

# **Cybercrime Stakeholder Engagement Initiative**

## **Regional Consultation for Asia**

*The first regional consultation on cybercrime was held on 16 January from 9.30 to 11 am CET and saw the participation of over 45 stakeholders from the region.*

THE *Alliance*  
OF NGOs ON CRIME PREVENTION  
& CRIMINAL JUSTICE

## **Cybercrime Stakeholder Engagement Initiative Regional Consultation for Asia**

### **Challenges and recommendations:**

- Divergent national perspectives on the involvement of the Budapest Convention were voiced, raising sovereignty concerns.
- An emphasis was made on adapting legal frameworks that are able to cover contemporary needs, particularly in data sharing and privacy areas.
- The crucial role of the Ad Hoc Committee in fostering international cooperation and discussions on legal frameworks was widely recognized by the participants.
- Consensus was reached among the stakeholders on the importance of cross border cooperation in the region.
- Concerns were raised about the efficiency of cybercrime investigations, especially when navigating diverse legal frameworks, and adapting to technological advancements.
- Opportunities for mainstreaming definitions, trust-building, and capacity-building efforts should be more widely promoted.
- Discussions should also focus on highlighting the essential requirement for a convention that effectively responds to the dynamic shifts in the darknet landscape.
- The convention should help to tackle various regional challenges, including on topics such as wildlife trafficking. The discussion also needs to focus on threats such as online fraud, scams, and child exploitation, with urgent attention for grooming, sexual abuse material, sextortion, and streaming of acts of exploitation and violence.
- Recognition was expressed on the pivotal role stakeholders play, including private entities and civil society, in addressing cybercrime challenges.
- Participants acknowledged the delicate balance between privacy and working on encrypted platforms. There was a general call for innovative solutions addressing privacy concerns without compromising security.