



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-third session

Agenda item 109

### Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 17 December 2018

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/73/590)*]

#### 73/187. Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes

*The General Assembly,*

*Noting* that information and communications technologies, while having enormous potential for the development of States, create new opportunities for criminals and lead to a rise in crime,

*Noting also* the potential of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, in preventing and combating the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes,

*Concerned* by the increase in the rate and diversity of crimes committed in the digital world and their impact on the stability of critical infrastructure of States and enterprises and on the well-being of individuals,

*Recognizing* that diverse criminals, including traffickers in persons, are taking advantage of information and communications technologies to carry out criminal activities,

*Stressing* the need to enhance coordination and cooperation among States in combating the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes, including by providing technical assistance to developing countries, upon their request, to improve national legislation and build the capacity of national authorities to deal with such use in all its forms, including its prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution, and emphasizing in this context the role that the United Nations, in particular the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, plays,

*Recalling* Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 22/8 of 26 April 2013,<sup>1</sup> in which the Commission welcomed the efforts of the United

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<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 10 (E/2013/30)*, chap. I, sect. D.



Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in fulfilling its mandate to provide technical assistance and capacity-building on cybercrime,

*Noting* the work, carried out by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, under the auspices of which an open-ended intergovernmental expert group was established to counter the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes,

*Recalling* its resolution [65/230](#) of 21 December 2010, in which the General Assembly endorsed the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World,

*Considering* the discussions held during the first to fourth meetings of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group, held in Vienna from 17 to 21 January 2011, 25 to 28 February 2013, 10 to 13 April 2017 and 3 to 5 April 2018, about the need to further enhance international discussion on and cooperation against cybercrime,

*Noting* the importance of the international and regional instruments in the fight against cybercrime and the ongoing efforts to examine options to strengthen existing and propose new national and international legal or other responses to the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes,

*Recalling* its resolutions [53/70](#) of 4 December 1998, [54/49](#) of 1 December 1999, [55/28](#) of 20 November 2000, [56/19](#) of 29 November 2001, [57/53](#) of 22 November 2002, [58/32](#) of 8 December 2003, [59/61](#) of 3 December 2004, [60/45](#) of 8 December 2005, [61/54](#) of 6 December 2006, [62/17](#) of 5 December 2007, [63/37](#) of 2 December 2008, [64/25](#) of 2 December 2009, [65/41](#) of 8 December 2010, [66/24](#) of 2 December 2011, [66/181](#) of 19 December 2011, [67/27](#) of 3 December 2012, [68/193](#) of 18 December 2013, [68/243](#) of 27 December 2013, [69/28](#) of 2 December 2014, [70/237](#) of 23 December 2015, [71/28](#) of 5 December 2016 and [72/196](#) of 19 December 2017,

*Taking note* of the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security,<sup>2</sup>

*Taking note also* of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/4 of 26 May 2017,<sup>3</sup> in which the Commission expressed appreciation for the work done by the Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime and requested the Expert Group to continue its work, with a view to examining options to strengthen existing responses and propose new national and international legal or other responses to cybercrime,

*Reaffirming* the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the challenges that they face in countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes and to present a report based on those views for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

2. *Decides* that the additional costs that may arise from the implementation of paragraph 1 of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;

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<sup>2</sup> [A/65/201](#), [A/68/98](#) and [A/70/174](#).

<sup>3</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council*, 2017, Supplement No. 10 ([E/2017/30](#)), chap. I, sect. D.

3. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session an item entitled “Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes”.

*56th plenary meeting  
17 December 2018*