



ASIA-PACIFIC
LEGAL METROLOGY FORUM

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Economy Report

Philippines

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SECTION 1 – Organisation and structure for metrology

Legislative Frameworks

Type	Title	Description
national law	Republic Act 9236 – The National Metrology Act of 2003 (Primary Legislation)	An act establishing a national measurement infrastructure system for standards and measurements, and for other purposes
national law	Republic Act 7394 – The Consumer Act of the Philippines	An act to protect the interest of the consumer, promote his general welfare and to establish standards of conduct for business and industry
by-law	Department of Energy (DOE) Department Circular No. DC 2003-11-010	Providing for the rules and regulations governing the business of retailing liquid petroleum products
by-law	Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) Memorandum Circular No. 2011-02	Implementing guidelines for calibration and sealing/ resealing of taxi meters for 2011 Fare Adjustment
by-law	Manila Waterworks and Sewerage Systems (MWSS) RO-OPP 052-01	Policy on Water Meters
by-law	Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) Resolution No. 12 Series of 2009	Rules and procedures for the test and maintenance of electric meters of distribution utilities

Organisation Structures

ORGANISATION	Industrial Technology Development Institute	National Metrology Board
BUSINESS UNIT	National Metrology Laboratory of the Philippines	Industrial Technology Development Institute (Secretariat)
SPECIALTY	Scientific Metrology	Legal Metrology
HEAD	Ms. Aurora V. Kimura	Dr. Fortunato de la Peña Dr. Maria Patricia V. Azanza (Secretariat)
LOCATION	DOST Compound, Gen. Santos Avenue Bicutan, Taguig City Metro Manila 1631 Philippines	DOST Compound, Gen. Santos Avenue Bicutan, Taguig City Metro Manila 1631 Philippines

- Republic Act 9236, otherwise known as “The National Metrology Act of 2003” established a National Measurement Infrastructure System (NMIS) and created the National Metrology Board (NMB).
- The NMB is a policy making and implementing body and in the exercise of its functions, duties and responsibilities, has the power to delegate the authority to concerned entities as deputized entities to implement the provisions of the Act.
- The NMB has the following duties and responsibilities:
 - To ensure the execution, upkeep and conservation of national primary and secondary standards in conformity with the Board-Authorized Units;
 - To promote and to coordinate the use in the country of a uniform system of units and measurement standards of physical quantities;
 - To issue and enforce the necessary guidelines on such areas of metrology but not limited to utilization of measuring equipment and devices, type approval on measuring equipment, verification, calibration, use of control marks and other metrological controls on measurement standards and measuring equipment;
 - To ensure that the accuracy and application of quantities and similar metrological requirements are met in all commercial, economic, scientific, technical and similar endeavours;
 - To fix rates and collect fees for the metrological work similar calibration services rendered for both public and private entities;
 - To carry out the testing for type approval of measuring equipment;
 - To supervise and to assure the execution and calibration of standards and verification equipment;
 - To ensure that persons or business entities regularly engaged in importing, manufacturing, repairing, selling or hiring certain measuring equipment comply with the guidelines of the Board; and
 - To perform such other functions, duties and responsibilities as may be necessary to implement the Act.
- The NMB covers both the “Board” and “Executing Authority.” (see Figure 1)
 - The term “*Board*” is used to mean the team consisting of the members of the National Metrology Board performing policy making, planning, monitoring and other actions and authority exercised collectively. It is composed of the Secretaries or duly recognized representative (at least Undersecretary) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Department of Agriculture (DA), and representatives from the academe, business sector and professional metrology association.
 - The term “*Executing Authority*” on the other hand is used with respect to NMB in its performance of its technical functions and physical activities as undertaken by it through ITDI and deputized entities physically implementing the Republic Act 9236 – The Metrology Act of 2003.
- The NMB is chaired by the Secretary of the DOST.
- The Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI) is a multi-disciplinary agency under the DOST and serves as the Secretariat of the NMB.

- The National Metrology Laboratory of the Philippines (NML) is a division under the ITDI and serves as the national metrology institute of the Philippines. It is mandated to lead the public and private laboratories in carrying out the technical, calibration and laboratory functions to effectively implement the provisions of Republic Act 9236.

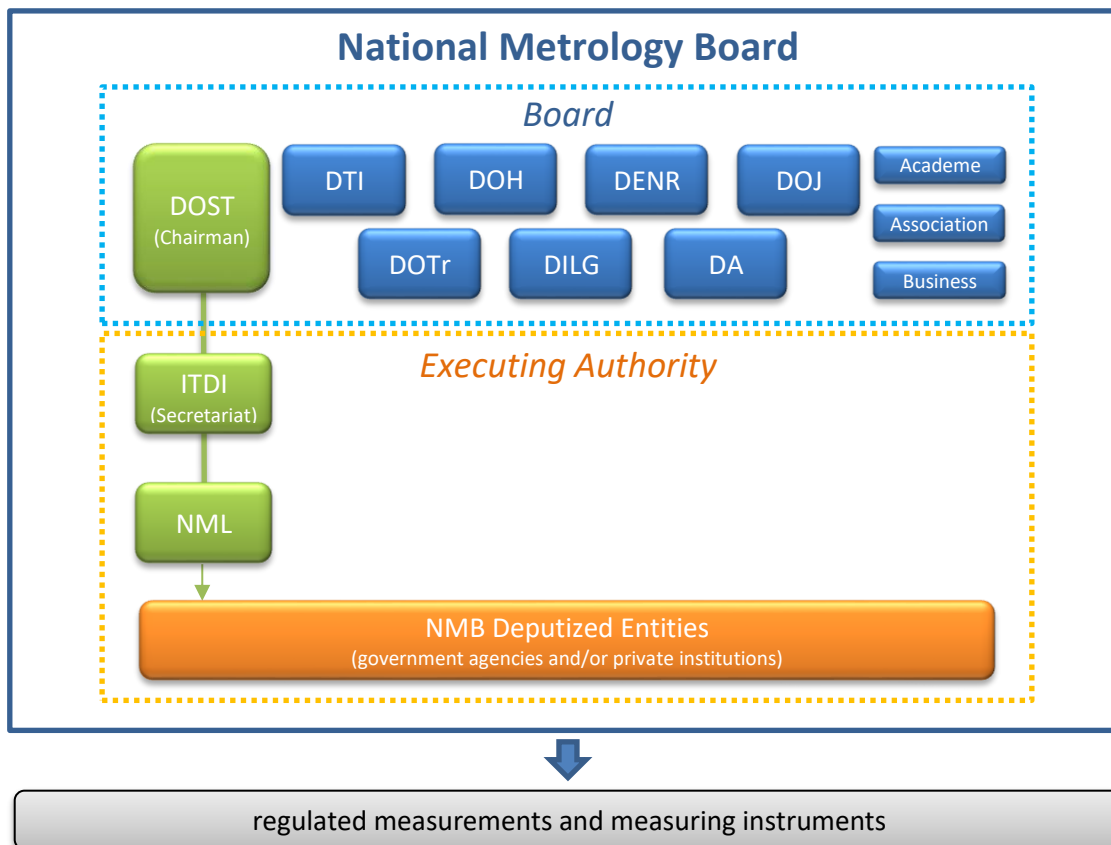


Figure 1. The National Metrology Board

- The Philippines through the ITDI is a Full Member of the Asia-Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP) and Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum (APLMF).
- The Philippines through the NML is an Associate of the General Conference on Weights and Measures (CGPM).
- The NMB has not yet formally deputized the following entities but they are conducting controls as mandated by Philippine laws and by-laws:
 - Non-food prepackaged products
 - Fair Trade Enforcement Bureau (FTEB)
 - Oil Industry Management Bureau for petroleum products
 - Food prepackaged products
 - Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
 - National Food Authority (NFA) for grain rice prepackages
 - Nonautomatic Weighing Instruments
 - Local Government Units (LGUs)
 - Fuel Dispensers
 - LGUs
 - ITDI

- OIMB
- Road tankers
 - DOST – ITDI
- Electric Meters
 - Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC)
- Taxi Meters
 - Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB)
- Water Meters
 - Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS)
 - Maynilad Water Services, Inc.
 - Manila Water Company, Inc.

International arrangements and engagement

- The Philippines participated in the 24th ACCSQ Working Group on Legal Metrology held from 24 to 25 November 2015 in Singapore.



- The Philippines participated in ASEAN-PTB Workshop on How to Operate Type Approval Systems and Use OIML Certificates from 21 to 22 March 2016 and in the 25th ACCSQ Working Group on Legal Metrology held from 23 to 24 March 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand.



- The Philippines participated in the MEDEA Training Course on the Verification of Fuel Dispensers held from 11 to 13 July 2016 in Pattaya, Thailand. Engr. Jose Marco D. Latosa, a Science Research Specialist at NML, was one of the co-trainers.



- The Philippines participated in the MEDEA Training Course on Mass Standards held from 30 August to 1 September 2016 in Jakarta, Indonesia.



- The Philippines participated in the ASEAN-WG3-PTB Workshop on the Development of ASEAN Guidelines on Type Approval Controls on 2 August 2016 and in the 26th ACCSQ Working Group on Legal Metrology held from 3 to 4 August 2016 in Da Nang City, Viet Nam.



- The Philippines participated in the OIML Training Course on Non-Automated Weighing Instruments from 18 to 22 July 2016 in Beijing, China.



- The Philippines participated in the OIML Seminar on Legal Metrology Management System on 9 to 11 August 2016 in Guangzhou, China.



SECTION 2 – Key activities of November 2015 to October 2016

- The NML developed the “Verification, In-Service Inspection, and Sealing of Fuel Dispensers: A Handbook for Philippine Verifiers and Inspectors” to serve as a uniform reference on the metrological control (verification, inspection and sealing) of fuel dispensers for; increase efficiency and productivity in conducting verification, in-service inspection, and sealing of fuel dispensers; and protect both dealers and consumers from inaccurate measurements resulting to unfair trade. It is in its final stages of review.
- The NML is currently working with the OIMB on the revision of Department Circular No. DC 2003-11-010 specifically sections of the document on the verification of fuel dispensers and ullage height determination in road tankers used for custody transfer of liquid petroleum products.
- The ITDI conducted a training on the Verification of Fuel Dispensers to DOST Regional Metrology Laboratories (RMLs) on 21 to 22 June 2016 in Palo, Leyte, Philippines. The DOST RMLs were identified by the DOE-OIMB as possible verifiers to be included in the revision of the Department Circular DC 2003-11-010.
- The ITDI conducted a training on Verification of Nonautomatic Weighing Instruments according ASEAN NAWI Guidelines to LGUs on 26 to 27 November 2015 in Bicutan, Taguig City, Philippines.
- The ITDI confirmed through meetings with representatives from the Bureau of Philippine Standards, Fair Trade Enforcement Bureau, Food and Drug Administration, and National Food Authority that inspection of quantity and labelling on prepackaged products is being done. Considering the urgency and the commitment to align our national requirements and comply with the *ASEAN Common Requirements for Prepackaged Products (ACRPPP)* relative to the integration of ASEAN economies, the ITDI has prepared a draft project proposal entitled “Legal Metrology: Alignment of Philippine National Requirements with the ASEAN Common Requirements of Prepackaged Products” as a preliminary response to the Philippines’ commitment.

SECTION 3 – Future focus

New initiatives planned (next 1-2 years)

- The ITDI had preliminary activities in the past to review Republic Act 9236 – The National Metrology Act of 2003. It has been decided that the Act needs to be amended and updated to address current issues including the ASEAN Integration. A project proposal will be prepared and submitted to provide funding.
- A national inventory on legal metrology will be conducted to determine gaps that hinders the proper implementation of Republic Act 9236 and regulation of measurements and measuring instruments in the country. A project proposal will be prepared and submitted to provide funding.
- The ITDI will work on the alignment of national requirements with the ACRPPP through the project “Legal Metrology: Alignment of Philippine National Requirements with the ASEAN Common Requirements of Prepackaged Products” by pursuing the following activities:
 - conduct of extensive desk research on the legal metrology infrastructure of the Philippines;
 - consultative dialogue/forum with manufacturers, exporters, distributors, importers and trade regulators;
 - convening of the National Metrology Board;
 - preparation of IEC materials; and
 - conduct of tri-media campaigns.

Emerging issues – challenges and opportunities

- President Rodrigo R. Duterte directed the efficient and effective implementation of speed limit and smoke-belching control to ensure the safety and health of citizens. The Philippines does not conduct metrological control of speed guns and emission testers, and does not yet have the capacity to provide such service. Collaboration with other APLMF Members through capacity building activities like trainings and forums will greatly assist the Philippines in addressing this need.
- The new Secretary of the DOST, Dr. Fortunato de la Peña, expressed his interest on metrology by requesting a half-day seminar from ITDI to orient DOST system technical and management staff on the Roadmap for the Legal Metrology Management System. We welcome experts on Legal Metrology Management System from APLMF Members to engage in this activity and help us make it a kick-off for a better appreciation of the importance of metrology in a developing economy.