GERMAN INPUT TO BACKGROUND PAPER ON
A GLOBAL POINTS OF CONTACT DIRECTORY

As a **member of the open, cross-regional and informal group of states to advance CBMs in the OEWG 2021-25** Germany has contributed to the **proposal of a UN PoC directory** by submitting a **Joint Working Paper in July** that includes technical and institutional recommendations for such a directory. Further, Germany alongside the other members of the group will submit a **second Joint Working paper on the topic of a PoC directory** ahead of the December inter-sessional meeting.

In addition to the two Joint Working Papers, Germany would like to submit the following additional input for the background paper to be prepared by UNODA:

- Germany regards the **establishment of a global PoC directory as an essential prerequisite for advancing confidence-building measures** (CBMs) and for **implementing** the international normative **framework** of responsible state behavior in cyberspace. As a **member of the OSCE**, Germany is convinced that **regional organizations** have considerable **experience and best practice to share** in the establishment, **maintenance and use of PoC directories**.

- The PoC directory should be established on a **voluntary basis** and be based on a **decision of the OEWG 2021-25**.

- The PoC directory should provide the **possibility to nominate both diplomatic/policy and technical PoCs**. Ideally, those PoCs should be the **same as the ones** nominated by member states **in regional organizations**.

- The directory should be **managed online** and **updated** through a **specific request by the administrative body** to all member states **at least once each year**. Further, **participating members states** should have the **possibility to update their national PoCs at any time** by sending the relevant information to the administrative body.

- There should be **minimum requirements about information on the PoCs** such as **email address and telephone contact**. Further, participating member states should be able to provide additional information such as names, addresses or institutional affiliation of the PoC.

- The **main function** of the PoC directory should be to **enable communication among participating stakeholders, particularly in times of crisis**, in order to prevent conflict and reduce the risk of misunderstanding.

- Further, it could provide a **platform for coordination, joint exercises and training** more generally.

- As a **first step**, participation should be **limited to member states. Building on initial practice and experience, other stakeholders** such as regional organizations, private sector, academia and civil society could be **incorporated** as well.

- The PoC directory should be **managed by UNODA** which would need to be equipped with limited **additional financial and human resources** for this purpose.

- UNODA should be responsible for **ensuring proper functioning** of PoC communication and **keeping the directory up-to-date** and for this purpose **conduct PING tests.**

- Conduction of **exercises and trainings** with members of the PoC directory could be **offered by all participating member states** which would be **assisted by UNODA** in the practical implementation.