

Terms of Reference

Working Group 2 - Information Sharing

Overview

The creation and establishment of a Network and Information Security public-private Platform to identify good cybersecurity practices was announced as part of the Cyber Security Strategy of the EU.

The NIS Platform will help European stakeholders to carry out appropriate risk management, establish good cyber security policies and processes and further adopt standards and solutions that will improve the ability to create safer market conditions for the EU.

Working Group 2 (WG2) has been established to promote the sharing of cyber threat information and incident coordination in both the public and private segments of the EU. It will identify requirements and issue recommendations on sharing cyber threat information as well as appropriate incident management processes in order to better prevent and best respond to cyber incidents.

Scope

Working Group 2 (WG2) will assist and provide the groundwork for the implementation of the information sharing and incident response measures set out in the proposed NIS Directive.

Working Group 2 (WG2) will investigate the feasibility and needs to address the ability for an organisation to share cyber threat information and to utilise a standard incident management process.

This will cover both public and private organisations, and all industry verticals within the private sector.

The output from WG2 will be a set of guidance documents, which will feed into Commission recommendations on cyber security to be adopted in 2014. The guidance from WG2 will be elaborated with a view to assist public and private organisations, including less advanced ones, to comply with the incident notification obligation proposed under the NIS Directive.

The primary focus will be with CNI (Critical National Infrastructure) organisations in the Private sector and Public sector organisations with mature and established threat and incident management processes. This will allow WG2 to gather existing working practices that have been used at an operational level with an intention to consolidate themes, common practices and successful information sharing practices.

It will also allow WG2 to establish some of the concerns associated with information sharing and how they were overcome. An example of this is in the Financial Services sector where the sharing of cyber threat information is an established practice.

Included in the scope is the possibility of developing the SME and SMB capability in cyber security and how these sectors can benefit from the NIS platform without being overly burdened by mandatory requirements.

One aim of the EU Strategy on Cyber Security is help develop safer market conditions in the EU and create a supply chain that has capability to withstand cyber threats. To do this we must consider the SME and SMB sectors.

The sharing of cyber threat information for a SME or SMB organisation can seem like a daunting prospect. Included in the scope of WG2 is the concept of early adopters and mentor status. This is where we would consider the approach of more mature and experienced public and private organisations becoming early adopters of the NIS Platform and working within their supply chain, industry vertical or geography to identify SME or SMB organisations that they can assist and mentor in the development and adoption of Cyber Security good practices.

The technical elements of the scope of WG2 will look at the standards, protocols and processes available and in use by public and private sector organisations. It will also look at any similar national level initiatives that are being considered in other regions such as North America, APAC or Africa.

Finally WG2 recognises that privacy and trust are major considerations for any information sharing platform. WG2 will look to capture issues, concerns and possible working models that address privacy and trust in the sharing of cyber threat information.

Objectives

The following will be listed as objectives for Working Group 2 (WG2):

1. Understand implications of EU Cyber Security Strategy on WG2
2. Correlate Information Sharing practices used by public and private sector organisations
3. Provide guidance and recommendation on Privacy and Trust
4. Proposed Frameworks and Standards to be used for Information Sharing and incident coordination
5. Approach to Adoption of Information Sharing
6. Gather information on similar initiatives in other regions for considerations on interoperability

Deliverables

Working Group 2 (WG2) will create a full Terms of Reference as an initial deliverable. This will be done in conjunction with the members of WG2 and will be used as the guidance for work.

This will make sure that the all arguments, points and conversations can be assessed by the Chair's and editorial team following the first meeting WG2 on the 26th September.

The initial Terms of Reference should be issued by 4 October; the Terms of Reference will be updated as necessary as the working group progresses.

Proposed further deliverables following ratification by WG2 are:

1. Analysis of Information Sharing practices in use in the public and private sectors currently
2. Guidance paper on Privacy and Trust with Information Sharing
3. Proposed Framework and Standards to be used for Information Sharing and Incident Coordination and approaches to adoption
4. Report on similar Information Sharing initiatives in other regions

Structure of Working Group

Working Group 2 (WG2) will consist of 2 co-chairs:

1. Waldemar Grudzien – Director, German Bank Association
2. Will Semple – Head of Threat & Vulnerability Management, New York Stock Exchange

Members:

WG2 will have a constituency of members. These members have registered and shown interest in WG2 following the plenary meeting of the NIS Platform, Brussels, 17th June 2013

Editorial Team:

The Chair's of WG2 will be inviting Members of WG2 to join editorial teams to assist in developing the deliverables.

Collaboration:

ENISA has provided a platform to assist in the collaboration and sharing of work related to NIS Platform and WG2. This can be located at:

<https://resilience.enisa.europa.eu>

There will also be a Mailing List available for WG2.

Updates:

A structure of sub meetings and general WG2 updates will be agreed as part of the Terms of Reference. This will include virtual meetings and conference calls.

Plan:

A plan of work will be developed with set milestones. The Chair's and editorial team will be responsible for ensuring that these dates are met and any issues are raised to the Commission in a timely fashion.