

DECISION No GB/2023/7

of

**The Governing Board of the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and
Research Competence Centre**

Adopting the Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2022

THE GOVERNING BOARD,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2021/887 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 establishing the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre and the Network of National Coordination Centres (hereinafter “the Regulation”),¹ and in particular Article 13(3)(d), Article 17(f) and Article 27;

Having regard to the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/715 on the framework financial regulation for the bodies set up under the TFEU and Euratom Treaty and referred to in Article 70 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council,² in particular Article 48 thereof;

Whereas:

- 1) In order to report on the achievements and progress of the Authority in 2022, it is necessary to adopt a consolidated annual activity report for 2022.
- 2) According to Article 13(3)(d) of the Regulation, the Governing Board shall adopt the annual activity report on the progress made by the ECCC in the previous calendar year.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Sole Article

The consolidated annual activity report of the ECCC for the year 2022 is hereby adopted.

¹ OJ L 202, 8.6.2021, p. 1-31

² 86, 11.7.2019, p. 21–56. 2 Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/715 of 18 December 2018 on the framework financial regulation for the bodies set up under the TFEU and Euratom Treaty and referred to in Article 70 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council, C/2018/8599, OJ L 122, 10.5.2019, p. 1–38

Done at Athens on 12/10/2023,

For the European Cybersecurity Industrial,
Technology and Research Competence
Centre

(e-signed)

Pascal Steichen
Chairperson of the Governing Board

EUROPEAN CYBERSECURITY COMPETENCE CENTRE

Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR)

2022

Adopted by ECCC Governing Board on 12 October 2023 in Decision No GB/2023/7.

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LEGAL NOTICE

This publication presents the annual activity report of the ECCC for 2022 (ECCC GB Decision 2023/7). The report is based on the ECCC Single Programming Document (SPD) 2022-2024 and Budget 2022 as approved by the Governing Board of the ECCC in Decision No GB/2022/6.

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GOVERNING BOARD'S ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT

The Governing Board (GB) of the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre ('ECCC' or 'Competence Centre') takes note of the Consolidated Annual Activity Report (CAAR) prepared by the ECCC for the year 2022, and submitted for adoption, in accordance with Article 13(3)(d) of the ECCC regulation. The GB provides here below its assessment of the CAAR as required by Article 48(1)(b) of the Framework Financial Regulation¹.

The GB, based on its analysis and assessment of the Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2022:

- Welcomes this first report of the ECCC, even if most of the activities were delivered by the Commission Services and a large part of the reporting is part of DG CONNECT reporting;
- Notes the achievements of the ECCC in this early stage of its set-up, and, in particular, the capacity to adapt to the restrictions imposed by the COVID pandemic that still limited physical meetings in the first part of 2022;
- Appreciates the progress made in preparing and adopting implementing rules required for the recruitment of staff and for the functioning of the ECCC;
- Welcomes the first activities related to the setting up and operationalization of the NCC network;
- Looks forward to the next steps in the development and operationalization of the ECCC.

The GB takes note of the results of the ECCC, and of the activities delivered during 2022, in particular:

- The recruitment of the first staff members of the ECCC and the foreseen on boarding in 2023 of about 20 staff members based on recruitment carried out in 2022;
- The progress made in the dialog with the host country regarding the selection of the building and seat agreement;
- The first projects under the Digital Europe Programme being awarded.

The GB acknowledges that the ECCC is preparing the necessary processes for planning, reporting and monitoring of implementation of the programme; while delivering its first results and continuing its set-up activities.

The GB remarks that a second call was launched for the recruitment of the Executive Director of the ECCC and the overall selection process will not be finalized before the last months of 2023.

Overall, the GB takes note of the achievements of the ECCC during 2022 and that many of 2023 results will be based on the work carried out in 2022, including arrival of staff throughout 2023 the inauguration of the temporary office in May 2023.

While not all tasks foreseen in the ECCC 2022 work program were delivered by the end of that year, the GB remarks that there are no critical issues to be reported by the ECCC.

The GB recognizes the instrumental role of the Commission Services, in particular DG CONNECT in performing and delivering the initial ECCC activities and the development of its operational capacity. The GB also welcomes the Service Level Agreements (SLAs) and Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) prepared and signed by the ECCC with

¹ Framework Financial Regulation (FFR) 715/2019 is implemented by ECCC with Decision No GB/2023/1 of the GB of the ECCC on the ECCC's Financial Rules; this assessment is reflecting also the Annex II of FFR, namely C(2020) 2297 final of 20.04.2020, covering the template for CAAR.

the aim to foster synergies and efficiency gains with different departments of the European Commission and with ENISA.

The GB thanks the Commission Services, and in particular the ECCC interim Executive Director Miguel GONZALEZ-SANCHO, and acknowledges the hard work of all Commission staff supporting the ECCC, which made possible the results described in this report.

The ECCC GB, having concluded the above assessment, taking account of the Article 27(3) of the ECCC regulation, and article 48 of FFR regulation, hereby instructs the Secretariat of the GB to finalize the process. Namely, to publish the annual activity report and to submit the Consolidated Annual Activity Report for 2022, together with this assessment, to the Court of Auditors, to the Commission, to the European Parliament and the Council as soon as possible.

For the Governing Board,

Pascal Steichen

Chairperson of the Government Board

12 October 2023

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Regulation establishing the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC) and the Network of National Coordination Centres (NCCs)² (the ‘founding Regulation’) entered into force on 28 June 2021. It aims in particular to strengthen the capacities of the cybersecurity technology community, better protect our economy and society from cyberattacks, increase excellence in research and innovation, and reinforce the competitiveness of EU cyber industry.

The ECCC³ is mandated to design and implement, with the support of relevant stakeholders, a common agenda for the development and growth of the European industrial, technological and research sector in the area of cybersecurity, including SMEs and areas of public interest. For this purpose, the ECCC implements parts of the Digital Europe⁴ (‘DEP’) and Horizon Europe⁵ (‘HEP’) funding programmes, establishing and implementing the respective work programmes in line with the relevant regulations. The ECCC aims to create a framework for strategic and coordinated investment in cybersecurity with contributions from the EU level, Member States and relevant cybersecurity constituencies, including industry and academia.

The set-up of a new EU body is a complex process and until the ECCC reaches its full autonomy, the European Commission (EC) services are carrying out the ECCC’s tasks on its behalf⁶. This already included the adoption of the DEP and HEP work programmes 2021-2022, and includes the evaluation of the calls for proposals, the signature of grants and the management of the projects retained for funding. The evaluation of calls for proposal involved significant workload over the course of 2022.⁷

In this document, the first Consolidated Annual Activity Report of ECCC is presented, while it should be noted that all the activities were carried out by the EC services during 2022. This report is the first of its kind for the ECCC and its main objectives are to (a) prepare processes for next year when the ECCC will be closer to financial autonomy and (b) to show the results delivered regarding ECCC activities.

Until the ECCC reaches sufficient operational capacity and financial autonomy, EC services will continue acting on behalf of the ECCC, contributing with the EC’s own resources. This includes preparing DEP and HEP work programmes, launching and evaluating calls for proposals for both programs, and managing the projects selected for funding.

² Regulation (EU) 2021/887 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 establishing the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre and the Network of National Coordination Centres (OJ L 202, 8.6.2021, p. 1), referred further in the document as founding/ECCC regulation.

³ https://cybersecurity-centre.europa.eu/index_en

⁴ Digital Europe Programme established by Regulation (EU) 2021/694 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2021 establishing the Digital Europe Programme and repealing Decision (EU) 2015/2240 (OJ L 166, 11.5.2021, p. 1).

⁵ Horizon Europe Programme established by Regulation (EU) 2021/695 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 April 2021 establishing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, laying down its rules for participation and dissemination, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 1290/2013 and (EU) No 1291/2013 (OJ L 170, 12.5.2021, p. 1).

⁶ Please see article 46 of the ECCC regulation (EU) 2021/887.

⁷ At the beginning of the year an evaluation of Horizon Europe proposals followed by the preparation and signature of the grant agreements; as far as cybersecurity in the Digital Europe Programme is concerned, in the second quarter of the year the first call for proposals, their evaluation, and the preparation and signature of the grant agreements; and in the fourth quarter for the next Horizon Europe call. By the time the second Digital Europe cybersecurity call is to be evaluated in the fourth quarter of 2022 or early 2023, the ECCC will hopefully have staff capacity to such an extent that it can carry out by itself part of the mentioned work.

The year 2022 was the first full year of activity for the ECCC after its legal creation in mid-2021. During 2022, the ECCC initiated the rollout of operational tasks established by its founding Regulation, whilst strengthening its administrative and management structure as well as expanding its human and financial resources. The first part of 2022 was still under the impact of the pandemic restrictions, while the cybersecurity domain was impacted by the Russian aggression against Ukraine.

The Single Programming Document (SPD) covering the period 2022-2024⁸ focuses, like the SPD 2021-2023, on the operational functions of the ECCC (legal framework, administration, governance aspects, human resources, etc.) to be implemented in order to provide the ECCC with full operational capacity and autonomy for fulfilling its mandate.

As for the present document, its structure follows the guidelines for Consolidated Annual Activity Report as detailed in C(2020) 2297 final⁹, Annex 2, of the Communication from the Commission on the strengthening of the governance of Union Bodies under Article 70 of the Financial Regulation (EC) 2018/1046 and on the guidelines¹⁰ for the Single Programming Document and the Consolidated Annual Activity Report. The part I on achievements and analysis of results is also aligned with the SPD2022-2024 as adopted by the Governing Board (GB) of the ECCC.

The main achievements of the ECCC during 2022 include several aspects:

- Setting up activities related to achieving financial autonomy, including preparations for recruitments :
 - Preparation and adoption of implementation rules for recruitment and employment of staff;
 - Initiate recruitment of 22 staff members to take up gradually their roles in 2022 and especially throughout 2023;
 - On boarding first staff members in Brussels;
 - Progress on premises related activities and agreement with the host country; preparing the ground for staff to work in Bucharest;
 - Preparation and signature of Service Level Agreements (SLAs) and Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) to facilitate functioning and operation of the ECCC;
 - Preparation and approval of programming documents, namely the single programming Document (SPD) for 2022-2024 and SPD 2023-2025.
- Operational activities, delivering on the core tasks of the ECCC:
 - Preparing the implementation of DEP, namely launching calls for proposals;
 - Running the evaluation of proposals received and signing grants agreement on several DEP topics;
- Strategic directions and activities to empower the community and operationalize NCCs network;
 - Develop and prepare the adoption of the Strategic Agenda of the ECCC;
 - Set up several working groups under the GB;
 - Initial mechanisms for cooperation between NCCs and set up the Network of NCCs.

The ECCC operates in an evolving landscape of EU cybersecurity policy, including recently the adopted revision of the NIS Directive, the legislative proposals on a Cyber Resilience Act and on a Cyber Solidarity Act, policy initiatives such as the Communications on cyber defence and on the Cyber Skills Academy, as well as funding support including three calls for proposals launched in 2022 under HEP and DEP. The ECCC, together with the NCCs are an important component of this overall effort to enhance cybersecurity capabilities and resilience in the EU.

The ECCC started to undertake some of the tasks foreseen in its founding Regulation and increased its resources over the last months. The ECCC and the NCCs will continue to steadily grow in the near future in view to deliver

⁸ GB decision no 6/2022, available at: https://cybersecurity-centre.europa.eu/system/files/2022-08/GB%20decision%20No%202022_6_ECCC%20SPD%202022-2024_Budget%202022.pdf

⁹ In pursuance of FR 2018/1046 and FFR No 2019/715, Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/715 on the framework financial regulation for the bodies set up under the TFEU and Euratom Treaty and referred to in Article 70 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 122, 10.5.2019, p. 1).

¹⁰ C(2020) 2297 final Annex 1, Annex to the Communication from the Commission on the strengthening of the governance of Union Bodies under Article 70 of the Financial Regulation 2018/1046 and on the guidelines for the Single Programming Document and the Consolidated Annual Activity Report

fully on their mission and objectives regarding cybersecurity investment, innovation and uptake, and thus help make the EU more cyber resilient and prosperous.

Miguel González-Sancho
Interim Executive Director

PART I. ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2022

The objectives proposed for 2022 Work Programme are elaborated in this section and the related achievements are presented. As stated in 2022 Work Programme, the priorities for 2022 were:

- the recruitment of the first staff members and the fulfilment of all related administrative capabilities of the ECCC;
- the selection and conditioning of headquarters premises;
- the adoption of the Agenda of the ECCC;
- the setting up of the Network of NCCs and of the Cybersecurity Competence Community and
- the support of the implementation of Digital Europe Programme.

The next sections detail the achievements or the progress in the process of delivering these priorities. The structure of this section reflects the structure of the Work programme 2022, as adopted by the ECCC GB in the SPD 2022-2024 document:

- ✓ #1: Legal and operational activities for the setup of the ECCC,
- ✓ #2: Implementation of Digital Europe & Horizon Europe Programme,
- ✓ #3: Adoption of the Agenda, the Multiannual Work Programme and the Annual Work Programme, and
- ✓ #4: Activities related to the Network of National Coordination Centres and the Cybersecurity Competence Community.

1.1 Achieved results in ACTIVITY DOMAIN #1

Activity domain “#1: Legal and operational activities for the setup of the ECCC” is related to Objective #1 of the Multiannual Work Programme: “Endow the ECCC with the material and legal resources required to reach full financial autonomy”.

The setting-up of the ECCC, which started in 2021, was one of the main challenges for 2022 and activities are continuing in 2023. Once progress has been made with the establishment, the ECCC will be able to focus on its operational tasks, benefitting from the governance structures, rules, procedures and infrastructures in place.

An important effort was made in 2022 for the recruitment of the first wave of employees. The ECCC received applications in the order of hundreds and the selection process ended up with the invitation for contract to 20 new persons to start their activity in the Centre during 2023.

The following important actions have been undertaken under this Activity area during 2022, and some are expected to be completed over the course of 2023:

Objectives	Expected results (as adopted in WP2022)	Achieved results by end of 2022
Premises/ Infrastructure	Selection of a building meeting all necessary requirements (technical and legal aspects, security and IT standards, etc.)	Done. The Romanian authorities proposed a building to host the ECCC both for temporary hosting (until necessary arrangements will be completed for the permanent premises) and permanently (i.e. at least for 10 years).
	Launching of negotiations and possible signature of the rental (sublease) agreement with the Romanian Government	In progress. Negotiations on the sublease agreement were launched.
	Submission of the relevant building file to European Parliament and Council, as necessary	In progress. The Romanian authorities proposed the premises in 2022 after the deadline indicated in the Financial Regulation for the building procedure.
	Launching of negotiations and possible signature of the Host Agreement with the Romanian Government	Done. The Romanian authorities sent their counter proposal on draft Host Agreement to the ECCC at the end of the year, in reply to a previous draft from the ECCC.
	Find temporary solution for office space and equipment, if necessary	Done. The Romanian authorities proposed temporary solution for office space and equipment (see above).
	IT infrastructure: Access to grant management tools (euLogin,	Not done. The ECCC started discussions with relevant

Objectives	Expected results (as adopted in WP2022)	Achieved results by end of 2022
	e-grants suite) / TESTA access / IT equipment purchased for the ECCC / Accounting/budget implementation system; access to ABAC	Commission services before the end of the year but didn't conclude. ECCC signed a Service Level Agreement with DG DIGIT in 2022.
Governance and management (structure, legal & procedural framework)	Election of the GB Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson	Done.
	Selection of the ECCC Executive Director	In progress. The Commission republished the vacancy for the ECCC Executive Director, and the selection process was ongoing by the end of the year.
	Appointment and take-up of duties of the Executive Director	Not done. Please see the task above.
	Adoption of programming documents	Done. The GB adopted the SPD 2022-2024 and the draft of SPD 2023-2025.
	Set-up of the Strategic Advisory Group (appointment of members, rules of procedure)	Not done, in the absence of the pre-requisite of the registered cyber community members, from which the members of the Strategic Advisory Group should be then appointed.
	Development of a public communication and dissemination policy	Not done. Postponed due to lack of resources and tasks prioritisation over the year and considering the progress on ECCC operations. Nevertheless, the ECCC increased its communication activities throughout the year (on ECCC website, social media accounts and newsletter), mainly focusing on GB activity and publications of job vacancies.
	Appointment of accounting officer	Preparations done in 2022. Further to the work done in 2022, ENISA and ECCC concluded a Service Level Agreement in early 2023 regarding shared administrative services, including Accounting Officer. In 2023 ECCC GB appointed the Accounting Officer. ¹¹
	Financial rules	Not done in 2022 but work has started in 2022 and as an outcome, the GB adopted the ECCC Financial rules early 2023.
	Internal control framework	Not done. Due to lack of resources.
	Anti-fraud and anti-corruption strategy and protection measures for persons reporting on breaches of EU law	Not done. Due to lack of resources.
	Rules for the prevention, identification and resolution of CoI in respect of its members, bodies and staff, incl. the ED and the GB members, and SAG members	Not done. The GB adopted a draft in June, which the ECCC then transmitted for approval to DG HR, which was pending by the end of the year.
	Security rules	Not done. Due to lack of resources.
	ECCC's financial autonomy validation	Not done. Due to several requirements not yet met by the end of the year.
	Membership to EUAN (EU Agencies Network)	Done.
	Approval of working arrangements between the ECCC and EUIs, bodies, offices and agencies (e.g. ENISA ¹² , EEAS, JRC, REA, INEA, DIHs, Europol, EDA etc.) and international organisations, where relevant.	ECCC and ENISA prepared the Service Level Agreement on shared administrative services.
Staff	Signature of SLAs with the Commission services prior to launching recruitments (e.g. SLA with HR, PMO, EPSO, BUDG, DIGIT etc.)	Done (with DG HR, EPSO, PMO, DIGIT)
	Adoption of further HR-related legal framework (e.g. implementing rules to the Staff Regulations and to the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the EU-CEOS)	Done.
	Completion of the process of delegation of Appointing Authority powers to the (interim) Executive Director	Done.
	Selection and recruitment of the first staff members of the ECCC	Done. The ECCC selected candidates for 20 positions.
	Management and integration of initial staff, including necessary trainings	Done for the two staff members of who started working in the ECCC before the end of the year.

¹¹ See also section 2.6 on strategy for efficiency gains.

¹² Specifically with regards to ENISA, a proposal was submitted on behalf of ENISA on 20 October 2021 for joint administrative services between the ECCC and ENISA.

1.2 Achieved results in ACTIVITY DOMAIN #2

This section covers the activity domain “#2: Implementation of Digital Europe & Horizon Europe Programme”. The activities delivered under this chapter are related to Objective #2 of the Multiannual Work Programme: “Implement Digital Europe and, where relevant, Horizon Europe programme”, in complementarity with the activities managed by ENISA.

The actions under Specific Objective 3 (Cybersecurity and Trust) of the Digital Europe Programme are implemented primarily through the ECCC and the Network of NCCs. Until the ECCC reaches financial autonomy, the Commission services acts and will continue to act on behalf of the ECCC¹³.

Important actions undertaken in this activity area in 2022 include the following:

Objectives	Expected results (as adopted in WP2022)	Achieved results by end of 2022
Programme implementation	EC implementing DEP calls on behalf of the ECCC for WP 2021-2022 (launch calls, organise evaluations, take financing decisions, conclude grant agreements)	Not done. Since relevant staff has not yet started working for the ECCC by the end of the year.
	Annotated Model grant agreement adoption	Not done. Postponed due to the status of progress on ECCC operations.
	Where necessary, development of approach/ methodology to calculate MS in-kind contribution	Not done. Postponed due to the status of progress on ECCC operations.
	Identify possible Joint Actions to be supported by contributions from some Member States and by EU budget from Digital Europe or Horizon Europe	Not done. Postponed due to the status of progress on ECCC operations.

The ECCC Work Programme is sourced from the Digital Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 for Cybersecurity.

The actions contained in the Digital Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 are aimed to build up advanced cybersecurity equipment, tools and data infrastructure. They support the development and best use of European knowledge and skills related to cybersecurity, promote the sharing of best practices and ensure a wide deployment of the state-of-the-art cybersecurity solutions across the European economy to guarantee the resilience, integrity and trustworthiness of the Digital Single Market.

The budget for the Cybersecurity actions covered by the Digital Europe Work Programme 2021-2022 is EUR 269 million, distributed as follows:

- A budget of EUR 177 million for actions related to the “cyber-shield”, including Security Operation Centres (SOCs);
- A budget of EUR 83 million for actions supporting the Implementation of relevant EU Legislation;
- A budget of EUR 9 million for programme support actions, including evaluations and reviews.

The following table summarises the ECCC calls and topics, under the Digital Europe Programme, opened in 2022. For the topics that closed in 2022 the signature of Grant Agreements was completed. For the rest of the topics, opened late in 2022, launched using 2022 budget, the evaluation and signature of contracts will take place in 2023.

TOPIC	Budget	Closing Date	Outcome
1. European “Cyber-Shield”			
DIGITAL-2022-CYBER-02-SUPPORTHEALTH Support To Cybersecurity in The Health Sector	EUR 10M	May'22	7 projects started
DIGITAL-ECCC-2022-CYBER-03-CYBER-RESILIENCE EU Cybersecurity Resilience, Coordination and Cybersecurity Ranges	EUR 15M	Feb'23	N/A
DIGITAL-ECCC-2022-CYBER-03-SOC Capacity building of Security Operation Centres (SOCs)	EUR 72.5M	Feb'23	N/A
CfEI - Call for Expression on Interest on Cross-border SOC (Security operation Centres)	EUR 30M	Feb'23	N/A
DIGITAL-ECCC-2022-CYBER-03-SEC-5G-INFRASTRUCTURE Securing 5G Strategic Digital Infrastructures and Technologies	EUR 10M	Feb'23	N/A
DIGITAL-ECCC-2022-CYBER-03-UPTAKE-CYBERSOLUTIONS Uptake of Innovative Cybersecurity Solutions	EUR 32M	Feb'23	N/A

¹³ See Article 46 of the ECCC regulation.

TOPIC	Budget	Closing Date	Outcome
2. Support to implementation of relevant EU legislation			
DIGITAL-2022-CYBER-02-NAT-COORDINATION Deploying the Network of National Coordination Centres with Member States	EUR 33M	May'22	5 NCCs started
DIGITAL-ECCC-2022-CYBER-03-NAT-COORDINATION Deploying the Network of National Coordination Centres with Member States	EUR 22M	Feb'23	N/A
DIGITAL-ECCC-2022-CYBER-03-NIS-DIRECTIVE Supporting the NIS Directive Implementation and National Cybersecurity Strategies	EUR 20M	Feb'23	N/A
DIGITAL-ECCC-2022-CYBER-03-TEST-CERT-CAPABILITIES Testing and Certification Capabilities	EUR 5M	Feb'23	N/A
Cybersecurity Community support (Procurement)	EUR 3M	Q4'22	ECCO project

The next paragraphs provide insights on some of the calls with outcome available at the end of 2022.

- ✓ **12 DEP projects** funded from the call DIGITAL-2022-CYBER-02 (with topics as NCCs and Support to Health). From the overall EU contribution of € 11.300.975,81 it was provided already a pre-financing of € 8.976.032,70 (80%).
- ✓ 5 of those projects are dedicated to **NCCs**, which are funded under the DIGITAL-2022-CYBER-02-NAT-COORDINATION topic, with duration of 24 months each. The total EU contribution was 7,732,926.25 EUR.

ID number	Acronym	Start Date	End Date	Duration (months)	EU contribution (EUR)
101101331	N4CY	01-01-2023	31-12-2024	24	1,279,185.00
101100652	NCC-MT	01-01-2023	31-12-2024	24	1,456,542.85
101100801	NCC-NL	01-10-2022	30-09-2024	24	997,368.40
101100631	NCCFICB	01-01-2023	31-12-2024	24	2,000,000.00
101100624	SK-NCC	01-11-2022	31-10-2024	24	1,999,830.00

The outcome of 'Support to Cybersecurity in The Health Sector' call. In total, 7 proposals were selected under the DIGITAL-2022-CYBER-02-SUPPORTHEALTH topic and have already started (all by 01/01/2023). All proposals are with duration between 18 and 36 months and they will all be finishing by 2025. The total EU contribution was € 3.568.049,56, while the allocated budget to this topic was 10M EUR.

ID number	Acronym	Start Date	Duration(months)	EU contribution (EUR)
101100648	DSSM	01-01-2023	36	203.300,00
101100678	IAMHEALTH	01-01-2023	18	431.653,00
101100701	HISC4ALL	01-01-2023	24	768.753,00
101100725	QCLN	01-12-2022	36	249.952,00
101101322	CYBERHIMPREX	01-01-2023	24	1.385.676,75
101101426	KCNR Cyber Security	01-01-2023	36	239.279,81
101101522	RO-CCH	01-01-2023	24	289.435,00

The European Cybersecurity Community Support project (ECCO). The call for tenders CNECT-2022-OP-0033 (with a budget of 3M€), from the DEP (Cybersecurity WP2021-22) was launched with the aim to support the activities necessary to develop, promote, coordinate and organize the work of the Cybersecurity Competence Community at European level, within the scope and operations of the ECCC and National Coordination Centres Network. Following the evaluation, the ECCO project received funding¹⁴.

ECCO provides operational support to the ECCC and the Network of NCCs, in close coordination with the ECCC and the Commission services. The aim is to deliver this support by planning thematic working groups, workshops, and events, which will make it easier for NCCs to interact and share knowledge at the European level in support of NCC and ECCC operations.

- ✓ 16 projects funded for **Horizon Europe programme**, under the HORIZON-CL3-2021-CS-01 (4 topics) with an overall EU contribution € 69.285.540,76 and they have already received a pre-financing of € 55.428.435,61 (80%).

¹⁴ More information available here: https://cybersecurity-centre.europa.eu/news/european-cybersecurity-community-support-project-ecco-has-kicked-2023-01-30-0_en

1.3 Achieved results in ACTIVITY DOMAIN #3

This section covers the activity domain “#3: Adoption of the Agenda, the Multiannual Work Programme and the Annual Work Programme”. The activities described under this chapter are related to Objective #3 of the Multiannual Work Programme “Develop, implement and monitor the Agenda of the ECCC, the multiannual work programme and the annual work programme”.

According to Article 2 point (8) of the founding Regulation, the “Agenda” is a comprehensive and sustainable cybersecurity industrial, technology and research strategy which sets out strategic recommendations for the development and growth of the European cybersecurity industrial, technological and research sector and strategic priorities for the ECCC’s activities and is not binding with respect to decisions to be taken on the annual work programmes.

The Agenda, as adopted by the Governing Board¹⁵, should be reflected in the drafting of the annual work programme and the multiannual work programme. More specifically, given that the Agenda is about setting out strategic recommendations and priorities for the ECCC’s activities, and shall also be reflected in the multiannual work programme, the EC initiates the process of drafting the ECCC’s Agenda in the course of 2022, in close cooperation with the Governing Board and the Network.

After achieving financial autonomy, the annual work programme of the ECCC will define, in accordance with the Agenda and the multiannual work programme, the priorities for the Digital Europe and, to the extent that they are co-financed by the Member States, also the priorities for the Horizon Europe programme. These work programmes will include, where relevant, joint actions between the ECCC and Member States.

Important actions to be undertaken in this activity area during 2022 include the following:

Objectives	Expected results (as adopted in WP2022)	Achieved results by end of 2022
Agenda	Development and adoption of the agenda, following consultation with all relevant actors (EC, NCCs, Community, ENISA, SAG)	Done. The ECCC developed its Agenda, although it did not adopt it by the end of the year.
	Once adopted, monitoring the implementation of the Agenda	Not done. Since the Agenda had not been adopted by the end of the year.
Multiannual work programme & Annual work programme	Development, adoption and monitoring of the multiannual work programme and the annual work programme	Not done. Since the Agenda had not been adopted by the end of the year.

1.4 Achieved results in ACTIVITY DOMAIN #4

This section covers the activity domain “#4: Activities related to the Network of National Coordination Centres and the Cybersecurity Competence Community”. The activities described under this chapter are related to Objective #4 of the Multiannual Work Programme “Launch and coordinate the Network of National Coordination Centres and the Cybersecurity Competence Community”, in complementarity with relevant activities from ENISA.

The Network of NCCs is composed of all the National Coordination Centres that are notified to the Governing Board by the Member States (Article 6.7 of the Regulation). They function as contact points at the national level for the Cybersecurity Competence Community and the ECCC (Article 7.1(a) of the Regulation). They are considered as the ‘gatekeepers’ for the cybersecurity community in their country. They also provide support to carry out actions under this Regulation, and they can pass on financial support to national and local ecosystems (Article 7.1(f) of the Regulation). Therefore, launching the Network and starting coordinating its initial activities is crucial for undertaking the NCCs tasks, thus contributing to the mission of the ECCC and the Network.

The actions undertaken in 2022 in this activity area include the following:

¹⁵ Article 13.3(a) of the Regulation.

Objectives	Expected results (as adopted in WP2022)	Achieved results by end of 2022
Network of National Coordination Centres	Creation of Network, including publishing of the list of NCCs	By the end of 2022 all MS except 2 had notified their NCCs.
	Creation of a facultative service catalogue for NCCs	Done.
	Further definition of modalities of interaction between the ECCC and the Network of NCCs (coordination mechanisms – alignment of activities - Organisation of workshops/recurrent meetings, etc.)	Not done. This work started but was not completed by the end of the year.
Cybersecurity Competence Community (stakeholders)	Establishment of the Cybersecurity Competence Community	Not done. Discussion within the GB and the Network of NCCs continued on how to best provide the necessary data and to share them with the ECCC/EC and among the Member States.
	Guidelines for assessing and accrediting the entities as members of the Community	Done.
	Establishment of working groups, and support	Not done. In the absence of registered cyber community members and communicated to the ECCC, no working group of the cyber community was set up as foreseen in the ECCC Regulation. However, the GB set up several working groups according to its own rules of procedure.
	Consider setting up an EU cybersecurity market observatory	Not done. Due to lack of resources.
	Appointment of the Strategic Advisory Group	Not done. In the absence of registered cyber community members and communicated to the ECCC, the selection of the Strategic Advisory Group could not be organized.

PART II. MANAGEMENT

2.1. Governing Board

2022 was the first full year of operation for the Governing Board (GB). During 2022 three official meetings of the GB and other 3 ad-hoc meetings took place.

The first physical meeting took place in June, in Bucharest, once the pandemic conditions had sufficiently improved. Until then, all meetings were organized online. At the beginning of 2022 the Chairperson and deputy Chairperson were elected by the GB based on the rules of procedure adopted in 2021.

During the meetings, several activities were covered¹⁶, including adoption of implementing rules, relevant for this early stage of the ECCC, like the ones supporting the recruitment of the staff in the ECCC and the work of the interim Director. The GB also adopted the SPD 2022-2024, draft SPD 2023-2025 and associated budget. Other decisions included the ones dedicated to public access to documents or setting up specific working groups of the GB dedicated to areas of interest.

2.2. Major Developments

2022 was a 'normal' year for the ECCC starting up as a new EU body:

- From a policy perspective, EU cybersecurity policy evolved rapidly to keep up with the pace in general in the cybersecurity field and geostrategic challenges;
- From an organisational perspective, the Centre underwent a sustained transformation towards its financial autonomy;
- From an operation perspective, several calls for proposals were launched, followed by the signature of grants with the proposals retained for funding.

As stated in the Council conclusions on the Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council entitled "The EU's Cybersecurity Strategy for the Digital Decade"¹⁷, achieving strategic autonomy while preserving an open economy is a key objective of the EU in order to self-determine its economic path and interests. This includes reinforcing the ability to make autonomous choices in the area of cybersecurity with the aim to strengthen the EU's digital leadership and strategic capacities.

This can also include diversifying production and supply chains, fostering and attracting investments and production in Europe, exploring alternative solutions and circular models, and promoting broad industrial cooperation across MS. The conclusions also acknowledge the importance of ongoing support for technical assistance and cooperation between MS for capacity-building purposes.

As highlighted in the "Nevers Call"¹⁸, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and its repercussions in the cyber-space has reinforced the case for strengthening cooperation in cyber crisis management at EU level. The Cyber Posture Council conclusions¹⁹ notably call on the EC, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and MS to develop risk assessment and scenarios for an attack on a MS or partner country, which take into

¹⁶ For a complete list of decisions and minutes of GB meetings please visit the page dedicated to GB on ECCC website: https://cybersecurity-centre.europa.eu/governing-board_en

¹⁷ Council conclusions on the EU's Cybersecurity Strategy for the Digital Decade (6722/21).

¹⁸ 'Nevers Call to Reinforce the EU's Cybersecurity Capabilities'. Informal Meeting of the Telecommunications Ministers. Nevers, March 9, 2022.

¹⁹ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/05/23/cyber-posture-council-approves-conclusions/>

account relevant input and perspectives from all of the cyber communities, including civil, diplomatic and defence.

Such initiative echoes the EU's ambition for a common situational awareness and coordinated preparation and response to threats. This includes stronger inter-agency cooperation among ENISA, CERT-EU and Europol in assessing the threat landscape. Moreover, the political agreement on the NIS Directive 2²⁰ provides a legal basis for the CyCLONe network of MS cyber agencies plus, in case of risks for the internal market, the EC to participate in crisis management coordination and situational awareness. This is a further essential step towards solidarity and mutual assistance.

The establishment and setting up of the ECCC is taking place in a dynamic cybersecurity political context, including several initiatives at EU level:

Revision of the NIS Directive (NIS2). To respond to the increased exposure of Europe to cyber threats, the EC proposed, in December 2020, a revised NIS Directive (NIS 2 Directive), for which the co-legislators reached a political agreement in May 2022²¹. The new Directive will raise the EU common level of ambition on cybersecurity, through a wider scope, clearer rules and stronger supervision tools.

Cybersecurity Resilience Act (CRA). In September 2022, the EC adopted the proposal for a Regulation on horizontal cybersecurity requirements for products with digital elements (Cyber Resilience Act, CRA)²². The CRA establishes a harmonised legal framework for essential requirements for placing products with digital elements on the market. The CRA aims to ensure that hardware and software products are placed on the EU market with fewer vulnerabilities and manufacturers take cybersecurity seriously throughout the whole product lifecycle. It also aims to create conditions allowing users to take cybersecurity into account when selecting and using products with digital elements. It will also foresee a market surveillance mechanism to be carried out by public authorities. The adoption of the CRA currently under negotiations will be followed by a transition period before rules become applicable. The ECCC and NCCs can play an important role in supporting the implementation of the CRA, in particular for SMEs, including micro enterprises and start-ups. SMEs represent around 99% of the number businesses present in the markets that will be impacted by the CRA. The implementation of the CRA by manufacturers will be supported by harmonised European standards, and where applicable, European cybersecurity certification schemes and common specifications. The network of NCCs could help manufacturers, and in particular SMEs, including micro enterprises and start-ups, as well as public authorities in raising awareness on the CRA and supporting its implementation through various activities. These activities could include to foster participation in developing standards for the CRA in line with EU values and to provide resources for economic operators, in particular SMEs, including micro enterprises and start-ups, which seek technical advice and guidance for product development or testing and/or EU cybersecurity financial support in order to implement the CRA.

Cybersecurity – uniform rules for EU institutions, bodies and agencies. The EC presented a proposal to enhance the cybersecurity and information security of the EU institutions, bodies and agencies, which are now under consideration by the legislators.

Cooperation on cyber detection, analysis and sharing. In the face of the growing number and impact of cybersecurity incidents, the EU Cybersecurity Strategy stresses the urgent need to improve our collective detection capacities. A lot of potential for improving detection of cyber threats and incidents can come through creating, reinforcing and connecting relevant entities such as Security Operation Centres (SOCs), Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs), Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs), Information Sharing and Analysis Centres (ISACs), as well as sharing of cyber threat intelligence across the EU. The ECCC will play a central role in capacity building (e.g., through grants under the Digital Programme), and by taking on a central role

²⁰ Directive (EU) 2022/2555 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 December 2022 on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union, amending Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 and Directive (EU) 2018/1772, and repealing Directive (EU) 2016/1148 (NIS 2 Directive) (Text with EEA relevance).

²¹ It entered into force in January 2023.

²² Proposal for Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on horizontal cybersecurity requirements for products with digital elements and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020, COM/2022/454 final.

in joint procurement with MS, with the aim to set up several cross-border platforms for pooling data on cyber threats between several MS.

EU Policy on Cyber Defence. In November 2022, the Commission and the High Representative announced a Joint Communication on an EU Cyber Defence Policy²³ to address the deteriorating security environment following Russia's aggression against Ukraine and to boost the EU's capacity to protect its citizens and infrastructure in cyber space. The EU Policy on Cyber Defence calls for investments in full-spectrum cyber defence capabilities and will strengthen coordination and cooperation between the EU military and civilian cyber communities. It will bolster cooperation with private sector and efficient cyber crisis management within the Union. The policy also aims to reduce our strategic dependencies in critical cyber technologies, including through the development of a technological roadmap for critical cyber defence and cybersecurity technologies and strengthen the European Defence Technological Industrial Base (EDTIB). It will stimulate training, attracting and retaining cyber talents. The policy proposes to increase cooperation among EU's cyber defence actors and develop mechanisms for leveraging capabilities at the EU level, including in the context of Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions and operations.

Within this broader framework of EU policy priorities in cybersecurity, the ECCC will pool resources from the EU, MS and other constituencies to improve and strengthen technological and industrial cybersecurity capacities, enhancing the EU's open strategic autonomy, and offering a possibility to consolidate part of the cybersecurity-related activities funded under HEP and DEP. For instance, the ECCC will support the development of capabilities for early threat detection and sharing of cyber threat intelligence (CTI), reinforcing and linking the capabilities of SOCs and other relevant entities in the EU, and new capabilities that will contribute to the implementation of the NIS 2 Directive, which requires Member States to be adequately equipped and to cooperate to improve the assessment and management of cyber security threats.

The ECCC and the Network of NCCs will contribute to maximising the effects of investments to strengthen the EU's leadership and open strategic autonomy in the field of cybersecurity and support technological capacities, capabilities and skills, and to increase the EU's global competitiveness. They will do so with input from industry and academic communities in cybersecurity, including SMEs and research centres, which will benefit from a more systematic, inclusive and strategic collaboration, having regard to the cohesion of the EU and all of its MS.

The ECCC, the Network and the Community are intended to benefit from the experience and the broad representation of relevant stakeholders built through the public-private partnership on cybersecurity between the EC and the European Cyber Security Organisation (ECSO) as well as from the lessons learnt from relevant projects²⁴ under Horizon 2020.

Furthermore, the ECCC shall cooperate with relevant EU institutions, bodies, offices and agencies, in particular with ENISA, in order to ensure consistency and complementarity while avoiding any duplication of effort.

In general, the objectives of ECCC and the work carried out by now by ECCC reflect the EU's policy priorities, while containing common, industrial, technology and research priorities which are based on the needs identified by MS in cooperation with the Community and which require the focus of EU financial support, including key technologies and domains for developing the EU's own capabilities in cybersecurity (Article 13 of the ECCC Regulation).

2.3. Budgetary and financial management

As the ECCC is not financially autonomous, all financial transactions were implemented in accordance with the standard operating procedures and checks in place of the European Commission – DG CNCT.

²³ EU Policy on Cyber Defence, JOIN(2022) 49 final

²⁴ CONCORDIA, ECHO, SPARTA and CyberSec4Europe.

2.4. Delegation and sub-delegation

Not applicable. During 2022, DG CONNECT Directorate H Director acted as authorizing officers by sub-delegation for ECCC budget.

2.5 Human Resources (HR) management

The Staff Regulations and Conditions of Employment apply to the staff of the ECCC.

The first staff recruitments took place in 2022: two ECCC staff members started working in 2022 and over 20 other staff members are expected to join in 2023 following recruitment processes initiated in 2022. Soon after the entering into force of the Regulation, an Interim ED was appointed in 2021. The recruitment of the permanent ED was launched in 2022.

During 2023 it is envisaged that the employees will start working at the ECCC headquarters in Bucharest, after temporary being hosted by the Commission Representation in Bucharest. Transitory measures are still in place for the time being. Further recruitments will continue in 2023.

ECCC has concluded several SLAs with the Commission services such as DG HR, PMO or EPSO which were prerequisite for being able to start the recruitments, apart from having the relevant implementing rules governing the recruitment and employment matters to be in place.

Recruitment policy. All implementing rules required for recruitment are in place:

- Engagement of CAs, Model Decision C(2019)3016
- Engagement of TAs, Model Decision C(2015)1509
- Middle management staff, Model decision C(2018)2542
- Types of post, Model Decision C(2018)8800

Further HR related rules have been adopted by the GB²⁵.

As in 2022 the recruitment was initiated, focusing on operational tasks while many administrative and support tasks are covered by the Commission services.

Given the initial stage of growth of the ECCC in 2022 and limited number of staff that took up duties, it is too early to determine the numbers relating to the Inter-agency screening/benchmarking methodology (i.e. overheads/operational ratio).

2.6. Strategy for efficiency gains

The ECCC is committed to continuously implement measures to obtain efficiency gains in all activities.

Whenever possible, the ECCC will continue seeking synergies and the most efficient ways of action.

On July 2022, the ECCC became an ad hoc member of the EU Agencies Network (EUAN, of which full membership requires financial autonomy), which gives access to a Network of agencies, JUs (Joint Undertakings) and other EU bodies, and the opportunity to exchange knowledge and best practices on horizontal issues for EU bodies.

While in preparation in 2022, in 2023 the ECCC and ENISA signed a service level agreement (SLA) regarding shared services (namely Data Protection Officer and Accounting Officer services). Please also see Annex VI for other SLAs signed or in preparation.

Moreover, the ECCC is following the developments around the Back Office Arrangements for Joint Undertakings (BOA/JUs)²⁶ and might benefit from such arrangements at a later stage.

²⁵ For a complete list of decisions taken by GB, please visit the page dedicated to GB on ECCC website: https://cybersecurity-centre.europa.eu/governing-board_en

2.7 Assessment of audit and ex-post evaluation results during the reporting year

Not applicable yet.

2.8 a Follow up of recommendations and action plans for audits and evaluations

Not applicable yet.

2.8 b Follow up of recommendations issued following investigations of OLAF

Not applicable yet.

2.9 Follow up of observations from discharge authority

Not applicable yet.

2.10 Environment management

Not applicable yet. Please see Annex VII.

2.11. Assessment by management

Not yet applicable. ECCC has been established in 2021 and it is not financially autonomous yet. Furthermore, the ECCC has to recruit more staff including on managerial positions.

²⁶ According to the Single Basic Act (article 13), by 30.11.2022, Joint Undertakings shall operate Back Office Arrangements (setting out common corporate lines) by concluding service level agreements. BoA should cover areas like human resource support, legal support, accounting, communication, et al.

PART III. ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEMS

3.1 Effectiveness of internal control systems

In accordance with Article 46 of ECCC founding Regulation (EU) 2021/887, the Commission is responsible for the establishment and initial operation of the ECCC until it reaches financial autonomy. This includes all financial transactions and the responding exception reports. Compliance with the Internal Control Framework of the Commission is a compulsory requirement applicable.

3.2 Conclusions of assessment of internal control systems

The assessment of the internal control system is the responsibility of the Commission and will be reflected in the relevant section of the Annual Activity Report of DG CONNECT.

3.3 Statement of the manager in charge of risk management and internal control

The ECCC has been established in 2021 and it is not financially autonomous yet. Furthermore, the ECCC has to recruit more staff and appoint a manager in charge of risk management and internal control.

PART IV. MANAGEMENT ASSURANCE

Until it reaches financial autonomy, the Commission is responsible for the establishment and initial operation of ECCC.

PART V. DECLARATION OF ASSURANCE

Declaration of Assurance

I, the undersigned, interim Executive Director²⁷ of ECCC, in my capacity as authorising officer,

- Declare that the information contained in this report gives a true and fair view.*
- State that I have reasonable assurance that the resources assigned to the activities described in this report have been used for their intended purpose and in accordance with the principles of sound financial management, and that the control procedures put in place give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions.*

This reasonable assurance is based on my own judgement and on the information at my disposal, such as the results of the self-assessment and ex-post controls.

Confirm that I am not aware of anything not reported here which could harm the interests of the agency.

Brussels, September 2023

(e-signed)

Miguel GONZALEZ-SANCHO

Interim Executive Director

²⁷ Mr. Miguel Gonzalez-Sancho is the interim Executive Director of ECCC for the financial year 2022 and will remain authorizing officer by sub-delegation, even after the recruitment of the Executive Director, until ECCC has the operational capacity to implement its own budget (Article 46 of ECCC founding Regulation (EU) 2021/887).

ANNEXES

Annex I. Core business statistics

The Regulation entered into force on 28 June 2021. Since then, DG CONNECT of the EC has been working on the establishment of the ECCC. Preparatory actions, notably HR-related rules, were adopted which enabled the recruitment of the two ECCC staff members in 2022 and selection and offering of 20 staff members to be on-boarded during 2023. The EC services acted on behalf of the ECCC, and will continue doing so until the ECCC reaches full financial autonomy.

Annex II. Statistics on financial management

The funding Regulation entered into force on 28 June 2021. Since then, DG CONNECT of the EC has been working on the establishment of the ECCC.

As defined in the founding Regulation, the ECCC shall in principle be funded by the EU, while joint actions shall be funded by the EU and by voluntary contributions from MS.

Generally, the EU contribution shall be paid from the appropriations in the EU general budget allocated to Cybersecurity activities in the DEP Programme, the specific programme implementing HEP established by Decision (EU) 2021/764 and other relevant EU programmes, as needed for the implementation of the tasks or the achievement of the objectives of the ECCC, subject to decisions taken in accordance with the legal acts of the EU establishing those programmes.

For 2022, all budget for grants came from DEP appropriations. This section will be completed in the next years, after the financial autonomy is achieved.

Annex III. Organizational chart

Soon after the entering into force of the Regulation, an Interim ED was appointed. The recruitment of the permanent ED was launched in 2022 and the first staff members were recruited in 2022. A large number of recruitments will continue over the course of 2023, and this process of recruitment will continue also in 2024.

Annex IV. Establishment plan and additional information on Human Resources management

The Staff Regulations and Conditions of Employment apply to the staff of the ECCC.

The first staff recruitments took place in 2022: two ECCC staff members started working in 2022 and over 20 other staff members are expected to join in 2023 following recruitment processes initiated in 2022.

During 2023 it is envisaged that the employees will started working at the ECCC headquarters in Bucharest, after temporary being hosted by the Commission Representation in Bucharest. Transitory measures are still in place for the time being. Further recruitments will continue in 2023.

Recruitment policy. All implementing rules required for recruitment are in place:

- Engagement of CAs, Model Decision C(2019)3016
- Engagement of TAs, Model Decision C(2015)1509

- Middle management staff, Model decision C(2018)2542
- Types of post, Model Decision C(2018)8800

Further HR related rules might be adopted by the GB.

As in 2022 the recruitment was initiated, focusing on operational tasks while many administrative and support tasks are covered by the Commission services, there is no complete information on posts.

Furthermore, the **job screening /benchmarking against previous years** will be initiated most likely in 2024, based on first analysis carried out in 2023 results.

Annex V. Human and financial resources by activity

Most of activities were carried out by the Commission services and reporting was done according to Commission's objectives and is not covered here.

Annex VI. Contribution, grant and service level agreements. Financial Framework Partnership Agreements

The ECCC does not receive any form of grant. The ECCC initiated in 2021 the process of concluding a number of SLAs and agreements that the ECCC has to undertake during the establishment phase in order to launch recruitments and reach operational autonomy. The preparatory work started in 2021 and has resulted to concrete agreements in the course of 2022²⁸.

Title	Type	Contractor	Status
Service Level Agreement (SLA) and Service Delivery Agreement with DG Budget Implementation and usage of ABAC System	SLA	EUROPEAN COMMISSION / DG BUDG	<i>Under preparation</i>
Global SLA with DIGIT	SLA	EUROPEAN COMMISSION / DIGIT	<i>Signed</i>
SLA with DG HR	SLA	EUROPEAN COMMISSION / DG HR	<i>Signed</i>
SLA with PMO	SLA	EUROPEAN COMMISSION / PMO	<i>Signed</i>
SLA with EPSO	SLA	EUROPEAN PERSONNEL SELECTION OFFICE (EPSO)	<i>Signed</i>
SLA with EU Agencies Network	SLA	EUROPEAN COMMISSION / SG AGENCES	<i>Signed</i>
SLA with ENISA	SLA	ENISA	<i>Signed</i>
SLA with CERT-EU	SLA	EUROPEAN COMMISSION/ DIGIT	<i>Under preparation</i>

Annex VII. Environment management

An approach to address the environmental impact of ECCC will be developed after the hosting building is selected.

The ECCC headquarters will be located in Bucharest. The initial procedure for the selection of the building which was launched in 2021 was inconclusive. The Romanian Government offered a new solution for the premises of the ECCC, which are expected to be available to serve the ECCC's needs in 2023. The process will follow the specific provisions regarding building projects as indicated in Article 266 of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the EU.

Annex VIII. (draft/final) Annual Accounts

The ECCC has been established in 2021 and is not financially autonomous yet. Until it reaches financial autonomy, the Commission is responsible for the initial operations of the ECCC.

²⁸ Status for January 2023.

Annex IX. List of Acronyms

ABAC	Accrual-based accounting
AD	Administrator
AST	Assistant
BOA	Back Office Arrangements
CA	Contract agent
CERT-EU	Computer Emergency Response Team for the EU institutions, bodies and agencies
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
CRA	Cyber Resilience Act
CSA	Cybersecurity Act
CSIRT	Computer Security Incident Response Team
CTI	Cyber Threat Intelligence
DEP	Digital Europe Programme
DPO	Data Protection Officer
EC	European Commission
ECA	European Court of Auditors
ECCC	European Cybersecurity Competence Centre
ECSO	European Cyber Security Organisation
ED	Executive Director
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EIB	European Investment Bank
ENISA	European Union Agency for Cybersecurity
EU	European Union
EUAN	EU Agencies Network
EU-LISA	European Union Agency for the Operational Management of Large-scale IT Systems in the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice
Europol	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation
FTE	Full-time equivalent
GB	Governing Board (of the ECCC)
HEP	Horizon Europe Programme
ICT	Information and communication technology
ISAC	Information Sharing and Analysis Centre
IT	Information technology
JCU	Joint Cyber Unit
JU	Joint Undertaking
MoU	Memorandum of understanding
MS	Member State(s)
NCCs	National Coordination Centres
NIS	Networks and information systems
NIS CG	NIS Cooperation Group
NLO	National Liaison Officers
SAG	Strategic Advisory Group
SC	Secretary
SLA	Service-level agreement
SMEs	Small and medium-sized enterprises
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SPD	Single Programming Document
TA	Temporary agent
TESTA	Trans European Services for Telematics between Administrations
TFEU	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union