



**AfricaCERT CYBER CRISIS TABLETOP EXERCISE – ITU AFRICA
REGIONAL CYBERDRILL.**

21st NOV 2019 – KAMPALA, UGANDA

EVENT REPORT.

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INTRODUCTION

The Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) organized its Fifth ITU-ALERT (Applied learning for Emergency Response Teams) international cyber drill for Africa Region, from 18th – 21st November 2019 in Kampala, Uganda at Kabira Country club at the kind invitation of Uganda Communications Commission. The event is also known as ITU Africa Regional Cyberdrill.

ITU Africa Regional Cyberdrill is an annual event organized in collaboration with a host country and several partners including AfricaCERT. The 2019 ITU Africa Region Cyberdrill comprises cybersecurity-related training and presentations. The two last days were dedicated to cyber drill exercises structured around various scenarios involving the most common types of cyberattacks. AfricaCERT conducted a cyber crisis tabletop exercise during the event.

THE EXERCISE

The cyber crisis tabletop exercise for 2019 ITU Africa Region Cyberdrill event was delivered by AfricaCERT and presented by Bryton Focus. Participants from National CSIRTs, Telecommunication Operators, Banks and Government organization from across Africa were part of this cyber crisis management exercise.

The tabletop exercise was meant to assist participants practice cyber crisis management and prepare for such a crisis when happen. The exercise took roughly ninety (90) minutes, with 45 minutes of a scenario and injects and the last 45 minutes of discussion. The scenario for this event was a compromised large commercial bank and every 5 to 10 minutes an inject was being presented to the participants.

Participants were divided in groups of 3 to 4 members and had to analyze the scenario and its injects and prepare for the successive discussion. Following the completion of the injects, a detailed discussion followed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This cyber crisis management exercise was a very successful exercise that helped participants gain a detailed understanding of how to manage cyber crisis when they happen within their cyber domain. Following the exercise, the following is thus recommended:

1. More crisis management exercises should be conducted in African Events to help more participants gain the necessary skills in managing cyber crisis.
2. AfricaCERT to consider cybersecurity simulation exercises that will improve not only the management of cyber crisis but also the hands-on experience.

Similar crisis management activities should be organized to target executive management groups in high-level events such as Africa Union and Regional Economic Communities (RECs).

This will enable governments and policy makers to prioritize cyber crisis management preparation in their agenda.

CONCLUSION

This AfricaCERT cyber crisis tabletop exercise was a successful event that participants enjoyed and participated quite well. AfricaCERT would like to thank its partners who contributed to making sure this event was a success. Very special appreciation goes to Sigita Jurkynaite, Nicole Harris, and Charlie van Genuchten for their support in the preparation of the Cyber Crisis Management Scenario.