Concept Paper
Awareness-raising and Information sharing on emergency responses to security incidents in the use of ICTs

Purpose

Cooperation and coordination among ARF participants in awareness-raising and information sharing on emergency responses to security incidents in the use of ICTs will improve capacity building of regional countries in addressing ICT-related incidents and ensure timely and appropriate responses.

Background

● ICT security incidents are spreading rapidly across countries and regions, which calls for cooperation at the bilateral,regional and international levels. The rapid spread of WannaCry ransomware attack across the world demonstrates the need for close cooperation among countries in this regard.

● Taken into consideration the difficulty in attribution of ICT security incidents and the variety of techniques utilized in computer attacks, including APT attacks, information sharing and joint research among relevant countries and regions are crucial to address the incidents.

● The challenges in attributing the nature of incidents and the diversity of malicious actors enhance risks of misperception among countries. Real time communication is therefore necessary for mitigating attacks and enhancing trust and confidence between countries.

Details of Proposed Activities and Modality

1. ARF participants would strengthen cooperation in research,analysis and training on ICT security incidents responses, as well as raising

awareness and improving capacity.

- Conduct workshops and seminars for ARF participating countries focusing on cross-border cooperation in ICT security emergency responses. Participants could include diplomatic, policy, law enforcement and technical officials, as well as academic personnel.

- Encourage ARF participants to develop programmes designed to educate and raise ICT security awareness. ARF participants would take a tailored approach in carrying out such programmes, taking into account specific social, economic, security and cultural aspects.

- Enhance the exchanges among relevant agencies of ARF participants. ARF participating countries are encouraged to provide training to less-developed ARF participating countries to improve their technical capacity in ICT Security.

2. ARF participants are encouraged to share ICT security information on a voluntary basis.

- ARF participants could identify their points of contact for information sharing of ICT security emergency responses.

- These points of contact would conduct dialogues to define the scope and set categories and formats for effective and efficient information sharing.

- Explore the possibility of establishing a ARF ICT security information sharing platform, through which participating countries could conduct surveys on the specific needs of information sharing and lessons learnt in dealing with incidents, as well as explore potential areas of cooperation.