

Short description:

The current Open-ended working group (OEWG) has provided UN Member States with an open and inclusive forum to discuss the international security aspects of ICTs and responsible State behaviour in cyberspace. Identifying a regular institutional mechanism to continue dialogue on this subject and allow for a more action-oriented approach is an urgent priority and may represent one of the most significant and action-oriented outcomes of the OEWG.

This session will invite discussion and inputs from non-governmental stakeholders on the topic of regular institutional dialogue in the spirit of the OEWG mandate. This includes consideration of different possible types of frameworks and institutional settings in which the international community can continue to address the issue at hand; as well as forms of meaningful engagement and participation by relevant non-governmental stakeholders within them.

The session will open with kick-off remarks from its co-organisers. Questions will be circulated to participants in advance in order to guide their contribution, to reflect on the current status of this topic within the OEWG but also look to models and examples from other fora. This will be an interactive, dialogue-oriented session. Participants are encouraged to be ready to go beyond prepared remarks and engage in discussion with one another during the session.

Guiding questions:

Theme A: Ideas for a regular Institutional Dialogue

1. What purposes should future RID platform address, and why? (e.g. operationalization of the UN GGE 2015 non-binding norms and monitoring their implementation, information sharing, capacity building, exchange of best practices, developing consensus-based lexicon, or negotiation of more binding commitments, discussing the application of IL to cyberspace, or all of the above?)
2. Should a future RID platform focus on action-oriented measures or continue theoretical deliberations on the principles and objectives along the lines of the pillars of the discussions of the OEWG?
3. How to ensure that a future RID platform would coordinate its efforts with the relevant efforts taking place on cyber issues within the ITU, UNIDIR, UNODC, the Human Rights Council, IGF etc. as well as with the efforts of regional organizations ?
4. Would virtual meetings and consultations be useful in addition to physical sessions?

Theme B: Stakeholders' participation - lessons learned and challenges

5. Have you taken part in UN discussions on international cybersecurity? If yes what type of format (observing formal sessions, delivery of statements, side-event, multi-stakeholders session of the OEWG, etc.) and what were the benefits and challenges? If not, why?
6. What are the positive elements of other types of multi-stakeholder participation and discussion (outside of the UN) that you have been part of and that you have found beneficial?

7. How would you see your organisation participating in a dedicated forum? What specific priorities and contributions might your organisation or entity offer?
8. According to you what is / are the biggest challenges for the UN to ensure multi-stakeholder participation and engagement within UN cybersecurity fora?
9. How best might non-governmental stakeholders support the UN Member States?