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909th Plenary Meeting
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DECISION No. 1039
DEVELOPMENT OF CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES TO REDUCE THE RISKS OF CONFLICT STEMMING FROM THE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

The Permanent Council,

Decides to step up individual and collective efforts to address security in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in a comprehensive and cross-dimensional manner in accordance with OSCE commitments and in co-operation with relevant international organizations;

Tasks the OSCE Chairmanship to establish an open-ended, informal OSCE working group under the auspices of the Security Committee, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, in particular paragraphs II(A)8–10 and paragraphs V(B)1–5. The cross-dimensional informal working group shall be led by a Chairperson appointed annually by the OSCE Chairmanship and will perform the following tasks:

– To elaborate a set of draft confidence-building measures (CBMs) to enhance interstate co-operation, transparency, predictability, and stability, and to reduce the risks of misperception, escalation, and conflict that may stem from the use of ICTs;

– To help build consensus for the adoption of such a set of CBMs in 2012;

– To provide progress reports, in consultation with members of the working group, to the Chairperson of the Security Committee, who will report to the Permanent Council. A first progress report shall be given to the Chairperson of the Security Committee by 15 June 2012 and preliminary proposals on possible CBMs by 31 July 2012;

Tasks the Secretariat to support the work of the aforementioned informal working group within available resources.

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