Circular No. SRD TR 03/2015

9 Oct 2015

The Chief Executive Officers of All Financial Institutions

Dear Sir / Madam

TECHNOLOGY RISK AND CYBER SECURITY TRAINING FOR BOARD

Information Technology ("IT") is a key business enabler, and is increasingly integral to Financial Institutions' ("FIs'") business operations and their service delivery to customers. Consequently, the risk and potential impact of cyberattacks have increased, and the failure of critical systems today often has severe and immediate repercussions on FIs and their customers.

2   The FI's board of directors ("the Board") and senior management are responsible for the oversight of technology risks and cyber security. In particular, the Board needs to endorse the organisation's IT strategy and risk tolerance, and ensure that management focus, expertise and resources are brought to bear on this important topic. The Board also needs to ensure an appropriate accountability structure and organisational risk culture is in place to support effective implementation of the organisation's cyber resilience programme.

3   In view of the fast evolving nature of cyber risk, MAS expects that the Board be regularly apprised on salient technology and cyber risk developments. FIs should have in place a comprehensive technology risk and cybersecurity training programme for the Board. Such a programme may comprise of periodic briefings conducted by in-house cyber security professionals or external specialists. The goal is to help equip the Board with the requisite knowledge to competently exercise its oversight function and appraise the adequacy and effectiveness of the FI's overall cyber resilience programme.

4   Should you have any questions or comments, please contact your respective MAS Review Officers.

Yours faithfully
(Sent via MASNET)
HO HERN SHIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & HEAD
SPECIALIST RISK DEPARTMENT