Norms - March 29

Thank you, Chair.

I will start with some general remarks on norms, then seek to answer some of your guiding questions.

*General remarks, which answer the last guiding question*

- Canada strongly supports the Framework of responsible State behaviour.
- It includes several key components, including voluntary norms of State behaviour in cyberspace.
- These norms were reaffirmed by the international community in the 2021 consensus GGE and OEWG reports. The 2021 GGE report also provides guidance on the implementation of these eleven non-binding norms.
- For Canada: no need for new norms. Existing norms sufficient to guide State behaviour in this space.
- Disagree with my Russian colleague that we need new rules or a binding instrument.
- Rather than seek to develop new norms or a binding instrument, let’s focus on implementing the agreed ones in a human-centric way, while taking into account gender.
- Issue now is not lack of norms, but disrespect of norms by some. Including by Russia in Ukraine, where Russian cyber operations routinely violate the existing, agreed norms.
• I explained this during my remarks on Threats yesterday. My EU and Netherlands colleagues also explained this eloquently.

• Turning back to the implementation of the norms, the AUS/mex survey proposal, which is being officially launched this week, may also help States implement the norms.

• Canada has always been a strong supporter of the survey proposal and we are pleased to see it being implemented.

• Canada posted a lengthy submission on the portal of the previous OEWG of that we have done to implement the existing, agreed norms.

• The survey proposal will hopefully help other States to publish similar submissions of what they have done to implement the norms.

• These submissions could serve as an example to States who are less familiar with the norms, and are wondering what concretely can be done to implement them.

Answers to guiding questions

specific proposals to facilitate implementation, existing national/regional initiatives which the OEWG can consider expanding

• Regional organisations such as the ARF, OAS and OSCE have played a key role in encouraging member States to
implementing the norms. Several have explicitly endorsed the 2015 GGE norms. Others have held discussions with member States on how to implement them.

- This useful work should continue. The OEWG could discuss ways to facilitate this work and ensure that it is done in a complementary manner, and that States who may not be members of a regional organization are not left out.
- The last GGE Chair held consultations with regional organizations, which were very useful in ensuring proper coordination in this regard.
- This OEWG might want to consider holding similar consultations with regional organizations, whether formal or informal.

**gaps in the framework and how would they be best filled**

- As mentioned earlier, Canada believes that existing norms, as well as international law, are sufficient to guide State behaviour in this space.
- What is needed is implementation of the existing norms, not new norms.
- Therefore, we believe that our focus should be on providing additional guidance to States on implementing the existing, agreed norms.
- Such guidance could elaborate on the role of non-State actors in implementing the norms. It could also address human rights and gender aspects of norms.
implementation. It could also help address some of the other elements that my US colleague raised.

- The guidance text that Canada put forward at the last OEWG incorporated comments from civil society and the private sector on those issues. This text received the support of over 40 member States.
- If we decide to retable an updated version of that text at this OEWG, we will consult non-State actors again on the draft, as well as other States.
- Another key objective should be building the capacity of States who have the will, but not necessarily the capacity, to implement the existing norms.
- My colleague will expand on this last point, as well as on the possible role of a UN cyber PoA to implement the norms, during the capacity building and future mechanism segments.

Thank you.