Delegation from the Republic of Peru

Position Paper for the General Assembly

The topics before the General Assembly (GA) are: The Role of Emerging Technologies in International Security and Disarmament, Improving Mechanisms for Accountability and Transparency within the UN System and Intensification of Efforts to Eliminate All Forms of Violence against Women. The Republic of Peru is aware of the importance of all topics on the agenda for the assurance of fundamental human rights. These Principles aim not only to establish lasting peace and stability worldwide, but they also seek to create a brighter future for generations to come.

I. The Role of Emerging Technologies in International Security and Disarmament
The role of emerging technologies such as nuclear-, space-, materials-, bio- as well as information technology in international security and disarmament has grown in significance since the founding of the UN. The range of technology that has grown the most in variety and importance is the category of information technology due to its great application and distribution in every-day life. Information Technology is a fundamental agent of social change. While the largely unlimited access to the Internet is a positive force, societies' increasing reliance on digital connectedness has created a significant vulnerability to governments and populations. Only 38% of Member States have a cybersecurity strategy. Non-state actors and criminal groups have used information technology not only to facilitate terrorist attacks, but also for recruitment and radicalization. Another security challenge is posed by Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), the use of which is becoming more common not only in a variety of UN initiatives but also by non-state actors. The international Community has to significantly scale up efforts to effectively address these security issues in order to establish lasting peace.

Peace is the most important condition for the assurance of fundamental human rights. Thus, the Republic of Peru highly appreciates all efforts already undertaken by the UN regarding the achievement of global peace. It welcomed the GA Resolution *A/RES/72/28* as well as *A/RES/58/199* and is deeply committed to cooperation. Hence, the National Aerospace Research and Development Commission is seeking to establish closer links with space agencies in other countries through international cooperation and technical assistance programmes. Furthermore, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) is headquartered in Lima, Peru. The Centre lent technical assistance resulting in the destruction of close to 10,000 weapons. The accumulated expertise on prevention strategies has been shared in seminars in order to address armed violence and to reduce the elevated levels of violence in Peru's northern city of Trujillo. Peru's efforts regarding information technology policy are based not only on strengthening e-government, but also on ensuring a secure cyberspace for all its citizens. In addition to establishing a cyber security normative, it is critical to foster a cyber security culture, particularly among youth. A National Cyber Security Strategy is in progress.

In order to keep pace with the fast development in the world and to effectively address security issues arising from emerging technologies there is an urgent need to broaden cooperation. The Republic of Peru is aware of the great influence private enterprises have on achieving sustainable development through emerging technologies. Hence, one possibility to broaden cooperation in the field of security is to build up new partnerships with private technology enterprises. Furthermore, each and every Member State has to create a Cyber Security Strategy. Moreover, cyber security awareness has to be increased. Initiatives which encourage people to adopt safe online habits and prepare citizens to potential cyber threats might be a sensible approach.

II. Improving Mechanisms for Accountability and Transparency within the UN System
Every year more than five per cent of the global GDP is lost through Corruption. Corruption is a serious issue that can undermine social and economic development in all societies. No country, region or community is immune. Thus, Corruption and a lack of transparency is not only a serious issue within member states but also within international organizations like the United Nations (UN). UN have put into place mechanisms that actively seek to address the multifaceted goal of ensuring accountability and transparency. However, addressing the concerns of accountability and transparency are compounded by an ever-changing international system, making these efforts a constant work in progress. Within the UN, accountability is often challenged by the lack of enforcement capacity: while oversight bodies can make available the necessary information, the willingness of individuals and other organizations to hold them accountable may be lacking. Although the whistleblowing process aims to ensure transparency,

sometimes retaliation does take place. Another issue that can upset the integrity of an agency is gift-giving and receiving.

The General Assembly, like the Secretary-General, plays a role in promoting accountability and transparency in the daily activities of the UN, made evident by many resolutions adopted in the last decade, for example the resolution *A/RES/71/283* on Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat. The General Assembly, actively supported by the Republic of Peru, made several requests to the Secretary-General and both institutions are controlling each other. The Joint Inspection Unit of the UN System (JIU) as the only independent external oversight organization of the UN and the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) play a key role in achieving Accountability and Transparency. Despite the high level of authority granted to the Secretary-General, the ultimate accountability measure lies within Member States and civil society. As stated in the *UN Charter*, Member States express this authority by adopting resolutions that provide mandates to the Secretariat, whose implementation the Secretary-General is then tasked with overseeing. The Republic of Peru is fully aware of its responsibility in order to improve the Mechanisims for Accountability and Transparency not only within the UN System but also within its own political system. Thus, the Republic of Peru is partie to the *United Nations Convention against Corruption* which is the only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument. The Convention's far-reaching approach and the mandatory character of many of its provisions make it a tool for developing a comprehensive response to a global problem.

The Republic of Peru strongly endorses the improvement of Mechanisims for Accountability and Transparency within the UN-System. First, the JIU could produce every six instead of every twelve month a report about its work and therefor about the transparency within the whole UN Sytem itself. Regarding the UN Ethics Office an expanded framework for individuals gift-handling is needed. In order to address retaliation, the establishment of a framework for individuals regarding the protection of whistleblowing process might be an appropriate answer. An independent Statement of the whistleblower to the JIU and to the OIOS might ensure a better protection for the individual.

III. Intensification of Efforts to Eliminate All Forms of Violence against Women
Seven in ten women around the world report having experienced physical and sexual violence at some point in their lifetime. Violence against women takes on many forms and hinders social and economic development for the women, their Member States and the global community as a whole. Within the global population, a majority of the 1 billion individuals living in extreme poverty are women. Gender Equality has been deeply rooted in the indigenious culture of the Republic of Peru. However, since colonialism the culture changed and women had to face new problems due to inequality. Accordingly, while much has been done to increase the gender equality in recent years, it is important to continue to address all forms of violence against women.

The Republic of Peru is aware of the importance of the already existing global framework concerning gender equality and it especially appreciates *the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).* In order to eliminate all forms of violence against women, Peru had established two-hundred Women Emergency Centers at the national level, which provide legal, psychological and social support to women who were victims of violence. In recent years, Peru had promulgated a number of laws to improve the socio-economic lives of women, including the laws on criminalization of femicide and the law against sexual harassment among others. A unit had been created in the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights to legally assist the victims of crime and human rights violations. Political representation of women has increased substantially with a quota for parties to include at least 30 % of both sexes on their lists. This has especially improved women's participation in local and regional politics. National, regional and local campaigns have been conducted to inform the general public about their rights, the issue of violence, and its impact and consequences.

Education has become a key factor in preventing violence against women as enhanced education can call attention to the signs, forms, and instances of violence and serve as a tool for empowering women. Educating the youth on recognizing underlying attitudes and stereotypes and using them to speak out on violence through social and political outlets would not only bring attention to the topic, but also provide additional solutions through international collaboration. Thus, the Republic of Peru is in favor to strengthen education and training programs worldwide by building new global partnerships and by using all possible technologies available. In Addition, the Republic of Peru emphasizes the need of a global framework regarding better representation of women in political life. A quota for women is one possibility.