



**Statement by Ms Charlotte Skerten  
Deputy Permanent Representative to the CD**

**UNGA 74 First Committee  
Explanation of Vote on L.50**

**6 November 2019**

---

Mr Chair, I take the floor to explain New Zealand's position on resolution L.50 entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

It remains is New Zealand's hope that all delegations here have a shared goal – a goal to ensure a peaceful, stable online environment.

The best way to make progress towards this objective is to work in the spirit of compromise and cooperation. Accordingly, New Zealand had expected to see consensus on this year's cyber resolutions. It is regrettable that this has not proved possible and the amendments which would have secured this desirable outcome have not been accepted.

We had hoped that the resolution before this Committee would have built on the constructive, positive discussions evident at the OEWG session this past September. But as it is, L.50 has retained language of sufficient concern to us that we have had to abstain on the vote. The text does not focus on the common ground we all share, and which we would like to see developed further for our collective benefit.

Mr Chair, for our part, New Zealand will certainly continue to work positively as an active OEWG member to deliver concrete, practical outcomes to support stability in cyberspace.

Although we are not a member of the GGE process, we are confident that it too will be focussed on achieving meaningful outcomes, building on the good work already completed by previous GGEs.

We look forward to working in the spirit of constructive cooperation with all partners through the OEWG process and in our engagements with the UNGGE membership.

Thank you, Mr Chair.