



PC.DEL/422/11
10 May 2011

ENGLISH only

Eesti Vabariigi Alaline Esindus
OSCE juures
Permanent Mission of the
Republic of Estonia to the OSCE

Statement by Ambassador Triin Parts, Permanent Representative of Estonia to the OSCE
on the Opening Session of the OSCE Conference on a Comprehensive Approach to Cyber Security:
Exploring the Future OSCE Role
Vienna, 9-10 May 2011

Ladies and gentlemen,

First we would like to thank the OSCE and Chairmanship in Office for organizing this conference. Estonia welcomes further discussion on cyber security, while keeping in mind the various needs of OSCE participating states, as well as current threat assessment.

Many nations worldwide have started to enhance cyber security through capacity-building at the national level, defining policies and adopting national strategies. Enhanced capacity-building in all cyber security areas and awareness raising at the national level helps to identify gaps in existing means and methods to counter cyber threats in OSCE member States and also advances discussions within the OSCE. This dynamism should continue and we hope that our forthcoming discussion will contribute to this important endeavor.

At the same time we would like to emphasize that cyber security capacity-building starts at the individual level. In a modern society while using uncountable opportunities on the Internet like broad flow of information, access to knowledge or public services, every internet user, whether being an individual, a company, or a nation state should be well-prepared for dangers and risks. We are of the opinion that this enhanced capacity-building, awareness raising and the protection of critical information infrastructure can be successful only where a well-functioning public-private partnership exists.

While discussing the OSCE's future role in cyber security, we should avoid duplication with other regional and international efforts, and should focus on steps which can be taken within the OSCE and help to create the OSCE's added value to the cyber security.

Finally, we would like to stress that our common responsibility is to keep internet safe and secure from irresponsible users. Any developments in cyber security can not undermine our common responsibility to safeguard cyberspace that is a valuable resource in our everyday life, contributing to the advancement of democracy and freedom of expression. All nations must safeguard the positive achievements made available by the internet and we call on them to use all available measures to ensure the freedom of internet and to ensure respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Thank you