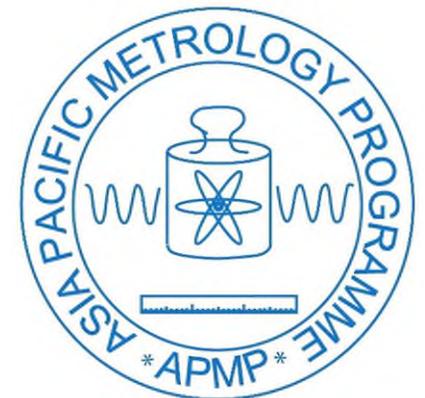


Summary of the 11th APMP NMI Directors' Workshop Regional Cooperation in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond

APMP DEC-MEDEA COVID-19 Workshop

25 November 2020



Jan Herrmann (EC/NMIA)

with thanks to Victoria Coleman, Michelle Anderson, Angela Samuel, Ada Cai and the APMP Secretariat

Participation



Over 96 connections at peak times

Representatives from around the world
including from BIPM, CIPM, EURAMET, SIM, APAC, ...

Workshop Overview



Regional Cooperation in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond

Topic 1
Metrological traceability
for COVID-19 tests
and related measurements



Topic 2
The strength of cooperation



Topic 3
Narrow the gap
in developing economies



Overarching themes and observations



The Covid-19 pandemic has affected all NMIs, and all NMIs have had to respond rapidly.

We have much to learn from each other, and by working together collaboratively we can make an even larger impact on the global response to and recovery from the pandemic.

Globally, APMP members are having a noticeable impact in supporting the pandemic response, and the region is strongly positioned to support economies, including developing economies, to address the pandemic.

Overarching themes and observations



Many NMIs have responded by offering specialist technical skills to meet metrology needs in their economy/region (e.g. SARS-Cov-2 RM, specialist calibration and testing capabilities targeted to economy needs, outreach etc.).

This response has involved reaching out to local and regional stakeholders to rapidly understand needs and tailor solutions.

Where economies may not have the technical capacity to support specialist testing needs, they have still adapted to the best of their ability, and offered alternative support to the community, e.g. through specialized training and educational offerings.

Overarching themes and observations



The Pandemic has made it very clear that metrology is critical in responding to a global crisis.

It has also shown how adaptable the skills and expertise of NMIs are at being able to rapidly and dynamically pivot to support the needs of local stakeholders.

This presents a unique opportunity to communicate the fundamental value of metrology to a broad set of stakeholders, including policy makers.

Overarching themes and observations



From testing for the virus through to screening, manufacture of PPE, manufacture of other biomedical devices, vaccine development and education and training, metrology, together with other pillars of the quality infrastructure including standardisation, conformity assessment and quality assurance, is able to provide the accuracy, reliability, reproducibility and quality required by stakeholders from governments, industry and the community who seek confidence and certainty.

The value proposition is clear, and the NMIs represented at the workshop provided powerful examples for successful partnering with stakeholders on the pandemic response.

Memorable quotes



*“We are in this together,
and we will get through this together.”*

Mr Fang XIANG, APMP Chair

(quoting UN Secretary-General António Guterres)



*“Metrology matters now
more than ever.”*

Dr Walter COPAN, NIST