ITU Workshop on Advanced Cybersecurity Attacks and Ransomware

28 August 2018

Room C, ITU headquarters

Welcome Remarks

Bilel Jamoussi

Chief, Study Group Department, Telecommunication Standardization Bureau International Telecommunication Union

Distinguished colleagues and friends,

Good morning and welcome to this ITU workshop on advanced cybersecurity attacks and ransomware.

Let me begin by thanking SG17 Chairman Professor Youm and his management team for their initiative in organizing this event.

ITU workshops are an important complement to ITU standardization work.

These workshops bring together a wide variety of stakeholders to take deep-dives into topics under discussion in ITU Study Groups.

Ladies and gentlemen,

ICTs are everywhere. Data is being produced everywhere.

We see the great potential. But we also see the very significant risks.

ITU is not alone in saying that security is the biggest challenge facing the future of the ICT ecosystem.

Cyber-attacks do not respect national borders. Cybersecurity is a global challenge, and ITU members are in search of a global response.

This work is led by ITU-T Study Group 17. This group's mandate is to 'build confidence and security in the use of ICTs'.

Some of the group's best-known products include standards for electronic authentication over public networks; standardized frameworks for organizations to describe an end-to-end architecture from a security perspective; standards for the

secure exchange of data within and across organizations; and tools for threat-intelligence sharing to prevent the contagion of cyber attacks.

Study Group 17 is also bound by a strong degree of collaboration with other standards bodies. This group is always looking for new opportunities to expand this collaboration. Today's workshop is certain to make a valuable contribution in this respect.

We have more than 130 attendees registered for this event. We can look forward to highly interactive discussions, led by an impressive line-up of distinguished speakers.

I thank you all for your participation in this event.

We will discuss the evolving cybersecurity landscape and new threats to be mitigated, in particular the increasing prevalence of malware designed to hold victims' data ransom.

The workshop will explore attack scenarios – investigating cases such as CryptoLocker and WannaCry – and associated protections employed by industry and government.

These discussions are sure to provide excellent input to the coming meeting of ITU-T Study Group 17, set to begin tomorrow, running until next Friday.

These discussions will help us to pinpoint where ITU expertise could deliver the most value to cybersecurity and the battle against ransomware. We are also certain to identify new opportunities to expand standards collaboration with other bodies.

I am looking forward to our discussions of how ITU could assist you in achieving your cybersecurity ambitions.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office to arrange a meeting. I will be glad to meet with you alongside Ms. Xiaoya Yang, Counsellor to Study Group 17, to discuss how we could work together.

Thank you. I wish you a most informative workshop and a pleasant stay in Geneva.

[459 words ~ 5 minutes]