



**Final Session of the Group of Governmental Experts on Advancing
responsible State behaviour in cyberspace in the context of international
security**

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

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Virtual Session
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Thank you so much, Ambassador Patriota,

Distinguished GGE Experts,

On behalf of Secretary-General Guterres, I would like to extend my deepest and heartfelt congratulations to all of you on the adoption of the consensus GGE report.

Ambassador Patriota,

I would particularly like to express the Secretary-General's and my own sincerest gratitude to you for your outstanding steering of this important process to this final successful outcome.

GGE Experts,

Each and every one of you has demonstrated exceptional dedication and commitment, not only working through the challenges of the pandemic, but also often time working through the night and under various time zones.

I commend you for your unwavering work to honing and refining the text through many iterations and summoning the political will to undertaking complex negotiations over a year and a half, never giving up till agreement was reached.

Your efforts have truly paid off. The report you have adopted is substantively deep and very rich in content, reflecting the impressive level of collective expertise you all bring to the table. The outcome builds upon the previous GGEs, harmonizes with the Open-ended Group Report, and importantly adds a valuable new level of understanding on complex issues related to ICTs in the context of international security.

This GGE's successful outcome, together with that of the Open-ended Working Group in March, makes for an unprecedented double success on this critical issue. It constitutes an unequivocal signal that multilateral consensus is possible on key global issues. Going forward it is my hope that you will continue to maintain and indeed further strengthen multilateral cooperation in future discussions on this defining challenge of our time.

Congratulations once again on the positive outcome of your hard work and I hope you all enjoy your success! My only regret is not being able to invite you to celebrate in my office in New York.

I would also like to commend the work of my team at UNODA in providing support to this process, as well as that of colleagues from UNIDIR. This has been a collective endeavour. Thank you again Ambassador Patriota and members of the GGE. I will be reporting to the Secretary-General on this outcome.