyberspace norms.

Some of the challenges are the lack of awareness, varying understanding and interpretation, as well as technical capacity and financial constraints for the implementation of existing voluntary and non-binding norms.

Indonesia underlines a holistic approach for capacity building, which covers technical, policy, and legal aspects along with adequate interaction and support from multi-stakeholder entities.

Mr. Chairman,

We concur with the Secretary-General's observation that for far too long, the world has undervalued and underinvested in global public goods – peace, a clean environment and cyber security¹.

The crisis of COVID-19 pandemic vividly reiterates the indivisibility of humanity. There is a silver lining of COVID-19 and that increased our awareness of the importance of cyber-related issues, since most of our time and activity is done through cyber. Let us now cooperate and work together to effectively counter the threats in cyberspace as well.

The world is changing and we should adapt to the future and design the future for the benefit of the peoples of the world.

We hope that our discussion today will contribute positively and complement the process of cyber norm-making, taking place in the General Assembly, particularly through the meaningful works of the GGE and the OEWG.

Let me conclude, Mr. Chairman, by reaffirming Indonesia's commitment to advance our common effort to enable stability and peace in cyberspace for the safety and prosperity of the whole world.

Cyberspace is no longer a dream, but a reality of today's life.

I thank you.

¹ SG's remarks at the launch of the Statement of Commitment and Call for Support for the Global Collaboration to Accelerate the Development, Production and Equitable Access to New COVID-19 Tools <https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2020-04-24/secretary-generals-remarks-the-launch-of-the-statement-of-commitment-and-call-for-support-for-the-global-collaboration-accelerate-the-development-production-and>