China’s Non-Paper on Establishing a Global and Inter-Governmental Points of Contact Directory

China welcomes the first Annual Progress Report of the OEWG 2021-2025, and supports the establishment of a global and inter-governmental points of contact directory. China believes that as an important confidence-building measure in itself, the directory is conductive to promoting cooperation among States on policy exchanges, protection of critical infrastructure, early warning and prevention of ICT incidents, emergency response and information sharing, etc.. To this end, China proposes the following:

I. The directory should serve for the objective of building an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful ICT environment. The international community should promote the establishment of the directory in a spirit of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefits. States shall not use the directory for purposes that are inconsistent with aforementioned objectives.

II. In consideration of the different institutional settings among States, an overly detailed PoC directory might result in repetitive contact and compromise the efficiency of
communication. It is thus suggested that States appoint points of contact at diplomatic and technical levels are responsible for domestic coordination. In accordance with their own realities, States can nominate on their own, on a voluntary basis, agencies, levels and contact information including telephone numbers and emails of PoCs.

III. Given that some UN agencies (ITU for example), INTERPOL, as well as regional cybersecurity mechanisms have already established PoC directories, OEWG could draw from their experience and practices to strengthen resource integration and avoid duplication. Considering the sensitivity of inter-governmental PoCs' data, the UN Secretariat, which is responsible for maintaining the directory, should take necessary measures to secure the PoCs 'network and data.