

Second Session - Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes

Statement of Italy under agenda Item 5 – General provisions

Delivered by Antonino Tedesco

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson,

The Italian Delegation fully supports the statement of the European Union and wishes to add the following remarks in its national capacities.

I will be very brief and focus on questions n. 4 and 5 and on the necessity to include, already in the first chapter of our Convention, a strong reference to ensure a high level of protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Mr. Chairperson,

Human rights protection encompasses all aspects we are considering for the future Convention, as many delegations have mentioned.

As we live in a digital world, the full enjoyment of most human rights increasingly depends on a safe access to digital technologies.

However, more and more powerful technologies can be - and indeed are - used by cyber-criminals, with the effect of dangerously undermining those rights.

As usual, vulnerable groups are disproportionately affected. In the end we want to tackle cybercrime, and protect its victims, for this exact reason.

Nevertheless, when those same powerful and pervasive technologies are used by law enforcement agencies to prevent and fight cybercrime, risks of abuses and thus unacceptable violations of human rights could be just as serious.

Therefore, strong conditions and safeguards are necessary in relation to procedural measures, international cooperation and preventive measures.

To conclude, Mr. Chairperson it is important to have a reference to the protection of human rights, to be included in the general provisions, that would cover all these crosscutting issues.

Thank you very much.