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## Press release on Second Round of the India-Russia Consultations on Security in the use of Information and Communication Technologies (

The Second Round of India-Russia Consultations on Security in the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) were held on February 15-16, 2018 in New Delhi, pursuant to the bilateral Agreement on Cooperation in ensuring security in the use of Information and communication technologies between Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation signed on October 15, 2016 on the sidelines of the 8<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit in Goa.

The Indian delegation was led by Mr Rajinder Khanna, Deputy National Security Adviser, in coordination with Dr Gulshan Rai, National Cyber Security Coordinator was led by Mr Oleg Khramov, Deputy Secretary, Security Council of the Russian Federation.

The Sides reaffirmed their common concerns relating to threats in the use of ICTs and common approaches in ensuring security in this field. Both Sides highlighted bilateral cooperation in the use of ICTs by deepening interaction between specialized agencies.

The Head of the Russian delegation called on India's National Security Adviser who underlined the strategic character of India-Russia relations as well as highlighted cooperation in the important sphere of use of ICTs.

Both Sides reiterated intention to strengthen practical cooperation on issues relating to ensuring security in the use of ICTs, including information sharing on emergence of technical and confidential information, capacity building including sharing ICTs to fight against its use in criminal and terrorist purposes.

The Sides agreed that it is necessary to prevent misuse of ICTs for criminal and terrorism purpose and to prevent conflicts in the use of ICTs for ensuring security in the field. The Sides stressed the significance of adopting norms, principles and rules of responsible state behavior in the use of ICTs with the UN as the key facilitator. In this respect, there is a need for the work of a Group of Governmental Experts on Development in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security in order to develop rules on security on the use of ICTs.

For the sake of further development of bilateral cooperation of security on the use of ICTs, both sides noted the necessity to consistently enhance activity by creating interaction between competent authorities and agencies as has been stated in the mentioned 2016 Bilateral Agreement.

The Sides reaffirmed their willingness to maintain regular bilateral dialogue on issues related to ensuring security in the use of ICTs with a view to further enhancing co



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