ECCC
EUROPEAN CYBERSECURITY
COMPETENCE CENTRE
Executive Director

Bucharest, 25 July 2024

Dear coordinator,

As you are aware, Regulation (EU) 2021/887 establishing the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC), indicated, in Article 8 that the ECCC shall register entities, at their request, as members of the Cybersecurity Competence Community (The Community). Such registration should be preceded by an assessment made by the National Coordination Centre (NCC) of the Member State in which those entities are established.

In addition of being mandatory, the creation of the Community is essential for the fulfilment of the ECCC and network of NCC tasks. It helps the communication and synergy among members and with the ECCC and it is necessary in order to set-up the Strategic Advisory Group and relevant community working groups. For this reason dedicated funds have been granted to your NCCs through the 2022 DEP topic "Digital-ECCC-2022-Cyber-03-NAT-Coordination"

For maximum efficiency, registration of new entity on the common platform (The Atlas) shall be performed at national level using online portals via a common Application Programming Interface (API). Through these portals, community members can easily register, be assessed by the responsible NCC and be included in the Atlas. In order to facilitate this process the ECCC has made available technical references and support. In addition, several NCC have already implemented API solutions and are available to help other NCC members. A free open-source tool (OpenXeco) has been developed by the NCC-LU and can be used by any NCCs. For this API, documentation and support are available at openxeco@nc3.lu.

In view of that and to facilitate the registration process the ECCC kindly invites you to initiate a grant amendment with the points outlined below which will help us align our efforts and resources effectively, benefiting all parties involved.

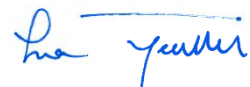Annex 1 of your NCC grant shall be amended as follows:

- *Add a requirement to register entities using an APIs, excluding any other mean (such as email, PDF), and develop a national portal to this purpose. A manual solution may be used ad interim (max 6 months), as the portal is being developed. This manual interim solution may include sending data from NCCs systems such as Customer Relationship Management System (CRM) via the API but shall not include manual registration by ECCC/EC.*

- *Add a requirement to allocate sufficient technical resources tasked with developing the national registration portal (including design and development using OpenXeco or any other custom solution), relevant testing including communication*

with the Atlas via API, and deploy. For duration of the grant, such resource will monitor registrations and proceed to troubleshoot any issue that may arise.

- *Add a requirement to assess registration requests as per: Regulation (EU) 2021/887; registration forms and guidelines developed by the NCCs and any other relevant decisions by the GB and NCC Network (including ownership assessments and any relevant national assessment on security grounds)*

We appreciate your consideration of this request and your cooperation for the implementation of this very important task.

Kind regards

Luca Tagliaretti
Executive Director