

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR APCERT

The Principles

- The primary duties of an APCERT member are to respond computer security incidents on behalf of a qualifying constituency as defined within the APCERT Operational Framework.
- This Code sets out the principles which guide the conduct of APCERT members. The Code will be applied in a reasonable and objective manner. Where sanctions for misconduct are available and under consideration, due regard will be paid to the degree of negligence or deliberate fault and to the nature and circumstances of a member's conduct.

1. General conduct

APCERT members should not behave in a way which is likely to bring discredit upon APCERT or the wider CERT community. APCERT members should follow the procedures established in APCERT.

2. Honesty and integrity

It is of paramount importance that Internet community has faith in the honesty and integrity of the APCERT members. APCERT members should therefore be open and truthful in their dealings; avoid being improperly beholden to any person or institution; and discharge their duties with integrity.

3. Fairness and tolerance

APCERT members have a responsibility to act with fairness and impartiality in their dealings with the Internet community and colleagues, treating all with courtesy and respect. Members must avoid favoritism of an individual or group, and all forms of victimisation or discrimination.

4. Abuse of Trust

APCERT members must never knowingly abuse the trust that has been placed in them by virtue of their membership in APCERT.

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5. Performance of duties

APCERT members should be conscientious and diligent in the performance of their duties. They should sustain and, where possible, improve their professional knowledge and competence.

6. Lawful orders

Unless there is good and sufficient cause to do otherwise, APCERT members must obey all lawful orders and abide by the regulations of their organization. Officers should support their colleagues in the execution of their lawful duties, and oppose any improper behavior, reporting it where appropriate.

7. Confidentiality

Information which comes into the possession of an APCERT member should be treated as confidential. It should not be used for personal benefit and nor should it be divulged to other parties except in the proper course of duty. Similarly, APCERT members should respect, as confidential, information about policy and operations of other members unless authorised to disclose it in the course of their duties. Personal comment should not be voiced in ways or circumstances likely to damage public confidence in the member or the organisation to which the member belongs.

8. Co-operation and partnership

APCERT members should co-operate with and assist others members of the CERT community and other entities mandated to prevent and detect and recover from cyber attacks.