STATEMENT


New York, 31 March 2022
Within thematic discussion on capacity-building:

Distinguished Mr. Chair,

Dear ladies and gentlemen, colleagues,

We assume that states should assist developing countries in building their capacity in the field of information security and overcoming the “digital divide”.

Taking into account the elaborations of the first OEWG, we propose to continue harmonizing universal principles for providing assistance in capacity-building, which would allow to carry out this activity as efficiently as possible and with due regard to the interests of all parties involved.

The list of such principles could reflect:

– the inadmissibility of using developments in the ICT-field by states as tools for taking economic, political or any other coercive measures, including measures of a restrictive or blocking nature against particular states, that hamper universal access to the benefits from the use of ICT;

– the requirement for states to prevent the use of harmful hidden functions in ICT supply chains developed under their control and jurisdiction in order to create or facilitate the creation of vulnerabilities in products, goods and services that prejudice sovereignty and security of recipient States;

– the inadmissibility of taking measures that entail unreasonable restrictions on the use of ICTs for peaceful purposes, international cooperation in this area or transfer of technology.

The OEWG could provide concrete, practical assistance to States in capacity-building, mainly by promoting a better understanding of the needs of developing states, including advance training. The collection and analysis of information on the respective needs of States could be carried out through questionnaires. We are ready to develop a draft of such questionnaire. The results of this work could serve as a basis for a targeted program/fund for capacity-
building in the field of international information security, which the OEWG could recommend to establish under the UN auspices.

In our view, other interested parties could also contribute to capacity-building efforts, in particular, business and NGOs. In this context, it would be useful to intensify the exchange of best practices and experience regarding public-private partnership in the use of ICTs at the national level. We look forward to a constructive conversation on these matters within our informal exchanges with nongovernmental entities.

Thank you for your attention.