

PRESS RELEASE

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MALAYSIA HOSTS 1ST OIC-CERT SEMINAR 2009

Kuala Lumpur, 13 January 2009 - Malaysia today hosts the 1st Organization of Islamic Conference – Computer Emergency Response Team Seminar 2009 or in short 1st OIC-CERT Seminar 2009 with the theme of “Strategic Partnership against Cyber Threats”. The 3-days seminar starts from 13 - 15 January 2009 and is held at Hotel Crowne Plaza Mutiara, Kuala Lumpur. The seminar was officiated by Y.B. Datuk Dr. Maximus Johnity Ongkili, Minister, Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation Malaysia (MOSTI).

The inaugural seminar is organized by CyberSecurity Malaysia, an agency under the purview of Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI) and supported by the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and MOSTI itself. The seminar is attended by more than 100 participants that came from all over the world including the OIC member countries, non OIC members, senior government officials, ICT professionals from government and private sectors as well as IT students.

The establishment of OIC-CERT transpired in June 2005 during the Knowledge and Information & Communication Technologies for Development Conference (KICT4D) at the Annual Meeting of Islamic Development Bank Board of Governors in Putrajaya. In July 2006, the OIC-CERT Task Force was formed and Malaysia has been elected as the Chair and Tunisia as the Secretariat. Other task force members are Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Nigeria, Pakistan

and Indonesia. A positive development occurred two years later, when the OIC accepted the resolution for the setting up of the OIC-CERT during the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Meeting in Kampala, Uganda, which was held on 18 - 20 June 2008. As a follow up action to this meeting, it is important for a seminar to be conducted to assist OIC member countries to develop their own impartial Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT). This will ensure the OIC member countries that their national ICT security initiatives are developed to suit their own needs.

“The idea of setting up the ICT security initiatives and to develop their own impartial Computer Emergency Response Team was well accepted by many OIC countries. As a chair of the OIC-CERT Task Force, CyberSecurity Malaysia is very proud to have initiated this 1st OIC-CERT seminar and also the 1st OIC-CERT Annual General Meeting 2009” said Lt. Col. Husin Haji Jazri (Retired) the Chief Executive Officer of CyberSecurity Malaysia.

This Seminar offers programs such as the establishment of CERTs, regional co-operations and educating the importance of information security. These programs are structured to enhance business dynamism and networking among players both in the public and private sectors with the intention of promoting OIC-CERT as a global hub for information security in the long term.

Amongst the core objectives of the OIC-CERT Seminar are as follows:

- To strengthen the relationships amongst Computer Emergency Response Teams in the OIC member countries
- To enhance information sharing in cyber security field
- To prevent and reduce cyber-crimes
- To cultivate and foster education and outreach ICT security programs

- To promote collaborative technology research and development
- To provide cyber emergency channels among member countries

According to Y.B. Datuk Dr. Maximus Johnity Ongkili, Minister of MOSTI, the establishment of CERT amongst the OIC member countries would certainly benefit Malaysia in many ways. Other than optimizing the dissemination of cyber alerts, it also provides a new platform for the OIC member countries to exchange ideas and expertise and to promote joint development on measures to deal with large-scale cyber security incidents.

“Hopefully, this OIC-CERT collaboration and cooperation initiative would also result in economic value creation by being a platform to foster greater trust, long-term friendship, and business cooperation among OIC member countries”, added the Minister.

About CyberSecurity Malaysia:

We are a one-stop reference and specialist centre for cyber security. A Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG), we are under the purview of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI). Our services include:

- Digital Forensics
- Malaysia's Computer Emergency Response Team (MyCERT) / Cyber999
- Security management and best practices
- Security assurance
- Cyber security training and professional certification
- Outreach, awareness, and social responsibility programmes
- Cyber security policy and legal research

Issued by Corporate Branding & Media Relations Department, CyberSecurity Malaysia.

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