

## PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE UNITED NATIONS | NEW YORK

22 November 2022

Excellency,

I have the honour of addressing you in my capacity as Chair of the Open-Ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021-2025 (OEWG), established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 75/240 adopted on 31 December 2020.

Further to my letter dated 4 November 2022, I am pleased to circulate the guiding questions for the informal inter-sessional meetings from 5 to 9 December 2022. I wish to emphasise that the guiding questions are not exhaustive and prepared under my own responsibility to facilitate our discussions. I would like to encourage your delegation to come prepared to address these guiding questions and also raise other relevant questions that you deem important for our work in the OEWG.

As delegations prepare for the forthcoming meeting, it is important to keep in mind that the informal inter-sessional meetings are a concrete follow-up to the OEWG's first Annual Progress Report, which mandated an "inter-sessional meeting with States, regional and sub-regional organizations and interested stakeholders as appropriate, including businesses, non-governmental organizations and academia, no later than the beginning of the fourth session, to discuss topics which could support and foster confidence-building".

To make best use of the inter-sessional meeting, I have also allocated time for delegations to have focused discussions on other areas under the OEWG's mandate. Guiding questions for each of the specific topics have been provided, and I encourage delegations to review these in detail, including with your relevant technical experts, and to participate actively in the discussions at the inter-sessional meetings.

It is not my intention to use the inter-sessional meetings to hear general statements of position but to encourage for delegations to have focused discussions on specific issues and concrete details, and work on identifying areas of potential convergence, with a view to achieving positive outcomes at the fourth and fifth substantive sessions next year.

Within the constraints of available time, I intend to allow delegations to present concept papers on specific proposals under the OEWG's mandate during the inter-sessional meetings. Several delegations have already expressed interest to do so, including on the topics of (a) confidence-building measures, specifically relating to the points of contact directory; (b) international law; and (c) capacity building. Any other delegations that wish to present specific proposals, please do contact the Secretariat and my team so that we can plan our work accordingly.

I look forward to the continued active and constructive participation of your delegations in the forthcoming informal inter-sessional meetings.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

**Burhan Gafoor** 

Chair

Open-Ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies

2021-2025

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York

## Enclosure:

• Annex A – Guiding Questions for Informal Inter-Sessional Meetings in December 2022