Thank you, Mr. Chair.

My delegation aligns itself with the Statement delivered by the delegate of Indonesia on behalf of NAM.

On our national capacity, let me share some of our perspectives:

Due to Covid -19 pandemic, we are experiencing a rapid expansion of our activities in cyber domain. Every day, many actors are making lateral entry into the cyber sphere. It is therefore more relevant now than ever, to recognize the importance of enhancing understanding what constitutes safe and acceptable behavior in cyber fields.

We highly appreciate the work done by the Chair in producing this pre-draft, which would now help the member states to have more meaningful negotiations. We welcome important focus given to the confidence building, and capacity building measures, and to the issue of awareness for implementation and operationalization of norms and rules. We are happy to see a broader convergence in this area. We are keen to engage with other partners to strengthen the language in this regard.

We welcome references made to the existing norms where we already have broad consensus. There have been efforts through the work of previous GGEs, and the General Assembly platforms to create acceptable norms for the cyber space. Additionally, there are globally accepted values and principles in the UN Charter and other instruments which may guide our future efforts to reach consensus.
We must also remain open to new ideas to ensure a secure, inclusive, and stable cyber environment. For that we may need to identify the gaps in existing international norms, not only in terms of their relevance, but also in terms of applicability in the context of the ever-evolving challenges of the cyber world. In this regard, it would perhaps be useful to come up with a list of GA documents on cyber security that enjoy consensus or near consensus. This exercise might be helpful in collating necessary background information and reinforce our work in the later stages of the negotiations.

We have seen debates regarding use of different terms in your pre-draft. Hence, it will also be a good idea to come up with shared understanding on some of the terminologies used in your pre-draft. Perhaps UNODA can help by preparing a background document clarifying some of the issues based on our previous work and agreements. Also, it is important that the delegations that are coming up with proposals and terms consider referencing those with appropriate sources.

Finally, we reiterate the importance of making sure that these norms, rules and principles are universal, inclusive, and non-discriminatory. We must preserve peaceful, people-centered, and development-oriented focus of ICT so that it can be used as a positive force in the attainment of sustainable development goals.

I thank you Mr. Chair.