



Introduction

Although ISO/IEC, ITU, and other international standards bodies have been in operation for many years, regional economies in Asia, except for a few developed nations like Australia, Japan, and Korea, have mainly been the adopters of international security standards. As many regional economies are also new in the security standards arena, and not in the main or core participants or contributors to the development of existing international security standards, they all face unique challenges in various aspects of adoption, and deployment. Regional economies also face challenges in establishing security standards bodies, cultivating industry involvement and participation, and promulgating knowledge and use of international security standards within their economy, especially when there is limited local security expertise that is familiar with security standards, as well as standards development and deployment.

In 2004, the Regional Asia Information Security Standards (RAISS) Forum is therefore proposed to reap the potential benefits and values through regional security standards bodies' participation and collaborations. Members of the Forum further recognized that the Forum has shared much more information than in the area of information security standards, including cybercrimes issues, information security strategy, policies, and implementations. As such, on the 5th meeting held on August 22 and 23, 2007 in Singapore, participating members have voted unanimously to change the name of the Forum to "Regional Asia Information Security Exchange (RAISE)", to signify the sharing and exchange of information security developments and related issues, including standards, in the region.

Objectives

The Forum is to act as an overall focal point for the Asian standardization community on information security issues by:

- Providing a platform for sharing of knowledge, and exchange ideas and dialogues on information security strategy, policies, and practices, including but not limited to their development, implementation, changes, and any lessons learnt that could be beneficial to the members of the Forum;
- Providing a platform for sharing of knowledge, exchange of ideas and dialogues on information security standards related issues, challenges, and directions, in particular, relating to the adoption, deployment, and implementation of ICT related standards in the region;
- Ensuring that the security-related standardization activities in Asia adequately reflect the requirements of the market constituents at a strategic level;
- Providing a mechanism that could be used to follow-up on Asia policy requirements on Information Security standards issues;
- Providing effective co-ordination between organizations of relevant standardization work programmes and their execution;
- Ensuring Asia requirements for standards and standards work in this area are correctly interfaced with international standards activity, and standards activity in other regions, to avoid conflict or duplication of effort;
- Acting as a strategic communication interface between relevant standards authorities and agencies on international standardization related topics.