The Commonwealth Cybercrime Initiative

A quick guide

The Commonwealth

What is the Commonwealth Cybercrime Initiative ('CCI')?

CCI is a programme of the Secretariat to assist member countries through multi-stakeholder partnership created to deliver a comprehensive program to reduce Cybercrime

Mission

CCI aims to provide coherent, comprehensive and sustainable assistance to member states to help build the necessary capacity to combat cybercrime.

Methodology

Working with a range of committed international partners, the CCI is designed to extend support to member states ensuring that they have in place the appropriate legal frameworks complemented with attendant investigative, technical, enforcement and prosecutorial capabilities.

From where does CCI get its authority?

CCI was created in 2011 under the auspices of the Commonwealth Connects program which was created by the Heads of Government during their 2005 meeting in Malta to bridge the digital divide. CCI was formally endorsed by CHOGM during their 2011 meeting in Perth.

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2013 at Colombo, mandated:

"Heads noted the Commonwealth Cybercrime Initiative and the recent endorsement of its methodology by senior officials of Commonwealth Law Ministries in September 2013 and called for the provision of assistance to developing countries on their cybercrime issues."

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How does CCI work?

- CCI is a unique and innovative multi-stakeholder partnership created to deliver a comprehensive program to reduce both cybercrime and duplication of effort.

- This comes from its simplicity – instead of each international organization working on its own delivering a narrow program; the concept utilizes the Commonwealth's convening power to build a consortium of the willing to assist member countries.

- CCI coordinates and leverages the expertise of each partner by having them buy into a collective needs assessment process. This allows the development of a comprehensive program consisting of legislation, mutual assistance frameworks, prosecutorial and enforcement capabilities.

How is CCI governed?

- Com Sec, Rule of Law is the focal point for CCI; sits on the Executive Management Committee ('EMC') and provides secretariat functions to EMC.

- Commonwealth Executive Management Committee consists of representatives from member countries and CCOC; provides overall direction; manages CCI; coordinates activities; liaises with CCOC members to conduct scoping missions and assist with the implementation of action plans.

- CCI Operations Consortium ('CCOC') consists of approximately 40 international organizations and member countries and is the primary source of resources to conduct scoping missions and implement action plans. Members bring specific Cybercrime skills / resources to the consortium and collectively create synergies to assist member countries.

How is CCI staffed?

The CCI programme is embedded within the Rule of Law Division of ComSec which provides secretariat functions.

This falls under the responsibility of the divisional Director Katalaina Sapolu.

The Director is supported by two legal advisors, Shadrach Haruna and Marie-Pierre Olivier. Technical advise is provided by Tony Ming of the Governance and Natural Resources Division.

Programme co-ordination is provided, on an interim basis, by David Tait.

All team members may be reached via a central email address:

cybercrime@commonwealth.int

What is the EMC in detail?

The CCI EMC consists of Commonwealth states and organisations who are committed to the cause, mission and vision of CCI and can contribute expertise necessary to the CCI methodology.

It is expected that working through the EMC will produce tangible synergies as a result of collaboration and networking, in the traditions of the Commonwealth.

It will operate as a consultative body that:

- Provides strategic direction to the CCI programmes;

- Contributes to the resourcing and strategic planning of the implementation of CCI's work across the Commonwealth;

- Pools expertise from a broad range of fields to support comprehensive delivery of CCI programmes in member countries; this will include technical expertise, knowledge of and access to funding streams, and soft power; and

- provides advocacy for the programme at other fora, and bring additional partners into the CCI Consortium.

Who are the members of the EMC?

EMC Country Members currently include:

Canada, India, Malta, New Zealand, Trinidad & Tobago, UK (current chair) and Uganda

EMC Institutional Members currently include:

ComSec, ComNet, Interpol, ICANN
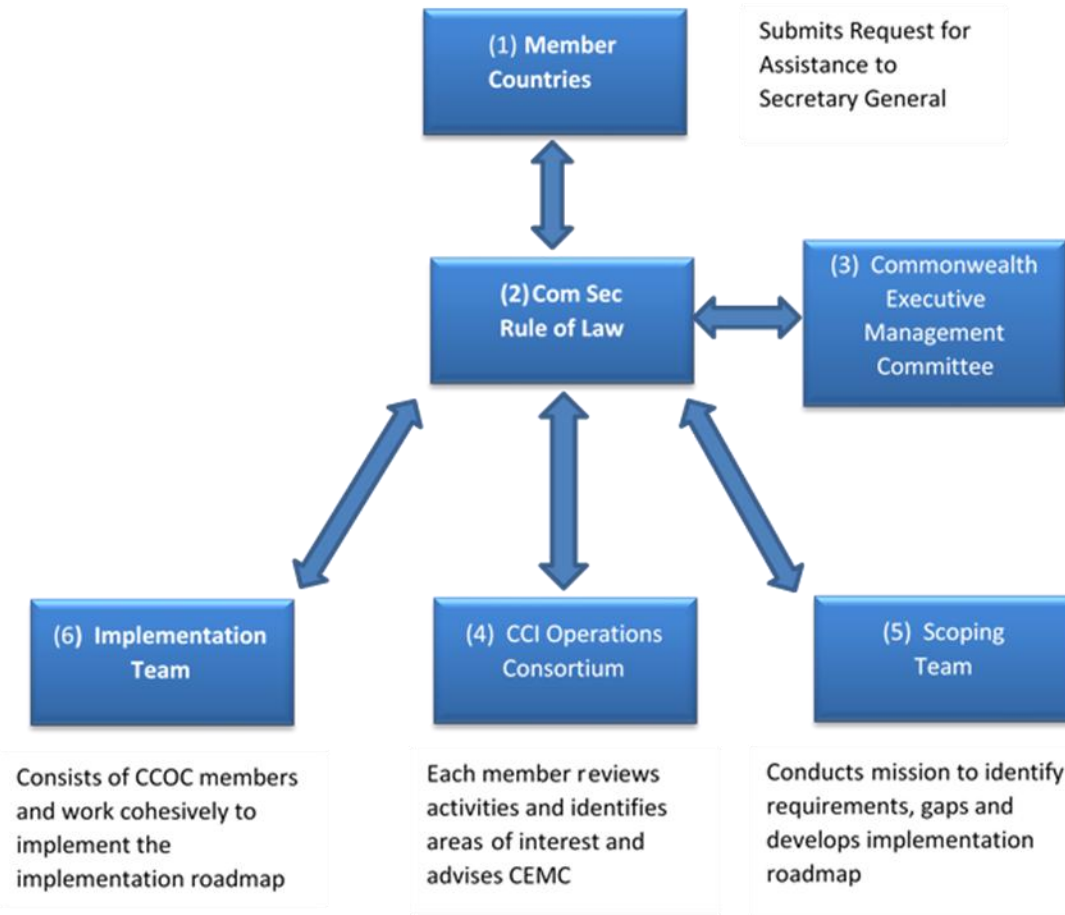
EMC Observer:

US State Department

Who are the members of the Consortium? I

Anti Phishing Working Group ('APWG')

African Union Commission

Caribbean Telecommunications Union ('CTU')

Centre for Internet Safety, University of Canberra

Children's Charities Coalition on Internet Safety ('CHIS')

Commonwealth Lawyers Association ('CLA')

Commonwealth

Telecommunications Organization ('CTO')

COMNET Foundation for ICT Development

Council of Europe ('CoE')

Cyber Ethics, Cyprus CEC

Department of International Development, UK

Developing Countries' Centre for Cybercrime Law

Diplo Foundation

eNasco

Global Prosecutors Ecrime Network ('GPEN')

Institute for Security Studies, Africa

International Centre for missing and exploited children ('ICMEC')

International Cyber Security Protection Alliance ('ICSPA')

International Telecommunications Union ('ITU')

Who are the members of the Consortium? II

International Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ('ICANN')

Internet Watch Foundation ('IWF')

Interpol

Microsoft

National Crime Agency, UK ('NCA')

Organisation for American States

The Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre, Oxford

United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime ('UNODC')

US State Department, US Embassy London

Vodafone

World Bank

World Economic Forum

Department for Media, Culture and Sport UK

Secretariat of the Pacific Community ('SPC')

Mauritius Police Force

Together against Cybercrime

De Natris Consult

Network Utility Force LLC

University of South Africa

University of Kent

Network Utility Force LLC

Southern Methodist University

Plymouth University

Pasifika Nexus Limited

How are projects managed?

What does the Commonwealth add?

- The Commonwealth has a strong track record in this area. The Commonwealth Model Law on Cybercrime and Harare Scheme for Mutual Assistance (including its recently added electronic evidence provisions) are recognised as international, best practice in the field and a viable alternative to the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime.

- The Commonwealth is a "trusted partner". No agenda beyond assisting the member state, provides unique convening power.

- The CCI has been endorsed by major players in the cybercrime space

- The unambiguous mandate of the Commonwealth Heads of Government provides the initiative with unique political buy-in.

What have been CCI's successes?

Ghana

- The first national CCI project;

- Launched in partnership with the Office of the President including signing a Memorandum of Understanding between CCI and Ghana;

- Appointed local project coordinator to aid implementation;

- Established University collaboration between Open University and three Ghanaian institutions to build centres of excellence;

- Recruited expert to conduct review and updating of cybercrime legislation; and

- Conducting a nationwide awareness raising programme.

What have been CCI's successes?

Trinidad and Tobago

- Specialist Child Online Protection needs assessment completed;

- Recruited expert to conduct review and updating of cybercrime legislation; and

- Conducting a nationwide awareness raising programme.

Significant work also being carried out Botswana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Dominica, Jamaica and the East African Region.

ComSec contact details

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