

**80th session of the United Nations General Assembly  
First Committee**

Cluster 5 – Other Disarmament Issues and International Security

**Explanation of vote**

After the vote

**Submitted by the United States of America**

Chair,

We would like to provide explanations for some U.S. votes in Cluster 5 on Other Disarmament Issues and International Security.

The United States is pleased to join consensus on the resolution regarding the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on security of and in the use of information and communications (ICT) technologies. We appreciate the efforts made to produce this resolution.

The United States recognizes the significance of the Global Mechanism and maintains that it must not add any new exorbitant costs to the UN budget. We also affirm that the UN has no operational role in capacity building aside from facilitating voluntary mechanisms.

Acknowledging the benefits and progress made by the Final Report of the OEWG, the United States reiterates its strong disassociation with paragraphs 9, 12, 28, 43(d), and 53(a) of the Final Report. The United States remains deeply disappointed that the report retains references to gender and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

These topics distract from the discussion of security and use of information and communication technologies, including cyberspace. The United States strongly affirms that references to “gender” and the SDGs have no place in

a report on cyberspace stability and will continue to push back when discussion under the Global Mechanism references those topics.

Chair,

We would like to use this opportunity to explain our opposition to L.46 “Artificial intelligence in the military domain and its implications for international peace and security.”

The Trump Administration has made clear that the United States will reject any and all efforts by the UN to assert control over AI. This resolution risks starting down the unwelcome and unhelpful path of creating a global governance regime designed to institute centralized control over a critical technology and the United States of America’s warfighters. Attempting to determine the future of AI at the UN would be a gross violation of national sovereignty and would stifle innovation.

While we appreciate the resolution sponsors’ engagement with the United States, the United States has been and will continue to be the “gold standard” for how AI is used in all domains, including the military. The U.S. Department of War was the first military in the world to issue a policy on autonomy in weapon systems and to adopt ethical principles for the use of AI in military operations. While we welcome engagement with nations on this topic outside the UN, we cannot support the proposed resolution.

Chair,

Finally, on the resolution regarding L.13 “Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control,” we remain concerned with both the implied direct connection between general environmental standards and multilateral arms control as well as with the periodicity of the resolution.

Thank you.