Pakistan

General Statement on the resolution “Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security” A/C.1/71/L.17

Mr. Chairman,

The ICTs present immense opportunities across a wide range of areas. But as with other technologies, there are several challenges posed by ICTs especially when they are used in malicious ways. These developments could entail profound risks for international, regional and national security.

Hostile use of cyber space is growing and threat spectrum is getting increasingly complex. We therefore note with satisfaction that GGEs have made a useful contribution in raising awareness of the challenges but also evolving a common understanding about potential risks. But important work remains in evolving agreed legal principles, norms, CBMs and the cross-cutting issue of international assistance and cooperation.

Pakistan is pleased to have co-sponsored this resolution. We appreciate the pen-holder of the resolution for its efforts. We, however, express our disappointment on the fact that Pakistan has not been included in the GGE that was established last year pursuant to the adoption of the resolution 70/237.

Four GGEs have concluded their work in this area while the fifth one is in progress. It is now high time that this work being done in the smaller setting of a GGE be brought to a broader multilateral setting and representative forums like the CD and the General Assembly.

Thank you Mr. Chairman