I would like to thank the Secretariat and the Chair for the detailed preparation for the third substantive session.

Today we are starting to discuss the most important chapter - International cooperation.

The effectiveness of the convention will largely depend on what mechanisms of interaction between the law enforcement agencies of our countries we will lay down in it, how prompt and all-weather will be the channels for the exchange of information on electronic evidence.

Participation of delegations in full capacity with the inclusion of law enforcement experts for these purposes is extremely important. In this regard, I have to state with indignation that not a single member of the official Russian delegation, with the exception of your obedient servant, has received an entry visa to the United States. This is another blatant violation by the United States of America of its obligations as the host of the UN headquarters.

One final remark. I would like to fully share and support that passage in the opening speech of the distinguished Madam Chair, when she said that the elements of the political situation should remain outside the doors of this hall. There are other forums here at the UN to discuss these issues. The Ad Hoc Committee is a specialized body for the development of an international legal instrument for combating ICT-crime and, accordingly, is not the place for such discussions. All the more inappropriate are references to the political history from half a century ago made by individual countries.