



Statement by INTERPOL at First Session of the Ad Hoc Committee on Key Elements of the Convention

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

[thank you Chair for recognising INTERPOL and giving us the floor],

Having collaborated closely with law enforcement agencies from 195 member countries, INTERPOL is grateful to be given the opportunity to share our **expertise in frontline policing work** against cybercrime; and assist in shaping the Convention as a practical instrument.

Firstly, the Convention needs to facilitate **international cooperation**. To avoid unnecessary duplication of effort, it should make good use of and strengthen existing channels of communication and networks, including that of INTERPOL.

A significant part of INTERPOL's work involves **enhancing law enforcement cooperation**.

- Through **I-24/7** – our secure global police communications system, INTERPOL is able to connect the cybercrime police units in our member countries. Hence, we can coordinate joint operations, and facilitate the sharing of information and electronic evidence.
- INTERPOL also maintains 19 **databases** containing information related to criminals and crimes, governed by a strict legal framework and data protection rules. The contributing countries and partners retain the ownership and rights to their data, and are able to set restrictions on access rights. This consent-based approach fully respects national

sovereignty, while keeping crucial information flowing between law enforcement.

- Our **analytical tools** such as the Cyber Fusion Platform and Criminal Analysis Files also produce aggregated threat intelligence and assessments, thus minimizing the risk of undermining human rights.

Mutual legal assistance and **extradition** are also areas in which INTERPOL can play a meaningful role. INTERPOL's colour-coded **Notices and diffusions** have *and* will continue to facilitate provisional arrest of wanted fugitives, and disseminate information like criminal modus operandi. INTERPOL has also championed the **electronic-Mutual Legal Assistance** initiative since 2018, which aims to develop a secure network for the electronic transmission of MLA exchanges.

Secondly, **technical assistance and capabilities development** are key. Recognizing that cybercrime investigations are highly specialized, INTERPOL provides **capacity training and support** to law enforcement in developing regions and INTERPOL recognises the role that UNODC plays here as well. We also develop **guidebooks** and best practice for the obtaining, collection and seizure of electronic and digital evidence also formulating national cyber strategy, or tackling the problem of underreporting.

Moreover, our Innovation Centre constantly monitors and reports on **emerging technologies** that may impact global policing.

Lastly, the Convention must be underpinned by strong **public-private partnership**. At present, INTERPOL's Global Cybercrime Programme works closely with 14 private partners under the framework of **Project Gateway**, endorsed by the consensus of our member countries. Hence, INTERPOL can play an active role in strengthening cooperation between national authorities and the private sector.

Thank you.