## Iraq, GA Committee

**I. The Role of Emerging Technologies in International Security and Disarmament**
**II. Improving Mechanisms for Accountability and Transparency within the UN System**
**III. Intensification of Efforts to Eliminate All Forms of Violence against Women**

**Firstly,** technology in today's international security context comprises itself a wide range of concepts, including the developments of nuclear technology, space technology, material technology, information technology and biotechnology. The misuse of any technology could transform the security environment at instant, such as the use of nuclear explosive power, the large-scale computing capabilities using micro-electronics, as well as the fuel and laser technology. The indiscriminate nature of application of technology on both militia and citizen further alarms the international community on how it could guarantee the human right of civilians, and on how it is crucial to consider policies that support the technology in peaceful usage, in accordance with international obligations. There have been many non-proliferation treaties being signed in international communities, 1983 *Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons,* is considered to be the foundation in respect to the area of technology and military usage. However, so far there has not been establishment of any disarmament treaties.

Iraq is a member of all relevant nonproliferation treaties and regimes. Iraq, being a post-war country with many deep-rooted conflicts, namely the invasion of ISIS, the internal division between the governments and opposition to the Central Government ruling, has realized the long-lasting, devastating humanitarian consequences on the usage of unlimited military technology. In terms of warfare technologies, under the Iraq Nuclear Facility Dismantlement and Disposal Project, the United States and Iraq have worked jointly to eliminate threats from poorly controlled radioactive materials on Iraq's territory. The post-Saddam Iraqi government has adhered closely to the nonproliferation regime. The Biological warfare (BW) and Chemical weapons have been dismantled and the country has also established a National Monitoring Directorate to ensure the country's full compliance. Nonetheless, Iraq still has a long way to go in terms of forming domestic strategies for cybersecurity. There is basically lacking of technical support (the standards and trainings for organization), or capacity buildings for tracking cybercrime or protection of the citizens.

In terms of resolution, the question is that how Iraq could maintain a high level of development in technology as well as a peaceful application in an unstable security context. The current situation in Iraq lacking of a clear leadership, weakens any efforts to limit the influence of militias and armed groups, and puts misusage of technology at stake. The led-alone military standing power in Iraq lacks of a sure strategic vision for the country. As such, the solution must lie in a multi-layered dialogue reaching out to adversaries to safeguard peace and security, with a human-centric approach aided by other international communities. Also with a set-up of democratic government in long-term, could Iraq establish stability. With stability, Iraq could eventually enhances its security, including the usage of technology.

**Secondly,** in order to meet its security and development goals, UN relies on its internal institutions to be accountable and transparent to Member States. According to UN definition in 2010 by Secretary-General, "accountability", implies for effectiveness , answerable organs for its responsibility; ECOSOC in 2006 adopted the terminology, "transparency" , as integrity, unrestricted access to up-to-date and reliable information, thus allowing Member States to be active in decision-making process. Namely, *The Charter of the United Nations (1945),* lied the foundation for such a mechanism to ensure effectiveness within the UN system. Specifically, Member States and civil

society are ultimately responsible for adopting resolutions that provide mandates to the Secretariat, who in turns acts as the chief overseer. The areas of such include: the Charter, ethical standards and integrity, and a series of internal controls and oversight functions, etc. Further, UN also adopted *Code of Ethics for the President of the General Assembly(2016)*, as an additional mechanism to ensure accountability and transparency. So far, UN has several internal bodies such as Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) and Independent Audit Advisory Committee (IAAC) that overwatch its system, as well as external bodies such as Joint Inspection Unit of the UN System (JIU). In addition, UNODC evaluates both internal and external bodies and Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) (2010), in charge of providing an extra unbiased report to UNODC. Thus, one could see the increase in numbers of monitoring bodies and numbers of mechanisms to apply stricter overwatch with this level-by-level system. Nonetheless, it is still reported there is only partially satisfactory progresses being made, as there is still high level of misuse of office, especially personnel irresponsibility, and fraud in terms of fund reclaimant.

Only a functioning mechanism achieved within the UN level, could Iraq has more representative voice in decision-making apart from the oligarchy power of P5. Also, a democracy at UN level could then disperses at regional and national level, where Iraq could further comply and increase its standard in anti-corruption enforcement capability. Ordinary citizens in Iraq could also access to more open UN information and be aware of their rights, such as the existing implementation of Education Accountability Platform (EAP) in Iraq.

As such, it is important for continuing monitoring within UN system to ensure problems like gift-giving, retaliation against whistleblowers and weak enforcement capacity would not impede assistance of combatting atrocities in Member States, such as countries like Iraq.

**Lastly,** regarding the reoccurring and constant topic of violence against women, in a bigger framework of international law, it is an actual violation of human rights. Three of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are to promote gender equality and to empower women, with which first based in eliminating violence against women, including sexual, physical, mental harms. Only without the hindrance of violence against women, could women has more economic and social opportunities to promote gender equality, which in the end, helps to achieve democracy.

At Iraqi's regional level, it is one of the most deficient countries in eliminating violence against women. Due to its constant armed conflicts, starting from Iraqi-Iranian war (1980-1988), the number of women refugees, divorced women and widows has increased as a result of forced displacement, and they has faced many social discrimination. In terms of Iraqi's legal constitutions, its muslim value, such as a husband's right to discipline wife, the so-called "honor crimes" also been scripted into its National Penal provisions. Although it had had efforts criminalizing some forms of violence against women, its Law on Combating Violence within Family (2011), prohibiting verbal, physical and psychological abuse of girls and women. Eventually it was not effective due to the intermittence of such implementation. Recently nonetheless, with assistance of United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) and UN Population Fund (UNFPA), Iraq has moved a significant step on adopting a National strategy, including the principles of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence against Women, United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, and the Beijing Platform.The next steps for Iraq is to further improve its justice system, such as eliminating the allegations of crimes of torture and rape with women in mention centers and prisons. Also, to include women into negotiations in the process of resolving disputes, and governmental formation.