Mr Chairman

We align fully with the statement delivered by the representative of EU but will add very brief specific considerations.

Portugal was one of the first co-sponsors of the Program of Action to Promote Responsible State Behavior in Cyberspace initially proposed by Egypt and France.

The political consensus on the applicability in cyberspace of the UN Charter and Geneva conventions, on the one hand, and of the UDHR, on the other hand, which we have achieved since 1998 thanks to seven government expert groups, has finally entered an implementation phase under the auspices of the current second OEWG.

And, in the phase of implementation of the political commitments already achieved, the Program of Action, submitted to the consideration of this OEWG during the first plenary session last December, is the right path to follow.

The sizable number of co-sponsors that it has already attained means that its practical role has been widely understood and accepted.

Bringing the information systems of the critical infrastructures of every member of the UN to the same level of security will indeed necessitate a consistent collective effort at all levels of international cooperation to build the required capacity.
However, in order to be effective, cyber security capacity building must be complemented by a proportional effort to combat crime and in that respect Portugal is very pleased to acknowledge the progress in the initial session of the negotiations of a future UN convention to enable a higher level of general cooperation in criminal investigation of cyber crimes.

Apart from cybersecurity capacity building and repression of cybercrime a structured dialogue about development of voluntary norms of responsible state behavior is essential in order to achieve a high level of awareness about how to protect the openness, freedom, accessibility and stability of cyberspace.

Intergovernmental organizations such as the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise and the Freedom Online Coalition, which identify and promote best practice in crucial areas, are instrumental in this regard and should become as universal as possible.