



First Committee of the 80th UN General Assembly
Cluster V – Other Disarmament Measures and International Security
Statement by H.E. Leonardo Bencini
Permanent Representative of Italy to the Conference on Disarmament
New York, 27 October 2025

Chair,

Italy aligns itself with the statement delivered by the European Union and wishes to add the following remarks in its national capacity.

Italy remains steadfast in its commitment to a cyberspace that is open, interoperable, safe, secure and resilient, a cyberspace that respects human rights and in which international law fully applies. Cyber stability can only be achieved through a multistakeholder approach based on dialogue, transparency, and confidence-building measures. Greater awareness of cyber threats and strengthening collective resilience and response capacities, also through capacity building, should be promoted.

In this context, we welcome the consensus reached in July 2025 on the final report of the Open-Ended Working Group on the security of, and in the use of information and communication technologies, as well as the establishment of the Global Mechanism as a new permanent UN forum to advance responsible state behavior in cyberspace. Italy looks forward to actively contributing to the work of its Dedicated Thematic Groups to carry out concrete activities to the benefit of a common understanding of cybersecurity challenges.

We also acknowledge the profound implications of emerging technologies – particularly artificial intelligence – for arms control, non-proliferation, and

disarmament. Harnessing the potential of these technologies while mitigating the risks of their misuse is a priority, as underscored in Action 27 of the Pact for the Future. We reaffirm our commitment to developing a future instrument on lethal autonomous weapons systems, ideally a new protocol to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. Italy supports complementary efforts in appropriate forums, including within the Conference on Disarmament, to examine relevant military applications of AI and other emerging technologies.

Chair,

Italy reaffirms its strong commitment to export controls as essential tools against proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Export control regimes safeguard legitimate trade and cooperation by ensuring responsible use of dual-use technologies. We reject any narratives suggesting otherwise.

Thank you, Chair.