The MSB’s Information Security Council

The MSB’s task

The Swedish Civil Contingency Agency (MSB) shall support and coordinate societal information security work.

The MSB’s task is aimed at everything from other authorities and municipalities to the private sector and individual people. A great deal of the MSB’s work in this field deals with supporting preventive measures and promoting systematic long-term work with information security on all societal levels.

The MSB shall also analyse and assess global developments in this field. Conditions in the information security field that can give rise to a need for measures on different levels and within different areas of society, shall be reported to the government.

The work requires a high level of quality, which in turn must be based on a high level of competence and be conducted in dialogue with all of society’s competent bodies.

The MSB’s Information Security Council (ISC)

ISC is an advisory council with competent members representing considerable parts of public administration and the private sector, creating support and credibility for the MSB’s activities in the field of information security. The ISC was created in September 2009, the same year that the MSB itself was created.

ISC – purpose

ISC shall mainly assist the MSB with:

- Information about current trends in the field of information security
- Opinions on direction, priorities and execution of the MSB’s activities in the field of information security.
- Quality assurance and credibility regarding MSB’s work
- Contribution to the dissemination of information about MSB’s work regarding information security

ISC – members 2013

Jan-Olof Andersson, Swedish National Police Board
Annica Bergman, Swedish Post and Telecom Agency
Henrik Christiansson, Swedish Security Service
Jan Donnér, Swedish National Defence Radio Establishment
Magnus Ek, Vattenfall (utility)
Anne-Marie Eklund Löwinder, .SE (Internet Infrastructure Foundation)
Simone Fischer-Hübner, Karlstad University
Pia Gruvö, Swedish Armed Forces
Pär Gunnarsson, Ericsson
Pär Karlsson, Sweden’s central bank
Valter Lindström, Region Västra Götaland
Lars Nicander, Swedish National Defence College
Lotta Oscarsson, Swedish National Debt Office
Dag Ströman, Swedish Defence Materiel Administration
Marika Taavo, Scania AB

ISC’s chairman is the MSB’s Deputy Director General Nils Svartz.
ISC – prerequisites for work

- ISC meets four times per year; one of the meetings consists of a field trip, either in Sweden or abroad.
- The MSB governs how advisory work should be conducted in order to derive the best possible benefit of the total competence of ISC.
- The MSB is responsible for the necessary coordination and administration of ISC activities.
- Participation in ISC is detailed in a written agreement which also encompasses instructions for the divulging of information.

ISC – composition

Members should be established in their respective fields and their expertise should cover those parts of societal services that are vital for societal information security. An important criterion is that members are established as experts and have the ability to see issues from both national and international perspectives, and should also have a extensive network of contacts.

Representatives on ISC can’t always cover all societal sectors but ISC should continuously have tangible participation from the private sector.

Additionally:

- The number of members on ISC should be limited to 15 ordinary members – additional experts can be called to meetings as and when needed.
- Membership is for named individuals and not for members’ organisations (in other words, members participate as individuals and not as representatives of their respective organisations).
- Members are formally appointed for a year. However the MSB aims to create a long-term working relationship within the group.
- Replacements cannot be appointed to ISC meetings if ordinary members are prevented from attending.
- ISC should not include members who ordinarily work as consultants.