



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: Circular BDT/DNE/CYB/010

Geneva, 24 February 2026

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- State of Palestine (Resolution 99 (Rev. Dubai, 2018))
- ITU-D Sector Members
- Academia
- Regional/International Organizations
- ITU Cybersecurity Focal Points
- Heads of National Cybersecurity Authority/Agency or the Equivalent National Entity Responsible for Cybersecurity

Subject: ITU Global CyberDrill (3rd Edition), Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 5 to 7 May 2026

Dear Madam / Sir,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the **ITU Global CyberDrill 2026 (3rd Edition)** to be held from **5 to 7 May 2026, at the Dubai Exhibition Centre (DEC), Expo City Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE)**. This event will take place during GISEC Global 2026 conference and exhibition.

The ITU Global CyberDrill 2026 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, safe, and secure telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development”, as adopted by the 2025 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-25). It aims 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 first day will feature a high-level conference for senior government officials and relevant authorities to discuss cybersecurity and digital resilience, and to strengthen national coordination and international cooperation.

Days two and three will be dedicated to CyberDrill exercises, structured around a variety of scenarios that involve emerging types of cyberattacks.

Travel, accommodation, and visa fees for a limited number of participants from one hundred and eighty (180) selected Member States will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, and on the discretion of the Cyber Security Council of the UAE. Travel support will be made available exclusively for national incident responders, analysts, and other professionals engaged in incident response functions. We thank the Cyber Security Council of the UAE for this generous support and for providing logistical assistance.

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 National Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs), or other equivalent national lead entities. Their participation in the technical exercises on the second and third days will enable them to get the most benefit from the cyber threat simulations and CyberDrills, which are integral components of the programme.

High-level representatives and senior officials from Member States are warmly invited to participate in the first-day conference and strategic sessions, which offer an important opportunity to strengthen dialogue, coordination, and international cooperation on cybersecurity at the policy and governance level.

Member States interested in benefiting from travel support are encouraged to nominate two (2) candidates with relevant technical expertise in national incident response and submit their expression of interest to the ITU regional focal points by **30 March 2026** at the latest. Registration for the event will remain open until **20 April 2026**.

Please note that this event will be held in a paperless format. All relevant documents, such as the event agenda, and registration form for participants, will be available on the ITU website at <http://itu.int/go/GCD26>. Please note that the draft agenda will be regularly updated as preparations progress. Participants are encouraged to consult the webpage periodically and download the necessary documents prior to the event. The event does not require participation fees.

The following contacts representing respective 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)
- Ms. Riham Fakhry, 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,

(signed)

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director