



Statement by

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in New York**

on behalf of

**The Caribbean Community
(CARICOM)**

**at the First Session of the Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a
Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use
of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal
Purposes on**

**Agenda Item 7: Discussion and decision-making on the mode of
work of the Ad Hoc Committee during subsequent sessions and
intersessional periods**

Trusteeship Council Chambers, UNHQ

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Madame Chair,

I have the privilege of speaking on behalf of the fourteen (14) member states of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

CARICOM has observed the views expressed by many members, both during the informal consultations and this First Session of the Ad Hoc Committee, in respect of the proposed roadmap and mode of work which proffer a chapter-by-chapter approach to negotiating the Convention.

While this approach is not our preference, CARICOM recognises that the provision of concrete drafting suggestions by member states for compilation by the Secretariat, whether per cluster of chapters or for the entire text, is an effort to promote inclusivity which is an essential part of this process.

CARICOM will therefore continue to employ a constructive approach to these negotiations by actively proposing draft provisions for inclusion in the Convention, and in accordance with the roadmap.

As a compromise, **Madame Chair**, CARICOM proposes a change in the order of chapters for negotiation during the Second Session in Vienna.

In this regard, we note that the Committee will have its first reading of the preamble and general provisions, provisions on criminalization, and provisions on procedural measures and law enforcement, respectively.

In addition, CARICOM notes that the offences to be addressed in the provisions on criminalization would determine the terminology for which definitions would be required in the general provisions. CARICOM is therefore of the view that a more pragmatic approach would be to reverse the order of negotiations on these two chapters to address the provisions on criminalization before engaging on the general provisions.

Throughout today's meetings, some delegations expressed their interest in receiving more time for the submission of draft provisions in preparation for the forthcoming negotiating sessions. While noting the very limited timeframe within which to complete the instrument, CARICOM acknowledges that this would in fact allow small delegations to produce more comprehensive proposals. The region therefore joins those member states in their request on the understanding that the flexibility to submit provisions throughout the process will be maintained.

Madame Chair, as expressed in previous interventions, the elaboration of a cybercrime convention is critical to the socio-economic advancement of small developing states like CARICOM. Therefore, in spite of the significant limitations in capacity, every effort will be made to ensure the consistent and active involvement of the region throughout this process.

Thank you.