Japan believes that cyberspace should be a space where freedom is assured without unnecessary restrictions, and where all actors who wish to access it are neither denied nor excluded without legitimate reason. Our efforts comply with the following five principles: free flow of information, rule of law, openness, self-governance, and multi-stakeholder approach.

Based on “Cybersecurity Strategy” established in September 2015, Japan makes efforts to strengthen information security.

Japanese efforts consist of the following three pillars: promoting the rule of law in cyberspace, confidence building measures, and capacity building.

With regard to the promotion of the rule of law, Japan proactively contributes to international discussion to promote common understanding that the existing international law is applicable in cyberspace, as well as development of voluntary, non-binding norms. They are the basis for ensuring stability and predictability of the international community. Given the unique characteristics of ICT technologies, further clarification is needed on how individual rules and principles would be applied.

In advancing confidence building measures, securing transparency and information sharing is necessary; however, the level of measures taken varies from State to State, as each State has the authority to determine the level at their disposal. Japan is engaged in the promotion of confidence building through bilateral dialogue and multilateral framework such as the ASEAN Regional Forum. Study on ways to lead tangible cooperation is necessary.

With regard to capacity building, Japan has been promoting the development of laws and statutes and policy frameworks for cybersecurity, and has been engaging in the assurance of cybersecurity of governmental bodies, CII operators; measures against cybercrimes; human resources development to foster cybersecurity experts; and R&D of cybersecurity technologies. Based on these experiences and accumulated knowledge, Japan will further proactively cooperate on capacity building.