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Statement

7th Meeting (Confidence-Building Measures),
Global Mechanism on developments in the field of ICTs in the
context of international security and advancing responsible State
behaviour in the use of ICTs

Mr. Caleb Lee

Director

Youth Publications and Socioeconomic Forum

DMUN Foundation

10:00 - 13:00 | 23 July 2026 | Conference Room 4

AS DELIVERED

Thank you, Madam Chair.

My name is Caleb Lee, and I take the floor on behalf of the Youth Publications and Socioeconomic Forum, a subsidiary programme of the DMUN Foundation.

While confidence-building measures are ultimately about reducing uncertainty and strengthening trust between States, confidence in cyberspace cannot exist solely between governments. It must also extend to the people who use digital technologies every day, especially young people.

Today's youth are the first generation to grow up in an environment where cyber incidents, online disinformation, and AI-generated content are part of everyday life. Yet despite being among the most affected stakeholders, young people are rarely included in discussions on how trust and confidence in cyberspace should be built.

We therefore encourage Member States to consider youth engagement as a practical confidence-building measure. This could include structured dialogues between governments and youth, support for youth-led cyber awareness initiatives, and opportunities for young experts to participate in regional and international confidence-building activities.

Youth exchanges across borders can also help foster mutual understanding, build professional networks among future cybersecurity leaders, and promote a shared culture of responsible behaviour in the use of ICTs. These people-to-people connections reinforce the trust that formal confidence-building measures seek to achieve.

Finally, confidence-building efforts should ensure the meaningful participation of young people from developing countries and underrepresented communities. Cybersecurity is a shared global responsibility, and trust is built more effectively when large segments of the next generation are included in opportunities to contribute and help shape the future of cyberspace.

Thank you.