Ref.:   Circular BDT/DNE/CYB/052   Geneva, 19 February 2025

To:
- Administrations of ITU Member States
- ITU-D Sector Members
- Head of the National Cybersecurity Authority/Agency or the Equivalent National Entity Responsible for Cybersecurity

Subject: ITU Global CyberDrill, Dubai, UAE, 06-08 May 2025

Dear Madam / Sir,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the **ITU Global CyberDrill 2025** (2nd Edition) to be held from **6 to 8 May 2025**, **in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE)**.

This event is organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the United Arab Emirates Cyber Security Council within the framework of the ITU-D priority area on "Inclusive and secure telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development", as adopted by the 2022 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-22).

This event will take place during GISEC 2025 conference and exhibition. Travel, accommodation, and visa fees for a limited number of participants from one hundred and forty (140) selected Member States will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. We thank the Cyber Security Council of the UAE for this generous offer and for providing logistical support. The event does not require participation fees.

The ITU Global CyberDrill will aim to enhance communication and incident response capabilities of the participating teams as well as ensure a continued collective and collaborative effort in mitigating cyber threats among Computer Incident Response Teams (CIRTs).

The ITU Global CyberDrill is open to CIRTs, National Cybersecurity Agencies and Authorities, ministries, regulators, and other stakeholders from ITU Membership, including Member States, Sector Members, and NGOs.

The first day will be dedicated to a High-Level Segment, featuring a ministerial session that will focus on cybersecurity challenges faced by developing countries and their impact on the digital economy and sustainable economic development. The High-Level Segment will also bring together leaders from national cybersecurity agencies and authorities to explore practical strategies and best practices for enhancing governance, strengthening inter-agency coordination, and fostering cross-border collaboration to address the complexities and challenges of cyberspace.

The second and third days will be dedicated to CyberDrill exercises, structured around a variety of scenarios that involve emerging types of cyberattacks. Additionally, the sharing sessions will provide a platform for participants to collaborate, deliberate, and advance cross-country learning opportunities pertaining to cybersecurity issues.

Given the practical nature of the event, I strongly encourage the participation of technical teams from ITU's Member States, such as national Computer Incident Response Teams (CIRTs) or Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) or other equivalent entities. Their involvement in the technical exercises on the second and third days will enable them to gain maximum benefit from the cyber threat simulations and CyberDrills that are crucial components of the event.

Member States interested in benefiting from this support are encouraged to nominate two (2) candidates with technical expertise involved in incident response at the national level and submit their expression of interest to the ITU regional focal points by **8 April 2025** at the latest.

Please note that this event will be held in a paperless format. All relevant documents, such as the event agenda, registration form, and practical information for participants, can be accessed on the ITU website at http://itu.int/go/GCD25. We encourage all participants to download the necessary documents prior to the event.

The following contacts representing ITU regions are at your full disposal for any questions you might have concerning this event:

- Mr. Serge Valery Zongo, ITU Regional Office for Africa (serge.zongo@itu.int)
- Mr. Pablo Palacios Ochoa, ITU Regional Office for the Americas (pablo.palacios@itu.int)
- Mr. Karim Abdelghani, ITU Regional Office for the Arab States (arbdirector@itu.int)
- Mr. Calvin Chan, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (calvin.chan@itu.int)
- Mr. Farid Nakhli, ITU Regional Office for CIS Countries (farid.nakhli@itu.int)
- Ms. Valentina Stadnic, ITU Regional Office for Europe (valentina.stadnic@itu.int)

I look forward to your valuable participation and contributions to this global event.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director