The OSCE Secretariat would like to thank the Chair for circulating the initial pre-draft OEWG report. We appreciate the comprehensive document, summarizing the discussions and contributions on the specific topics of the mandate of the working group. Please find below our comments.

General remarks:

- Regional organisations play an increasingly important role in enhancing cyber stability. They serve as both incubators of new ideas and implementers of internationally accepted reports/decisions. Regional organisations contributed to both the OEWG and the GGE, shared experiences and best practices, they act as quasi-intermediaries between states and the UN structures. We suggest exploring how regional organizations’ involvement in deliberations could be formalized. The OEWG report would be a good opportunity to formalize such kind of co-operation.

- We welcome that the interlinkage between norms, confidence-building and capacity-building is highlighted. Confidence-building measures (as norms) have to be implemented, which necessitates awareness-raising on CBMs (and norms) but also capacity-building efforts. This interlinkage is currently highlighted under sections “Rules, Norms and Principles for Responsible State Behaviour” and “Capacity-building” but in our opinion should also be emphasized in section “Confidence-building Measures”.

Confidence-building Measures

- We welcome that the pre-draft report acknowledges the importance of nominating Points of Contacts, sees merit in creating a global directory of Points of Contacts and mentions regular exercises for maintaining readiness and up-to-date information. In recent years, the OSCE has gathered substantial experience in maintaining a directory of Points of Contacts and in performing Communication Checks. We support the recommendation on establishing a global registry of national Points of Contact. We stand ready to co-operate closely with UN structures and to share experiences and best practices.

- We support the recommendation on nominating national Points of Contact at the policy or diplomatic level, but we suggest clearly specifying the process of nominations (whom the nomination shall be sent to, the method of transmitting national nominations, etc.)

- We support the recommendation on establishing a repository of adopted CBMs and stand ready to co-operate with UN structures. We suggest that implementation of CBMs should not merely be carried out between States but also on regional level, with the support of regional organisations, if applicable.
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- We support the remarks and intentions of universalizing key CBMs developed on regional level and stand ready to co-operate closely with UN structures and other regional organisations in this endeavour.

- We suggest rephrasing the first sentence of para 46 the following way: “[…] that the prior existence of national and regional mechanisms and structures, as well as \textbf{the building of} adequate resources and capacities, are essential to ensuring that CBMs server their intended purpose.” In our opinion, CBMs serve their purpose also in states lacking some capacities, which can be developed via capacity-building.

- Regarding the recommendation on cross-regional exchanges of lessons and good practices, we call attention to the UNIDIR workshop held in January 2019, which explored this topic. We suggest further exploring the possibility to hold regular exchanges between regional organisations under UN auspices, for example under UNIDIR auspices as it was suggested during the mentioned workshop.

\textbf{Capacity-building}

- We support the recommendation on enhancing coherence in capacity-building efforts in the use of ICTs and stand ready to share experiences and practices based on OSCE activities in cyber capacity-building.