



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**



Australian Government
**Department of Climate Change
and Energy Efficiency**

APEC LED Workshop Policies to Protect and Educate Consumers

Singapore, 1-2 November 2011

Communiqué

62 representatives from 23 economies participated in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation LED Workshop – Policies to Protect and Educate Consumers, which was held in Singapore on 1-2 November 2011. The Workshop was a part of the Singapore Lighting Energy Efficiency Week, co-sponsored by APEC and the Australian Government, with support from the Asia Lighting Compact. The participants recognise the widespread adoption of the LEDs has the potential to help the Asian region to address energy efficiency, energy security and climate change concerns. However, low-quality LED lighting products represent a significant barrier to the full adoption of the technology and to the realisation of the consumer and environmental benefits.

The workshop was organized as a mechanism for Asian policy makers to identify the areas of LED quality that may concern consumers, potential solutions to these areas of concerns, and whether these solutions could be harmonised across the Asian region and internationally.

The participants agreed to the following:

On the development of test methods, performance and quality parameters for consumer LED lighting products, the region should seek to:

- Draw lessons from the experiences with compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs);
- Harmonize test methods *and* performance parameters to reduce testing and compliance costs for industry and regulators;
- Harmonize LED and incandescent lamp equivalency claims and ensure all other product claims are made in comparable forms;
- Create regional partnerships on testing and organize round robin tests to build laboratory experience and capacity;
- Develop a ‘tropical’ standard for the region (incorporating regional specific characteristics such as: high ambient temperature, humidity, voltage fluctuation, salt resistance, etc.);
- Agree on key criteria and develop guidelines for raising awareness of consumers of the benefits of LEDs and how to identify quality products appropriate to their needs.

On policy development on LEDs, the region should seek to:

- Adopt regional rather than national approaches;
- Obtain technical assistance in setting standards;
- Develop training programmes for policy makers and test laboratories;
- Share information for policymakers and consumers on LED lighting technology and applications (via networking, website, telecoms, webinars, etc.);
- Create benchmarks of performance for various applications;
- Harmonize label contents;

- Cooperate on compliance activities;
- Share market monitoring data;
- Share information on industrial development policy.

On communicating with, and participation in, other international fora and processes the region should seek to:

- Contribute a common, agreed upon, regional perspective to international standards process for LED lighting;
- Continue to participate in, and facilitate, International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Technical Committee 34 standards development work to hasten publication of LED lighting standards;
- Improve the region's influence on IEC standards, including through the continued physical presence of regional representatives at IEC meetings;
- Provide regional input and feedback to the International Energy Agency (IEA) 4E SSL process.

The participants also called for the following actions:

- Development of a roadmap for consumer LEDs in the region;
- Use the same regional approach, where possible, for ensuring the quality of other lighting applications e.g. street lighting, decorative, commercial, as well as to design guidelines, building codes, etc.;
- To be proactive, start simple, small and build upon these successes;
- Investigation of options to reduce initial LED lighting product costs;
- Wherever possible, use and build on existing regional capacity embodied in organisations such as the Asia Lighting Compact (ALC) to deliver actions and outcomes outlined above.

Participants of the Workshop agreed to release this communiqué to record the outcome of their discussions.

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