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Economy Report - 2019

Viet Nam

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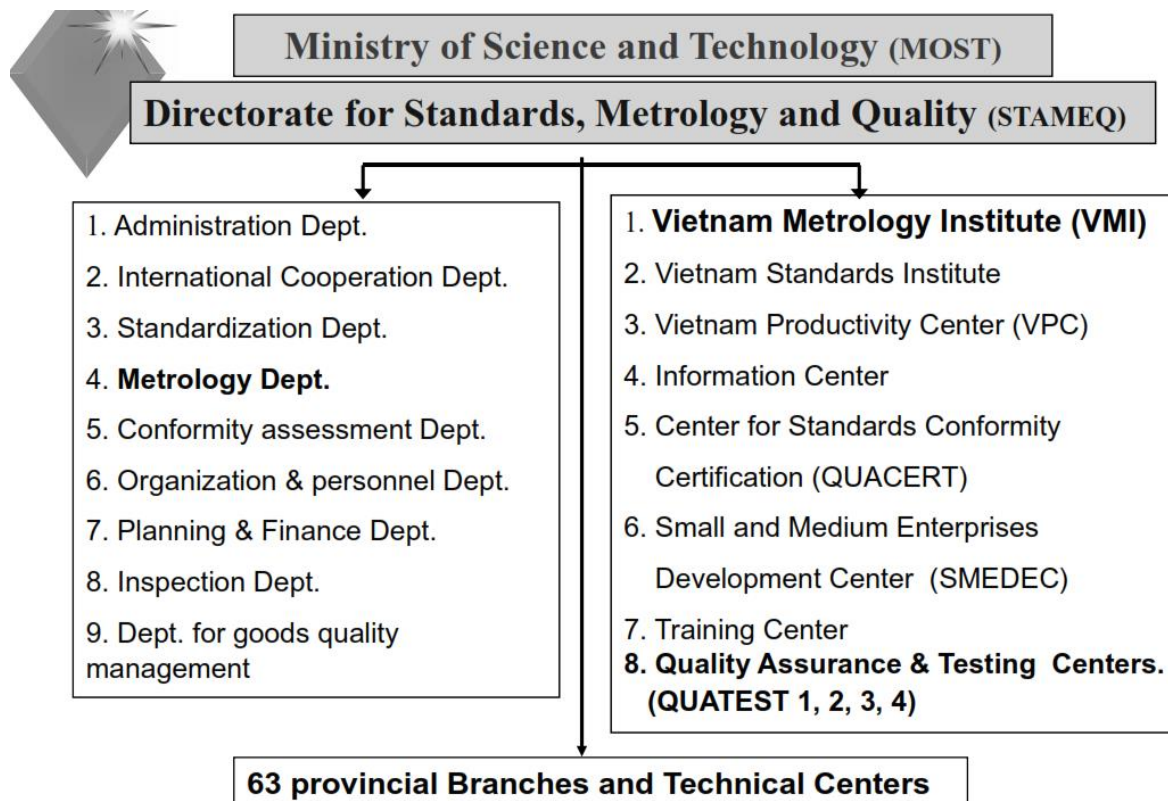
Organisation: Directorate for Standards, Metrology and Quality (STAMEQ)

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SECTION 1 – Organisation and structure for metrology

Organisation Structures

- 1) Directorate for Standards, Metrology and Quality (STAMEQ), under Ministry of Science and Technology, is the governmental body in charge of metrological management on behalf of the Central Government in many fields.
- 2) STAMEQ includes subordinate technical organization such as Vietnam National Institute (VMI), three Quality Assurance and Testing Centers (QUATEST).
- 3) VMI is the national metrology institute of Vietnam, in charge of metrological research as well as various metrological activities. VMI is the custodian of national measurement standards (the first level of Measurement Standards Labs) and provide traceability services for regional, local technical bodies and other private organizations
- 4) QUATEST centers are STAMEQ’s regional technical bodies that hold reference standards in different regions of Vietnam (the second level of Measurement Standards Labs). They provide traceability services within the regions. Quality Assurance and Testing Center 4 has been officially established and responsible for technical activities in verification, calibration and testing for the Central Highlands of Viet Nam.
- 5) Provincial Branches for Standards, Metrology and Quality (Provincial Branches) are in charge of local metrological management. They also include Provincial Technical Centers as the third level of Measurement Standards Labs.
- 6) Organization chart:



STAMEQ and 63 provincial Branches for Standards, Metrology and Quality are in charge of metrological management.

VMI, QUATEST 1,2,3, 4 and provincial Technical Centers are only responsibly for technical services.

Legislative Frameworks

- 1) The Vietnam Metrology Law approved by the Vietnam National Assembly in November 2011.
- 2) The Decree for implementing Vietnam Metrology Law was issued by the Government and in October 2012. The new Decree of requirements on verification, calibration and testing activities was issued on July 2016
- 3) The Decree for administrative fine on violations of standardization, metrology and quality control was issued by the Government in July 2013.
- 4) The Decree prescribes the operating requirements for verification, calibration and testing organizations for measuring instruments and measurement standards in July 2016
- 5) The Decree amending, supplementing and abolishing a number of regulations on business investment conditions in the field of state management of the Ministry of Science and Technology.
- 6) 10 Circulars for implementing the Law on Metrology were issued by Minister of Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) included:
 - a. Circular on approval of National measurement standards in 2013;
 - b. Circular on Group 2 measuring instruments in 2013;
 - c. Circular on management of Verification, Calibration, Testing in 2013;
 - d. Circular on measurement management on trade of gold & quality management on trade of jewel in 2013;
 - e. Circular on State metrological supervision in 2013;
 - f. Circular on quantity of pre-packaged goods in 2014;
 - g. Circular on measurement management and quality management on fuel in 2015.
 - h. Circular on weight measurement of retail in markets in 2017;
 - i. Circular amending a number of articles of Circular 15/2015 / TT-BKHCHN dated August 25, 2015 on the measurement and quality of petrol and oil trading on June 2018;
 - j. Circular stipulating economic-technical norms for inspection and calibration of measuring devices for automatic and continuous air environment monitoring stations in August 2018.
 - k. Circular 07/2019/TT-BKHCHN amended Circular on Group 2 measuring instruments in 2013
- 7) Ministry's Decision to publish the HS code assignment for Group-2 measuring instruments subject to type approval as part of state examination of measurement upon import in August 2018.
- 8) So far, approximate 400 Authorized Verification Units (AVU) belong to various governmental and private organizations have been designated for verification of measuring instruments, including utility meters: electricity meters, water meters, etc. There have been about 440 verification, calibration and testing organisation registered with STAMEQ.

International arrangements and engagement

- 1) Implement cooperation activities with KSA (ISCP), NIST (USA)
- 2) Preparing MOU with Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing (Czech Republic), Mongolian Agency for Standardization and Metrology (MASM)
- 3) Attending MEDEA projects

- a. Training on Pattern Approval and Verification of Water Meters, Malaysia, October 2019
- 4) Attending OIML events
 - a. The 54th CIML Meeting, Bratislava, 21- 25 October 2019

SECTION 2 – Key activities of 2018/19

Working with industry

- 1) Promotion of Vietnam Metrology Day 2019 with the seminar on the contribution of metrological activities for enterprise competitiveness and international integration
- 2) Promotion of World Metrology Day 2019 with the seminar “SI better now”
- 3) Meeting on domestic metrological activities of Vietnam

Protecting consumers

- 1) Attach printing devices to fuel dispensers to promote transparency.
- 2) Regular examinations at specific provinces in compliance of metrological regulations

Major projects - What we did and what we learned

- 1) Vietnam Prime Minister has signed Decision No 996/QD-TTg June 10th 2018 to implement the national metrological program to improve the metrological capacity of Vietnam SMEs for competition and integration in a global market. The program is aimed to improve the National Metrology Infrastructure across organizations and businesses, technical regulation harmonization and business competitiveness in the process of economic integration of Vietnam into international community. The provinces and ministries have proposed their action plan to implement Decision No. 996/QD-TTg.

SECTION 3 – Future focus

New initiatives planned (next 1-2 years)

- 1) We're in process of working with relevant partners and government organizations to develop the national metrological program on National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) to improve the quality assurance capacity of Vietnam in approaching the Fourth Industrial Evolution.
- 2) Work with other ministries in order to bring metrological regulations into different fields and industries such as environmental protection, medical equipment and transport equipment. The work also includes more measuring instruments from other industries regulated in Circular 07/2019/TT-BKHCHN amending Circular 23/2013/TT-BKHCHN
- 3) Final drafts for Circular stipulating metrological and quality requirements in gas-related businesses (LPG, LNG, CNG)

Emerging issues – challenges and opportunities

- 1) The role of legal metrology become more important as metrological requirements are included in the regulations of various industries. We will be involved in the legislation process in order to harmonize the metrological regulations across the fields and industries.
- 2) Metrological equipment for anti-fraud measures and consumer protection require enormous investment especially for smart meters and virtual measurement system. The government, on the other hand, is limited in funding for equipment such equipment for metrological bodies. Viet Nam could benefit from international support in these fields.
- 3) There's an enormous need for training metrological officials, inspectors as well as technical staff from SMEs to understand the technical barriers in metrological fields that would improve the competitiveness of Viet Nam's economy.