



NIST
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce



経済産業省
Ministry of Economy,
Trade and Industry



Japanese Industrial Standards Committee

Japan's approach and experience

Options for Action Summit

Gaithersburg, Maryland
July 18-19, 2006

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Q1. The forms of standards-related capacity building support and technical support that your country/organization provides or receives and the sources of this support.



Technical Cooperation Programs provided by METI/JISC

Goals of Cooperation;

- (1) Capacity Building
- (2) Human Networking
- (3) Finding Seeds and Needs in Specific Fields

for stakeholders in Asia-Pacific countries to encourage their participation in international standardization activities.



Main Programs;

in Japan

- Group Training Course (approximately 300 trainees per year)

in Asia-Pacific countries

- On-site Seminar
- Dispatching Experts

in the areas of Standards, Conformity Assessment and Metrology



Planned by METI

Implemented by;

- (1) JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)
 - (2) AOTS (Association for Oversea Technical Scholarship)
- etc.

Financed by Ministry of Foreign Affairs and METI



Q2. Where you feel the U.S. is successful in its standards-related outreach, capacity building support and technical support to other countries?



1. Bilateral cooperation between US and Japan

(1) NIST-METI-ANSI Dialog

Annual Dialog between NIST/ANSI-METI since 1997

Example of 12th Dialog;

Date: May 25, 2006

Venue: NIST, Gaithersburg, Maryland



Main Topics;

-Standards

Updates on the US standardization activity

US Standards Strategy Revision, NTTAA, ACI, ANSI outreach activities etc.

Updates on the Japanese standardization activity

JISC Action plan and activities of JSA Support Center for international standardization

Cooperation in nanotechnology standardization

Studies on the Economic and Social Benefits of Standardization

ISO/IEC Cooperation and Synergies



-Conformity Assessment

Activities in the ISO/CASCO

Updates of the JIS marking system

-Measurement

Cooperation in national measurement strategy

Linkage between measurement standards and documentary standards



Significance for Japan

- Regular and close communication channel with Government (NIST) and Standards Development Organization (ANSI)
- Sharing information and experience in Standards, Measurement and Conformity Assessment
- Policy discussion on specific issues of common interests



(2)ANSI/USNC-JISC meeting

Meeting between standards development organizations in US and Japan

At annual ISO General Assembly/IEC General Meeting

Exchanging information on international standardization activities for ISO/IEC



2.PASC(Pacific Area Standards Congress)

Multilateral framework in Asia-Pacific Region

Proposed by US in 1972, the 1st meeting was held in 1973.

Strong initiative by ANSI (Mr. Gary Kushnier) as a chair of Standing Committee



Member;

Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, China,
Colombia, Fiji, Hong Kong, China, Indonesia, Japan,
Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua
New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea,
Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, USA,
Vietnam



OBJECTIVES

1. To exchange information and views between national standards bodies and among organizations interested in standardization and conformance and initiate necessary actions to help ensure that international standardization activities are properly coordinated on a consensus basis to meet world needs and foster international trade and commerce
2. To provide a geographically convenient forum for the countries and territories of the Pacific area to develop recommendations for communication to the international standards bodies, particularly ISO and IEC
3. To form a consultative liaison with International and Regional standards bodies to help them meet world needs in standardization through communication of recommendations of PASC members
4. To provide a central site for papers and reports on related subjects which further the objectives of PASC



OBJECTIVES

5. To work with APEC, relevant APEC specialist regional bodies, and multilateral agencies to support economic and technical infrastructure development and free trade in the region. This may extend to seeking financial support from those bodies
6. To actively promote the benefits of standardization and conformance in the region to governments, industry and consumers
7. To provide a source of information for members on standards and conformance issues in the region and globally and to promote the region at the international level
8. To have members promote PASC and its activities within their countries
9. To promote the benefits of PASC membership to other National Standards Bodies (NSBs)
10. To determine the policy and technical standardization priorities of members and establish mechanisms to address items of greatest common interest to PASC



OBJECTIVES

11. To consider evolving strategic issues in international standardization and examine possible changes in the current international structures, approaches and organizations that may be necessary to meet future requirements
12. To ensure that members contribute sufficient resources to allow for effective and efficient achievement of PASC's objectives
13. To support and promote adherence to the provisions of relevant WTO Agreements, including the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and the Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS), among PASC member countries



Examples of Topics in recent Years;

(1) Synergies between ISO and IEC

(2) Specific issues;

- Accessibility Standards

- Standards for a Safer World

- Social Responsibility

(3) Cooperation between standards development organizations and regulators

- How to involve regulators into standardization

(4) Collaboration with APEC activities



Significance for Asia-Pacific Region;

- Major framework of cooperation among countries with much diversity in economy, culture and politics (cf. CEN, CENELEC)

To share information and experiences in their region.

To enhance the awareness and build the intellectual, not material or financial, capacity in developing members.



3. U.S. DOC Standards Initiative

- Devising an Effective Training and Outreach Program
NIST and ITA, in cooperation with US standards development organizations, will develop a standards training program for all Commerce Department Foreign Commercial Service Officers.

Mr. Mark Wildmann : US Embassy to Tokyo



Q3. Where you feel the U.S. and Japan falls short of expectations in its standards-related outreach, capacity building support and technical support to other countries?



1. Between US and Japan

Closer cooperation on the levels of TC/SCs

- Communication on the levels of policy makers, headquarters and governance level of standards development organizations
- Opportunity for cooperation in some TC/SCs



2. In Asia-Pacific region

- Development of human resources for governance activities in ISO/IEC
- Promotion of communication between policy makers/standards headquarters and industries in Asian developing members
- Cooperation on the levels of TC/SCs
Test cases discussed at APEC and PASC; ISO/TC229(Societal security), ISO/TC159(Ergonomics), IEC/TC111(Environmental standardization for electrical and electronic products and systems)



Q4. What the drivers are in your country for the use of standards and related technical information. Why are some standards being used and others not? What influences the selection of standards in your country (political considerations, technical quality, market relevancy, support from industrialized countries in the form of aid or other grants, membership in a specific organization)?



- Technical quality and market relevance are the main drivers for the use of standards in the Japanese Industrial Standards (JIS).
- Major supports should come from industry sectors as well as users of standards (e.g. consumers)

