

INTERPOL's General Statement

Thank you Mr Chair for the opportunity for INTERPOL to speak.

Today, over 4 billion people are online. And they are at risk of being exposed to all kinds of malware and cyberthreats. But what are we doing to keep them safe?

On 17th of March 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, one member country had an urgent request to INTERPOL Cybercrime Directorate, that a hospital was facing a cyberattack. It then led to an international law enforcement investigation coordinated by INTERPOL.

With the vision of connecting police for a safer world, this is INTERPOL's role, to support its 194 member countries in preventing and combatting cybercrime. As recognized in the Draft Study, INTERPOL plays a unique role in facilitating police to police cooperation, through National Central Bureaus in each country, through I-24/7 secure communication system, and through INTERPOL notices and databases. INTERPOL Global Cybercrime Programme, in particular, has developed cyber analytical platform and collaboration capabilities for knowledge exchange and operational coordination.

Now, given the continued growth in the number of cybercrime globally, enforcement on its own is not an adequate solution; but prevention is the key.

To prevent cybercrime, INTERPOL works closely with public and private partners. It also helps countries develop sound cybercrime strategy and promotes good cyber hygiene by running global awareness campaigns. The aim is to support law enforcement to overcome the challenges of tackling cybercrime and its underreporting.

Mr Chair, whether they target systems and software vulnerability, or use social engineering tactics, we can no longer let them exploit us. Because we all deserve to be safe and free online.

In this sense, international police cooperation is undeniably fundamental in keeping our interconnected world safe and secure. INTERPOL is uniquely positioned to lead the global law enforcement response in this respect. And we are currently working with UN on the renewal of the UN-INTERPOL Resolution to include new cybercrime and cybersecurity language.

We encourage all UN member states to understand the global threat picture and to take necessary measures to enhance international police cooperation. Together with UN Member States, private partners and many other stakeholders, INTERPOL will reduce the global impact of cybercrime and protect communities for a safer world.

Thank you Mr Chair.