Delegation from the United Kingdom Position Paper for the General Assembly First Committee

The topics before the United Nations General Assembly First Committee (GA) are Artificial Intelligence and the International System and Cybercrimes and Human Security. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is committed to addressing the significance of the development of Artificial Intelligence and its integration into the International System and deliberating the coordinated efforts directed towards Cybercrime and Human Security.

I.Artificial Intelligence and the International System

In July 2023, United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres recalled a remark to the Security Council on artificial intelligence that "Al can help people harm themselves or harm others". Its rapid speed and wealth of information can be dangerously unpredictable. If misused, it can spread disinformation and hate speech, threaten democracy, and disrupt global stability in challenging defense and deterrence. However, the United Kingdom believes that the benefits of Artificial Intelligence (AI) outweigh the risks, with efforts to deliver Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with applications to address and predict climate change, education, and global conflict. The United Kingdom's National Al Strategy (2022) and Al Plan (2022) contribute to the development of AI, providing support and funding for AI's integration in the technology sector. The United Kingdom calls upon Member States to support the transition to an Al-based economy and utilize its innovative benefits for all sectors and regions. Mitigating with international Al governance and cooperation of AI properties as outlined by UNESCO Ethics of AI to further protect human rights and freedoms. Through bilateral cooperation with Canada International Development Research Center (IDRC), the United Kingdom will launch the "Al for Development" to boost innovations and AI skills. Through GA resolution 77/320 (2022), in response to the future risk of AI, the United Kingdom supports the collaborative efforts of the United Nations to govern AI technology through a regulatory framework that encourages the promotion of digital use and solutions in research and development to further achieve SDGs.

II.Cybercrimes and Human Security

In the modern cyberspace era, the ability to counter cybercrimes is equally, if not more important, especially for the general public at risk of financial, data, and service losses. Exploiting the safety and privacy of online data is a significant threat to human security, harming small to large-scale institutions and undermining the economy. The United Kingdom's Cyber Strategy is intended to support and amplify a range of priorities like security, defense, foreign policy, and economic agenda. The United Kingdom's National Cyber Strategy (2022) combats cybercrime and ensures human security and confidence through resilience and urgency. Strengthening the UK cyber and digital ecosystem through technological developments maintains a secure cyberspace. The National Cyber Strategy (2022) allows for adaptation, innovation, and investment to protect and promote the United Kingdom's interests and national goals aligned with SDG 16: utilizing AI to "foster peaceful, just, and inclusive societies free from fear and violence." The United Kingdom fully supports GA resolution 74/247 (2019), which notes the importance of strengthening national measures and international cooperation to combat cybercrime. The United Kingdom has also contributed to the UN Cybercrime Treaty (2021) to strengthen cooperation to tackle the growing threat posed by criminal activity to citizens, businesses, and governments. As sovereign interest is a priority, the United Kingdom is committed to cooperating through operations conducted bilaterally and multilaterally with the aligned nations such as the US, France, or Joint Expeditionary Forces (JEF) nations.