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**Date:** 18 September 2006

**Subject:** Time criteria required to transfer from a Certificate Consuming Participant to a Certificate Authorising Participant

### Introduction

The Chair of the CCRA Executive Subcommittee was tasked at the ES meeting in April 2006 to develop a proposal that there should be a minimum time period between a country becoming a Certificate Consuming Participant before it can become a Certificate Authorising Participant. This proposal has been presented to the Management Committee for their consideration and endorsement.

### Rationale

The Shadow Certification process is used to determine that a Scheme applying for acceptance as a Certificate Authorising Participant has fulfilled the appropriate requirements defined in the CCRA and supporting documents. To be able to fulfil these requirements, the participant will need to have gained experience in setting up and operating a compliant evaluation and certification scheme as well as gaining knowledge of the operation of the Common Criteria mutual recognition arrangement.

It is the opinion of the Executive Subcommittee that to gain adequate and sufficient experience to fulfil these requirements that a nation must be a Certificate Consuming Participant for a minimum period of two years before that nation should be allowed to undergo a Shadow Certification and become a Certificate Authorising Participant.

The MC discussed the issue based on the considerations from the ES and endorsed the ES proposal.

### Decision

The MC has decided that a nation has to be member of the CCRA for a minimal period of two years as Certificate Consuming Participant before that nation can apply as Certificate Authorising Participant.