***REV. 4***

**Elements of a Draft PoA resolution (UNGA 77)**

**Programme of Action (PoA) to advance responsible State behaviour in the**

**use of ICTs in the context of international security**

The General Assembly,

PP1. *Recalling* its resolutions 43/78 H of 7 December 1988, 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007, 63/37 of 2 December 2008, 64/25 of 2 December 2009, 65/41 of 8 December 2010, 66/24 of 2 December 2011, 67/27 of 3 December 2012, 68/243 of 27 December 2013, 69/28 of 2 December 2014, 70/237 of 23 December 2015, 71/28 of 5 December 2016, 73/27 of 5 December 2018, 73/266 of 22 December 2018, 74/28 and 74/29 of 12 December 2019, 75/32 of 7 December 2020 and 75/240 of 31 December 2020, and 76/19 of 6 December 2021,

PP2. *Noting* that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

PP3. *Recognizing* that the dissemination and use of ICTs affect the interests of the entire global community and that broad international cooperation would lead to the most effective responses,

PP4. *Expressing concern* that information technologies and means of telecommunication can potentially be used
for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international
stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of
States, to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields,

PP5. *Expressing concern* also about malicious information and communications
technology activities aimed at critical infrastructure and critical information
infrastructure facilities supporting essential services to the public,

PP6. *Considering* that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or
technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

PP7. *Stressing* that it is in the interest of all States to seek the settlement of disputes by peaceful means, and to promote the use of information
and communications technologies for peaceful purposes and to prevent conflicts
arising from the use of information and communications technologies,,

PP8. *Underlining* the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

PP9. *Highlighting* the necessity of bridging digital divides, building resilience in every society and sector, and maintaining a human-centric approach,

PP10. *Recalling* the assessments and recommendations of the 2010, 2013, 2015 and 2021 Groups of governmental experts, as well as the 2021 Open-ended Working Group, and the 2022 annual progress report of the OEWG 2021-2025, in particular the cumulative and evolving framework for responsible State behaviour in the use of ICTs elaborated by these processes,

PP11. *Calling upon Member States* to be guided in their use of ICTs by the 2010, 2013, 2015, and 2021 reports of the GGEs and the 2021 report of the OEWG,

PP12. *Recalling* the conclusion of the above mentioned reports that international law, and in particular the Charter of the United Nations, is applicable and essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful ICT environment,

PP13. *Reaffirming* that voluntary, non-binding norms of responsible State behaviour in the use of ICTs can reduce risks to international peace, security and stability, and do not seek to limit or prohibit action that is otherwise consistent with international law but nonetheless to set standards for responsible State behaviour, while also reaffirming that, given the unique attributes of information and communications technologies, additional norms could be developed over time and, separately, noting the possibility of future elaboration of additional binding obligations, if appropriate,

PP14. *Recalling* that confidence-building measures (CBMs) in the field of ICT security can contribute to preventing conflicts, avoiding misperception, misunderstandings and the reduction of tensions, and that regional and sub-regional organizations have made significant efforts in developing CBMs;

PP15. *Supporting* the Open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025, and *further encouraging it* to take into account the outcomes of the previous Open-ended Working Group and the Groups of Governmental Experts and add to the efforts undertaken by them,

PP16. *Underlining* the complementarity of the proposal for a Programme of action with the work of the current Open-ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021-2025,

PP17. *Reaffirming* any future mechanism for regular institutional dialogue under the auspices of the United Nations should be an action-oriented process with specific objectives, building on previous outcomes, and be inclusive, transparent, consensus driven, and results-based,

PP18. *Recognizing* the utility of exploring mechanisms dedicated to following-up on the implementation of the agreed norms and rules as well as the development of further ones,

PP19. *Stressing* the urgent need to assist States in their efforts to implement the framework for responsible State behaviour, and tackle emerging threats in the ICT environment, as the ever-evolving properties and characteristics of new and emerging technologies expand the attack surface, creating new vectors and vulnerabilities that can be exploited for malicious ICT activity,

PP20. *Emphasizing* that capacity-building is essential for cooperation of States and confidence-building in the field of information and communications technology security, and that capacity-building in relation to State use of ICTs in the context of international security should be guided by the principles for capacity building included the 2021 OEWG final report

PP21. *Reaffirming* also that the United Nations should continue to play a leading role in promoting dialogue on the use of information and communications technologies by States,

PP22. *Emphasizing* the value of further strengthening collaboration, when appropriate, with civil society, the private sector, academia and the technical community, to strengthen security and stability in the ICT environment,

PP23. *Encouraging* States to, on a voluntary basis, survey or report on their national efforts to implement rules, norms and principles, including through the report of the Secretary-General on developments in the field of ICTs in the context of international security as well as the National Survey of Implementation,

PP24. *Underlining* the importance of narrowing the “gender digital divide” and of promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of women in decision-making processes related to the use of ICTs in the context of international security,

PP25. *Welcoming* the recommendation by the 2022 annual progress report of the 2021-2025 OEWG, which calls on States to engage in discussions on the scope, structure and content of the Programme of action at the fourth and fifth substantive sessions of the Group;

OP1. *Welcomes* the proposal to establish a United Nations Programme of action to advance responsible State behaviour in the use of ICTs in the context of international security, as a permanent, inclusive, action-oriented mechanism to discuss existing and potential threats ; to support States’ capacities and efforts to implement and advance commitments to be guided by the framework for responsible State behaviour, which includes voluntary non-binding norms, application of international law to the use of ICTs by States, confidence-building and capacity building measures, as affirmedin A/RES/76/19 and reports A/65/201, A/68/98, A/70/174, A/76/135,  A/75/816 and the 2022 annual progress report of the 2021-2025 OEWG ; to discuss, and further develop if appropriate, this framework; to promote engagement and cooperation with relevant stakeholders; and to periodically review the progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action as well as the Programme’s future work;

OP2. *Underlines* that the Programme of action is to take into account the consensus outcomes adopted in the 2021-2025 Open-ended working group;

OP3. *Requests* the Secretary General, within existing resources and voluntary contributions, to seek the views of Member States on the scope, structure and content for the Programme of Action, and the preparatory work and modalities for its establishment, including at an international conference to be convened at the end of 2025, taking into account A/RES/76/19, the consensus reports A/65/201, A/68/98, A/70/174, A/76/135, and  A/75/816, the 2022 annual progress report of the Open-ended working group established pursuant to resolution 75/240, the views and contributions submitted by Member States in the framework of the 2021-2025 Open-ended working Group, as well as the regional consultations held in accordance with paragraph 7 of the present resolution, and present a report based on those views to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and for further discussion between Member States at the 2021-2025 Open-ended working group;

OP4. *Requests* the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, through existing resources and voluntary contributions, to collaborate with relevant regional organizations, whose members are also members of the United Nations, to convene a series of consultations to share views on the Programme of action;

OP5. *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”.