



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/DDR/EUR/DM/046

Geneva, 7 August 2024

To:

- Administrations of ITU Member States of the Europe Region and Mediterranean countries of the Arab Region
- Palestine (Resolution 99 (Rev. Dubai, 2018))
- ITU-D Sector Members and Academia of the Europe Region and Mediterranean countries of the Arab Region
- National Regulatory Authorities of the Europe Region and Mediterranean countries of the Arab Region

**Subject: ITU Cybersecurity Forum and CyberDrill for Europe and Mediterranean,
Sofia, Bulgaria, 26 - 29 November 2024**

Dear Madam / Sir,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the **ITU Cybersecurity Forum and CyberDrill for Europe and Mediterranean**, scheduled to take place from 26 to 29 November 2024, in Sofia, Bulgaria.

This event is organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and co-hosted by the Ministry of Transport and Communications of Bulgaria and the Ministry of Electronic Governance of Bulgaria, within the framework of the ITU Regional Initiative for Europe on trust and confidence in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, as agreed upon by the 2022 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-22).

The ITU Cybersecurity Forum and CyberDrill for Europe and Mediterranean aims to enhance communication and incident response capabilities of the participating teams from European and Arab Mediterranean countries. It also seeks to ensure a continued collective and collaborative effort in mitigating cyber threats among Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) of Europe and Mediterranean countries from Arab region.

The event welcomes a wide range of stakeholders, including CSIRTs, ministries, regulators, telecommunication operators, universities, educational institutions, telecommunication equipment manufacturers, research and design institutes, software developers, and other stakeholders from ITU Member States, Sector Members, and Associates.

The first day will be dedicated to the Cybersecurity Forum, bringing together decision-makers and ICT professionals from government, industry, academia, and NGOs. This forum will explore the evolving cybersecurity landscape across Europe and the broader Mediterranean region, focusing on the latest trends,

regulatory challenges, and the role of emerging technologies. It will address key issues in building a secure and resilient digital future through multi-stakeholder collaboration and innovative approaches. Sessions will cover topics such as AI-driven risks, regulatory developments, cyber diplomacy, best practices for startups, and cross-regional cooperation.

The agenda for the second day focuses on technical capacity-building training for CSIRTs management.

The last two days will be dedicated to CyberDrill exercises, structured around various scenarios involving emerging types of cyberattacks. Sharing sessions will provide a platform for participants to collaborate, deliberate, and advance cross-learning opportunities related to cybersecurity issues.

Considering the practical nature of the event, we strongly encourage the participation of teams comprising at least two members of your national CSIRT, accompanied by a senior cybersecurity manager. This team structure will enable you to gain maximum benefit from the cyber threat simulations and CyberDrills that are crucial components of the event.

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/ercd24>. We encourage all participants to download the necessary documents prior to the event.

To confirm your participation, please complete the **online registration** form by **1 November 2024**. For a smooth visa application process, we recommend that participants start their visa applications (if required) for Bulgaria at the nearest Embassy or Consulate as soon as possible.

While this event does not require a participation fee, please note that all travel, accommodation, and insurance expenses for your representatives must be borne by your administration or organization.

If further information or assistance is required, please feel free to contact Ms. Valentina Stadnic at the ITU Regional Office for Europe (valentina.stadnic@itu.int, with eurregion@itu.int in copy) and Mr. Ahmed Elraghy, ITU Regional Office for the Arab states (ahmed.elraghy@itu.int). They are at your full disposal for any inquiries concerning this event.

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

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director

ITU Cybersecurity Forum and CyberDrill for Europe and Mediterranean, Sofia, Bulgaria

26 - 29 November 2024

DRAFT AGENDA

DAY 1: ITU CYBERSECURITY FORUM

Tuesday 26 November 2024

08:00 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:20	Opening Ceremony
09:20 – 09:45	Presentation: GCI 2024 Insights – Key Discoveries, Lessons, and Challenges in Europe and the Mediterranean
09:45 – 10:15	Networking Break and Group Photo
10:15 – 11:30	Panel Discussion: Strengthening Europe - Mediterranean Cybersecurity Partnerships: Lessons from the Past, Strategies for the Future
11:30 – 12:45	Panel Discussion: Best Practices and Lessons Learned in Incubating and Scaling Cybersecurity Startups
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 – 15:15	Panel Discussion: Strengthening Cyber Resilience: The Impact of Cyber Diplomacy
15:15 – 15:40	Technical Presentation
15:40 – 16:00	Networking Break
16:00 – 16:25	Technical Presentation
16:25 – 16:50	Technical Presentation
16:50 – 17:00	Closing remarks

DAY 2: TRAININGS

Wednesday 27 November 2024

09:00 – 09:30	Registration	
09:30 – 10:30	Regional Preparatory Roundtable: Establishing Priorities for a Resilient Europe and Mediterranean	
10:30 – 11:00	Networking Break	
11:00 – 12:30	Training Track I:	Training Track II:
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break	
13:30 – 15:00	Training Track I:	Training Track II:
15:00 – 15:15	Networking Break	
15:15 – 17 :00	Training Track I:	Training Track II:

DAY 3 and 4: CYBER EXERCISES

Thursday 28 November 2024

09:30 – 10:00	Team creation, registering team accounts to Cyber Range
10:00 – 12:30	Scenario 1
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 – 16:00	Scenario 2

Friday 29 November 2024

09:30 – 12:30	Scenario 3
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break
13:30 – 16:00	Scenario 4