NATIONAL VIEWS AND ASSESSMENTS OF TURKEY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) have become essential parts of today’s society and economic life. They contribute social wealth and development as well as daily life and individuals. ICTs are used in a broad spectrum that contains public and private sector, critical infrastructure sectors and individuals, and have become widespread in our country and the world despite cybersecurity risks.

In this context, Turkey has taken part in many initiatives on this matter by contributing cooperation efforts in cybersecurity issues. The goal is ensuring cybersecurity. In this scope, through the coordination of Ministry of Transport Maritime Affairs and Communications, National Cybersecurity Exercises were held; 1st International Cyber Shield Exercise was completed in Istanbul, while Turkey also regularly and annually participated at and contributed to international exercises related to cybersecurity, namely NATO Cyber Coalition, NATO Locked Shields, NATO CMX (Crisis Management Exercise).

Dialogue and co-operation with UN, NATO, EU, OSCE and other international and nongovernmental organizations, academia and opinion leaders has been enhanced. This approach is being strengthened by conferences, courses, seminars, meetings, graduate level education and other supportive programs. Turkey is leading regional cybersecurity efforts by concluding bilateral agreements with various states.

The Memorandum of Understanding that describes the co-operation between NATO and Allies was approved by NATO CDC, and related work for signature is ongoing. Turkey has a place in NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Center of Excellence as a sponsoring nation. NATO CEPC/IRCSG works and RACVIAC meetings are followed and co-operation on various issues has been developing. Turkey has taken place in founders of “Global Forum on Cyber Expertise” and become a party to the “Framework Document” and “The Hague Declaration” of GFCE.

Decision on cybersecurity, by which UN Group of Governmental Experts’ work was emphasized, was taken in the G20 Summit Communique, in Turkey in November 15-16, 2015.

“The Convention on Cybercrime” was signed by Turkey in Strasbourg in 2010 and approved through Law No. 6533 in 2014, and the work on adaptation to domestic legislation was finalized subsequently.

As the result of collection, reviewing and assessing information generated within the scope of meetings and common sense platforms, a "2016-2019 National Cyber Security Strategy and Action Plan" was prepared.

Strengthening information security at the global level, and thereby developing a security culture within the international community is a crucial matter for everyone. At the same time every State has a right to take necessary measures to protect itself from malicious use of ICTs by terrorists, extremists, organized criminal groups and freelance hackers for preservation of national security. In this scope, it is evaluated that strengthening international legislation and enhancing bilateral international agreements has a high importance level as well.