

Israel's Explanation of Vote (EOV) and Remarks on the Final Progress Report of the 2021–2025 OEWG

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Mr. Chair,

Israel wishes to express its sincere and profound appreciation to you, H.E. Ambassador Burhan Gafoor, and your very capable team, as well as to the devoted and highly professional UNODA Secretariat, for your steadfast leadership throughout this process, culminating today in the successful adoption of this consensus report.

This achievement underscores the fundamental importance of **consensus** as the cornerstone of our work. It is this spirit of inclusivity and shared ownership that has allowed us to advance a common understanding of responsible state behavior in cyberspace.

While some of our reservations remain unresolved, and not all of our concerns have been fully reflected in the final version of the CRP, we recognize the inherent value of compromise. In the spirit of consensus, and as a gesture of goodwill, particularly in light of the constructive cooperation demonstrated by many delegations over the past days, Israel is prepared to show flexibility. Accordingly, we join other delegations in supporting the adoption of this final report. We reaffirm that the Israeli delegation remains committed to working collaboratively with fellow Member States, and to maintaining a constructive and forward-looking approach in advancing an inclusive and transparent dialogue on cybersecurity within the UN framework.

As the mandate of the current OEWG concludes and we turn our attention to the establishment of a future permanent institutional dialogue, Israel underscores the need for **consensus to remain the guiding principle**, in all our decision-making processes on procedural and substantive matters alike. Upholding this principle leading to the creation of our new mechanism and while working in it is essential in ensuring that the interests and perspectives of all Member States are respected, and that our collective efforts are credible, balanced, and effective.

Israel further reiterates that building a **common understanding of the application of international law to the use of ICTs by States** must precede the formulation or adoption of any new rules, norms, or principles. In this context, we also reaffirm Israel's position that there is currently **no need for any new legally binding instruments**.

Finally, Israel strongly supports international capacity-building efforts, especially those aimed at enhancing the global cyber resilience. These efforts must be demand-driven, transparent, and politically neutral, and must respect the sovereignty and needs of recipient states.

And on a personal note, as head of the Israeli delegation, I have been deeply honored to participate in this process from its inception. Israel has long been an active and constructive voice in this field, including as a member of the 2015 GGE, which helped lay the foundation for the current framework of responsible state behavior in cyberspace. I can assure you, Mr. Chair, that Israel will continue to contribute meaningfully to global cyber resilience and to the stability and security of cyberspace.

Thank you.