The General Assembly,


Underscoring the aspirations of the international community to the peaceful use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) for the common good of humankind and to further the sustainable development of all countries, irrespective of their scientific and technological development,

Stressing that it is in the interest of States to promote the use of ICTs for peaceful purposes and in preventing conflict arising from the use of ICTs,

Expressing concern that a number of States are developing ICT capabilities for military purposes and the use of ICTs in future conflicts between States is becoming more likely,

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

Underlining the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,
Noting that capacity-building is essential for cooperation of States and confidence-building in the field of ICT security,

Recognizing that some States may require assistance in their efforts to bridge the divide in the security of ICTs and their use,

Affirming that capacity-building measures should seek to promote the use of ICTs for peaceful purposes,

Noting the leading role of the United Nations in promoting dialogue among Member States to develop common understandings on the security of and in the use of ICTs, as well as in developing common understandings on the international legal regulation of the activities of States in the ICT field and norms, rules and principles for responsible State behaviour in this sphere, and that the United Nations should encourage regional efforts, promote confidence-building and transparency measures and support capacity-building and the dissemination of best practices,

Recognizing the importance of the efforts made in this direction by the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (GGE) in previous years,

Stressing the need to ensure the integrity and continuity of the negotiation process on the security in the use of ICTs under the auspices of the United Nations,

1. Welcomes the launch of the negotiation process in the format of United Nations Open-ended Working Group on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (OEWG) and the GGE;

2. Underlines that the OEWG and the GGE are important independent negotiation mechanisms under the auspices of the United Nations, which should conduct their work in a constructive and pragmatic manner, adding to each other’s efforts, and their results should contribute to the implementation of the tasks of maintaining international peace and security in the use of ICTs;

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

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