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

Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution [70/237](#) on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security.

* [A/72/150](#).



I. Introduction

1. In its resolution [70/237](#) of 23 December 2015, on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts, to be established in 2016 on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the above-mentioned report, to continue to study, with a view to promoting common understandings, existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them and how international law applies to the use of information and communications technologies by States, as well as norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour of States, confidence-building measures and capacity-building and the concepts referred to in paragraph 3 above, and to submit a report on the results of the study to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

II. Organizational matters

2. In accordance with the terms of the resolution, the Secretary-General appointed a group of governmental experts from 25 States: Australia, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, China, Cuba, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Mexico, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Serbia, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. The list of experts is contained in the annex to the present report.

3. The Group of Governmental Experts met in four formal sessions, the first from 29 August to 2 September 2016 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, the second from 28 November to 2 December 2016 at the United Nations Office at Geneva, the third from 20 to 24 February 2017 at the United Nations Office at Geneva and the fourth from 19 to 23 June 2017 at United Nations Headquarters in New York. At its first session, the Group unanimously elected Karsten Geier of Germany as its Chairman.

4. The Information and Outreach Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs served as the secretariat to the Group. The United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research served as the consultant to the Group.

5. In accordance with its mandate, as contained in resolution [70/237](#), the Group had a comprehensive, in-depth exchange of views on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security. Furthermore, the Group took into account the reports of previous Groups of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security as well as contributions and proposals made available by members of the Group. Several draft substantive reports were considered by the Group, including on the last day of the final formal meeting, on the following issues: existing and emerging threats; capacity-building; confidence-building; recommendations on the implementation of norms, rules and principles for the responsible behaviour of States; application of international law to the use of information and communications technologies; and conclusions and recommendations for future work. No consensus was reached on a final report.

Annex

List of members of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security

Australia

Henry Fox
Director, Cyber Policy, International Security Division
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Botswana

Cecil Otukile Masiga (session 3)
Director, Department of Information Technology
Ministry of Transport and Communications

John L. Vassiliadis (session 2)
Deputy E-Gov Controller — Security
Ministry of Transport and Communications

Brazil

Marcelo Paz Saraiva Câmara
Counsellor, Head of the Division of Disarmament and Sensitive Technologies
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Canada

Michael Walma
Cyber Foreign Policy Coordinator
Global Affairs Canada

China

Long Zhou
Coordinator for Cyber Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Cuba

Miguel Gutiérrez Rodríguez
Director General
Ministry of Communications

Egypt

Mohamed Abulkheir
Ambassador and Deputy Assistant Foreign Minister for International Specialized Agencies

Estonia

Marina Kaljurand
Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Finland

Marja Lehto
Ambassador and Senior Expert, Legal Service
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

France

David Martinon
Ambassador for Cyberdiplomacy and the Digital Economy

Germany

Karsten Geier
Head of Cyber Policy Coordination Staff, Federal Foreign Office

India

Santosh Jha
Joint Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs

Indonesia

Munawar Ahmad
Senior Expert of the National Desk for Information Resilience and Cyber Security
Coordinating Ministry for Politics, Law and Security

Japan

Koichi Mizushima
Ambassador in charge of United Nations Affairs and Ambassador in charge of
Cyber Policy

Kazakhstan

Dmitriy Goloburda
Deputy Minister of Defence and Aerospace Industry

Kenya

Katherine W. Getao
ICT Secretary, Ministry of Information, Communications and Technology

Mexico

Gerardo Isaac Morales Tenorio
Deputy Director General for Multidimensional Security
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Netherlands

Carmen Gonsalves
Head, International Cyber Policy
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Republic of Korea

Shin Maeng-ho
Ambassador for International Security Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Russian Federation

Andrey V. Krutskikh
Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for International
Cooperation in Information Security, Ambassador-at-large
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Senegal

Cherif Diallo
Director of Information and Communication Technology
Ministry of Postal Services and Telecommunications

Serbia

Dragan Mladenović
Lieutenant Colonel, Department of Telecommunications and Informatics of the
General Staff of the Army of Serbia
Ministry of Defence

Switzerland

Frank Grütter
Ambassador and Head of Division for Security Policy
Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Sarah Taylor
Director, Cyber Policy
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

United States of America

Michele G. Markoff
Deputy Coordinator for Cyber Issues, Office of the Coordinator for Cyber Issues
Office of the Secretary of State
Department of State
