

REPORT



6th Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia (7-9 September 1999)

Loon Hooi, APLMF Secretariat

The Sixth meeting of the Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum (APLMF) was held at the Hotel Putri Bali, Nusa Dua, in Bali (Indonesia) from 7-9 September 1999. Forum Working Groups on mutual acceptance arrangements, training, goods packed by measure, utility meters and rice moisture measurement were held prior to the Forum meetings.

The Forum meeting was hosted by the Indonesian Directorate of Metrology and chaired by Mr. Bambang Hadiwardjo, Deputy Director General for Accreditation and International Cooperation, National Standardization Agency of Indonesia - BSN.

The Forum and Working Group meetings were attended by over forty delegates and observers from Australia, Canada, People's Republic of China, Hong Kong China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russian Federation, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, USA and Vietnam. In addition Mr. Bernard Athané,

BIML Director and Dr. Knut Birkeland, CIML Immediate Past President, attended the Forum meetings.

Mr. Athané informed participants that the APLMF had been accepted as an associate member of the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML) and had been invited to attend the Tunis OIML Development Council and CIML meetings in October this year.

The Forum adopted a Memorandum of Understanding and fee structure for 2000 and the Foundation Convenor, Mr. John Birch, will continue as President of the Forum.

Mr. Hari Prawoko of the Directorate of Metrology, Indonesia, presented a paper on *Measuring Bulk Materials in Trade by Draft Survey, Problems and Implementation* and this stimulated a lively discussion on this important topic.

Prior to the Sixth Forum meeting a competency-based Train-the-trainer course on verification and in service inspection of nonautomatic weighing instruments



L to R: B. Hardiwardjo, National Standardization Agency, Indonesia – J. Birch, APLMF President – Dr. K. Birkeland, Consultant – R. Simanullang, Directorate Metrology, Indonesia – B. Athané, BIML Director – H. Ruba'i, Directorate Metrology

according to OIML R 76 was presented in Bandung from 23 August – 2 September by Mrs. Kerry Marston and Mr. David Larkin of Australia to twenty-three officials from Indonesia, Japan, Chinese Taipei and Vietnam; this course and proposed future courses on flow measurement were discussed at the Working Group meeting in Nusa Dua.

The Forum agreed that the Seventh Forum meeting would be hosted by Chinese Taipei in 2000.

Arising out of the discussion at the Working Groups and Forum meeting, the 1999–2000 Work Program below was adopted.

1999–2000 Work Program

- Establish a Working Group on Medical Measurements with a project on Sphygmomanometers (blood pressure meters).
- Monitor the need to translate measurement legislation into English for those economies where their legislation is currently not in English.
- Consider ways to involve consumers in Forum activities.
- Finalize and publish the resource document on modernization of legislative and administration systems.
- Finalize the reports of the intercomparisons on non-automatic weighing instruments and load cells.
- Commence the intercomparison on mass standards and master meters.
- APLMF to support the need to harmonize International Standards in relation to Goods Packed by Measure, including;
 - (a) standard sizes;
 - (b) permitted deficiencies due to dehydration; and
 - (c) drained weights.
- APLMF to provide input into the development of harmonized International Standards on Goods Packed by Measure to ensure the Asia-Pacific Region's views and requirements are fully considered by those developing such international standards.
- The survey on prepacked goods requirements in other regions to be continued.
- APLMF to continue to discuss with OIML the need for priority to be given to extending the OIML Recommendation on net contents to include metrological control of packing facilities involving quality systems, accreditation of test facilities, statistical sampling of output and certification by the legal metrology authority.
- APLMF to continue to discuss with OIML the development of an international system of marking of labeled measurement to facilitate international trade in prepacked goods (an extension of the European e-mark system).



Delegates attending the 6th Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum
J. Birch, APLMF President is pictured sixth from the left and B. Hardiwardjo, Chairman of Meeting, seventh from the left

- The secretariat to survey Member Economies to provide the contact details of the organization/s within each Member Economy who have responsibility for administration of their economy's legal provisions in relation to Goods Packed by Measure.
- Following the adoption by the CIML of a Recommendation on water meters (OIML R 49), survey the application of this Recommendation by Member Economies.
- Support OIML Technical Committees on:
 - (a) electricity meters; and
 - (b) statistical sampling.
- The Train-the-trainer modules for the pattern approval and for the verification and in-service inspection of nonautomatic weighing instruments to be promoted and presented as required.
- Train-the-trainer modules for the pattern approval and verification of petroleum and LPG dispensers to be developed and training courses presented before the end of 2000.
- A Regional Directory of Training and a regional network of trainers to be developed.
- Discussions to be held with the BIML on the development of an international legal metrology training network and international accreditation of legal metrology training courses.
- Consideration to be given to developing training courses on:
 - (a) standards laboratory officers' training;
 - (b) goods packed by measure;
 - (c) high capacity weighing and high capacity flow measurement as an extension of the introductory courses;
 - (d) compressed natural gas dispenser pattern approval and verification;
 - (e) vehicle speed measuring devices and evidential breath analysis devices;
 - (f) automotive emission measurements and other environmental measurements;
 - (g) measurement uncertainty in legal metrology; and
 - (h) application of accreditation and quality certification in legal metrology.
- Progress the Rice Moisture project by investigating the:
 - (a) variation in the measurement results using different instruments with the same sample. This is probably due to the lack of a program of pattern approval of the prototype, and then regular verification and in-service inspection of instruments used in the field to maintain an acceptable level of consistency;
 - (b) poor quality of the instruments being used and their inability to stay in calibration for a reasonable period of time. This is related to the lack of pattern approval;
 - (c) variation in the samples used. This could be due to the way in which the samples are taken from the bulk grain, how it is stored and handled after being taken;
 - (d) quality and consistency of the standard reference materials used in calibrating the moisture meters, and lack of traceability back to a national standard; and
 - (e) no metrological control system in place to control fraud and ensure the integrity and transparency of the measurements.
- Accept PTB's offer to pattern evaluate a number of rice moisture measuring instruments.
- Support the work of OIML TC 3/SC 5 *Conformity assessment* in developing a Mutual Acceptance Agreement on test reports.
- Survey action being taken by Member Economies to ensure compliance of production instruments with type.
- Establish a Working Group on application of weighing in bulk commodity shipping measurement in place of draft surveys.
- Establish a Working Group on Legislation and Administration to promote regional harmonization of legislation and administration and prepare an analysis of coordination structures in legal metrology.
- Develop a project on economic analysis of legal metrology with the aim of setting priorities based on economic and social impacts.
- Circulate information to Member Economies on Measurement Canada's Marketplace Intervention Model and New Zealand's economic analysis of trade measurement.

Forum contact information

J. Birch, APLMF President
National Standards Commission (NSC)
PO Box 282, North Ryde 1670, Australia

E-mail: jbirch@nsc.gov.au
Web site: <http://www.aplmf.org>

APLMF Training Activities in 1999 overleaf ►

APLMF Training Activities in 1999

During 1999, the second APLMF Train-the-trainer module covering the *Verification and In-service Inspection of Nonautomatic Weighing Instruments* based on OIML R 76 was completed. This module complements the first Train-the-trainer module on the *Pattern Approval of Nonautomatic Weighing Instruments* according to OIML R 76 completed in 1998. Each of these training modules consists of a procedure manual, trainer's manual, training video and student's workbook. The training videos are available in a number of different languages used within the Asia-Pacific region.

The first Train-the-trainer workshop for verification and in-service inspection was hosted by the Indonesian Directorate of Metrology in Bandung from 24 August to 1 September; twenty-one participants from Indonesia, Chinese Taipei, Japan and Vietnam attended. During the workshop each participant was given the opportunity to:

- practise and discuss the test procedures for verification and in-service inspection (see Fig. 1);
- practise and discuss suitable training techniques to be used when the participants conduct their own training courses;
- take part in the in-service inspection of a weighbridge using substitution materials (see Fig. 2); and
- visit the Directorate of Metrology's facilities in Bandung (see Fig. 3)

The APLMF was also invited to conduct a workshop for the US Weighing Industry, NIST, US State Weights and Measures Authorities and Measurement Canada on the OIML R 76 requirements for pattern approval. Some twenty participants took part in the workshop hosted by Measurement Canada in Ottawa from 6–8 October following a Weighing Sector meeting of NCWM.

Work has commenced on the development of the second series of Train-the-trainer modules, which will be based on OIML R 117 and R 118 for the pattern approval and verification of motor vehicle fuel dispensers including LPG. These modules will be developed by the NSC, Australia, in conjunction with Australian Trade Measurement Authorities. The first Train-the-trainer workshop will be jointly hosted by the China State Bureau of Quality and Technical Supervision and NSC in Shanghai, China in 2000. ■

For more details about the APLMF Training Program, contact:

Kerry Marston - Regional Training Coordinator - NSC - Australia - E-mail: kmarston@nsc.gov.au - Fax: +61 2 9888 3033



Fig. 1 Practising the test procedures to verify nonautomatic weighing instruments



Fig. 2 Using substitution materials during the in-service inspection of a weighbridge (factory visit)



Fig. 3 Visit to some of the facilities available at the Directorate of Metrology in Bandung