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Agenda item 93

Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

Report of the First Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2024, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-ninth session the item entitled “Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security” and to allocate it to the First Committee.

2. At its 1st meeting, on 3 October 2024, the First Committee decided to conduct its work in three phases. The first phase would be a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely items 90 to 106, as well as a general debate on the working methods of the Committee and programme planning, namely items 121 and 140; the second phase would be dedicated to thematic discussions; and the third phase would be for action on all draft proposals.

3. At its 2nd to 10th meetings, from 7 to 10 and from 14 to 17 October, the Committee held its general debate on items 90 to 106. At its 11th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee also held its debate on items 121 and 140. On 18 October, at its 12th meeting, the Committee held exchanges with the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials in the field of arms control and disarmament nominated by regional groups. The Committee also held 15 meetings (12th to 26th), on 18, from 21 to 25 and from 28 to 30 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions and decisions were introduced and considered. At its 27th meeting, on 30 October, the Committee held a joint panel discussion with the Fourth Committee on possible challenges to space



security and sustainability. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 28th to 33rd meetings, on 1 and from 4 to 8 November.¹

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security (A/79/81);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security (A/79/214).

II. Consideration of draft resolution [A/C.1/79/L.13](#)

5. On 7 October, the delegation of Singapore submitted a draft resolution entitled “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” (A/C.1/79/L.13).

6. At the 31st meeting, on 6 November, the Secretary of the Committee indicated that a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution had been issued as document [A/C.1/79/L.81](#).

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.1/79/L.13](#) without a vote (see para. 8).

¹ For an account of the Committee’s discussion of the item, see [A/C.1/79/PV.2](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.3](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.4](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.5](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.6](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.7](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.8](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.9](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.10](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.11](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.12](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.13](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.14](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.15](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.16](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.17](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.18](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.19](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.20](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.21](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.22](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.23](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.24](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.25](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.26](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.27](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.28](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.29](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.30](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.31](#), [A/C.1/79/PV.32](#) and [A/C.1/79/PV.33](#).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

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 6 December 2021, and 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](#) (OEWG) held its organizational session and its first substantive session in 2021, its second and third substantive sessions in 2022, its fourth, fifth and sixth substantive sessions in 2023 and its seventh and eighth substantive sessions in 2024,

Recalling also its decisions 77/512 of 7 December 2022 and 78/541 of 22 December 2023, including to convene additional intersessional meetings across 2024 and 2025,

Recalling further that, at its eighth substantive session, on 12 July 2024, the open-ended working group considered its third annual progress report, decided to include in its report the outcome of the substantive discussions of the working group as contained in the annex to document [A/79/214](#) and subsequently issued a compendium of statements in explanation of position on the adoption of the third annual progress report as document [A/AC.292/2024/INF/5](#),

1. *Decides* to endorse the third annual progress report of the OEWG as contained in document [A/79/214](#);

2. *Welcomes* the consensus achieved within the OEWG to:

(a) Recommend the establishment of the future permanent mechanism based on the consensus elements contained in the paper entitled “Elements for the Open-Ended Action-Oriented Permanent Mechanism on ICT Security in the context of international security” as contained in document [A/79/214](#) in order to ensure a seamless transition from the OEWG to the future permanent mechanism;

(b) Continue discussions within the current OEWG and to submit recommendations in the Final Report of the OEWG to be adopted in July 2025 on: (i) modalities on the participation of other interested parties and stakeholders, including businesses, non-governmental organizations and academia, in the future permanent mechanism; (ii) dedicated thematic groups of the future permanent mechanism; and (iii) other elements as required;

(c) Recommend that the future permanent mechanism would facilitate the continued operationalization and further development of all existing initiatives set up under the auspices of the OEWG 2021–2025 and/or other previous processes, including, inter alia, the Global POC Directory and the Global Roundtable on ICT security capacity-building;

3. *Emphasizes* that the open-ended working group itself serves as a confidence-building measure, and in this regard recognizes the need to facilitate inclusive participation, including the participation of all delegations in an inclusive manner and on equal footing;

4. *Decides* to convene additional intersessional meetings of up to 10 days across 2024 and 2025, to advance discussions, build on the annual progress reports, and support the continued work of the open-ended working group in accordance with its mandate pursuant to resolution [75/240](#);

5. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eightieth session the item entitled “Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security”.
