Statement by
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on Organizational matters (Participation)
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Security of and in the Use of information and telecommunications
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In the Name of God

Mr. Chair,

Allow me to begin by congratulating your election as the chair of this OEWG and please rest assured of my delegation’s full cooperation during this 5-year process.

I would like to echo what was said by Russia and China and in addition, I should underline a principled position of my delegation which is the necessity of avoiding a politicized approach on any issue, be it visa or participation.

My delegation agrees with your conclusion in the first organizational meeting as well as the last one in November to continue the practice of the first OEWG which indeed was successful through the informal interaction that took place through a designated representative of the Chair of the OEWG and its report afterward. We know that there were a lot of other opportunities that the NGOs and civil society representatives could address and communicate with the OEWG. We welcome their
contribution, however, this cannot and should not be only through formal participation that is the privilege of only the States.

We also believe that the inclusivity, transparency, and democratic features in the report of the previous OEWG were only advantages of this global process under the UN auspices against the disadvantages of the GGE that did lack all those advantages. Therefore, those terms should not be interpreted in a way that is not supported by consensus and gives a similar status to the NGOs. It is a regret that the precious time of the OEWG should be spent on this marginal organizational issue while we must start our work on the substance.

Having said that, we support the continuation of the previous practice in terms of participation.

I thank you Mr. Chair!