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Keio University

Six Universities from Japan, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom Conclude International Charter in a World's First “InterNational Cyber Security Center of Excellence (INCS-CoE)”

The International Cybersecurity Center of Excellence Charter Agreement was concluded between Keio University and five other institutions: Kyushu University (Japan); Northeastern University (US); the Baltimore County School at the University of Maryland (US); Imperial College London (UK); and Royal Holloway at the University of London (UK). This international charter, signed at the highest level by the presidents and principals of these six universities from Japan, the US, and the UK, is a world's first.

Through the conclusion of the first international charter of its kind by six Japanese, American, and British universities, the InterNational Cyber Security Center of Excellence (INCS-CoE) that is currently operated by twenty-five of the world's leading universities in Japan, the US, the UK, Israel, and Indonesia, will evolve into an even stronger international organization for greater development of the field of cybersecurity incorporating the perspectives of global industry, government, and academia.

The international charter was concluded by six institutions: Keio University (Japan); Kyushu University (Japan); Northeastern University (US); the Baltimore County School at the University of Maryland (US); Imperial College London (UK); and the Royal Holloway at the University of London (UK). The international charter signed at the highest level by the presidents and principals of these six universities from Japan, the US, and the UK is the first of its kind globally.

The establishment of INCS-CoE, which initially mobilized through the calls of Keio University, was announced at the 3rd International Cybersecurity Symposium hosted by Keio on November 1, 2016. At the time of its establishment, INCS-CoE began as a voluntary council body to attract the participation of many leading universities from around the world, but since then, interest in INCS-CoE has been increasing from government and business circles and not just universities.

This agreement further consolidates INCS-CoE as an international organization and the following outcomes are expected:

- (1) More effective utilization of the characteristics of INCS-CoE as an organization spanning international borders
- (2) Stronger participation in international research, policy formulation, and education
- (3) Greater promotion of collaboration between industry, government, and academia.

Additionally, future initiatives in the following three areas are proposed:

- (1) Trust services, global supply chains, Internet of Things (IoT) and operational technology (OT), etc., in research fields
- (2) Data Free Flow with Trust, information sharing, privacy, etc., in policy fields
- (3) Country to Country Capture the Flag events (C2C CTF), professional qualifications, and doctoral degree acquisition in educational fields

As corporate members, Hitachi, Ltd., NEC Corporation, Fujitsu Ltd., Cisco Systems, Inc., Adobe Systems Co., Ltd., and Northrop Grumman Corporation currently participate in INCS-CoE, and there is expectation for the promotion of initiatives toward industry-academia collaboration.

INCS-CoE will confront the threat posed by the international problem of cybersecurity as an organization with an unprecedented new framework, and will work to centralize the world-class knowhow of twenty-five of the world's top universities.

*We have sent this news release to the MEXT Press Club, Science Press Club, and the city news and science departments of other media outlets.

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