# ITI Policy Principles for Cybersecurity Certification

**Cybersecurity Certification is not a comprehensive solution.**

ITI recognizes and respects the governments have the right to propose certifications for cybersecurity. However, policymakers should be aware that certification assessment only reviews information about security at a specific point in time, and ever-evolving cybersecurity is a shared responsibility among vendors, consumers and all parties.

## If governments choose to adopt certification schemes...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Has the government leveraged the expertise of public and private stakeholders yet? (ex: organize public consultation and follow good regulatory practices)</td>
<td><strong>No</strong> Launch a public consultation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the scope clearly defined and approach risk-based? (ex: define scope, evaluate risks, and prioritize products/services that require high security assurance)</td>
<td><strong>Yes</strong> Revisit the consultation feedback to determine scope and risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are international standards and best practices referenced to avoid technical barriers to trade (TBT)? (ex: certification schemes should reference international standards as they are)</td>
<td><strong>No</strong> Adopt international standards as they are and discourage country-unique standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are alternatives to certification, including supplier’s declaration of conformity/vendor attestation included?</td>
<td><strong>Yes</strong> Place trust in supplier’s declaration of conformity/vendor attestation and first-party assessments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are alternatives to country-specific testing included, leveraging credible private-sector mutual/multilateral recognition schemes?</td>
<td><strong>No</strong> Accept testing results globally via credible mutual/multilateral recognition schemes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adopt fair enforcement</td>
<td><strong>No</strong> Harmonize regulatory enforcement and issue clear guidance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

ITI Promoting Innovation Worldwide: www.itic.org