**INTER-AMERICAN COMMITTEE AGAINST TERRORISM (CICTE)**

FIFTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OAS/Ser.L/X.5

ON COOPERATION AND CONFIDENCE-BUILDING CICTE/GT/MFCC/doc.12/24

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CONCEPT PAPER

(Presented by the Government of the United States)

Consideration of How to Leverage the Existing OAS POC Directory with Respect to the newly established UN OEWG cyber POC Network

Through the proceedings of the Open-Ended Working Group on security of and in the use of ICTs, UN member states decided to establish a new global Point of Contact (POC) Directory for the purposes of supporting communication between states in the event of a significant cyber incident or concern.  The establishment of this directory has been initiated through the second OEWG Annual Progress Report (A/78/265), issued last July.  Consequently, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) issued a Note Verbale on 8 January inviting all UN Member States to nominate diplomatic and technical cyber points of contact to the UN Directory.

The 2022 OEWG Progress report (A/77/275) emphasized that the building of a new global POC directory should leverage the extensive work already undertaken in certain regional organizations, including the OAS.  Representatives of OAS and other regional organizations have participated actively in the OEWG discussions and have contributed their expertise on many issues, including the management of regional directories.  In July 2023, the Second Annual Progress report encouraged States to nominate the same diplomatic and technical POCs to the UN directory as they have already nominated to other regional directories.

To operationalize this practice, the United States suggests that OAS Member States that wish to nominate the same person(s) for the UN directory who are current OAS CICTE Cyber POCs should expressly authorize CICTE to transmit those contact details to the UN.  To facilitate this, CICTE could invite states to authorize this information sharing at a reasonable future opportunity, such as the next outreach to update the UN directory.  This practice would ensure that States’ POC information is consistent between the OAS and the UN directories and would simplify the maintenance of POC information for OAS member states.  Importantly, the OAS CICTE would not submit information to the UN unless expressly requested by the respective OAS member state.

The United States notes that the managers of the future UN POC directory have asked States to submit contact information by mid-April.  Therefore, it would be most efficient to address the question of how to incorporate OAS regional POCs as part of a UN POC directory before this initial deadline.  To that end the United States intends to table this concept for discussion on Tuesday, during the meeting of the Working Group on Cooperation and Confidence-Building Measures.

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