
MEDEA: “Metrology – Enabling Developing Economies in Asia” Small Training Course for APLMF Working Group on Quality Measurement of Agricultural Products (QMAP)

3-6 July 2018 at CBWM, Nonthaburi, Thailand

Introduction:

Grain moisture is an important area of measurement in legal metrology that is closely related to our confidence in international trade, fair trade in transactions in each economy and quality of life. To improve skills in this field of measurement within the region, the APLMF Working Group (WG) on Quality Measurement of Agricultural Products (QMAP) was established in 1997. This WG conducted 12 training courses and workshops in the period from 2001 to 2017. In addition, this WG provided liaison activities between OIML TC 17/SC 1 (humidity) and TC 17/SC 8 (instruments for quality analysis of agricultural products). In 2017, the WG provided an APLMF Guide Document on Rice Moisture Measurement on the APLMF website.

At 24th APLMF Forum Meeting in October 2017, the chair of this WG was transferred from Dr. Tsuyoshi Matsumoto (National Metrology Institute of Japan) to Mr. Surachai Sungzikaw (Central Bureau of Weights & Measures, Thailand). At the same time, Mrs. Haslina bte Abdul Kadir (National Metrology Institute of Malaysia) was assigned to the co-chair of WG. This small training course was proposed to assist the transition process of the WG to the next generation.

Objectives:

This training course aims to provide an opportunity for the former chair to transfer his knowledge and experience to the new chair and co-chair. In addition, APLMF President, Mr. Stephen O’Brien (MBIE, New Zealand) proposes a scheme in which APLMF WGs be maintained with representation from several member economies. This training course will trial the new scheme where a WG consists of several experts from the region. The main objectives of this small training course are:

1. Understand the roles and responsibilities of WG and find methods how to carry them out practically.
2. Increase managerial skills of WG and develop projects including training.
3. Increase the knowledge and skills of the WG members up to higher levels regarding quality measurement of agricultural products including grain moisture.
4. Identify the roles and future priorities for the WG.

To achieve the above objectives, the role and content of this training course will be different from those of a conventional MEDEA training course in legal metrology. Although the content will still be composed of lectures and practical components, they will target experts at a higher level who will support the work of the WG. Although this WG targets a wide range of agricultural products, rice is selected as the primary sample due to the practical experiences in Japan and Thailand.

Expected Participants

Although there is no explicit limitation to the capacity, the organizers expect ten participants will attend at a maximum. After this training course, the participants are expected to support this WG as new WG members.

Applicants should have a minimum of two years of practical experience in quality measurement of agricultural products in an APLMF member economy.

It is expected that the applicants are officers and technical experts working in national/regional authorities or research institutes in metrology, who are involved in quality measurement of agricultural products. Applicants, who are responsible for a capacity building program in each economy, are particularly welcome. Participants of APLMF training courses on rice moisture or workshops on agricultural measurement in the past are also encouraged to apply.

Organizers:

1. Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum (APLMF)
2. Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB)

Supporting Organizations:

1. Central Bureau of Weights & Measures (CBWM), Department of Internal Trade (DIT), Ministry of Commerce (Thailand)
2. National Metrology Institute of Malaysia (NMIM), SIRIM Berhad
3. National Metrology Institute of Japan (NMIJ), AIST
4. Kett Electric Laboratory Co. Ltd. (Japan)

Organizers and Trainers:

1. Mr. Surachai Sungzikaw, CBWM, Thailand / WG Chair.
2. Mrs. Haslina bte Abdul Kadir, NMIM, Malaysia / WG Co-Chair.
3. Dr. Tsuyoshi Matsumoto, NMIJ, Japan / former WG Chair
4. Mr. Norihiro Yoshida, Kett Electric Laboratory

Venue and Accommodation

- Accommodation for overseas participants will be organised in the Richmond Stylish Convention Hotel, Nonthaburi. The hotel will be booked and paid directly by PTB.
- To access the venue, you will need to take the airport limousine to transfer to the hotel. The cost of the transfer will be covered by PTB. If you need a visa to enter Thailand, fill the attached “**Visa Assistance Form**” and send it to the **host in Thailand by 15 May, 2018.**

- This training course will take place at Central Bureau of Weights and Measures (CBWM).

PTB Support:

One participant from each developing economy in Asia will receive an economy return flight ticket, free accommodation, free airport transfer and a daily allowance. Participants from economies classified as developing countries under the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate (ODCD-DAC)¹ are eligible

Flight tickets will be booked by PTB please contact Ms. Anne Hoepfner. The hotel will be paid directly by PTB.

Seminar with Presentation from each Economy:

In the seminar on the first day, each **participant** will be requested to provide a **brief presentation** (15 minutes) about the traceability and legal metrology systems on quality measurement of agricultural products in their economy. Each participant may select one or more target quality(ies) of interest. This seminar intends to share experiences and current situations, including advanced systems and/or obstacles, in the participating economies. Active participation of all participants in the discussions is strongly encouraged. The organizers expect this seminar would help this WG to identify its roles and future priorities.

Registration:

Please complete the attached "**Nomination Form**" and send it to the APLMF Secretariat and Ms. Anna Hoepfner by **15 May, 2018**.

Currency and Credit Cards:

The official currency is Baht (THB). Most credit cards (Visa, Master Card, etc.) are accepted in hotels and big department stores. The exchange rate for 1 USD is around 32 Thai Baht.

Climate:

The average temperature range is about 24-33°C in July in Bangkok.

Electricity Supply:

Voltage of power supply is 220 volts AC with 50 Hz. The power plugs used in Thailand are A, B and C.

¹ see <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclistofodarecipients.htm>



Plug and socket of Type A, B and C

Local Time:

UTC +7 without summer time

Contact Persons:

• **APLMF Secretariat**

C/- Trading Standards

Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE)

PO Box 1473, Wellington 6140, New Zealand

Telephone: 0064-4-4601367

Ms. Alli Smith

E-mail: secretariat@aplmf.org

• **PTB Contact Person:**

Ms. Anne Hoepfner (**Registration, Flights, Hotel Reservations**)

Bundesallee 100, 38116 Braunschweig, Germany

Tel: +49 531 592 8218

E-mail: Anne.Hoepfner@ptb.de

• **Host in Thailand (visa assistance, venue and accommodation)**

Mrs. Benjamas Winya

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Small Training Course for APLMF QMAP WG in Thailand in 2018

2 July (Mon)	Afternoon	<i>Meeting at CBWM to prepare for training (if necessary, attended by Surachai, Matsumoto, Haslina and Yoshida)</i>
Day 1 3 July (Tue) CBWM	8:30	<i>Leave the hotel by bus provided by the host.</i>
	9:00-9:30	Opening ceremony (host, APLMF and WG) / Group photo
	9:30-10:00	<i>Coffee / tea break</i>
	10:00-11:00	Important roles of the WG on QMAP with a review of its activities in the 18 years (Matsumoto)
	11:00-12:30	Seminar on traceability and metrological control systems on the quality measurements of agricultural products (Chairs: Surachai, Haslina & Matsumoto)
	12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
	13:30-15:00	(Continue the seminar)
	15:00-15:30	<i>Coffee / tea break</i>
	15:30-17:00	(Continue the seminar)
	18:30-20:30	<i>Welcome dinner sponsored by the Department of Internal Trade</i>
Day 2 4 July (Wed) CBWM	8:30	<i>Leave the hotel by bus provided by the host.</i>
	9:00-10:30	Grain moisture 1: Lecture on reference methods using ISO 712 and other internationally-accepted methods (Matsumoto & Yoshida).
	10:30-11:00	<i>Coffee / tea break</i>
	11:00-12:30	Grain moisture 2: Lecture with demonstration for checking moisture meters and calibrating primary / working standards (Yoshida)
	12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
	13:30-15:30	Grain moisture 3: Lecture with demonstration for providing reference samples and adjusting their moisture contents (Yoshida)
	15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee / tea break</i>
	16:00-17:00	Grain moisture 4: Lecture with discussion on traceability and uncertainty in grain moisture measurement (Matsumoto)
	17:30	<i>Return to the hotel by bus.</i>
Day 3 5 July (Thu) CBWM	8:30	<i>Leave the hotel by bus.</i>
	9:00-10:00	Lecture with demonstration for controlling the quality of rice including whiteness, appearance, etc. (Yoshida)
	10:00-10:30	<i>Coffee / tea break</i>
	10:30-12:30	Lecture with discussion on quality measurement of agricultural products other than rice (corn, coffee, oil seeds....) and other than grain moisture (Surachai, Haslina & Yoshida)
	12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
	13:30-15:00	Discussion on future direction and plans of WG-1 (Surachai, Haslina & Matsumoto)
	15:00-15:30	<i>Coffee / tea break</i>
	15:30-17:00	(Continue the discussion)
	18:30-20:30	<i>Farewell dinner hosted by PTB</i>
Day 4 6 July (Fri) CBWM	8:30	<i>Leave the hotel by bus.</i>
	9:00-10:00	Discussion on future direction and plans of WG-2
	10:00-10:30	<i>Coffee / tea break</i>
	10:30-12:00	Discussion on future direction and plans of WG-3
	12:10-12:30	<i>Closing ceremony (chairs: Surachai and host)</i>
	12:30-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
	14:00	<i>Cultural Tour to Koh Kret</i>
	17:00	<i>Back to hotel by bus</i>