



भारत सरकार
संचार मंत्रालय
दूरसंचार विभाग
राष्ट्रीय संचार सुरक्षा केंद्र

Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications
National Centre for Communication Security



File No: NCCS/4-1/NCSWG/2024-25

Date: 02-05-2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Constitution of “National Communication Security Working Group – NCSWG” - Reg

Background: National Centre for Communication Security(NCCS), a specialized unit of the Department of Telecommunications, has been set up to operationalize the telecom security certification framework within the country. NCCS also acts upon the telecom security related cases referred by Govt of India. NCCS has so far published security requirements for 43 telecom/ICT products called as ‘Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements(ITSAR)’. Recently, the Department of Telecommunication has directed NCCS to constitute a National Working Group which will be conterminous with SA WG3 of 3GPP. SA WG3 of 3GPP concentrates on (SA3 in short) security and privacy in 3GPP systems which includes RAN and Core, determining the security and privacy requirements, and specifying the security architectures and protocols. SA3 WG also ensures the availability of cryptographic algorithms which need to be part of the specifications. The sub-working group SA3-LI provides the requirements and specifications for lawful interception in 3GPP systems. SA3 also frames security requirements and test cases for network equipment implementing any of the new 5G Network Functions.

Accordingly, NCCS proposes to constitute “**National Communication Security Working Group – NCSWG**” which will primarily focus on security aspects dealt by SA3 WG of 3GPP. Additionally, NCSWG will also work on the security requirements of Cloud, O-RAN, 5G Advanced 6G, DLT, AI/ML/DL, IoT, Terminal Equipments and other emerging telecommunication technologies. The objective of NCSWG is to serve as a platform for developing communication security specifications/standards and push them to the concerned global specification bodies for adoption. It also serves as a platform to encourage and guide the stakeholders to contribute for 3GPP for standards, which will enhance the contributions from India realizing 6G vision. The proposed NCSWG will be chaired by the Sr DDG(NCCS), with members from industry, academia, government, research organizations etc.

Introduction: Telecommunication network is the bedrock of digital infrastructure of the country and are targeted by state/non-state actors as the communication network are

connected with the building, controlling and operating the critical infrastructure of the country. The impact of the cyber attacks on telecom networks will be devastating and far-reaching.

Sensing the need to protect the communication networks, various national, supranational and global bodies work on developing specifications for the telecommunication security. This include 3GPP, ETSI, ENISA, NIST, NGMN, ITU-T, IEEE etc. At present the contributions from India to these bodies are not strikingly significant and there is a need to work on creating security standards in our national perspective. NCSWG is expected to focus on formulating telecom security standards/specification by bringing together all stakeholders from the industry/start-ups, Academia, Research Organizations, Government agencies, Service Providers, etc, under one platform.

Structure of NCSWG: NCSWG will consist of one Chairman, Vice-chair(s), Members and Convener. The Sr DDG(NCCS) will be the chairman of NCSWG. The members will be from industry/start-ups, Academia, Service Providers, Research Organizations, Govt Agencies, etc. While the members may choose the vice-chair(s) and the convener will be from NCCS. There will be a Management Group(MG) consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chair(s) and Convener which is responsible for overall management of the technical work within the NCSWG. The MG plans the working group meeting, provides agenda and the schedule. The chair/vice-chair may conduct the meeting and coordinates technical discussions.

NCSWG Meetings & periodicity: NCSWG shall meet at least once in a quarter with its full strength. However, MG shall meet at least once in two months. The Management Group may call for any other member(s) for these meetings and may convene extra meeting as per the need.

Global Contribution- Approval Process: The contributions to the global bodies will be thoroughly deliberated and finalized in NCSWG meeting following a consensus-based process. The same will be taken up with the concerned global body, after obtaining the approval from DoT.

This issues with the approval of competent authority.

ADG(SAS-IV)
O/o Sr DDG(NCCS)
NCCS, DoT, Bengaluru-27.

Copy to

- 1) Sr PPS to Secretary(T)
- 2) PPS to Member(S)
- 3) Sr DDG(TEC)
- 4) DDG(IR), DoT HQ
- 5) DDG(SRI),DoT HQ
- 6) DDG(SA),DoT HQ