



In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

**Statement by the Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran
Before the Ad hoc Committee for Elaboration of the Convention on
Countering the Use of ICT for Criminal Purposes
Agenda Item (4): Objective and Scope of the Convention
Agenda Item (6): Preliminary exchange of views on key elements of the
convention**

(28 February-11 March 2022, New York)

Thank you Madam Chair.

Since this is my first intervention, I would like to thank you for the extensive and commendable work done in this process. Also, I'd like to appreciate the tireless effort of the secretariat in preparation and organization of this session.

The views of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the key elements were expressed during the previous meetings. In line with that and as a police officer involved in combating use of ICT for criminal purposes, I would like to provide our technical views regarding international cooperation in fighting such crimes which is an important objective and element of the convention.

Madam Chair.

Digital evidence and digital forensics have a vital role in tracing and investigation of ICT crimes and criminals. Analysis of digital evidence is also becoming increasingly important to the investigation and prosecution of many types of crimes. Gathering, preservation, analysis and delivering digital evidence is very different from physical evidence and need expertise and proper equipment to prepare such evidence in appropriate format.

Despite the importance of digital evidence and forensics, quite often, there is no standard process and format for gathering, preservation, analysis and delivering digital evidence at the international level which has caused many problems for law enforcements in their investigation.



For example different approaches exist regarding the period of time that data and digital evidence are preserved and the format of log files that are delivered which make analysis harder and complicated for police units, therefore, it is suggested that this convention allow for standard processes and formats.

In the same vein, provision of modern digital forensics devices and equipment should be included in the convention so as to enable law enforcement to provide digital evidence and information related to crime in standard formats.

Madam Chair.

Another important related issue which has already been expressed by my delegation, is a secure communication channel for exchange of digital evidence and crime intelligence among law enforcements. Digital evidence usually has a short life and should be gathered quickly, hence the existence of a real-time and secure communication channel among law enforcement and competent authorities is vital for on time cooperation and communication. The establishment of such communication channel and other platforms should be supported and promoted by this convention.

Similarly, we appreciate the secure 24/7 communication channel established by INTERPOL which has enabled National central bureaus of Interpol of about 200 member countries of Interpol to connect with each other. This could be extended to specialized police units who fight against use of ICT for criminal purposes.

Madam Chair.

The last point but not the least, is the important role of global and international service providers and platforms in investigation of ICT crimes and removal of criminal content. Numerous ICT-enabled crimes and traditional crimes are committed within and by misuse of social media platforms. A collective response to such misuses requires a genuine and technical cooperation of such platforms with law enforcement at the international level. To this end, a precise and efficient regulations should be defined for effective cooperation of such entities as well as in establishing criminal liability.

Thank you Madam Chair