CZECH REPUBLIC

Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations

77th Session of the General Assembly

4th substantive session of the
Open-ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and
telecommunications technologies 2021-2025

Statement by

Mr. Richard Kadlčák

**Director of the Cyber Security Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
the Czech Republic**

New York, 8 March 2023

Confidence-building measures

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

The Czech Republic aligns itself with the EU statement delivered earlier and wishes to emphasize a couple of points in its national capacity.

At the outset, I would like to thank you, Mr. Chair, for your leadership, particularly for your commitment and dedication towards the establishment of the Global Points of Contact Directory. We recognize reaching a consensus require a lot of effort, but we share your vision for it to be endorsed as part of this Annual Progress Report.

We appreciate that the PoC negotiations, which we will discuss in more detail later today, are moving in a positive direction. We hope that the same will happen in other areas. Our aim is to have an overall balanced output of the OEWG.

I take this opportunity to inform that we have joined the cross-regional group of states led by Germany which advances CBMs in the framework of the OEWG while focusing on finding a common ground in the field of CBMs.

As for our current discussion I would like to highly acknowledge the very well-prepared guiding questions. From our point of view, they clearly indicate the direction, we should take in our future discussions. To respond especially to the first question: "What concrete, specific CBMs are currently in place at the (sub-)regional level in the ICT security domain that could be expanded to the global, inter-governmental context?", I would like to call your attention to the topic of Coordinated Vulnerability Disclosure Policy.

It is not new topic in our negotiations. I primarily refer here to the norm "j" of the 2015 GGE Report. It is also intensively discussed within the OSCE – some countries already mentioned the list of 16 CBMs approved by OSCE – this one is exactly the CBM number 16. We can therefore draw on the experience of this forum.

The Czech Republic has repeatedly argued this week that there is no need to develop new legally binding instrument and instead we have to focus on operationalizing the already established norms of responsible state behaviour. Coordinated Vulnerability Disclosure is the concrete area where we can do exactly that.

At the end, I would like to react to some previous intervention. First of all I would like to support a proposal of Canada elaborating an idea of the CyberPeace Institute to clarify among ourselves what sectors we – as the UN Member States - consider to be part of the critical infrastructure.

And then I would like to support a recommendation of my Singaporean colleague concerning the Cyber Policy Portal of UNIDIR. The Czech Republic considers Cyber Policy Portal as a very elaborated tool which can be used quite easily and efficiently for an operationalization of our CBMs.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.