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DIRECTORATE FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INDUSTRY
COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION, COMPUTER AND COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

Working Party on Information Security and Privacy

**DRAFT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR REVIEWING THE 1997 OECD GUIDELINES FOR
CRYPTOGRAPHY POLICY**

**2 and 4 October 2006
Budapest, Hungary**

This draft questionnaire is for discussion at the 21st Meeting of the WPISP on 2, 4 October. Delegates will be invited to finalise the questionnaire so that it can be circulated for response.

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**DRAFT QUESTIONNAIRE FOR REVIEWING
THE GUIDELINES FOR CRYPTOGRAPHY POLICY**

1. The OECD Guidelines for Cryptography Policy (“Cryptography Guidelines”) were adopted as a Council Recommendation in March 1997 [C(97)62/FINAL]. The Recommendation calls upon member countries to review the Guidelines at least every five years, with “a view to improving international co-operation on issues related to cryptography policy.”¹ The first review was completed in 2002. The conclusions of the WPISP in 2002, later endorsed by the ICCP Committee, were that the Guidelines continued to be adequate and that no revisions were needed [DSTI/ICCP(2002)17]. It was noted that the Guidelines should be again reviewed in 5 years time – in 2007.

2. The 2002 review of the Cryptography Guidelines was accomplished by means of a short questionnaire that was circulated to WPISP delegates in 2001 [DSTI/ICCP/REG(2001)4]. The questionnaire simply asked delegates whether they believed the Guidelines were still adequate, and if not, whether there was a need for modification, addition or deletion of any of the principles. On the basis of the responses to the questionnaire, the WPISP was able to conclude that no revisions were necessary at that time.

3. At its 20th Meeting in May 2006, the WPISP discussed the process for conducting the 2007 review of the Cryptography Guidelines. It agreed that a short questionnaire should be prepared for consideration at its 21st Meeting, with the aim of circulating a finalised version for response shortly thereafter. The Secretariat would then prepare a brief report on the responses to the questionnaire for discussion at the March 2007 meeting. At that meeting, the WPISP could agree on a recommendation as to whether or not there is a need for revisions to the Guidelines that can be forwarded to the ICCP for endorsement.

Timeline for Reviewing the Guidelines for Cryptography Policy

Action	Date
Draft questionnaire agreed	October 2006
Questionnaire circulated for response	November 2006
Report on responses agreed by WPISP	March 2007
ICCP endorses WPISP conclusions	October 2007

4. WPISP delegates are invited to finalise this questionnaire so it can be distributed for response.

¹ The text of the Recommendation is available at:
http://www.oecd.org/document/34/0,2340,en_2649_34255_1814690_1_1_1_1,00.html.

QUESTIONS

- Q1 In view of developments since the adoption of the 1997 OECD Guidelines on Cryptography Policy, are the Guidelines still adequate?
- Q2 If no to Q1, are there any principles of the Guidelines that may require modification or deletion?
- Q3 If no to Q1, is there a need for new principles to be developed?
- Q4 If no to Q1, is there a need for changes to parts of the Guidelines other than the principles? (E.g. the definitions section or the background report)
- Q5 If no to Q1, do you have any observations other than specified in your answers to Q2 to Q4?