

## **Testimonial for International Accreditation Day, 9 June 2009**

*Mr Teo Nam Kuan  
APEC SCSC Chair*

First, on behalf of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance (SCSC), I would like to congratulate the regional and international communities in the celebration of International Accreditation Day on 9 June.

The APEC SCSC was established in 1994 to assist the Committee on Trade and Investment to achieve APEC's trade and investment liberalisation and facilitation agenda. Its primary purpose is to promote cooperation and joint initiatives, facilitate information exchange between member economies and monitor compliance with key APEC objectives.

In the APEC economies, specialist regional bodies (SRBs) such as the Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (PAC) and the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC), are supporting the APEC SCSC in realizing its goals of

- a. alignment of members' domestic standards with international standards;
- b. promoting good regulatory practices in the APEC region;
- c. achieving recognition of conformity assessment activities including mutual recognition arrangements in regulated and voluntary sectors;
- d. promoting cooperation for technical infrastructure development to facilitate broad participation in mutual recognition arrangements in both regulated and voluntary sectors; and
- e. ensuring the transparency of the standards and conformity assessment of APEC economies.

Accreditation of conformity assessment activities provides a key technical infrastructure in support of trade facilitation. APEC SCSC has been working in close cooperation with the PAC and APLAC where their mutual recognition arrangements established for product certification, testing and calibration underpin the APEC MRAs such as the APEC MRA on conformity assessment of Electrical and Electronic Equipment and APEC MRA on conformity assessment of Telecommunication Equipment.

APEC SCSC looks forward to receiving the continued and highly valued inputs of PAC and APLAC in achieving greater success in the realization of APEC objectives.

I wish the accreditation fraternity all the best in fulfilling their important role of providing quality assurance and competency of conformity assessment bodies not only in the APEC economies but also globally to meet future needs and challenges.