

**DEVELOPING AND OPERATIONALISING MRAS FOR PRIORITISED AND SELECTED INDUSTRIES****PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

This project will assist ASEAN Member States to (i) develop more Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs), in particular for the priority integration sectors; and (ii) adhere to the general principles and conditions stipulated in the ASEAN Framework Agreement on MRAs and to facilitate the recognition of results of compulsory certification required by a Member State where the certificate is issued by conformity assessment bodies in the territory of another Member State, especially for the prioritised sectors.

MRA facilitates the flow of goods by allowing the mandatory conformity assessment (i.e., testing, inspection and/or certification) being imposed by importing country be conducted at the source country following the specified standards, technical requirements or relevant procedures. There are two sectoral MRAs that have been developed in ASEAN; 1) ASEAN Electrical and Electronic MRA which provides for acceptance of test reports issued by Listed Testing Laboratories and certification issued by Listed Certification Bodies that demonstrate conformity of electrical and electronic equipment with its mandatory requirements, and 2) ASEAN MRA for Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) Inspection of Manufacturers of Medicinal Products, under the pharmaceutical sector, which provides for acceptance of the GMP certificates and GMP inspection reports for manufacturers of medicinal products issued by a Listed Inspection Service. Other sectoral MRAs are being developed in ASEAN such as MRA on prepared foodstuff and MRA on automotive.

The MRA on automotive sector aims to provide for the acceptance or recognition of conformity assessment results issued by Listed Technical Services thus facilitating mutual recognition of conformity assessment results for automotive products. Japan and EU have signified support in assisting ASEAN in the development and implementation/ operationalisation of MRA in the automotive sector. Japan has proposed a project on Assistance for Developing and Operationalising MRAs and Establishing Common Rules for Standards and Conformity Assessment Procedures for Automotives which was

PROJECT STATUS

Seeking technical assistance/funding support for the proposed projects

TARGET COMPLETION DATE

July 2016

IMPLEMENTING BODIES

ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards and Quality (ACCSQ) and the relevant sectoral body under its purview

MODALITY & SOURCE OF FUNDING

Japan and ARISE

CONTACT PERSON

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welcomed and endorsed by the Land Transport Working Group Meeting (LTWG) and Automotive Product Working Group (APWG), respectively. Under the ASEAN Regional Integration Support from EU (ARISE) project, support on the development and implementation of MRA on Type Approval for Automotive Products has been identified as specific area of assistance.

MAIN OBJECTIVES, OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

To support ASEAN in harmonising its standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures thus reducing or eliminating Technical Barriers to Trade (TBTs).

To assist in the development and implementation of ASEAN-wide harmonised regulations to realise ASEAN and certification, as well as to facilitate the establishment of an efficient and integrated transport system in ASEAN.

To implement possible approaches synthetically such as advising implementation on regulation and organisational structure, and capacity building about implementation of a system depending on the situation of each country.

Activities include public and private forum, workshop, survey, training, exchange of technical experts and other forms of technical assistance support.

BENEFICIARIES

The relevant stakeholders in ASEAN would benefit from the project, these are: the ASEAN regulatory authorities, conformity assessment bodies/technical services, manufacturers, consumers.

List of Proposed Projects

A. Automotive.

- Implementation of MRA for Type Approval of Automotive Products.
(Automotive Product Working Group: 3rd Quarter of 2013)
- Workshop on Electric Vehicle (EV) Standards.
(Automotive Product Working Group: 4th Quarter of 2012)

- Harmonisation of technical requirements with UNECE Regulations of the 1958 Agreement.
(Automotive Product Working Group: 4th Quarter of 2014)
- Understanding and compliance to Conformity of Production procedures (COP) of UNECE 1958 Agreement.
(Automotive Product Working Group: 4th Quarter of 2013)

B. Legal Metrology

- Developing Training Modules on Pre-packaged Products; Train-the-Trainers Training.
(Working Group on Legal Metrology: 2nd Quarter of 2013)
- Training on Verification of Non-Automatic Weighing Instrument (NAWI).
(Working Group on Legal Metrology: 3rd Quarter of 2013)

C. Traditional Medicine and Health Supplements

- Training on Implementation of ASEAN Guidelines on Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) for Traditional Medicines and Health Supplements (TMHS).
(Traditional Medicines and Health Supplements Product Working Group: 4th Quarter of 2013)

D. Electrical and Electronics

- Development and Implementation of ASEAN Guidelines to Determine the Type of Conformity Assessment Regime Based on Risk Assessment for Electrical and Electronic Equipment (EEE).
(Joint Sectoral Committee on EEE: 2nd Quarter of 2013)
- Establishment of list of standards at the regional level as presumption of conformity to the essential requirements of the EEE.
(Joint Sectoral Committee on EEE: 2nd Quarter of 2013)
- Develop the requirements for post market surveillance and safety alert system for EEE.
(Joint Sectoral Committee on EEE: 2nd Quarter of 2013)

E. Agro Based Sector

- Implement the ASEAN Common Food Control Requirements for food control systems, food hygiene and food labelling;
- Harmonise national standards and technical requirements for prepared foodstuff with CODEX standards;
(Prepared Foodstuff Product Working Group: Timeline 8/2012 – 7/2016)