THE 37th MEETING OF THE ASEAN CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDS AND QUALITY WORKING GROUP ON LEGAL METROLOGY (ACCSQ-WG3)

5 October, 2022 Aloft Langkawi Pantai Tengah, Pulau Langkawi

Opening Remark delivered by:

Honorable Datuk Azman bin Mohd Yusof
Secretary General,
Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs

Thank you to the council attorneys,

HONORABLE DATIN ROSZANINA BINTI WAHAB

DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL

(CONSUMER EMPOWERMENT & MANAGEMENT),

MINISTRY OF DOMESTIC TRADE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS,

MR. AZMAN BIN ADAM

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ENFORCEMENT

MINISTRY OF DOMESTIC TRADE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS,

Ts. SULIANA BINTI GHAZALLI ACCSQ-WG3 CHAIRMAN,

HONORABLE DATO' ROMANI BIN WAN SALIN CHAIRMAN OF THE INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS, MULTIMEDIA, DOMESTIC TRADE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS KEDAH,

MR. AFFENDI RAJINI KANTH DIRECTOR MINISTRY OF DOMESTIC TRADE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS KEDAH,

ALL HEAD OF DEPARTMENT AND AGENCIES INVOLVES,

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER STATES OF ASEAN CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDS AND QUALITY WORKING GROUP ON LEGAL METROLOGY (ACCSQ-WG3)

AND

PTB GERMANY REPRESENTATIVE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamualaikum wbt and a very Good Morning to everyone,

First and foremost, on behalf of the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs, The National Metrology Laboratory (NML), SIRIM Berhad and on my own behalf, I would like to express our warm welcome to all ASEAN Delegates and Secretariat to the Langkawi Island, Malaysia and thank all of you for your valuable participation and contribution in this distinguished 37th Meeting of the ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality Working Group on Legal Metrology (ACCSQ-WG3).

Malaysia is indeed much honored to host this very important gathering as part of our continuous efforts in supporting an ASEAN Community for the durable peace, stability and shared prosperity of the region.

I do hope that your travel arrangements to Langkawi has been smooth and your hotel rooms are comfortable. I also hope you are ready for a productive 37th ACCSQ-WG3 meetings and also a memorable visit to Malaysia. It is our country's great privilege and pleasure to host this meeting.

It also give me great honor to speak on this occasion and let me take this opportunity, to express my deep appreciation and gratitude to Mr. Azman bin Adam and his team from the Enforcement Division, Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Tourism, Art & Culture (MOTAC) Kedah, National Metrology Institute of Malaysia (NMIM), Langkawi Development Authority (LADA), Langkawi District Police Headquarters, Langkawi District & Land Office, Malaysia Airport Holding Berhad (MAHB) Langkawi, Malaysia Handicraft Development Corporation,

Langkawi Tourism Information Centre and also Aloft Langkawi Pantai Tengah for their tremendous preparation and arrangement in hosting this meeting.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

ACCSQ has been working towards harmonizing its activities with the international practices and complying with the principle of WTO TBT agreement. For these important tasks, ACCSQ Working Group and Product Working Groups are working together by putting in their enormous efforts for the realization of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC). A number of concrete progresses and agreement have been initiated as a result of these efforts. We have no doubt that contribution of WG3 are one of the supports of these achievements.

The guidance documents for legal metrology requirements to be implemented in the region have been developing by the contributions of the members of Working Group on Legal Metrology. I would like to express my gratitude and acknowledgement of these achievements. It is obvious that the regulatory requirements for metrology are crucial for any civilized society. It is very clear that the efforts of Working Group on Legal Metrology are one of the key factors for the realization of ASEAN Economic Community, a newly civilized society.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

ACCSQ-WG3 has definitely come a long way since its creation in 2001. There were a lot of significant achievements that we have gained over the

last more than one-decade period. Yet, now, a lot more need to be done. We need to achieve our objectives and need to reach our goal soon.

Recognizing the importance of tackling the regulated sector in facilitating and liberalizing trade and investment in the region, ACCSQ-WG3 had endeavored to harmonize national standards with international standards, technical regulations and implement mutual recognition arrangements on conformity assessment to achieve its end-goal of free flow of trade amongst ASEAN member countries.

These are main indicators of the health of our ACCSQ-WG3 that all ten ASEAN countries perceive that it is in their self-interest to belong to ACCSQ. It is not only for having more and more successes in solving technical problem in the regional communication and trade like harmonization of standards, technical regulations and so on, but ACCSQ-WG3 progress is also very often seen as orchestrating the success for partnership between major players intending to advance economic development for all ASEAN countries. At the same time as improving the quality of life for all people in the region.

We are all aware, that ASEAN currently aims to be a single market and production base where there are free flow of goods, services, investment and skilled labor. The ACCSQ-WG3 therefore has been considering new strategies on legal metrology area in order to move in new and more prominent directions to better address, facilitate trade and support the realization of the ASEAN single market.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This brings me to the end of my remark. On behalf of the host, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all once again for your participation in this meeting and wish all delegates great success in the upcoming discussions. I am certain that your valuable inputs and constructive views will help the meeting to produce useful outcomes that will be fruitful and would foster intra and extra-ASEAN cooperation.

Finally, as you know, Malaysia is well known for its variety of cuisines and cultures. We are proud to say that we have some of the best beaches in this region and not forgetting our unperturbed virgin jungles. After your two days of serious meetings I hope you will take time off to see around this beautiful Langkawi Island. Let me wish all of you a very successful and enjoyable stay in Langkawi Island, Kedah.

On that note, I now have great pleasure to declare **THE 37th ASEAN CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDS AND QUALITY WORKING GROUP ON LEGAL METROLOGY (ACCSQ-WG3) MEETING** officially open.

Thank you.

5 October 2022