5 October 2022

Excellency,

I have the honour of addressing you in my capacity as Chair of the Open-Ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021-2025 (OEWG), established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 75/240 adopted on 31 December 2020.

I would like to thank delegations for their active participation and constructive comments at the virtual informal townhall meeting that I convened on 29 September 2022. I am encouraged by your expressions of support for the annual progress report, which was adopted by consensus, and by your commitment to maintain the productive and positive atmosphere of the OEWG.

As I explained at the informal townhall meeting, it is vitally important to have the annual progress report of the OEWG endorsed by consensus in the First Committee of the UN General Assembly. It is my sincere hope that the annual progress report will not be re-opened or become the subject of debate and division in the First Committee.

Accordingly, and following the precedent set by the Chair of the previous OEWG, I am pleased to attach a succinct procedural draft decision that will be tabled by Singapore in the First Committee. The draft decision will not be open to any delegation for co-sponsorship.

I kindly request all delegations to consider the draft decision positively and seek your support for its consensual adoption at the First Committee.
Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Burhan Gafoor
Chair
Open-Ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies
2021-2025

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York

Enclosures:

• Draft decision titled “Open-ended Working Group on Security of and in the use of Information and Communications Technologies established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 75/240 of 31 December 2020”
Seventy-seventh session
First Committee
Agenda item 94
Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

Singapore: draft decision

Open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021-2025 established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 75/240

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 75/240 of 31 December 2020 and 76/19 of 8 December 2021,

Noting that the open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies established pursuant to resolution 75/240 held an organizational and first substantive session in 2021, and the second and third substantive sessions in 2022,

Recalling that at its third substantive session on 29 July 2022, the open-ended working group considered its annual progress report and decided to include in its report the outcome of the substantive discussions of the working group as contained in the annex of document A/77/275, and subsequently issued a compendium of statements in explanation of position on the adoption of the annual progress report as document A/AC.292/2022/INF/4,

Decides to endorse the annual progress report and convene inter-sessional meetings of up to five days each in 2023 and 2024, to advance discussions, build on the annual progress report, and support the continued work of the open-ended working group in accordance with its mandate pursuant to resolution 75/240, recognizing that States have emphasized that the open-ended working group itself served as a confidence-building measure,

Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled “Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security”.


