**Contribution of The Netherlands in response to ITU Circular CL-19/47**

**Background**

The Global Cybersecurity Agenda was launched in 2007 as a follow-up the WSIS, followed by forming of a high level experts group.

The ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2018 in Dubai included text in Resolution 130 under Resolves “to utilize the GCA framework in order to further guide the work of the Union on efforts to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs”. In accordance with that resolution, ITU Circular CL-19/47 was issued, inviting contributions as part of a process to develop guidelines for the utilization of GCA by the ITU, with the Secretary-General planning to publish a report on how the ITU is currently utilizing the GCA. We are of the view that such report will form the starting point for a discussion on the GCA.

The GCA framework has been the basis of many ITU activities, activities by ITU as well as in cooperation with others. The five pillars as used in the GCA are well chosen and are comparable to other internationally used frameworks. form the basis on which any cybersecurity projects or activities can be carried out.

The evolution of the framework has been important. But care should be taken to develop it further because of all kind of changes in cybersecurity environment. Any amendments to the framework might not be in support of the evolving cybers security practices and policies.

**Recommendation**

The Netherlands is of the view that the existing framework of the GCA , consisting of the five pillars, is a solid one and still a useful tool to develop cybersecurity.

We noted that there is an increase in cybersecurity related activities and also that stakeholder set a higher priority on these activities. The use the full effectiveness of the pillars such activities should very clearly be linked to a pillar, or in case an activity is linked to more than one the number of pillars should be as minimum as possible.

Since more and more stakeholders are involved in developments regarding cybersecurity and since these stakeholders are working outside the ITU environment, the ITU should engage in broader cooperation with these stakeholders so both can benefit from each other’s knowledge and expertise.

The framework of the GCA has the advantage that it can be applied regardless the level: global level, regional level, national level. So it should not only be applied on global level but also on these other levels.

The legal aspects of the framework should be related to exchanging experience and knowledge. ITU has opportunities to work with countries to support in developing a framework including legislation. However, legislation is a sovereign issue.