Statement by South Africa at the Open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025 Informal Session held in March/April 2022 Capacity-building

- South Africa aligns itself with the statement made by the delegation of Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

- South Africa believes that international cooperation is the only way to adequately address the threat to cybersecurity. There is no reason to leave any State behind. In this regard, we stress that capacity-building activities should be context-specific, evidence-based, politically neutral, transparent, accountable, and without conditions, in line with the decision of the first OEWG.

- Notwithstanding the above-mentioned principles, South Africa notes with interest practical proposals such as the establishment of a cybersecurity fellowship, which we believe should be well targeted based on nationally determined candidates, and needs.

- We believe that International cooperation for capacity building in general should be targeted, needs based and nationally driven. It should help develop skills, human resources, policies, and institutions that increase the resilience and security of States so they can fully enjoy the benefits of digital technologies.