Statement by
Delegation of the Republic of Indonesia
on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement

First Substantive Session of the Open-ended Working Group on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

New York, 9 September 2019

Mr. Chairman,

1. On behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, I would like to first congratulate you on your election as the chair of the Open Ended Working Group (OEWG). Assuring you of NAM full support and cooperation in your stewardship, NAM also looks forward to working constructively with all delegations.

2. NAM welcomes the convening of OEWG, as the first inclusive mechanism established within the United Nations with the participation of all Member States, acting on the basis of consensus, to continue furthering the development of rules, norms and principles of responsible behavior of States, and the ways for their implementation; studying the possibility of regular institutional dialogues; studying how international law applies to the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) by States, for which the Movement recognizes the need for further work, as well as confidence-building measures and capacity-building. The Movement expresses its confidence that the
OEWG would contribute towards international efforts to safeguard cyberspace from becoming an arena of conflict.

3. In this regard, NAM acknowledges the fact that the issues have been addressed in various platforms within the UN. The Movement also acknowledges that the engagement with relevant stakeholders should be in accordance with the UN General Assembly Resolution 73/27, the principle of non-objection basis and preserving the intergovernmental nature of OEWG.

4. NAM confirms the conclusions of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (GGE), in its 2013 and 2015 reports, that international law, and in particular the UN Charter is applicable and essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful ICT environment. NAM reiterates the importance of ensuring that the use of such technologies is fully in accordance with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, international law and, especially, the principles of sovereignty, sovereign equality, non-interference in internal affairs, refraining from the threat or use of force in international relations, peaceful settlement of dispute, respect for human rights, and adhering to the well-established principle of peaceful coexistence among States.
5. While NAM notes the positive benefits of ICTs and their contribution to development and encourages States to implement the norms, rules and principles for the responsible behavior of States, as this will contribute to increasing stability and security in cyberspace, the Movement is concerned with the cases of illegal and malicious use of new ICTs to the detriment of Members States of the Movement and expresses strong condemnation and rejection to those violations.

6. NAM also expresses its concern regarding the militarization and weaponization of cyberspace through the development of cyber offensive capabilities in a manner that would turn cyberspace into a theater of military operations.

7. Furthermore, NAM is alarmed at the increase in incidents of malicious use of ICTs by States and Non-State Actors and calls for timely action within the UN context with a view to developing rules, norms, and confidence building measures for responsible behavior in this domain.

8. The Movement stresses that the development of any international legal framework to address issues related to the use of ICTs with implications on international peace and security should take into account the concerns and interests of all States and be based on consensus and pursued within the UN with the active and equal participation of all States. NAM further underscores that such a legal framework, together with a multilateral inclusive institutional platform
dedicated to international cooperation on safeguarding the peaceful uses of ICTs, will represent a major contribution towards increasing stability and security in cyberspace through the prevention of conflicts thereby promoting the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means and the peaceful uses of ICTs.

9. At the same time, as a principled position, the Movement would like to stress that nothing in that legal framework shall affect the inalienable rights of States in the development and use of ICTs for peaceful purposes, or restrict or deny, in any manner whatsoever, developing countries of the ICTs-related science, know-how, technology and services in all its aspects for peaceful purpose. The Movement rejects any unilateral measure not in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries and that hinders their well-being;

10. The Movement stresses the importance of effective international cooperation in this field and of facilitating capacity building of States, especially for developing countries and to narrow the digital divide. The Movement calls for promoting common understanding on the security of and use of ICTs, and on the application of international law, norms, rules and principles for State behavior in cyberspace.

11. The Movement strongly encourages the early circulation of the substantive recommendations that it hopes will be adopted by the