

CONCLUSIONS

1. Mutual Understanding

ASEM partners updated each other on current developments.

EC provided information on current developments under the New Approach and the revision of the EMC Directive.

Japan made a presentation on renewed conformity assessment systems for JIS (Japanese Industrial Standards).

Thailand provided information on latest developments including ISO/IEC 17025 assessors' training course, TISI website, etc.

Indonesia and Vietnam updated their recent developments on their standards, accreditation and conformity assessment systems.

Malaysia also made a presentation on its recent developments.

A list of contact points which had been compiled by Thailand was circulated at the meeting.

Indonesia provided details of their contact points relevant to technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment.

2. Technical Co-operation

France presented a paper on technical co-operation activities among ASEM partners from 2000 to the beginning of 2005, and methodology used for updating data. France proposed to consider collecting data including new ASEM partners.

France proposed to enhance the transparency of its activity and continue discussion on this point where necessary.

Japan made a presentation on its technical co-operation program.

Thailand compiled responses from partners regarding indication of their participation in the 13 project activities proposed by Malaysia, The Philippines and Thailand. Thailand made a proposal of priority areas and conditions for future work based on the responses from partners.

It was noted that not only speakers but also audience should be experts in the area chosen for a seminar for the project to be effective.

Specific interest was shown by some partners on the Malaysian proposal “Motor vehicles: Participation in UNECE Forum” which is concerning the UNECE WP.29 activity “World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations.”

3. Best regulatory practice

Indonesia made a presentation on its experience of BRP.

Japan provided a report on summaries of presentations from the Seminar on ASEM Best Regulatory Practice held on 1st February 2005 (see **Attachment 1**).

Thailand congratulated and thanked Japan for their efforts in organizing and successfully running the above-mentioned seminar.

Japan also provided brief summaries of the result of BRP survey for electrical safety sector (including EMC) and for telecommunication sector.

France and Sweden suggested the SCA meeting to consider development of the sector specific guidelines on the sectors covered by the BRP survey.

Japan proposed to improve BRP questionnaires and provided draft questionnaires. Some partners made comments and also asked for additional time for their consideration of the draft questionnaires.

4. Environmental standards and regulations

EC made a presentation on the Council Conclusions on integration of environmental aspects into European standardization.

Japan made a presentation on recent development of JIS concerning environmental aspects and the current status of Japan’s proposal for international standardization.

Vietnam provided information of its environmental standards.

5. Alignment on international standards

Vietnam updated its status of alignment of national standards with international standards.

Partners were informed about the existence of the Standardization List compiled by the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). The SCA meeting was informed that UNECE has also decided to include, in its current revision of the list, the regulatory priorities of countries and regional groupings. It is expected that a new

version of the “UNECE Standardization and Regulatory List” will be finalized by the end of 2005.

6. Regulatory co-operation

Sweden made a presentation on the technical harmonization and standardization work of UNECE Working Party 6 (Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies), concerning the application of the UNECE’s “International Model for Technical Harmonization based on Good Regulatory Practice through the use of International Standards” in regional projects (CIS, Balkan states) and in specific sectors such as telecom and earth moving machinery.

The UNECE representative invited the ASEM partners to inform their competent authorities in telecom and earth moving machinery sectors about an UNECE invitation to interested authorities to join UNECE sectoral projects.

7. Standards education

Korea made a presentation on standards education. Korea encouraged partners to promote exchange information and share related experience.

EC provided detailed information on a project concerning the same issue being funded by the EU in the framework of the Asian link program. EC informed ASEM partners that the project manager is very keen to be contacted by interested Asian countries.

Thailand made a presentation on standards education projects and efforts in Thailand.

8. Standardization in social responsibility

Thailand and Japan made presentations on standardization in SR (Social Responsibility) including recent discussion in ISO and asked partners to cooperate in the ISO process.

Japan encouraged partners to invite relevant parties to participate in the international standardization activities in ISO.

China reminded ASEM partners that the standard developers should take specific conditions of developing countries into consideration.

9. Electronic information exchange

Korea proposed a new web-site with a view to improving the productivity and visibility of ASEM/TFAP/SCA work. The funding for the project is under consideration by the Korean government and it is expected to be approved by early March 2005. Partners appreciated the Korean initiative.

10. Future activities

Thailand again raised the issue of the rotation of the role of facilitators, as the meeting agreed at the 10th ASEM/TFAP/SCA meeting.

Thailand proposed to introduce a document numbering system for the meeting documents from the next meeting.

11. Date and place of the next meeting

EC offered to host the next 12th ASEM/TFAP/SCA meeting. The provisional place and date of the next meeting will be Brussels (or possibly another city in Europe, if another European host can be found) around the end of 2005. Any difficulties regarding possible attendance by delegates about this time should be notified to EC as soon as possible.

The importance of sharing the role of host was recalled as a tool to realize the spirit of ASEM/TFAP/SCA.

Partners are requested to confirm their intention to host future meetings to be held until the end of 2006 by the next meeting.
