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Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Nazim **Khaldi** (Algeria)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2022, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-seventh session the item entitled “Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security” and to allocate it to the First Committee.
2. At its 1st meeting, on 29 September 2022, the First Committee decided to conduct its work in three phases. The first phase would be a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 90 to 108, as well as a general debate on the working methods of the Committee and programme planning, namely items 124 and 139; the second phase would be dedicated to thematic discussions; and the third phase would be action on all draft proposals.
3. At its 2nd to 10th meetings, on 3, 4, 6 and 7 and from 10 to 13 October, the Committee held its general debate on items 90 to 108. At its 10th meeting, on 13 October, the Committee also held its general debate on items 124 and 139. On 14 October, at its 11th meeting, the Committee held exchanges with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament nominated by regional groups. The Committee also held 14 meetings (11th to 24th), on 14, from 17 to 21 and from 24 to 27 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. At its 23rd meeting, on 27 October, the Committee held a joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and



decisions at its 25th to 32nd meetings, on 28 and 31 October and from 1 to 4 November.¹

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, and advancing responsible State behaviour in the use of information and communications technologies ([A/77/92](#));

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security ([A/77/275](#)).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution [A/C.1/77/L.23/Rev.1](#)

5. On 20 October, the delegation of the Russian Federation, on behalf of Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cambodia, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Iraq, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security" ([A/C.1/77/L.23/Rev.1](#)). Subsequently, Armenia, Burundi, Ethiopia, Guinea, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Morocco, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 30th meeting, on 3 November, the Committee voted on draft resolution [A/C.1/77/L.23/Rev.1](#) as follows:

(a) The second preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 103 to 53, with 8 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand,

¹ For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see [A/C.1/77/PV.2](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.3](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.4](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.5](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.6](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.7](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.8](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.9](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.10](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.11](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.12](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.13](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.14](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.15](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.16](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.17](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.18](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.19](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.20](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.21](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.22](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.23](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.24](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.25](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.25 \(Resumption 1\)](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.26](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.27](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.28](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.29](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.30](#), [A/C.1/77/PV.31](#) and [A/C.1/77/PV.32](#).

Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Chile, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Lesotho, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Singapore.

(b) The fourth preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 102 to 52, with 10 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Bhutan, Chile, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Lesotho, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Singapore.

(c) The seventh preambular paragraph was retained by a recorded vote of 101 to 52, with 11 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Lesotho, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Singapore.

(d) Draft resolution [A/C.1/77/L.23/Rev.1](#), as a whole, was adopted by a recorded vote of 112 to 52, with 10 abstentions (see para. 11, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:²

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of

² The delegation of South Sudan subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour.

Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstentions:

Chile, Colombia, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, Lesotho, Malawi, Papua New Guinea, Serbia, Singapore.

B. Draft resolution [A/C.1/77/L.73](#)

7. On 13 October, the delegation of France, on behalf of Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America, submitted a draft resolution entitled “Programme of action to advance responsible State behaviour in the use of information and communications technologies in the context of international security” ([A/C.1/77/L.73](#)). Subsequently, Andorra, Angola, Canada, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, El Salvador, Fiji, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Kiribati, Lebanon, Malawi, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, New Zealand, North Macedonia, San Marino, Somalia, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

8. At its 30th meeting, on 3 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.1/77/L.73](#) by a recorded vote of 157 to 6, with 14 abstentions (see para. 11, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:³

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall

³ The delegation of Chad subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour.

Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic.

Abstaining:

Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Viet Nam.

C. Draft decision [A/C.1/77/L.54](#)

9. On 12 October, the delegation of Singapore submitted a draft decision entitled "Open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025 established pursuant to General Assembly resolution [75/240](#)" ([A/C.1/77/L.54](#)).

10. At its 30th meeting, on 3 November, the Committee adopted draft decision [A/C.1/77/L.54](#) without a vote (see para. 12).

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

11. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I

Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [36/103](#) of 9 December 1981, [43/78](#) H of 7 December 1988, [53/70](#) of 4 December 1998, [54/49](#) of 1 December 1999, [55/28](#) of 20 November 2000, [56/19](#) of 29 November 2001, [57/53](#) of 22 November 2002, [58/32](#) of 8 December 2003, [59/61](#) of 3 December 2004, [60/45](#) of 8 December 2005, [61/54](#) of 6 December 2006, [62/17](#) of 5 December 2007, [63/37](#) of 2 December 2008, [64/25](#) of 2 December 2009, [65/41](#) of 8 December 2010, [66/24](#) of 2 December 2011, [67/27](#) of 3 December 2012, [68/243](#) of 27 December 2013, [69/28](#) of 2 December 2014, [70/237](#) of 23 December 2015, [71/28](#) of 5 December 2016, [73/27](#) of 5 December 2018, [74/29](#) of 12 December 2019, [75/240](#) of 31 December 2020 and [76/19](#) of 6 December 2021,

Stressing that it is in the interest of all States to promote the use of information and communications technologies for peaceful purposes, with the objective of shaping a community of shared future for humankind for peace, security and stability in the information space, and that States also have an interest in preventing conflict arising from the use of such technologies,

Recognizing that the dissemination and use of information and communications technologies affect the interests of the entire global community and that broad international cooperation leads to the most effective universal responses to address information and communications technology threats and promotes an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment,

Reaffirming that, given the unique attributes of information and communications technologies, additional norms could be developed over time, and, separately, noting the possibility of future elaboration of additional binding obligations,

Noting that capacity-building is essential for international security, cooperation of States and confidence-building in the field of information and communications technology security and that capacity-building measures should seek to promote the use of information and communications technologies for peaceful purposes, and that further focused discussions within the Open-ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025 on funding specifically for capacity-building efforts on security in the use of information and communications technologies are needed,

Reaffirming that the United Nations should continue to play a leading role in promoting dialogue on the use of information and communications technologies by States,

Underlining the importance for the global community of shaping a system of international information security and continuing a democratic, inclusive, transparent and results-oriented negotiation process within the Open-ended Working Group, while recognizing its centrality as the mechanism within the United Nations for dialogue on security in the use of information and communications technologies,

Welcoming the efforts of the Chair of the Open-ended Working Group to forge consensus among States on the common goal of ensuring an open, stable, secure, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment,

1. *Supports* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025 in accordance with its mandate, as enshrined in General Assembly resolution [75/240](#);

2. *Welcomes* the adoption by consensus of the first annual progress report of the Open-ended Working Group,¹ and takes note of the compendium of statements in explanation of position on its adoption;²

3. *Calls upon* States to further engage constructively in the negotiations during formal and intersessional meetings of the Open-ended Working Group, which, pursuant to its mandate, will present recommendations, adopted by consensus, to the General Assembly;

4. *Confirms* that, in considering different proposals on all aspects of the mandate of the Open-ended Working Group, the views, concerns and interests of all States should be taken into account, and recommends that these proposals be further elaborated within the Open-ended Working Group;

5. *Encourages* Member States to continue exchanging views at the Open-ended Working Group on regular institutional dialogue on security in the use of information and communications technologies, with the objective of elaborating a common understanding on the most effective format for future regular institutional dialogue with the broad participation of States under United Nations auspices to be established upon conclusion of the work of the Open-ended Working Group 2021–2025;

6. *Invites* Member States to share within the Open-ended Working Group their views on capacity-building needs, as well as possible mechanisms to meet them, including funding;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled “Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security”.

¹ [A/77/275](#).

² [A/AC.292/2022/INF/4](#).

Draft resolution II

Programme of action to advance responsible State behaviour in the use of information and communications technologies in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [43/78](#) H of 7 December 1988, [53/70](#) of 4 December 1998, [54/49](#) of 1 December 1999, [55/28](#) of 20 November 2000, [56/19](#) of 29 November 2001, [57/53](#) of 22 November 2002, [58/32](#) of 8 December 2003, [59/61](#) of 3 December 2004, [60/45](#) of 8 December 2005, [61/54](#) of 6 December 2006, [62/17](#) of 5 December 2007, [63/37](#) of 2 December 2008, [64/25](#) of 2 December 2009, [65/41](#) of 8 December 2010, [66/24](#) of 2 December 2011, [67/27](#) of 3 December 2012, [68/243](#) of 27 December 2013, [69/28](#) of 2 December 2014, [70/237](#) of 23 December 2015, [71/28](#) of 5 December 2016, [73/27](#) of 5 December 2018, [73/266](#) of 22 December 2018, [74/28](#) and [74/29](#) of 12 December 2019, [75/32](#) of 7 December 2020, [75/240](#) of 31 December 2020 and [76/19](#) of 6 December 2021,

Noting that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Recognizing that the dissemination and use of information and communications technologies affect the interests of the entire global community and that broad international cooperation would lead to the most effective responses,

Expressing concern that information technologies and means of telecommunication can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States, to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields,

Expressing concern also about malicious information and communications technology activities aimed at critical infrastructure and critical information infrastructure facilities supporting essential services to the public,

Considering that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

Stressing that it is in the interest of all States to seek the settlement of disputes by peaceful means, and to promote the use of information and communications technologies for peaceful purposes and to prevent conflicts arising from the use of information and communications technologies,

Underlining the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

Highlighting the necessity of bridging digital divides, building resilience in every society and sector, and maintaining a human-centric approach,

Recalling the assessments and recommendations of the 2010, 2013, 2015 and 2021 groups of governmental experts, as well as those of the 2021 Open-ended Working Group on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security,¹ and the first annual progress report of the open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025,² in particular the

¹ See [A/65/201](#), [A/68/98](#), [A/70/174](#), [A/75/816](#) and [A/76/135](#).

² See [A/77/275](#).

cumulative and evolving framework for responsible State behaviour in the use of information and communications technologies elaborated by these processes,

Calling upon Member States to be guided in their use of information and communications technologies by the 2010, 2013, 2015 and 2021 reports of the Group of Governmental Experts and the 2021 report of the Open-ended Working Group,

Recalling the conclusion of the above-mentioned reports that international law, and in particular the Charter of the United Nations, is applicable and essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment,

Reaffirming that voluntary, non-binding norms of responsible State behaviour in the use of information and communications technologies can reduce risks to international peace, security and stability, and do not seek to limit or prohibit action that is otherwise consistent with international law but nonetheless to set standards for responsible State behaviour, while also reaffirming that, given the unique attributes of information and communications technologies, additional norms could be developed over time and, separately, noting the possibility of future elaboration of additional binding obligations, if appropriate,

Recalling that confidence-building measures in the field of information and communications technology security can contribute to preventing conflicts, avoiding misperceptions, misunderstandings and the reduction of tensions, and that regional and subregional organizations have made significant efforts in developing confidence-building measures,

Supporting the open-ended working group 2021–2025, and further encouraging it to take into account the outcomes of the previous Open-ended Working Group and the groups of governmental experts and add to the efforts undertaken by them,

Underlining the complementarity of the proposal for a programme of action with the work of the current open-ended working group 2021–2025,

Reaffirming that any future mechanism for regular institutional dialogue under the auspices of the United Nations should be an action-oriented process with specific objectives, building on previous outcomes, and be inclusive, transparent, consensus-driven and results-based,

Recognizing the utility of exploring mechanisms dedicated to following up on the implementation of the agreed norms and rules as well as the development of further ones,

Stressing the urgent need to assist States in their efforts to implement the framework for responsible State behaviour and tackle emerging threats in the information and communications technology environment, as the ever-evolving properties and characteristics of new and emerging technologies expand the attack surface, creating new vectors and vulnerabilities that can be exploited for malicious information and communications technology activity,

Emphasizing that capacity-building is essential for cooperation of States and confidence-building in the field of information and communications technology security, and that capacity-building in relation to State use of information and communications technologies in the context of international security should be guided by the principles for capacity-building included the 2021 final report of the Open-ended Working Group,

Reaffirming that the United Nations should continue to play a leading role in promoting dialogue on the use of information and communications technologies by States,

Emphasizing the value of further strengthening collaboration, when appropriate, with civil society, the private sector, academia and the technical community, to strengthen security and stability in the information and communications technology environment,

Encouraging States to, on a voluntary basis, survey or report on their national efforts to implement rules, norms and principles, including through the report of the Secretary-General on developments in the field of information and communications technologies in the context of international security as well as the National Survey of Implementation,

Underlining the importance of narrowing the “gender digital divide” and of promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of women in decision-making processes related to the use of information and communications technologies in the context of international security,

Welcoming the recommendation by the open-ended working group 2021–2025 in its first annual progress report that States engage in discussions on the scope, structure and content of the programme of action at the fourth and fifth substantive sessions of the open-ended working group,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal to establish a United Nations programme of action to advance responsible State behaviour in the use of information and communications technologies in the context of international security, as a permanent, inclusive, action-oriented mechanism to discuss existing and potential threats; to support States’ capacities and efforts to implement and advance commitments to be guided by the framework for responsible State behaviour, which includes voluntary, non-binding norms for the application of international law to the use of information and communications technologies by States, confidence-building and capacity building measures, as affirmed in General Assembly resolution 76/19, the 2010, 2013, 2015 and 2021 reports of the groups of governmental experts, the 2021 report of the Open-ended Working Group on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security and the first annual progress report of the open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025; to discuss, and further develop if appropriate, this framework; to promote engagement and cooperation with relevant stakeholders; and to periodically review the progress made in the implementation of the programme of action as well as the programme’s future work;

2. *Underlines* that the programme of action is to take into account the consensus outcomes adopted by the open-ended working group 2021–2025;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources and through voluntary contributions, to seek the views of Member States on the scope, structure and content for the programme of action, and the preparatory work and modalities for its establishment, including at an international conference, taking into account General Assembly resolution 76/19, the 2010, 2013, 2015 and 2021 consensus reports of the groups of governmental experts, the 2021 report of the Open-ended Working Group, the first annual progress report of the open-ended working group 2021–2025, the views and contributions submitted by Member States in the framework of the open-ended working group 2021–2025 and the regional consultations held in accordance with paragraph 4 of the present resolution, and to submit a report based on those views to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and for further discussion between Member States in the meetings of the open-ended working group 2021–2025;

4. *Requests* the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, within existing resources and through voluntary contributions, to collaborate with relevant

regional organizations whose members are also States Members of the United Nations to convene a series of consultations to share views on the programme of action;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled “Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security”.

12. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

**Open-ended working group on security of and in the use of
information and communications technologies 2021–2025
established pursuant to General Assembly resolution [75/240](#)**

The General Assembly, recalling its resolutions [75/240](#) of 31 December 2020 and [76/19](#) of 6 December 2021, noting that the open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies established pursuant to resolution [75/240](#) held its organizational session and its first substantive session in 2021 and its second and third substantive sessions in 2022, and recalling that, at its third substantive session on 29 July 2022, the open-ended working group considered its annual progress report, decided to include in its report the outcome of the substantive discussions of the working group as contained in the annex to document [A/77/275](#) and subsequently issued a compendium of statements in explanation of position on the adoption of the annual progress report as document [A/AC.292/2022/INF/4](#):

(a) Decides to endorse the annual progress report and convene intersessional meetings of up to five days each in 2023 and 2024, to advance discussions, build on the annual progress report and support the continued work of the open-ended working group in accordance with its mandate pursuant to resolution [75/240](#), recognizing that States have emphasized that the open-ended working group itself served as a confidence-building measure;

(b) Also decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled “Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security”.