

**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF CYBERSECURITY
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF JAPAN**

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of Japan being the nodal Ministries for this Memorandum on behalf of the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Japan (hereinafter referred to collectively as "Participants" and individually as "Participant"),

Recognizing that the cooperation on cyber issues is a key component of the bilateral relationship between India and Japan;

Welcoming that the two countries have created a wide-ranging strategic partnership that reflects their shared values, democratic traditions, national security and economic interests, and common vision and principles for cyberspace;

Reiterating the commitment to an open, interoperable, free, fair, secure, and reliable cyber space;

Recognizing the importance of the multi-stakeholder approach to Internet governance that is transparent, inclusive, equitable and accountable to its stakeholders, including governments, civil society and the private sector, and promotes cooperation among them;

Also recognizing the Internet as an engine for innovation, economic growth, and trade and commerce;

Emphasizing the necessity to promote the implementation of the United Nations Group of Government Experts (UNGGE) reports of 2013 and 2015 in cyberspace by reaffirming the applicability of international law in cyberspace, and by adhering to the voluntary, non-binding norms of responsible behavior of States in cyberspace, and by appropriately conducting Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) and extending capacity building;

Confirming the importance of and commitment to cooperating in capacity building, research and development in cybersecurity;

Emphasizing the need for cooperation among law enforcement agencies of the two countries to combat cybercrime;

Reaffirming the importance to cooperate in strengthening the security and resilience of critical information infrastructure, including the development of international standards and best practices for technology products and services, and to address supply chain vulnerabilities of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure;

Recognized the value of establishing an institutional framework for their broad-based cooperation on cyber issues; and

shared the following views.

1. Areas of Cooperation

India and Japan seek to cooperate in the following areas:

- (1) Sharing information in a timely manner, when practical and consistent with existing bilateral arrangements, about cybersecurity threats/incidents and malicious cyber activities, as well as best practices to counter them, and establishing appropriate mechanisms to improve such information sharing;
- (2) Developing joint mechanisms for practical cooperation to mitigate cyber threats to the security of ICT infrastructure consistent with their respective obligations under domestic and international law;
- (3) Facilitating joint tabletop exercises covering priority cybersecurity scenarios to advance specific cooperation;
- (4) Continuing to promote cooperation between law enforcement agencies to combat cybercrime including through capacity building programs such as training workshops, enhancing dialogue and setting up consultations as needed;
- (5) Cooperating in the international arena including in the UN to promote the implementation of the UNGGE reports of 2013 and 2015 in cyber space by reaffirming the applicability of international law in cyberspace, by further exploring how it applies to State behavior in cyberspace, and by adhering to the voluntary, and non-binding norms of responsible behavior of States in

cyberspace, as well as by appropriately conducting Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) and extending capacity building;

- (6) Discussing and sharing strategies and best practices to promote the integrity of the supply chain of ICT Network products including telecom equipment and products to enhance Network security and user's confidence in the security of ICT products and services;
- (7) Strengthening the security of ICT infrastructure through Government-to-Government and Business-to-Business cooperation;
- (8) Promoting cooperation in the fields of cybersecurity-related research and development, such as development of standards, security testing, accreditation process, and cyber security product development, including cooperation related to emerging technologies such as 5G, Internet of Things (IoT), Machine to Machine (M2M), and Artificial Intelligence (AI);
- (9) Continuing dialogue and engagement in Internet governance fora with a view to promote multi-stakeholder approach of Internet governance, including Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and other venues, and to support active participation by all the stakeholders of the two countries in these fora; and
- (10) Any other area of cooperation mutually decided upon.

2. Main Forms and Mechanisms of Cooperation

- (1) India and Japan intend to continue to meet under the Cyber Dialogue mechanism led by the Joint Secretary for Cyber Diplomacy at the Ministry of External Affairs, the Government of India and the Ambassador of Japan in charge of Cyber Policy. The Cyber Dialogue mechanism is expected to review cooperation on cyber policy issues, including the implementation of this memorandum. Other mechanisms of cooperation may include the Joint Working Group (JWG) between the Department of Telecommunication (DoT) of India and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) of Japan, CERT to CERT cooperation and cybercrime cooperation between relevant authorities and any other such platforms that may be created in the future.
- (2) India and Japan may implement practical interaction by designating a Point of Contact (PoC) in specific areas of cooperation mentioned in this memo-

randum. Within 60 days after this memorandum becomes operative, the Participants intend to exchange information through diplomatic channels on their Authorized Agencies and PoCs.

- (3) The Participants may also establish Sub-Groups to implement practical co-operation, as appropriate.


3. Modification, Resolution of Differences and Period of Memorandum

- (1) This memorandum is expected to remain in place for a period of five years from the date of its signature.
- (2) The Participants may modify this memorandum by reaching a mutual consent. The Participants expect that such a consent would be in written form.
- (3) Any differences arising out of the interpretation of the content of this memorandum will be settled amicably between the Participants through consultations.
- (4) This memorandum may be discontinued by either Participant at any time in any manner, but preferably not earlier than 90 days after it becomes operative. The Participants expect the Participant discontinuing this memorandum to provide written notification, through diplomatic channels, to the other Participant of its intention to do so.
- (5) If this memorandum is discontinued, the Participants intend to continue to protect information as well as to implement previously decided joint activities and projects carried out under this memorandum and not completed upon discontinuation of this memorandum.

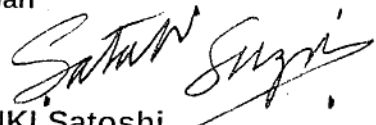
Signed in two originals in the English language.

Signed at New Delhi on 19 March 2022

For the Ministry of External Affairs
of the Republic of India


Harsh Vardhan Shringla
Foreign Secretary

For the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of Japan


SUZUKI Satoshi
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary