MEDIA RELEASE

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APCERT AND OIC-CERT COLLABORATE ON GLOBAL COORDINATION TO COUNTER CYBER-OPS

KUALA LUMPUR (28 FEBRUARY 2014) – The Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (APCERT) has successfully organised its annual drill to test the response capability of the leading Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) from the Asia Pacific economies; which for the first time involved the participation of the European Government CSIRTs group (EGC). The annual drill also involved the participation of members from the Organisation of the Islamic Cooperation – Computer Emergency Response Team (OIC-CERT), for three consecutive years.

During the cyber drill, the participating teams activated and tested their incident response handling arrangements. This included the need to interact between CSIRTs/CERTs from local and abroad, in order to dismantle the Denial of Service infrastructure from an analysis of a malicious smartphone application. This incident response exercise, which was coordinated across many economies, reflects the strong collaboration amongst the economies and validates the enhanced communication protocols, technical capabilities and quality of incident responses that CSIRT fosters in assuring Internet security and safety.

20 CSIRT teams from 16 economies (Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, People's Republic of China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea,

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Securing Our Cyberspace

Macao, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam) of the APCERT, three CSIRT teams of the OIC-CERT (Egypt, Pakistan, and Nigeria - *Malaysia, Brunei Darulssalam and Indonesia are also the members of OIC-CERT)* and a CSIRT from Germany from the EGC participated in the drill.

In his statement, the OIC-CERT Chair, who is also the Director General of Oman National CERT, Badar Ali Al-Salehi said, "The participation and involvement of the OIC-CERT members in the annual cyber exercise has increased their capability and ability to address and mitigate cyber security issues and threats. In addition, it also strengthens bilateral relationship and establishes closer cooperation between OIC-CERT and APCERT. We are certainly delighted to be given the opportunity to collaborate and participate in such a prestige program organised by APCERT."

Meanwhile General Tan Sri Dato' Seri Panglima Mohd Azumi Mohamed (Retired), the Advisor to the Chair of the OIC-CERT and also the Chairman of CyberSecurity Malaysia's Board of Directors said, "The OIC-CERT has undertaken various effective strategies to provide the necessary training and capacity building programs in order to develop technical capabilities in the area of cyber security among the member countries. Thus, the involvement in the drill is aligned with the OIC-CERT objectives that strengthen the relationships among the OIC member countries in mitigating cyber threats."

The theme of the drill, which also famously known as APCERT Drill 2014 was "Countering Cyber-ops with Regional Coordination". The exercise reflects real incidents and problems that exist on the Internet, where the teams undertook the task of tracing elements from developing stages of a Cyber-op. These stages culminated to a point where CSIRTs/CERTs had to dismantle the infrastructure set up by hactivists, before a Denial of Service attack unfolds on a government service.

About APCERT
APCERT was established by leading and national Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) from the economies of the Asia Pacific region to improve cooperation, response and information sharing among CSIRTs in the region. APCERT consists of 26 CSIRTs from 19 economies. Further information about APCERT can be found at: www.apcert.org/.

About OIC-CERT

OIC-CERT was established in January 2009, to provide a platform for member countries to explore and to develop collaborative initiatives and possible partnerships in matters pertaining to cyber security that shall strengthen their self reliant in the cyberspace. OIC-CERT consists of 30 CERTs, cyber security related agencies and professional from 19 economies. Further information about OIC-CERT can be found at: www.oic-cert.net.

About EGC

The EGC group, established November 2001, forms an informal association of governmental CERTs in Europe. Its members effectively co-operate on matters of incident response by building upon a fundament of mutual trust and understanding due to similarities in constituencies and problem sets. EGC is an operational group with a technical focus. It does not determine policy, which is the responsibility of other agencies within the members' national domain. EGC members generally speak for themselves and on their own behalf. Currently EGC consists of 13 teams in 12 countries, both EU and non-EU members. Further information about EGC can be found on www.egc-group.org.

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CyberSecurity Malaysia is the national specialist centre for cyber security, under the purview of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI).

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*Jointly issued by **APCERT Secretariat: JPCERT/CC** (Japan Computer Emergency Response Team Coordination Center), **OIC-CERT Secretariat** and **CyberSecurity Malaysia** (Corporate Branding & Media Relations Department).*

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