



Seventh session of the Open-ended intergovernmental expert group to conduct a comprehensive study of the problem of cybercrime (6-8 April 2021)

INTERPOL Statement

In the last year, INTERPOL and its 194 member countries have witnessed a broad range of **cyberthreats**, including ransomware-based extortion, online scams, illegal data-harvesting and the re-emergence of older types of malware, repurposed to take advantage of the global pandemic.

Investigating cybercrime can be based on a local victim reporting such a crime, but it demands an international response. The nexus of criminal actors, infrastructure and victims goes beyond national borders and jurisdictions, local law enforcement does not always have the capabilities or capacity.

INTERPOL plays a unique role in facilitating international law enforcement cooperation as recognized in the Draft Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime. It provides secure global police information and communications platforms and systems, such as **I-24/7** to share urgent police information securely and in real time.

INTERPOL as a **neutral** and global organization is therefore uniquely positioned to lead and coordinate the international law enforcement response to cybercrime, within the limits of the laws existing in different countries and in the spirit of the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**.

In particular, **INTERPOL Global Cybercrime Programme** delivers policing capabilities in preventing, detecting and investigating cybercrime, with the aim to reduce to the global impact of cybercrime and protecting communities for a safer world.

Partnerships are at the heart of all the programmes activities, supporting the development of policies and operational responses.

In November 2020, based on these partnerships, INTERPOL successfully **coordinated and supported the arrest** of members from an organized crime group in the Africa region who were responsible for phishing campaigns and Business Email Compromise scams.

In line with the recommendations made by the expert group, INTERPOL encourages all of our shared Membership to make wider use of INTERPOL channels, networks, tools and platforms to enhance international cooperation in combatting cybercrime.

With a local footprint in each country and a coordinated Global Cybercrime Programme, INTERPOL is able to connect the dots; to identify and disrupt the criminal actors in cyberspace, together with our member countries and partners.

INTERPOL stands ready to further contribute to expert discussions; and support its Membership in the fight against cybercrime.

Thank you very much.