RID – UK statement

Chair, The UK supports continued regular institutional dialogue to build on our long history of international cooperation on this topic. In that context we align with much of what was said by our Indian colleague.

For the UK focusing on the implementation and development of the agreed framework for responsible state behaviour in cyberspace is crucial if we are to fulfil our duty and protect all States from the risks of malicious cyber activity.

We are concerned both about the ability of a single process to make substantive progress at pace on the broad range of topics we have discussed this, and about the ability of States to resource multiple discussions. This is our shared challenge and we must work out together how we can resolve it.

I believe it was Canada who said in the previous OEWG that ‘form follows function’. One area where we already understand more about the function of dialogue is around the need to implement those agreements which are already on the table.

For that reason the UK supports the need to consider the outcomes of the previous OEWG in our work - as outlined in the mandate - and discuss the elaboration of a possible Programme of Action. We have already heard good suggestions this week in our capacity building and norms discussions which could relate to this proposal. They must be considered and addressed together, through the OEWG.