



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

Remarks at the adoption of the final OEWG report

**Statement by Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu
High Representative for Disarmament Affairs**

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Virtual Event
12 March 2021

Thank you, Ambassador Lauber, for giving me the floor.

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

May I extend my deep and heartfelt congratulations to all of you on the adoption of the consensus report of the Open-ended Working Group.

As many have already mentioned, this is indeed an important and historic moment for the international community.

I would particularly like to express my utmost gratitude to Ambassador Lauber for his outstanding steering of the challenging process to this final success.

The work of this Open-ended Working Group over the past one and a half years is a clear demonstration of the unwavering commitment of you, the United Nations Member States. Not only have you been able to navigate the complex issues of ICT security, but as one delegation said earlier today, you have collectively been able to harness the “opportunities” of the pandemic by forging new and innovative ways of working.

I would like to commend you on your extraordinary and tireless efforts to find solutions and compromises that ultimately won the day. This is an unequivocal signal that multilateral consensus is clearly possible not only in affirming past agreements, but also for taking steps forward on a framework of responsible State behaviour in the use of ICTs. You have fulfilled your heavy responsibilities for moving forward together to address one of the most important challenges in this rapidly changing world. And I believe that you will continue to maintain and further strengthen multilateral cooperation at the United Nations in the ongoing and future discussions on this defining challenge for securing our common future.

Ambassador Lauber,

Excellencies,

Distinguished colleagues and dear friends,

Once again, congratulations to you on your success! I thank you very much.