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| The International Teleocmmunication Union - Connecting the World. | **International telecommunication union****Telecommunication Standardization Bureau** |  |
|  | Geneva, 6 October 2021 |
| **Ref:** | **TSB Circular 350**TSB Events /VM | **To:**- Administrations of Member States of the Union;- ITU-T Sector Members;- ITU-T Associates;- ITU Academia**Copy to:**- The Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Study Groups;- The Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau;- The Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau- The Directors of the ITU Regional Offices |
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| **Subject:** | **Digital Financial Services (DFS) Security Clinics(Fully Virtual Meetings)** |

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 I would like to inform you that the International Telecommunication Union is organizing the **“Digital Financial Services Security Clinics**” from October to November 2021. The Security Clinics aim to showcase the ITU DFS security lab and share knowledge with regulators and Central Banks on mitigating threats and vulnerabilities which can impact the security of digital financial services.

2 Under the Financial Inclusion Global Initiative program (FIGI), the ITU set up a DFS Security Lab in November 2020 to work in collaboration with DFS regulators on adopting a common methodology to manage security risks and conduct security audit for DFS applications. The objectives of the ITU DFS security lab are as follows:

1. Support regulators to implement DFS security recommendations from FIGI (<https://figi.itu.int/working-group-reports/>).
2. Conduct security audits on DFS applications (i.e., USSD, STK and Android DFS applications).
3. Provide guidance on managing the DFS ecosystem security risks and mitigation measures.
4. Organize security clinics targeting DFS regulators and providers to stay up to date with new vulnerabilities and mitigation measures.
5. Conduct assessments on cyber preparedness among the DFS ecosystem stakeholders on responding to cybersecurity incidents targeting digital finance.
6. Provide a neutral platform to share knowledge on security incidents and vulnerabilities in digital finance.

3 The security clinics are targeted for DFS regulators, policy makers, DFS providers and information communications technology security professionals within the country. The first series of DFS security clinics are scheduled with the following telecom regulators:

* **MACRA, Malawi**: 12 – 14 October 2021 from 10:00 – 12:00 PM CEST
* **POTRAZ, Zimbabwe**: 27 – 28 October 2021 from 10:00 – 13:00 PM CEST
* **NCC, Nigeria**: 17-18 November 2021 from 10:00 – 14:00 PM CEST
* **MACRA, Malawi**: 24 – 26 November 2021 from 10:00 – 12:00 PM CEST
* **ESCCOM, Eswatini:** Date to be confirmed

4 All relevant information pertaining to the various security clinics (speakers, registration link, remote connection details) will be made available on the main landing page found here: <https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/webinars/dfs/sc/Pages/default.aspx>. These websites will be regularly updated as new or modified information becomes available. Participants are requested to check periodically the episodes webpages for new updates.

Please note that registration is mandatory.

Yours faithfully,

Chaesub Lee
Director of the Telecommunication
Standardization Bureau