

Inaugural Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum

Sydney 27-30 November 1994

Program

Sunday 27 November 1994 - Welcoming Reception,

Chinese Gardens, Darling Harbour, Sydney

Welcoming Address by Senator the Honourable Chris Schacht,

Minister for Small Business, Customs & Construction.

Monday, 28 November 1994 - Wednesday, 30 November 1994

Forum Meeting, Sheraton Wentworth Hotel, Sydney

Agenda

1. Welcome by Chairman Professor H J Goldsmid
2. Introduction of each of the delegations
3. International Organisation of Legal Metrology,
Presentation by M Bernard Athane, Director, International Bureau
of Legal Metrology
4. Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Directory
5. Report on APEC Standards and Conformance Working Groups

- Mr V Zilinskas, Department of Industry, Science & Technology

6. Legislative basis of legal metrology
7. The scope of legal metrology
8. Institutional structure of legal metrology and relationship to other components of the technical infrastructure
9. Presentation on other Asia-Pacific Metrology Organisations
 - 9.1 Asia-Pacific Metrology Program (APMP)
Dr B Inglis - Convenor, APMP
 - 9.2 Asia-Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC)
Ann Margaret Gilmour - Secretary, APLAC
10. Traceability to national primary standards of legal measurement and testing
 - 10.1 Bilateral and multilateral agreements on equivalence of national primary standards
11. Testing Facilities in the region and access by other countries
 - 11.1 Accreditation of test facilities
12. OIML International Certificate System
 - 12.1 Acceptance of OIML Certificates
13. Mutual recognition of pattern approvals of trade measurement and legal measurement instruments
 - 13.1 USA - Canada Mutual Recognition Agreement
 - 13.2 Intercomparisons of pattern approval tests
14. Training of legal metrology staff and access to overseas training
15. Bilateral and multilateral development assistance for legal metrology
 - 15.1 Presentation by Australian International Development Assistance Bureau - Noreen Redhead (East Asia Branch, AIDAB)

16. Requirements for pre-packed articles
17. Application of quality principles to legal metrology
18. Role of Government in legal metrology and scope and criteria for privatization
19. Objectives and Terms of Reference for the Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum
 - 19.1 Membership
 - 19.2 Objectives
 - 19.3 Terms of Reference
 - 19.4 Program 1995-1998
 - 19.5 Convenor and Secretariat
 - 19.6 Future Meetings

Appendices

- Appendix 1 - List of delegates, international and regional organisations and observers to the Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum
- Appendix 2 - Welcoming Address by Senator the Honourable Chris Schacht, Minister for Small Business, Customs and Construction
- Appendix 3 - Opening Address by Professor H J Goldsmid, Chairman of the Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum
- Appendix 4 - Outcomes of the APEC Informal Standards and Conformance Meeting in Jakarta on 4 November 1994, by Vincent Zilinskas, Department of Industry, Science and Technology
- Appendix 5 - The International Organisation of Legal Metrology (OIML) and its Certificate System, by M B. Athane, Director, International Bureau of Legal Metrology
- Appendix 6 - List of documents distributed at the Forum

Sunday, 27 November 1994

Reception for delegates at the Chinese Gardens, Darling Harbour

The reception held on Sunday, 27 November 1994, was attended by delegates from fourteen Asia-Pacific countries and observers from six South West Pacific countries, international and regional organisations, accompanying partners and guests.

The list of delegates and observers is attached in Appendix 1.

The Welcoming Address was given by Senator, the Honourable Chris Schacht, Minister for Small Business, Customs and Construction.

He highlighted that the Forum would make a valuable contribution to areas of regional cooperation, harmonization of metrological requirements and mutual recognition of tests and certification.

The Welcoming Address by Senator the Honourable Chris Schacht is attached in Appendix 2.

Monday 28 November 1994 - Wednesday 30 November 1994

Agenda Item No. 1 - Welcome by Chairman, Professor H J Goldsmid

The inaugural Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum was convened by the Australian National Standards Commission at the Sheraton Wentworth Hotel in Sydney. Professor H J Goldsmid, Chairman of the National Standards Commission and Emeritus Professor of Experimental Physics, University of New South Wales chaired the Forum and welcomed delegates.

The Forum was attended by delegates from legal metrology authorities of Australia, Canada, People's Republic of China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand and the United States of America.

The Forum:

- Agreed that Professor H J Goldsmid, Chairman of the National Standards Commission, be Chairman of the inaugural Forum meetings.
- Noted the opening address by the Forum Chairman Professor H J Goldsmid (Appendix 3).
- Expressed its thanks to Senator the Honourable Chris Schacht, Minister for Small Business, Customs and Construction for his welcoming address to delegates.

- Welcomed to the meeting observers from Cook Islands, Fiji, Western Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu.
- Welcomed to the meeting observers from the:
 - International Organisation of Legal Metrology, (OIML),
 - Asia-Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation, (APLAC), and
 - Asia-Pacific Metrology Program (APMP).
- Noted apologies from the legal metrology authorities of Hong Kong and Mexico.

Agenda Item No. 2 - Introduction of each of the delegations

The delegates introduced themselves at the Forum.

Agenda Item No. 3 - International Organisation of Legal Metrology, Presentation by M. B Athane, Director, International Bureau of Legal Metrology

M Bernard Athane, Director of the International Bureau of Legal Metrology (BIML) based in Paris described the development of legal metrology and the International Convention establishing the International Organisation of Legal Metrology.

In response to the expanding scope of legal metrology the Bureau has developed the following new draft definition of legal metrology:

“Legal metrology may be defined as the entirety of the legislative, administrative and technical procedures established by, or by reference to, public authorities and implemented on their behalf in order to specify and to ensure, in a regulatory or contractual manner, an appropriate quality and credibility of measurements related to official controls, trade, health, safety and environment. Legal metrology is applied in fields where conflicting interests may exist in measurement results, or where incorrect results may adversely affect individuals or the society.”

M Athane reported on the work of the OIML Development Council and the Conference on Metrology and Development being organised by OIML in Beijing in September 1995 in association with the meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology.

M Athane also reported on the Tenth Conference of Legal Metrology to be held in Vancouver Canada, in November 1996.

The Forum affirmed its commitment to cooperate with OIML and promote the use and acceptance of OIML International Recommendations and the OIML Certification Scheme.

The full text of M Bernard Athane's presentation is in Appendix 4.

Agenda Item No. 4 - Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Directory

The draft Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Directory had been circulated before the Forum. Each delegation was given the opportunity to speak on their entry and provide clarification on their Directory entry.

The Forum:

- Noted the progress in development of the Directory of Legal Metrology in the Asia-Pacific.
- Requested all authorities to finalise their entries to the Directory by 31 January 1995 with the aim of publishing the first edition of the Directory in February/March 1995.
- Requested the National Standards Commission who are developing the Directory to include in the publication a report and selected papers from the first Forum meeting.

Agenda Item No. 5 - Report on APEC Standards and Conformance Working Groups - Mr V Zilinskas, Department of Industry, Science & Technology

The reports by the APEC Standards and Conformance Group to the APEC meetings in Indonesia in November had been circulated to all delegations. Mr Zilinskas reported on the recommendations of the APEC meetings in Indonesia in November 1994 on standards and conformance.

The full text of the report is in Appendix 5.

Agenda Item No. 6 - Legislative basis of legal metrology

The Forum noted the importance of the legislative prescription of units and standards of measurement in establishing the basis for legal traceability of measurements.

It was recognised that mutual recognition agreements on measurement and testing would need to be harmonised with legislative requirements, and international treaty commitments.

There was discussion on establishing a Forum working party to identify the need for legislative harmonization.

Agenda Item No. 7 -The scope of legal metrology