

REPORT OF THE FOURTH FORUM MEETING

1. Introduction and Opening Address by the Convenor, Mr John Birch A.M.

Mr John Birch, the Convenor of the Forum opened the meeting and extended a warm welcome to all delegates and observers to the fourth Forum meeting in Tsukuba.

He introduced the Chairman of the Forum meeting, Dr. Hidetaka Imai, the Director General of the National Research Laboratory of Metrology (NRLM), Japan. Dr. Imai graduated from Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology in 1967 and joined the NRLM in the same year. He was appointed Chief of the Material Measurement Section in 1984 and Director of Thermophysical Metrology Department in 1986. He also obtained his Ph. D. from Tokyo University in 1986.

In 1990, he was promoted to the post of Senior Officer of Research Planning, in 1992 the Director of Measurement System Department, and in 1997, he assumed the post of Director General of the NRLM. Dr. Imai is a specialist in the fields of measurement of mechanical and thermophysical properties of solid materials and uncertainty evaluation of measurement. At the international level, he represents Japan on the following international committees - CIML, CCU/CIPM, ISO/REMCO.

In his opening address, Mr Birch thanked Dr. Imai and the ATPC (APLMF Tsukuba Preparatory Committee) for their excellent organisation of the Forum meetings and workshops/seminars which had commenced on 22 September. He mentioned that although the acceptance for hosting the Forum was made by Dr. Kurita, the former Director General, Dr. Imai had shown a strong commitment to fulfilling the role of NRLM as host to the Forum meetings.

1.1 Welcome by the Chairman, Dr Hidetaka Imai

Dr Hidetaka Imai welcomed delegates and observers to Tsukuba, and was pleased to note that the Forum meeting was held immediately before the OIML meeting in Rio de Janeiro in October. He introduced Mr. K. Neda of the NRLM who would assist him in the conduct of the meeting. He introduced the agenda for the meeting which was accepted by delegates.

2. Attendance of members at the Forum meeting, and workshops/seminars.

2.1 Mr Birch informed delegates present that the Forum was well represented this year with a total of seventeen economies and more than fifty delegates and observers attending. The economies attending are:

Australia, Canada, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Japan, Rep. of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines,

Russia, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, United States of America and Vietnam.

He also welcomed M. B. Athane, the Director of BIML representing the International Organisation of Legal Metrology (OIML) to the Forum and thanked the technical experts and consultants who are making presentations at the workshops/seminars:

22-24 September - Workshop/Seminar on Introduction to High Capacity Flowmeters

- Mr Ian Hoerlein, Head, Trade Measurement, National Standards Commission, Australia and
- Mr George Smith, Electricity and Gas Specialist, Measurement Canada.

24-26 September - Workshop/Seminar on Legislation & Administration

- Mr John Birch A.M. Convenor APLMF and Executive Director, National Standards Commission, Australia
- Dr. Knut Birkeland, Former Director General, Norwegian Metrology Service and President of OIML (1980-1994)
- Mr Robert Bruce, Program Manager, Measurement Canada
- Mr J. Eguchi, Deputy Director, Weights & Measures Office, MITI, Japan
- Mr Richard Knapp, Former Director General, Legal Metrology Industry Canada.

1-3 October - Training Workshop on Implementation of OIML Recommendation 76 (non-automatic weighing instruments)

- Professor Shi Changyan, China State Bureau of Technical Supervision (CSBTS)
- Mr Keith Mann, National Standards Commission, Australia and
- Mrs Kerry Marston, consultant, National Standards Commission, Australia

He informed delegates that two representatives from Japanese overseas aid organisations have been invited to make presentations on 30th September, on Japan's policies on technical and financial assistance for legal metrology development in the region. They are Mr A. Hashimoto, the Managing Director, Tsukuba International Centre (TBIC), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Mr T. Numachi of the International Development Center of Japan (IDJC).

The list of delegates and observers to the Forum meeting is attached in Appendix 1.

2.2 The Forum also noted that apologies were received from the following:

- Mr Andrew C W Wong, Hong Kong, China,
- Mr G. J. Faber, President OIML Council,
- Prof. Dr. M. Kochsiek, Vice President OIML Presidential Council,
- Dr Seton J Bennett, Chairman of WELMEC (Western European Legal Metrology Cooperation),
- Mr B E Beard, Chairman SALMEC (South African Legal Metrology Co-operation),
- Mr Roberto Luiz De Lima Guimaraes, Interamerican Metrology System (SIM) and Director of Legal Metrology, INMETRO, Brazil,
- Mr John Gilmour, Chairman, Asia-Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC),
- Dr Barry Inglis, Regional Coordinator, Asia-Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP),
- Mr. John Hulbert, Chairman, Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (PAC),
- Mr Owen Archer, Chairman, Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC).

3. Confirmation of the Report of the third Forum meeting held in Vancouver, Canada, on 3 November 1996

The Report of the third Forum meeting had been circulated to all members at the end of 1996. The delegates confirmed and accepted the Report of the third Forum meeting.

4. Applications for membership.

Mr Birch informed delegates that:

- a. The Director, Bureau of Metrology (Mr Kim Kwang Ho), the State Commission of Science and Technology at Pyongyang, DPR of Korea had written to the Convenor in March 1997 requesting information on APLMF and entrance procedure.
- b. The Department of ASEAN Economic Cooperation, Lao PDR (Mr Khampho Khaykhamphithoune), had expressed interest in attending the Forum, but was unable to, due to funding difficulties.
- c. The Instituto Nacional de Defensa da la Competencia y de la Proteccion de la Propiedad Intellectual (INDECOPI), Peru, had expressed interest in the training courses.

This matter would be discussed later in Agenda No. 18.

5. Report of the APLMF by the Convenor, Mr John Birch A.M.

Mr Birch presented a report on the achievements and activities of the Forum during the past year. He reported that there had been significant development of the Forum since the Vancouver meeting in 1996, with the number and range of activities aimed at promoting regional cooperation and harmonisation in legal metrology having increased both at the international and regional levels.

The APLMF continued to support the APEC agenda at the APEC SCSC meetings in Canada, the ASEAN Standards & Quality Committee (ACCSQ) as well as the Indian Ocean group (IOR-ARC). This year has been particularly busy with the organisation of the three workshops/seminars in association with the Forum meeting, and he thanked the Chairman and the NRLM for their contribution and support in the organisation of the Forum meetings.

He also mentioned the progress of the intercomparison testing of non-automatic weighing instruments and that the load cell and mass standards testing would be implemented as soon as procedures are finalised by members.

The text of the report is attached as Appendix 2.

6. Report of the meeting of the Working Parties on Utility Meters, Pre-packed articles and Mutual recognition arrangements, held on 27 September 1997.

6.1 Report of the Working Group on Utility Meters

The Working Group meeting was chaired by Mr Rene Magnan, Program Advisor of Measurement Canada, Industry Canada.

The Forum considered and adopted the report of the Working Group and its recommendations with minor amendments, and adopted the following resolutions:

Resolution 1:

Member economies be asked to revise their contributions to the Survey of Utility meters including heat meters and the Survey Report be finalized and printed.

Resolution 2:

APLMF Working Group on Utility Meters urges the OIML Technical Sub-Committee on Water Meters to finalize the revision of the OIML International Recommendation on Water Meters as a matter of priority. Whilst the revision should take account of regional technical standards, the finalization of the OIML recommendations should not be substantially delayed by or defer to such regional standards.

Resolution 3:

APLMF Working Group on Utility Meters noted that gas meters are currently included in the OIML Certificate System and urges the CIML and the relevant OIML Technical Committees to give priority to the incorporation of other International Recommendations on utility meters (water, electricity) into the OIML Certificate System.

Resolution 4:

Member economies be asked for their views on the refurbishment or reconditioning of utility meters to their original condition and whether this is remanufacture and the relevance of these processes to international pattern approval of utility meters.

Resolution 5:

APLMF Working Group on Utility Meters requests CIML to develop international recommendations on statistical sampling plans, that may be applied when appropriate, for the verification and/or reverification of high volume measuring instruments such as utility meters, beverage measures and non-reusable thermometers.

Resolution 6:

APLMF requests the Secretariat to circulate information on the metrological control of telephone meters and consideration be given to a presentation on this issue at the next Forum meeting.

The text of the report is attached as Appendix 3.

6.2 Working Group on Goods Packed By Measure

The Working Group meeting was chaired by Mr John Barker, Senior Adviser Trade Measurement, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, New Zealand.

The Forum considered and adopted the report of the Working Group and its recommendations and adopted the following resolutions:

Resolution 7:

Noting that international trade in goods packed by measure would be facilitated by a system that certified packers on the basis of accreditation of quality principles, the APLMF and/or CIML was urged to develop a regional or international system with mutual recognition between economies.

Resolution 8:

The APLMF to request CIML to give consideration to including the accreditation of prepacked facilities in their program on accreditation in legal metrology.

Resolution 9:

The Secretariat to obtain information on the requirements for goods packed by measure on:

- *Allowance for loss due to dehydration;*
- *Standard package sizes; and*
- *Drained weight;*

in other economic areas to supplement the information in the Forum Survey.

The text of the report is attached as Appendix 4.

6.3 Working Group on Mutual Recognition Arrangements.

The Working Group meeting was chaired by the Convenor, Mr John Birch A.M.

The Forum noted:

- The requirement for establishing mutual recognition arrangements is one of the most fundamental aspects of defining the elements of the system particularly in view of the enormous volume of trade in the region, and that the development of mutual recognition arrangements in the APLMF would allow for further harmonisation in trade practices and cooperation among members.
- The system for mutual recognition of type approval developed by WELMEC and requested the Secretariat to circulate information on this to Forum members.

The Forum considered and adopted the report of the Working Group and its recommendations and adopted the following resolution:

Resolution 10:

Noting the elements of mutual recognition agreement on acceptance of pattern approval certificates and test reports, the APLMF to circulate the following list for consideration by member economies:

- *Testing is in accordance with OIML International Recommendations, or other international standards as appropriate;*
- *Mutual confidence has been established in testing capability, preferably supported by intercomparisons.*
- *Accreditation of test facilities by a recognized national accreditation organisation.*

The text of the report is attached as Appendix 5.

The list of delegates and observers to the three Working Groups meetings is attached in Appendix 5B.

7. Discussion of Regional Training Program including the Joint Australia-China Measurement Skills Training Project.

The report of the Joint Australia-China Measurement Skills project was jointly presented by Mrs K. Marston and Mr Dai Runsheng.

The Forum noted that the contribution by the following staff of the National Standards Commission, Mr Keith Mann, Mr Ian Hoerlein, Mr Chris Davis and Ms Marian Haire from Australia and Professor Shi Changyan, National Institute of Metrology (NIM); Mr Wang Zhenwen, Qingdao National Weighing Instrument Testing Centre; Mr Dai Runsheng, Office of OIML Matters, CSBTS and Mr Han Jianping, Chinese Secretariat for OIML in the development and presentation of the Train-the-trainer module for OIML R 76.

The Forum considered and adopted the report and the following resolutions:

Resolution 11:

The Forum support the development of a train-the-trainer course on the verification and reverification of non-automatic weighing instruments and the Secretariat be requested to investigate resources for such a program.

Resolution 12:

The Forum to investigate the possibility of organising a full Train-the-trainer course on Implementation of OIML R 76 course in Shanghai, China in July 1998, and the Secretariat be requested to investigate resources for funding such a program.

The text of the report is attached as Appendix 6.

8. Report on progress of the Forum Work Plan

8.1 Workshop/seminar on Introduction to High Capacity Flowmeters held on 22 - 24 September 1997.

The Convenor presented the report on behalf of Mr Ian Hoerlein. He highlighted the need for the development of a good metrological control system for flowmeters in view of the extensive trade measurement transactions in the area of petroleum and gas in the region.

The Forum acknowledged the contribution from the two experts who presented the workshop/seminar, Mr. Ian Hoerlein from National Standards Commission, Australia and Mr George Smith, the electricity and gas specialist,

from Measurement Canada. A total of twenty seven delegates and observers from thirteen economies participated in the workshop.

The Forum considered and adopted the report of the workshop and the following resolutions:

Resolution 13:

That the Forum would consider conducting another similar workshop/seminar on High Capacity Flowmeters for other members of the Forum.

Resolution 14:

That the Forum give consideration to organising a workshop on High Capacity Weighing in the next twelve months.

The report of the workshop/seminar is attached as Appendix 7.

8.2 Workshop/seminar on Legislation & Administration held on 24 - 26 September 1997

The report of the workshop/seminar on Legislation and Administration was presented by Dr K. Birkeland, Mr R. Knapp and Mr J Birch.

The Forum considered the report and Dr Sam Chappell congratulated the panel of experts on the conduct of the workshop which had addressed the important issues of legislation and administration in legal metrology. The Forum adopted the following resolution:

Resolution 15:

Arising out of the workshop/seminar, that a resource document on modernisation of legislative and administrative structures be prepared and circulated to member economies, to provide information and options for those economies considering changes to their system of legislation and administration as well as the other areas discussed during the workshop.

The report of the workshop/seminar is attached as Appendix 8.

8.3 Workshop/seminar on Implementation of OIML R 76 Non-automatic weighing instruments

The Convenor reported on the organisation of this workshop/seminar which will be held on 1-3 October.

The Forum expressed its appreciation to the two experts who will present this training course, Professor Shi Changyan from China State Bureau of Technical Supervision, CSBTS and Mr Keith Mann from the National Standards Commission, Australia.

A total number of twenty five delegates from fourteen economies will be participating in the training course.

The report of the workshop/seminar is attached as Appendix 9.

8.4 Report of the Intercomparison of Calibration and Pattern Approval Testing

8.4.1 Non-automatic Weighing Instruments.

The Forum noted that the two instruments had been despatched for intercomparison testing last year and that the results will be published at the end of the intercomparison when all the data has been collated and a report written.

The Forum considered and adopted the report of the Intercomparison of non-automatic weighing instruments.

The report of the intercomparison of non-automatic weighing instruments is attached in Appendix 10.

8.4.2 Load Cell Intercomparison Testing.

The Convenor reported on the meeting of the APLMF Working Group on Load Cells in London in July, in association with the OIML TC 9 meeting, which was held to discuss the revision of OIML R 60 - Load Cells. It was proposed that the intercomparison testing be organised by two reference laboratories in Australia and the USA.

The Forum considered and adopted the report of the load cell intercomparison testing and adopted the following resolution.

Resolution 16:

The Forum resolved that the intercomparison testing of load cells commence as soon as the procedures for the intercomparison are finalised in 1997.

The report of the intercomparison of load cells is attached in Appendix 11.

8.4.3 Mass Standards.

The Convenor reported that the Secretariat is clarifying with the APMP the scope of mass intercomparisons performed previously by APMP and would be commencing as soon as this issue has been clarified.

Resolution 17:

That the intercomparison of mass standards commence as soon as possible in 1997.

8.5 Development of programs in other areas of legal metrology eg. medical measuring instruments, environmental measurements, certified reference materials

8.5.1 Working Group on Medical Measurements - project on sphygmomanometers;

The Forum:

- Noted the information provided by Dr C Erlich on recent developments in standards for sphygmomanometers, particularly the revision of OIML R 16 to include electronic sphygmomanometers.
- Noted that as only Full members of OIML can participate in Technical Committees, most Forum members are excluded from participation.

The Forum adopted the following resolution.

Resolution 18:

A Working Group on Medical Measurements with a project on sphygmomanometers (blood pressure meters) be established. The Secretariat to circulate the scope, objectives of this WG and seek interest from members.

8.5.2 Working Group on Rice Moisture Meters

The Forum:

- Noted the project proposal for the development of standards and metrological control of rice moisture meters from Thailand, and the problems associated with their use in the field identified by the delegates from Thailand and Vietnam;
- Noted that the USA would participate in the WG and had identified experts in this area of work from NIST and NCWM;
- Noted that the Convenor has also had discussions with the rice authorities in Australia;

- Noted the information of M. B. Athane that OIML has prepared IR 59 - Moisture Meter for Cereals and that he will check with the TC Secretariat if this can be used for Rice.

The Forum adopted the following resolution.

Resolution 19:

A Working Group be established to study Rice Moisture Meters. The Secretariat to circulate the scope and objectives of this WG and seek interest from members.

9. Report of meetings between Specialist Regional Bodies (SRBs) (APLAC, APLMF, APMP, PAC, PASC) and APEC Standards and Conformance Sub-Committee:

Victoria, Canada	-	February 1997
Quebec City, Canada	-	May 1997
St. John's, Canada	-	August 1997

The Forum noted the report of the Convenor on the APEC SCSC meetings and adopted the following resolution.

Resolution 20:

That the Secretariat would circulate an updated list of the APEC SCSC representatives in the respective member economies, in order that they may contact them on relevant legal metrology matters.

10. Report on the Round Table discussion (APEC SCSC and SRB's) on Mutual Recognition and Standards and Regulation held in St. John's, Canada in August 1997

The Forum noted the report of the APEC Round Table on Standards and Conformance and in particular the recommendations on mutual recognition.

The report is attached in Appendix 12.

11. Discussion on APEC Standards and Conformance issues.

The Forum noted that many of the issues on standards and conformance had been discussed under Agenda Nos. 9 and 10.

12. Discussion on OIML issues.

The Forum noted the information provided by M. B. Athane on:

- The CIML meeting in Rio de Janeiro in October, in association with a seminar on metrology development, in which a number of regional and international organisations will be represented including a presentation by the Convenor of APLMF, WELMEC, NORAMET and others;
- The seminar on “The role of metrology in economic and social development” organised by OIML, Treaty of Metre and IMEKO to be held in June 1998 in Germany;
- The OIML had developed a web site and APLMF members are encouraged to make use of it; (Address is: <http://www.oiml.org>)
- Liaison and discussion with the World Trade Organisation (WTO) regarding harmonisation of metrological requirements and to ensure that ISO standards and OIML recommendations do not pose additional barriers to trade;
- Discussions between the Metre Convention and OIML on closer cooperation following the decision by the Treaty of the Metre not to pursue merger;
- That a seminar would be organised by the International Measurement Confederation (IMEKO) on the occasion of the 15th World Congress in Osaka in June 1999, for which Dr Imai is the Vice-Chairman of the Steering Committee.

The Forum supported M. Athane in his discussions with the WTO and adopted the following resolution.

Resolution 21:

That the Secretariat liaise with OIML in making submission to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) on harmonisation of metrological regulations.

The Forum also noted the following OIML documents circulated by the Secretariat at the meeting, arising out of the discussion of the above issues:

- Results of the enquiry on the needs of developing countries, dated 1997.06.16;
- Supplementary responses to OIML enquiry on the needs of developing countries, dated 1997.08.21;
- Preliminary results of the questionnaire concerning the implementation and the promotion of the OIML Certificate System, dated 1997.03.03; and
- OIML Member States participating in the OIML Development Council, dated 1997.06.24.

The Forum adopted the following resolution.

Resolution 22:

That the Forum establish a program on analysing the economic impact of legal metrology within member economies and the region.

13. Discussion on other regional legal metrology organisations.

The Forum noted discussions on the following organisations.

- ACCSQ - CER (ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards & Quality - Closer Economic Relations)

The Forum noted the report and the recommendations of the ACCSQ Workshop on Legal Metrology which was held in July 1997 in Indonesia, presented by the Convenor.

- SALMEC - South African Development Community (SADC) Legal Metrology Co-operation

The Forum noted that the Convenor of SALMEC, Mr Beard, wished to cooperate with APLMF.

- System Metrology Interamerica (SIM)

The Forum noted that the Convenor Mr Birch will be making a presentation on APLMF to the SIM conference in October.

- WELMEC (European cooperation in legal metrology)

Contact had been maintained throughout the year with WELMEC and information exchanged. APLMF has been made a corresponding member of WELMEC and the Convenor has been invited to attend future meetings.

14. Discussion on bilateral and multilateral assistance for development of legal metrology in the region.

The Forum acknowledged the presentations of the two invited speakers, Mr A. Hashimoto, the Managing Director from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Mr T. Numachi of the International Development Center of Japan (IDJC), on 30 September.

These two speakers provided invaluable information on the availability of Japanese overseas aid to a wide range of fields and members of the Forum were encouraged to take the opportunity to assess their projects' suitability to these funds for the development of legal metrology in their economies.

15. Discussion on Work Program for 1997/98 and Working Party meetings.

- 15.1 Review of Work Programs adopted in 1996/97
- 15.2 Training projects in 1998.
- 15.3 Development of legislative, technical and administrative structures
- 15.4 Surveys
- 15.5 Intercomparisons

The Forum noted that many of the projects outlined in the Work Program for 1996/97 had been implemented. With regard to those projects which have yet to commence, it was proposed that they be included in the work program for 1997/98.

The Forum considered and adopted the following work program for 1997/98:

WORK PROGRAM 1997/1998

- Publication in 1997 of a *Handbook of Legal Metrology in the Asia-Pacific.*, to include the second edition of the Directory of Legal Metrology in the Asia-Pacific.
- Information on specialised testing facilities be included in a *Directory of Specialised Testing Facilities* to be published by the APLMF, or that information could be included in the *1997 Handbook*.
- A Working Group be established to study Rice Moisture Meters. The Secretariat to circulate the scope and objectives of this WG and seek interest from members.
- A Working Group on Medical Measurements with a project on sphygmomanometers (blood pressure meters). The Secretariat to circulate the scope, objectives of this WG and seek interest from members.
- That translation of the legislation into English for those economies where their legislation is currently not in English, be pursued.
- A Survey be conducted to determine the extent of involvement of consumers with the Forum and to determine ways in which they can participate in Forum activities.
- The Intercomparison on Load cells and Mass to commence in 1997.
- Organise a Train-the-Trainer Workshop on Implementation of R 76 in Shanghai in July 1998.
- Translation of the R 76 video into languages other than English (Indonesian, Spanish, French and others).

- Development of a Train-the-Trainer course on Verification and Reverification of Non-automatic Weighing Instruments.
- Extend the survey on Goods Packed by Measure by obtaining information from other economic areas.
- Contact CIML on the establishment of an international system of certification of packers of goods packed by measure and accreditation applied to such certification.
- Finalization and publication of resource document on modernisation of legislative and administrative systems.
- Revision of Survey on Utility Meters to include heat meters.
- Survey on refurbishment/reconditioning of utility meters.
- Approach CIML to give high priority to utility meter recommendations and their incorporation in the OIML Certificate System.
- Approach CIML to develop International Recommendations on statistical sampling plans.
- Secretariat to circulate information on metrological control of telephone meters and consideration be given to a presentation on this issue at the Forum meeting in 1998.
- Development of a workshop/seminar on Introduction to High Capacity Weighing for presentation in 1998.
- Secretariat to circulate proposed elements on mutual recognition agreements together with outcomes of APEC SCSC Round Table on Mutual Recognition and WELMEC Type Approval Agreement.
- Facilitate access of members to APLMF internet web site (APLMF web site address: <http://www.aplmf.org>)
- Establish a program on analysing the economic impact of legal metrology within member economies and the region.
- Secretariat to notify all members of their APEC SCSC representative and provide information on APEC issues relevant to legal metrology.

- Secretariat to liaise with OIML in making submission to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) on harmonisation of metrological regulations.
- Secretariat to facilitate the entry of OIML and other regional legal metrology organisations as Corresponding Members of APLMF.
- Organise and hold the Fifth APLMF meeting in Seoul, Republic of Korea in association with the CIML meeting, in October/November 1998.

16. Consideration of a “Memorandum of Understanding” for members of the Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum.

The Forum:

- Noted that discussion of the first draft of the MoU was introduced at the Vancouver meeting. Since then, a second draft has been circulated to all members for comments in November 1996. A third draft-August 1997 has been included for discussion at this meeting. A section on “*Scope and functions of the Executive Committee*” has been included in this third draft (see item 17.1);
- Noted that the MoU is a non-binding, voluntary document to guide the operation and functioning of the APLMF;
- Urged members to consult with their respective authorities on the content of the MoU.

Members of the Forum were requested for their views on the MoU, and the following position was recorded:

Australia	Mr John Birch	support for MoU
Canada	Mr Alan Johnston	support in principle, would provide changes in wording
China	Mr Dai Runsheng	support in principle, provide comments later
Indonesia	Mr Rasben Simanullang	support
Japan	Mr J Eguichi	provide comments later
Korea	Mr SJ Shin	support
Malaysia	Mr Ong Chin Giap	support
Mongolia	Mr Z. Ganbold	provide comments later
New Zealand	Mr John Barker	support in principle
Papua New Guinea	Mr S Sari	provide comments later
Philippines	Mr R B Dacuyan	support, but would need further consultation
Russia	Dr A Astashenkev	support

Chinese Taipei	Mr Hsing-Ming Lin	support, comments later
Thailand	Mr Suprecha Pangspa	support
USA	Dr Sam Chappell	defer comments.

The Forum considered the draft MoU and adopted the following resolution.

Resolution 23:

That members provide any comments on the MoU to the Secretariat by 31 March 1998. The Secretariat would then finalise the MoU and circulate the document for members' final consideration in order that the document would be ready for signing by members at the next Forum meeting.

17. Discussion of the formation of an APLMF Executive Committee to facilitate the smooth functioning of Forum programs and activities.

17.1 Scope and functions of the Executive Committee.

The Forum agreed to the proposals by the Convenor on the establishment of an interim Executive Committee and supported the appointments of the following members:

Measurement Canada - Canada;
NRLM - Japan;
SIRIM - Malaysia.

The Convenor and the Secretary to the APLMF are the other members of the interim Executive Committee.

It was proposed that correspondence among members of the interim Executive Committee would be primarily by e-mail in view of travel funding difficulties. This would also provide experience on how the Executive Committee would function before the signing of the MoU.

18. Discussion on membership of APLMF - Proposal for the inclusion of membership from other economies.

As discussed earlier under Agenda No. 3, the following economies had expressed an interest in the Forum:

- a. DPR of Korea - Director, Bureau of Metrology, Mr Kim Kwang Ho, the State Commission of Science and Technology at Pyongyang;
- b. Lao PDR - Department of ASEAN Economic Cooperation, Mr Khampho Khaykhamphithoune; and

- c. Peru - the Instituto Nacional de Defensa da la Competencia y de la Proteccion de la Propiedad Intelectual (INDECOPI).

The Forum adopted the following resolution:

Resolution 24:

That APLMF would invite the following legal metrology authorities to join the Forum. The economies are:

DPR Korea, the State Commission of Science and Technology;

Laos PDR, the Department of ASEAN Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Commerce; and

Peru, the Instituto Nacional de Defensa da la Competencia y de la Proteccion de la Propiedad Intelectual (INDECOPI).

19. Date and location of next Forum meeting in 1998.

The Forum noted that the next CIML meeting would be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea at the end of October 1998, and it was proposed that the fifth Forum meeting be held in association with the CIML meeting sometime in October/November 1998.

Mr SJ Shin from the Republic of Korea endorsed the hosting of both the CIML meeting and the fifth APLMF meeting in Korea in 1998.

20. Any other matters

The Chairman, Dr Imai thanked the Convenor and delegates to the Forum for their contribution to the discussions of the meeting.

Mr Birch thanked the Chairman for chairing the meeting during the past two days and the staff of the NRLM for the very excellent organisation of the Forum, Working Group meetings, workshops/seminars.

The meeting concluded with Dr K Birkeland, on behalf of the delegates, extending his appreciation to the Convenor and the Secretary for the significant progress achieved during the Forum.

Ref: Tsukuba Forum -97