



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

24 March 2014

Excellency,

I would like to thank you for your letter of 20 February 2014 in which you expressed the desire for India to be given a seat on the forthcoming Group of Governmental Experts to be established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/243 of 27 December 2013, entitled “Developments in information and telecommunications in the context of international security”.

I also appreciated the opportunity to speak to you directly about this matter when we met on 14 March 2014. At the time, I had told you how much I valued the contribution that India has made to the work of the three previous Groups on this subject.

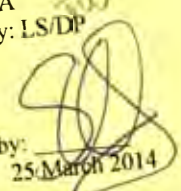
As Your Excellency would appreciate, deciding on the composition of these Groups is never easy, particularly when there is more demand than the number of seats foreseen and budgeted. Information on the envisaged size of the Group of Governmental Experts is contained in A/68/7/Add.13, the elements of which were discussed in the General Assembly’s Fifth Committee.

In accordance with practice with respect to other Groups, I have decided that several different States should be given an opportunity to participate in this Group to bring new and varied perspectives to it, while following the guidance provided for in resolution 68/243, to establish the Group on the basis of equitable geographic distribution.

I do believe that a balance between continuity and fresh inputs needs to be found, otherwise it would rest to the same group of States to permanently discuss a given topic to the exclusion of others – this is particularly relevant in relation to issues that have global implications.

His Excellency
Mr. Asoke Kumar Mukerji
Permanent Representative
of India to the United Nations
New York

SG to PR of India (GGE)
Drafter: ODA
Proofread by: LS/DP

Approved by: 
Date: 25 March 2014