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**Country**-Senegal

**Institution**-United Nations Security Council

**Topic**-Assessing and Mitigating the Dangers of Cyber Attacks

“It takes years to build a reputation and one dangerous incident to ruin it”

The security of data is one of the most important concerns worldwide. People rely heavily on technology even for several day-to-day activities. The ever-increasing use of technology is leading to an increasing number of cyber attacks. In 2021, an average of 97 data breaches occurred every hour worldwide. To overcome this issue, the UN established an ad hoc committee (AHC), under resolution 75/282, to combat the use of information and communication technology for criminal purposes. Additionally, since May 2021, UN member states have been negotiating an international treaty on combating cybercrime.

Senegal has an annual development rate of 5.3%, primarily from the oil and gas industry, mining industry and tourism sector. By 2020, there was a massive increase in the use of technology in the country. Government offices, businesses and individuals all began to rely heavily on technology for communication, trade, tax monitoring etc Technology was also used to locate mines. Cybercrime in Senegal is carried out by both local and foreign groups. Further research shows that most cybercriminals make use of Virtual Private Network (VPN) and other private platforms to conduct malpractices. …Most of Senegal’s cyber-attacks occur in the finance sectors, the main victims being private and government companies. To overcome this problem the government launched the **Senegal National Cyber Security Strategy-SNC2022**. The act aims to combat various kinds of cybercrimes and protect Senegal’scyber interests. Also, given that the cybernetic landscape is evolving rapidly and continuously, laws and regulations are being reviewed regularly to ensure they are up to date to capture emerging trends and risks associated with cyber crimes.

The delegate of Senegal proposes that the UNSC take further actions to improve security networks internationally, and make sure that governments of developing and underdeveloped countries are regularly updated about all the latest data breaches and cyber-attacks, being faced by all member states. In addition, the delegate of Senegal also proposes testing all recent cyber attacks faced by member states and solutions to combat these threats, in a simulated environment, to be future-ready for all such threats.. This could be an effective practice to test systems’ capability in countering all emerging cyber threats. Countries should also study current technology trends to best prepare for future cyber threats. Education by far is the best method that institutions can adopt in order to protect themselves from cyber-attacks. Regular cyber-security training and inculcating cyber education into curriculums worldwide will keep people up to date on new technological developments, and risks associated with them.

In conclusion, the delegate of Senegal would like to quote the renowned historian Henry Adams- “Unity is a vision, it must have been part of the process of learning to see”.

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