Contribution of the Russian Federation on rules, norms and principles of responsible behaviour of States in information space

1) States must meet their international obligations regarding internationally wrongful acts attributable to them under international law. However, the claims that an ICT activity was launched or otherwise originates from the territory or objects of the ICT infrastructure of a State are insufficient to attribute the activity to that State. Accusations of organizing and implementing wrongful acts brought against States must be proved and substantiated by indisputable technical facts. The existing rules of behaviour of States cannot serve as a basis for groundless accusations and illegal sanctions, as well as they cannot be used for assessing conformity with some kind of standards which are not internationally agreed (UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/73/27 “Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security” of 5 December 2018, item 1.2);

2) States should not use ICTs and information and communications networks, as well as media and transnational mediacorporations, to carry out information campaigns, interfere in the internal affairs of other States and to undermine their political, economic and social stability (based on International code of conduct for information security, circulated by China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan as a document (A/69/723) of the 69th session of the General Assembly on 13 January 2015; item 3; contributions of China, Iran and Pakistan from the annex to the Chair’s summary of the OEWG 2019-2021);

3) States should cooperate in combating criminal and terrorist activities with the use of ICTs and information and communications networks, and in curbing the dissemination of information of terrorist, separatist or extremist nature, as well as of information that inflames hatred on national, racial or religious grounds (based on International code of conduct (A/69/723), item 4, contribution of China);
4) States should endeavour to ensure supply chain security of ICT goods and services at all stages, to prevent other States from exploiting their dominant position in information technologies, including, inter alia, dominance in resources, critical infrastructures, core technologies, ICT products and services and information and communications networks to undermine States’ right for independent control of ICT products and services, or to threaten their political, economic and social security (based on International code of conduct (A/69/723), item 5, contributions of China, India, Iran, Japan);

5) States should reaffirm the rights and responsibilities of all States, in accordance with the universally recognized (agreed) norms and rules, regarding legal protection of their information space and critical information infrastructure against damage resulting from threats, interference, attack and acts of aggression (based on International code of conduct (A/69/723), item 6, contribution of China);

6) All States must play equal role in, and carry equal responsibility for, international governance of the Internet, its security, continuity and stability of operation, as well as its development in a way which promotes the establishment of multilateral, transparent and democratic international Internet governance mechanisms which ensure equitable distribution of resources, facilitate access for all and ensure the stable and secure functioning of the Internet (based on International code of conduct (A/69/723), item 8, contribution of China);

7) States should bolster bilateral, regional and international cooperation. States should promote a prominent role for the United Nations in areas such as encouraging the development of international legal norms for information security, peaceful settlement of international disputes, qualitative improvement in international cooperation in the field of information security; and other areas. States should enhance coordination among relevant international organizations (based on International code of conduct (A/69/723), item 12, contribution of the Non-Aligned Movement);
8) States should settle any dispute resulting from their activities with the ICTs through peaceful means, and refrain from the threat or use of force against territorial integrity and political independence of States (based on International code of conduct (A/69/723), item 1, 13, contribution of the Non-Aligned Movement, Iran).