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| **Title:** | Approach Note on proposed GISFI’s activity on Network Security |
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| **Supporting Organization/s** | NEC |
| **Purpose:** | Proposal to start GISFI activity on Network Security within GISFI Working Group on “Security and Privacy”. |
| **Doc number:** | GISFI\_SP\_201203178 |
| **Meeting:** | GISFI#8, Patna, India, 26th -28th March, 2012 |

# Background:

During the last GISFI Standardization Meeting #7 (at Delhi) on 22nd December, it was decided that GISFI will formulate a group to work on National Guidelines of Network Security. Department of Telecommunication (DoT) has come out with National Guidelines on the Network Security on 31st March 20111 which is expected to be complied by all Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) in India in a time-bound manner. First major milestone is 31st May 2012 when the entire Telecommunication Infrastructure of TSP must be governed with the Adequate Security Policies and their facility must be offered for the external audit. Considering the intended timelines and the national concerns on the network security, GISFI proposes to volunteer its services to help defining and resolving the gaps in the guidelines to enable timely and appropriate implementation of security guidelines. This timely contribution from GISFI on the subject of interest for TSP as well as Government is likely to provide a long awaited entry to GISFI into Indian TSP with its substantial contribution.

# Proposal

It is proposed that GISFI Working Group on “Security and Privacy” resolves to work on the following:

## Network Security Requirements Gap Analysis & Evolution of National Standards on Network Security:

* 1. National Guideline on Network Security is not adequately detailed for the implementation. Those details are necessary to be evolved and consent must be evolved between TSP and the Government agency in this regard.
  2. Currently there is no organization/working group which is acting between TSP and the Government to work out these details and to evolve the necessary consent between TSPs and the Government. In the absence of such an effort, TSP will come out with their implementation based on their independent understanding. These implementations could be potentially different in different TSP and also may not match with Government’s understanding of “security requirement”. Such situation might lead to mis-interpretation and loss of time in implementation or compromise in the objective.
  3. GISFI intends to fill this gap of national importance.
  4. GISFI, with its Security expertise, will develop National Security Guideline Gaps (NSG2) Document. The NSG2 document will be further discussed with TSP and will be further refined. The NSG2 document will further be taken up for the discussion with Governments Security Group and arrive at consent of unambiguous network security requirements.
  5. This exercise will enable GISFI to help in timely establishment of Network Security Management System in Indian Telecom Networks on the National Guidelines on Network Security by the Government.
  6. Such evolved NSG2 document, as GISFI delivery will become potential document to be taken up as National Standard on Network Security.

## Establishment of Telecommunication Security Council of India (TSCI)

1. As per the DOT’s Security Guidelines, It is expected to be established on Volunteer basis to have sincere discussion on the matters related to the network security and use it as an important platform to share TSP experiences.
2. Someone needs to take lead in its formulation. GISFI is in good position to take this lead.
3. GISFI can also propose to establish a separate Sub-Working Group within its Security and Privacy Working Group to work on the scope as expected for TSCI.
4. The progress of this Sub-working Group in GISFI will lead to form the TSCI as a separate organization at an appropriate time.