Information Sharing and Analysis Organization (ISAO) Standards Organization (SO) Public Meeting LMI Headquarters

7940 Jones Branch Drive, Tysons, VA 22102 November 9th 2015, 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Read-Out: The "What"

HEIDI GRAHAM: So Brad, the floor is yours.

BRAD HOWARD: Thank you.

HEIDI GRAHAM: You're welcome.

BRAD HOWARD: I don't know if I need the microphone but maybe so. Alright, I'd like to echo what Daniel said. Thanks for the participation. It was all incredibly valuable stuff. This is going to make for very fertile information for the working groups to be able to succeed in addressing what standards are going to be needing—needed to come forward.

Let me give you a couple of observations of the—of the three sessions. The passion was absolutely evident. And here are people from different organizations, different backgrounds, all coming together in a group to work four topics I had suggested up. And they worked feverishly, excitedly, throughout all of the 60-70 minutes and sometimes and even beyond. I had to, at the last session, order a "pencils down" because people were still up and scribing. Everybody had an opinion and I don't mean that in a negative way. I think it was very positive. They shared ideas across the board but it was—it was the teamwork of the folks working together to come to contribute those ideas, issues, best practices, ideas that heretofore we had not really absorbed. There was a lot of information and material that came out above and beyond that was in the DHS workshops and we are incredibly grateful for this opportunity to have this information. The one—one complaint that I got was that the sessions were too short. Folks were really getting into the rhythm of the brainstorming and opportunities to perhaps lengthen those in the future for more information will definitely be considered but I appreciate—appreciate everyone's contribution.

So, some of the items that came up and there were differences of opinion, so I'm going to say one thing and I can tell you in a follow-on session there was a comment or a thought that conflicted with it, but....

Funding. Funding was a concern. How do you start up an ISAO? How do you maintain an ISAO? Do you need seed money? How do you prime the pump? And on the other hand, it was mentioned in dialog that, "No, you really don't need money. What you need is time. People can contribute and volunteer their time and you can get this up and running without either the seed money or at least a great contribution or thinking ahead."

Wanted to know who certifies and how. Self-certification? If so, how is it recognized?

One of the questions that was written up that we'll definitely address is, "What's the purpose of an ISAO?" And you've seen a variety of documentation that has come forward from the Executive Order, from DHS workshops and beyond, but that was an interesting question.

Criteria. Criteria across all topics and all subjects. There needs to be identified criteria of—for example, what is certification and what's the criteria for it? What's the criteria for information sharing standards? What must people take a look at?

There was a comment that the best way to start an ISAO was to start local, and small, and grow it, instead of trying to create a large entity in the very beginning and then maybe have those ISAOs of either like or sometimes separate requirements grow together into a larger. But start small and then grow it.

Interesting in one of the questions that I had, "What's required to create an ISAO?" And the answer was very simply, desire. Which I think really hit the nail on the head.

One of the last comments that I was able to capture—and believe me all them were—are very important and all of them will be looked at by Daniel, and myself, and Rick, and Dr. White's team when we get back. But one of the questions was "Who owns the information? Does the ISAO own the information or does the contributor own the information?" And that was along the lines of, if something is provided to an ISAO how is it then managed from release to the—to the Great Unclean Internet, for example.

So, all of these are excellent. As I've said, I've got about 48 pages that Marieme, here at LMI, is going to put into a mail tube and it will probably arrive before I get back to San Antonio. But again, my heartfelt thanks. You all did a great job today and I appreciate your time and your energy very much. Thank you.

[Applause.]