



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Office of the Secretary



10 September 2024

DR. ARISTIDES C. TAN, MPH, CESO III

Director IV

Soccsksargen Center for Health Development

Brgy. Paraiso, Koronadal City, South Cotabato Koronadal City

Dear Dr. Tan,

Greetings!

The Department of Health (DOH), through its Knowledge Management Information Technology Service (KMITS), in coordination with the Department of Information and Communication Technology (DICT) and highly technical consultants, will conduct a comprehensive **Cybersecurity Training and Digital Hygiene** initiative targeting key personnel, particularly the Executive Committee from the Central Office, Centers for Health Development, Metro Manila Executive Directors, Medical Center Chiefs of Metro Manila, Attached Agencies, and the Ministry of Health in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (MOH BARRM) on October 23, 2024 at Grand Opera Hotel, Sta. Cruz, Manila.

The Executive Committee, composed of high-level decision-makers such as secretary of health, undersecretaries, assistant secretaries, **regional and assistant regional directors**, medical center chiefs and chief medical professional staff, and attached agency heads, plays a pivotal role in shaping the department's overall direction, policies, and risk management frameworks. Their active participation in this training is intended to:

1. **Foster Leadership in Cybersecurity:** By prioritizing cybersecurity and leading by example, the Executive Committee will send a strong message across the organization that security is a critical aspect of healthcare operations and not just an IT concern. Their engagement will ensure that cybersecurity policies are supported and reinforced at the highest levels of the organization.
2. **Drive a Risk-Aware Culture:** As primary decision-makers, they are often responsible for approving budgets, policies, and strategies related to information systems. It is essential that the Executive Committee is not only aware of cybersecurity risks but also understands how to mitigate these risks through informed decision-making. This includes ensuring adequate resources and attention are given to cybersecurity initiatives across the department.
3. **Strengthen Organizational Resilience:** Executive Committee members will be equipped with the knowledge and understanding necessary to identify potential threats, oversee incident response plans, and ensure continuity of operations in the event of a cyberattack. This will enhance the overall resilience of the department's health services and IT infrastructure, which are critical to delivering healthcare to the population.
4. **Ensure Compliance and Governance:** The training will help the Executive Committee better grasp the regulatory requirements surrounding data privacy, particularly in the health sector, where the protection of sensitive health data is paramount. This knowledge will assist them in ensuring that DOH initiatives, implementations, and policies align with national and international cybersecurity standards, such as those prescribed by DICT and other governing bodies.

By focusing on the Executive Committee, the DOH aims to integrate cybersecurity into the department's broader organizational strategy, ensuring that it becomes an inherent part of healthcare service delivery and infrastructure management.

With this, we are pleased to invite you to participate on this training specifically for Executive Committee Member, Heads of Offices and Top Management. Your participation will greatly contribute to our collective effort to enhance cybersecurity within our organization. We highly value your role and believe that this initiative will equip you with the knowledge necessary to lead by example in promoting a secure digital environment.

For details of the training, kindly see attached Department Memorandum No. 2024 – 0307. Mr. Joebet N. Miranda and Ms. Johvel F. Valdez will coordinate with your office or may be contacted for any queries at telephone number (02) 8651-7800 local 1925 or through email: itisdts@doh.gov.ph.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,



ENGR. ROBERT S. MANUEL
OIC - Director IV, KMITS