Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/55/593)]

55/63. Combating the criminal misuse of information technologies

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,1 in which Member States resolved to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication technologies, in conformity with recommendations contained in the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Economic and Social Council,2 are available to all,

Recalling also its resolution 45/121 of 14 December 1990, in which it endorsed the recommendations of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,3 and noting in particular the resolution on computer-related crimes,4 in which the Eighth Congress called upon States to intensify their efforts to combat computer-related abuses more effectively,

Emphasizing the contributions that the United Nations, in particular the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, can make in the promotion of more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice and of the highest standards of fairness and human dignity,

Recognizing that the free flow of information can promote economic and social development, education and democratic governance,

Noting significant advancements in the development and application of information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Expressing concern that technological advancements have created new possibilities for criminal activity, in particular the criminal misuse of information technologies,

---

1 See resolution 55/2.
2 See A/55/3, chap. III. For the final text, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3.
Noting that reliance on information technologies, while it may vary from State to State, has resulted in a substantial increase in global cooperation and coordination, with the result that the criminal misuse of information technologies may have a grave impact on all States,

Recognizing that gaps in the access to and use of information technologies by States can diminish the effectiveness of international cooperation in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies, and noting the need to facilitate the transfer of information technologies, in particular to developing countries,

Noting the necessity of preventing the criminal misuse of information technologies,

Recognizing the need for cooperation between States and private industry in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies,

Underlining the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation among States in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies, and, in this context, stressing the role that can be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations,

Welcoming the work of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,5

Noting the work of the Committee of Experts on Crime in Cyberspace of the Council of Europe on a draft convention on cybercrime, the principles agreed to by the Ministers of Justice and the Interior of the Group of Eight in Washington, D.C., on 10 December 1997, which were endorsed by the heads of State of the Group of Eight in Birmingham, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on 17 May 1998, the work of the Conference of the Group of Eight on a dialogue between government and industry on safety and confidence in cyberspace, held in Paris from 15 to 17 May 2000, and the recommendations approved on 3 March 2000 by the Third Meeting of Ministers of Justice or of Ministers or Attorneys General of the Americas, convened in San José, Costa Rica, from 1 to 3 March 2000 within the framework of the Organization of American States,6

1. Notes with appreciation the efforts of the above-mentioned bodies to prevent the criminal misuse of information technologies, and also notes the value of, inter alia, the following measures to combat such misuse:

(a) States should ensure that their laws and practice eliminate safe havens for those who criminally misuse information technologies;

(b) Law enforcement cooperation in the investigation and prosecution of international cases of criminal misuse of information technologies should be coordinated among all concerned States;

(c) Information should be exchanged between States regarding the problems that they face in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies;

(d) Law enforcement personnel should be trained and equipped to address the criminal misuse of information technologies;

---

6 See REMJA-III/doc.14/00 rev. 2, chap. IV.
4. Economic growth and sustainable development shall take account of the specific needs, culture and traditions of indigenous peoples, especially in countries located in the tropical zone.

5. The conflict of laws, both public and international, and the conflict of international public and private law, shall be subject to international law and to the special provisions of international law relating to the resolution of disputes and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

6. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the equality of States and the respect for the sovereignty of States in their territorial and national jurisdiction.

7. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

8. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

9. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

10. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

11. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

12. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

13. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

14. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

15. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

16. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

17. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

18. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

19. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

20. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

21. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

22. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

23. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

24. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

25. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

26. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

27. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

28. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

29. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

30. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

31. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

32. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

33. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

34. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

35. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

36. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

37. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

38. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

39. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

40. The international legal order shall be based on the principle of the respect for the rule of law and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.