

**Statement by India at 67th Session of the First
Committee: Thematic debate on “Other disarmament
measures and international security”, 1 November 2012**

Mr. Chairman, the international community has recognized that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for social and economic development needs to be maintained and encouraged. India is fully aware of the dynamic nature of scientific and technological developments and their impact in a globalised environment on international security, non-proliferation and disarmament. These developments also have an impact on many related areas of human security- economic growth, trade and development, food security, disease prevention and cure, energy security, protection of the environment and information security.

2. The misuse of information and communication technologies for criminal or hostile purposes is a growing concern. It is reflected in the UN General Assembly resolution adopted on 11 January 2011 which calls upon Member States to promote further at multilateral levels the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security as well as possible strategies to address the threats consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information. Given the increasingly networked global economy and the transnational nature of the internet and communication technologies, international cooperation is a must to ensure the security of our information systems. Our current discussions are aimed at development of norms and putting in place appropriate mechanisms for ensuring security of our networks without compromising transparency and the free flow of information. This should be done balancing the interests of all stakeholders and ensuring that the norms thus developed are both universally acceptable as well as effective in mitigating the threats we face.

3. Mr. Chairman, we are fully aware that science and technology is of vital importance for fulfilling the

development aspirations of the multitudes in living developing countries, who need access to scientific developments and new technologies. International cooperation in the use of Science & Technology for peaceful purposes including transfer and exchange of technology is therefore essential. Science & Technology can also contribute to verification of relevant disarmament and non-proliferation agreements. At the same time the international community should follow closely scientific and technological developments that may have a negative impact on the security environment and on the process of arms limitation and disarmament.

4. International transfer of sensitive technologies and high technology with military applications should be effectively regulated, keeping in mind legitimate defense requirements of all States. National regulations and export controls of the appropriate standards in this field should be strengthened and effectively implemented. Relevant international agreements in this field should be implemented in a manner designed to avoid hampering the economic or technological development of state parties to those agreements.

5. For all the above reasons, the Role of Science & Technology in the context of international security and disarmament is an important and dynamic subject that affects the interests of all states. There is thus need for dialogue and cooperation among Member States to find a viable forward looking approach taking into account current trends and possible future directions.

6. My delegation has, therefore, tabled a draft decision L54 entitled "Role of Science and Technology in the Context of International Security and Disarmament" to be included in the agenda of the 68th Session of the UNGA. We hope that the First Committee will endorse it as in previous years.

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