The Internet Standards, Security and Safety Coalition (IS3C), is a multistakeholder dynamic coalition of the UN Internet Governance Forum (IGF) which brings together expert stakeholders from all regions with the shared goal of making online activity and interaction more secure and safer. IS3C’s partners and members welcome the support of the Open Ended Working Group in pursuing the objective of more widespread and rapid deployment of existing Internet standards and related ICT best practices\(^1\). More information on IS3C can be found here: https://www.intgovforum.org/en/content/internet-standards-security-and-safety-coalition-is3c

There is currently a large gap between the theory of cyber security and the daily practice of insecurity. The priority of many corporate businesses and organisations is the mitigation and damage limitation of cyber security incidents as they happen. More attention and resources need to be given, however, to the prevention of cyber incidents and attacks. As soon as Internet standards and related ICT best practices, that have been developed by the technical community to mitigate existing vulnerabilities, are widely deployed, many, massively abused vulnerabilities in ICTs no longer exist.

IS3C is developing recommended policy solutions, guidelines and toolkits through a programme of research being led by three working groups in the following areas:

1) **Security by design in the Internet of Things (IoT)**

If IoT products and devices and applications entering the global market are designed to be secure at the manufacturing stage through adherence to international standards, guidelines and recommendations, they will not only be more secure and resilient, but also create greater trust and confidence amongst users, notably in the communication between devices of personal data and privacy protection.

2) **Education and skills**

Tertiary educational establishments with courses on cyber technologies and vocational training in cybersecurity need to include in their curricula more in depth coverage of security-related Internet standards, cybersecurity best practice and relevant Internet governance and architecture issues.

3. **Procurement and Supply Chain Management: the Business Case for Greater Security**

Public and private procurement policies and supply chain practice and management decisions need to change from the current approach of mitigating existing risks to one of prevention based on principles of “security by design”. Promoting the practice worldwide of investing in the procurement and supply of Internet products (including connected IoT devices and applications) that are designed in compliance with global security standards, will be a major step forward in achieving this objective of resilient, long term online security.

In support of IS3C’s global capacity building objective relating to Internet security standards, it has recently decided to establish a new working group, #5\(^2\), which will compile an overview of the most important security-related Internet standards and relevant widely accepted best practices.

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\(^1\) E.g. DNSSecurity protecting domain names, RPKI, for routing security, and the OWASP top 10 making websites more secure, etc..

\(^2\) WG 4 is on communication, strategy and outreach
IS3C’s Contribution to Capacity Building

This is what IS3C can offer, very practical recommendations that are translatable into public and private policies and capacity building programmes. IS3C is now in its second year of development and currently in the process of launching its first round of funded research programmes. Now that its strategy, as set out in its detailed mission statements and its governance structure, are all in place, the coalition is now seeking support in the following areas:

1. **Membership:** Experts from all regions are invited to join IS3C’s working groups on the above four areas and contribute to the research, analysis and drafting of consensus-based policy recommendations and guidelines;

2. **Expert liaisons:** Influential persons are invited to connect IS3C’s working groups to experts within their wider networks;

3. **Dissemination of outcomes:** The assistance of the OEWG as a directly relevant forum for global digital cooperation, multistakeholder governance and cyber best practice for sustainable development, is sought as a channel for disseminating IS3C’s policy recommendations, guidance on best practice and practical toolkits for policymakers and decision-takers;

4. **Funding:** IS3C’s overall budget requirement is approx. € 220,000 in order to cover the fees of professional researchers and essential administration costs relating to the coordination activities and stakeholder outreach.

**Conclusion**

The world has changed significantly since last year’s OEWG open consultation. The need for a more evolved and deployed cyber security has become more evident than ever. The policy recommendations and practical toolkits which IS3C is developing for online security, can only be widely accepted and deployed by policymakers and decision-takers if there is close cooperation between stakeholders, governments and international organisations worldwide with the support of open processes such as that of the OEWG.

This is the reason why IS3C maintains an open door for all interested stakeholders - including governments and experts from the UN agencies - to join and collaborate in support of its objectives for greater online security, safety and stability. Members of the coalition look forward therefore to the OEWG working with them to ensure that the existing security-related Internet standards and related best practices, which make the online world more secure and safer, are more widely understood and more effectively deployed worldwide.

You can join IS3C through the mailing list: [http://intgovforum.org/mailman/listinfo/dc-isss_intgovforum.org](http://intgovforum.org/mailman/listinfo/dc-isss_intgovforum.org)
Direct contact on participation or funding donations:
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