

【Check Against Delivery】

**STATEMENT BY the Delegation of Japan to the OSCE
Session II: Good practices on cyber/ICT security capacity-
building activities: how can regions learn from each other
4th Inter-Regional Conference on Cyber/ICT Security
9 September, 2024**

Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

Let me start thanking by the Republic of Korea for hosting the 4th Inter-Regional Conference on Cyber-ICT Security. My appreciation also goes to North Macedonia as a chair of the OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation for leading the activities of the OSCE Asian Partners.

Mr. Moderator,

International cooperation is indispensable in dealing with cross-border cyber-attacks, and promoting cooperation among participating states and partners for co-operation to improve responses to cyber-attacks and mitigate their risks is an extremely important and pressing issue.

Cyber-attacks have become more sophisticated in recent years, with an increase in attacks against government institutions and private companies, particularly critical infrastructure providers, and damage caused by ransomware have increased. The same is true of Russia's aggression against Ukraine, and we are concerned that a

number of Russian cyber-attacks against Ukraine's critical infrastructure are currently being reported. In addition, the risks associated with zero-day attacks and the risks associated with the proliferation of new technologies, including generative AI are also increasing.

Under these circumstances, the importance of ensuring a 'free, fair and secure cyberspace' and contributing to the peace and stability of the international community and the Japan's security is even greater. Therefore, based on the fundamental idea of ensuring the free flow of information, Japan, in cooperation with countries that share this idea, actively participates in international rule-making based on the application of existing international laws, and actively provides capacity-building assistance to other countries.

Such cooperation and assistance to other countries will contribute to reducing international cybersecurity vulnerabilities and risks for the entire world, including Japan, and to spreading fundamental principles such as the free flow of information and the rule of law throughout the world.

Mr. Moderator,

In bilateral and other relations, Japan has held extensive discussions with a number of countries, including the ROK, the US, Australia and the EU, on cyber policy, the promotion of confidence-building measures through

bilateral and multilateral cooperation, and the nature of cooperation, including support for capacity building in the international arena. We also work closely with international organizations such as NATO through cyber dialogues, competitions and other opportunities.

In addition, we are also working on capacity-building assistance mainly for government agencies, mainly in ASEAN countries, in particular the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Policy Meeting, the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC), and other initiatives.

Mr. Moderator,

While continuing to cooperate with other countries and provide support to government agencies, the Government of Japan will build on these relationships to strengthen support for critical infrastructure, for which the need for countermeasure support increases with the progress of infrastructure development, etc. in each country. In addition, based on the results and experience of capacity-building support in the ASEAN region, we will also seek to expand the scope of support in the Indo-Pacific region.

I thank you.