Economy Report - 2019

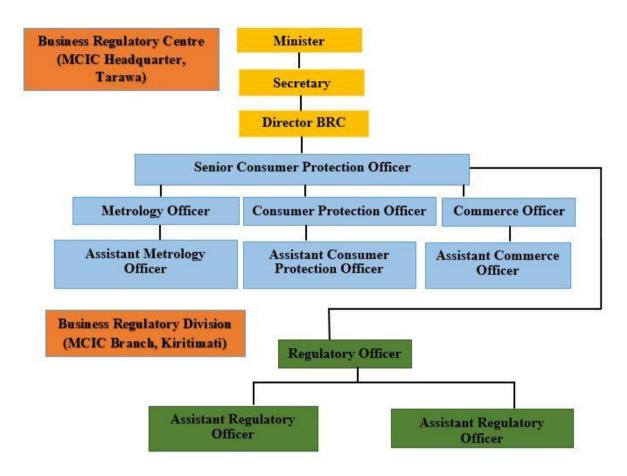
Kiribati

SECTION 1 – Organisation and structure for metrology

Organisation Structures

The Ministry of Commerce Industry and Cooperative (MCIC) was the main organization responsible for legal metrology in Kiribati. The Consumer Protection Division (CPD) under the Business Regulatory Centre in Tarawa and the Business Regulatory Division (MCIC branch in Kiritimati Island) are the main control authority bodies of metrology work in Kiribati. The Business Regulatory Division on Kiritimati Island covers metrology and other CPD duties in the Line and Phoenix Group while the CPD on headquarter is responsible for the Gilbert group which includes Tarawa.

Consumer Protection Staff were responsible to inspect, calibrate and verify according to the Weight and Measures Act 1984 for the Gilbert Group. The current structure of responsible Officers was further illustrated in the diagram below.



Surveillance and Inspection

Main task of the division include;

• Enforcement of the Weight and Measures Act 1984

Legislative Frameworks

• Weight and Measures Act 1984

International arrangements and engagement

- 1. OILM/APLMF Seminar on the OIML Certification System Hangzhou, China from 15-17 July 2019.
- The above Seminar was attended by Director for Business Regulatory Centre, Ms. Kammari Betiota and the Ministry Legal Advisor Mr. Waimauri. Nawaia.
- 2. Pattern approval and verification of water meters Sepang, Malaysis from 15 to 18 October 2019
- Metrology Officer Ms.Oerenga. Takaria and the Assistant Metrology Officer Ms. Mamere Williams were attending this training/course.

SECTION 2 – Key activities of 2018/19

Working with industry

- Metrology Bill 2019 will be due for first and second reading in the next sitting of Parliament (4th November 2019). This has been through several consultations with stakeholders in Kiribati, Government Secretaries, Cabinet and the Office of the Attorney General.
- Kiribati became a member of APLMF and APLMP and an associate member of OIML Certification System. This will benefit our economy in entering new international markets.
- Mass Weight tools have been calibrated in Australian Calibration Laboratory. Business Regulatory Division in Kiritimati Island mass weight will be calibrated next year.
- Awareness and enforcement to all metrology sectors such as Aviation, Utilities, Businesses, Kiribati Oil Company Limited (KOIL), Kiribati Fisheries Limited (KFL) and many more;
- Verification of measuring and weighing instruments and conduct legal proceedings in respect of any alleged offence against the law.

Protecting consumers

- CPD and BRD Staff will ensure that all weighing and measures tools are not faulty by inspecting businesses and to ensure that their weighing scale was already calibrated showing the ministry sticker put on that scale for reference.
- Consumer complaints regarding weighing scales and other consumer matters is initially received by the CPD and with the Metrology staff expected to conduct a thorough inspection of the scale in question.

These are our procedure for helping our customers for not affected by faulty scale and measurement of fuel.

SECTION 3 – Future focus

- 1. Implementation of new Metrology Law 2019
- 2. Verification of:
 - NAWI (Non Automatic Weighing Scale)
 - Fuel dispenser
 - Water meter
 - Weighbridge
- 3. Capacity Building programs

- 4. Metrology inspectors to charge fees for calibration and verification services.
- 5. Hosting Metrology Day

Emerging issues – challenges and opportunities

- 1. No existing Metrology Lab to store mass weight
- 2. No working tools to verify NAWI and Fuel Dispenser
- 3. Need of funds for the establishment of Metrology Lab and Metrology equipment's for calibration.