

## **Octopus conference and Budapest Convention 10th anniversary meeting (21-23 November 2011)**

### **Opening speech by Jan Kleijssen, Director of Information Society and Action against Crime**

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Welcome to the 2011 edition of the Octopus conference on cybercrime !

Cybercrime remains a priority of the Council of Europe as long as it affects our core objectives of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

It is a particular pleasure to have here with me in the opening panel:

- Ambassador Eleanor Fuller who is the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom to the Council of Europe. The United Kingdom currently holds the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers. As many of you know, the UK organised earlier this month the London Conference on Cyberspace. Several conclusions of that conference are related to cybercrime and are thus relevant also for our conference here.
- Consul General Hiroshi Karube who is the Permanent Observer of Japan to the Council of Europe. Japan is a signatory to the Budapest Convention and recently passed legislation that will allow for ratification in the near future. Japan furthermore made a voluntary contribution to the Global Project on Cybercrime. These developments are evidence that Japan is a strong partner in the global implementation of the Budapest Convention.

As you know, Estonia, Monaco, and Romania as well as Microsoft and Visa Europe are also partners in the Global Project on Cybercrime and have made this conference possible. They will hopefully continue to support our work from January 2012 onwards, when Phase 3 of this project will be launched. We very much hope that other partners will follow their example and join our efforts.

The objective of the Octopus conference is to promote international cooperation against cybercrime. As you know, the Council of Europe very much believes in a multi-stakeholder approach to Internet governance. This conference allows us to identify what all of us can contribute best to ensure that people and their rights are protected in cyberspace.

Obviously, a key instrument that the Council of Europe can contribute is the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime. However, there are many related standards and tools. The question of data protection is

gaining in importance every day. We, therefore, need to modernize the data protection convention 108 and support its implementation also beyond Europe. We can do this in conjunction with the Budapest Convention.

I am confident that we will make progress this week.

This morning we will discuss current threats and trends in cybercrime, but also review measures taken in different regions of the world.

This afternoon, we will have workshop 1 on capacity building. Capacity building was one of the central themes of the Octopus conference in March 2010. The subsequent United Nations Crime Congress in April 2010 also identified capacity building as a priority. Since then new technical assistance projects have been launched, not only by the Council of Europe, but also by different organisations.

In the afternoon, in addition, we will have workshop 2 on specialised cybercrime units, as well as 24/7 points of contact for urgent international cooperation. Specialised units are necessary to enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice measures against cybercrime.

Tomorrow morning, workshop 3 is aimed at promoting the design and implementation of cybercrime strategies. Such strategies involve not only the public, but also private sectors. The workshop will help us identify the elements of such strategies.

In parallel, workshop 4 will discuss responses to the sexual exploitation and abuse of children, including criminal law and preventive measures. The workshop will review new technical means, such as Photo DNA, as well as the impact and limitations of notice and take down measures.

Tomorrow afternoon, we will first have a panel on Article 15 of the Budapest Convention. Article 15 establishes principles and requirements to ensure that governments meet their positive obligation to protect people against cybercrime, while at the same time respecting their fundamental rights when investigating crime. For the Council of Europe this is a very important provision. The panel will help us obtain a better understanding of what this implies.

The second plenary panel tomorrow afternoon will provide an opportunity for senior experts from different regions and organisations to share with us their views on what will be the key challenges, the best solutions and the opportunities that we can exploit to enhance our future cooperation against cybercrime.

On 23 November 2001, the Convention on Cybercrime was opened for signature in Budapest. Wednesday 23 November 2011 therefore marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime.

A special session will be held in the Hemicycle of the Council of Europe with key note speeches by senior officials, a panel on the global impact of the Budapest Convention, and a panel comprising some of the founding fathers of the Budapest Convention.

We hope that this event will encourage additional countries to become parties to this treaty or at least implement its principles.

Dear colleagues, all Octopus conferences on cybercrime since 2004 have produced results, triggered specific action, led to partnerships and influenced cybercrime policies and strategies. We expect the same from this conference. Your participation and your contributions will make an impact.

In fact, the Octopus conference and 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary session will inform the Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY) which will hold its plenary session on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday this week.

On Thursday and Friday this week, a high-level conference will be held in Vienna, where the strategy of the Council of Europe on Internet Governance for the years 2012 to 2015 will be discussed. The results of the Octopus conference will feed into that conference and thus into the broader strategy of the Council of Europe for the coming years.

In short: The Octopus conference will certainly have an impact already this week!

It is my pleasure now to give the floor to Ambassador Fuller.

Thank you.