SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly First Committee

The General Assembly First Committee,

Aware of the ever-changing scientific and technological forefront that has the possibility to affect all aspects of society and humanity,

Reaffirming the sovereignty of all member states;

Endorsing United Nations General Assembly resolutions 43/77 of 7 December 1988, 45/60 of 4 December 1990, 72/28 of 11 December 2017 and 76/24 of 8 December 2021,

Guided by the annual Reports of the Secretary-General on current developments in science and technology and their potential impacts on international security and disarmament efforts,

Deeply concerned about the misuse of rapid scientific and technological advancements for malevolent military aims rather than supplementing the improvement of international security,

Aware of the implications advancements in science has on new forms of weaponry including biological and chemical weapons,

Aware of the need for international cooperation in monitoring the evolution of technology and science to keep powerful innovations out of the hands of individuals with the intention of inflicting mass harm,

Considering how military-sponsored scientific and technological developments can contribute significantly to the advancement of various dangerous technologies such as Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS) and weapons of mass destruction (WMDs),

Noting with approval the adoption of the 11 guiding principles developed by the open-ended Group of Governmental Experts on LAWS in CCW/MSP/2019/9-Annex III by several Member States,

Referring to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 3.9, 9.4, 9.5, 16.1, 16.3 and 16.6 for justification for the prevention of abuse of science and technology in the context of international security,

Alarmed by the potential flow of money and militaristic information between terrorist groups,

Noting with concern the findings in S/2021/229 that LAWS were used to attack Libyan National Army personnel in 2020,

Stressing the importance of human decision making during times of war due to the unreliability of artificial intelligence,

Realizing that advancements within science and technology can lead to more advanced cybersecurity measures for Member States and as a result, the international community,

1. Supports global cooperation in peaceful, non-military and civilian applications of science and technology;
2. Reaffirms the importance of international collaboration in spreading technological and scientific expertise and present-day technology to assure that all Member States have the means to uphold international security;
3. Encourages all states to monitor new scientific and technological innovations that may prove to be a risk to international peace and security such as;
   4. Partially autonomous, fully autonomous and indiscriminate weapons;
   5. Cyber technologies;
6. Biotechnologies;

7. 3-D printing weapons and weapons parts;

8. **Encourages** the creation of a fund provided by the United Nations titled Research On Changes in Knowledge, Education, and Technology (ROCKET) to aid in the development of scientific advancements and usage of safer applications of science and technology such as:

   (a) Increased steps to protect cybersecurity in critical infrastructure for the purpose of;
   (i) Detecting and countering illicit cash flows in order to combat international crime and terrorism;
   (ii) Increased cooperation between Member States on international terrorist cells and their movements;
   (iii) Protecting the personal data of civilians;
   (iv) Protecting physical infrastructure vulnerable to cyber attacks;

   (b) Education programs to teach the security forces of nations (military, police, etc.) how to properly combat and respond to the use of experimental weaponry, technologies, and cyberthreats from non-state actors;

9. **Establishes** the Advice on Technology Security (ATS) initiative under the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), where non-governmental experts will gather to discuss the non-civilian implications of rapid developments in science and technology:

   (a) The initiative will consist of members of the scientific community, private sector organizations, and international NGOs familiar with international relations and technology;

   (b) Members will have scheduled annual meetings, as well as convene throughout the year as needed to address current events or impending technological and security issues;

   (c) At each annual meeting, recommendations will be published on the implementation and usage of security technology, as well as how to combat new and experimental security threats;

10. **Recommends** to renew the mandate of the Commission on Science and Technology, a subsidiary of the Economic and Social Council, to:

   (a) Expand the power and authority of this body to be able to initiate and direct any new actions, such as cyber security programs;

   (b) Reform its membership terms to include all nations in the deliberation and decision making processes;

11. **Welcomes** the cooperation of Member States to spread the use of new technologies and scientific knowledge to further international security efforts by:

   (a) Trading new technologies that may increase the security of member states, and therefore the security of the international community;

   (b) Sharing effective internal security measures pertaining to the use of technology and science with other Member States particularly those having difficulties with technological and scientific developments being used to cause ruin within their sovereign borders;

12. **Further endorses** voluntary compliance with restrictions on the development of dangerous weapons, such as chemical weapons and biological weapons as guided by the principles of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and Biological Weapons Convention (BWC):

   (a) **Urges** the creation of the United Nations on Convention Compliance (UNCC) to oversee voluntary compliance with countries’ commitments;

   (b) **Encourages** the UNCC to contribute to the Secretary-General’s annual Report;

13. **Calls upon** Member States to collaborate in drafting an international treaty that would regulate the development, production, and use of lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS), for any such regulations to be tailored in such a way as to not hinder the development of artificial intelligence technologies for peaceful purposes, and for all States to sign and ratify this treaty;
14. Encourages all states to adhere to the 11 guiding principles on LAWS, specifically principle 5, in order to remain in observance of international humanitarian law when developing, deploying, and employing LAWS;

15. Establishes the United Nations International Cyber-Security (UNICS) programme to provide a framework for governments:

(a) Operational under the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism;
(b) Regulation of military manufactured autonomous weapons and the use of unmanned aerial vehicles;
(c) Regulation of facial recognition technology for malicious purposes;
(d) Regulation of genetic engineering intentioned for malicious purposes;
(e) Increased steps to protect cybersecurity in critical infrastructure, as expanded upon previously;

16. Urges Member States to review their own domestic policy as it pertains to developing technologies that surpass the scope of current legislation.

Passed, Yes: 46 / No: 6 / Abstain: 9