Indonesia’s Certification Body and Testing Laboratory Achieve International Standard
- JICA’s Contribution through Technical Guidance -

As part of the Government of Japan’s support for the development of Indonesian electrotechnology\(^1\)-field industry, JICA has been facilitating a Technical Cooperation Project (TCP) for the capacity building of LSPro PPMB\(^2\) and BPMBEI\(^3\), Indonesia’s certification body and testing laboratory respectively, since June 2010. Recently, LSPro PPMB has been registered as a National Certification Body (NCB), while BPMBEI as a Certification Body for Testing Laboratory (CBTL) under the “CB Scheme\(^4\),” which is operated by the IECEE (IEC System for Conformity testing and Certification of Electrotechnical Equipment and Components), in May 2011.

Previously, if a company wishes to export electrical and electronic products made in Indonesia, it was necessary to obtain certificate from each of the export destination countries that the products have met the safety standards. With the recent registration of LSPro PPBM as a NCB and BPMBEI as a CBTL, thus inclusion in an international framework of the CB Scheme, exporting companies can now export to other CB Scheme member countries with the basis of certifications and test reports issued by the two institutions. This new process is expected to significantly reduce the time and cost.

In addition, being equipped in the international level – with soft infrastructure such as testing and certification capacities – means it could develop Indonesia’s electrotechnology-field industry through the improvement of the business environment of companies as well as deeper penetration of foreign companies. Moreover, the improvement of safety of Indonesia’s domestic electrical and electronic products will lead to the promotion of consumers’ interest in such products.

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\(^1\) Electrotechnology: the collective field of electrical, electronic and related technologies.

\(^2\) LSPro PPMB: one of the institutions with the authority to certify whether a product has been made according to international standards.

\(^3\) BPMBEI: one of the testing bodies with the capacity to test whether electrical and electronic products were made according to the international standards established by the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)

\(^4\) CB Scheme: based on the principle of mutual recognition (reciprocal acceptance) by its members of test results for obtaining certification or approval at national level.
The Government of Indonesia (GOI) and the Government of Japan (GOJ) signed the Economic Partnership Agreement (IJEPA) in August 2007, which has become effective since July 2008. The IJEPA contains the framework of cooperation by GOJ to support the development of Indonesian industries, which is called the “MIDEC Initiative.” Based on this, GOI submitted the request for technical cooperation in the field of electrotechnology to the GOJ. GOJ examined how such cooperation can be implemented, and determined for JICA to implement it.

After the Lehman shock, economy of developed countries is still on the way to recovery, while Indonesia could have managed the crisis, realizing stable economic growth mainly led by robust private consumption. In order to make the economy more sustainable, it is necessary to further promote industrial development including the fostering of supporting industry. From the view point of manufacturers from foreign countries, it is critical to develop such industry since it contributes to the diversification and stability of their procurement and the strengthening of their international competitiveness.

Since the start of the project (TCP) in June 2010, JICA has been supporting Indonesia’s certification bodies and laboratories through the cooperation of the Japan Quality Assurance Organization (JQA) and the Japan Electrical Safety & Environment Technology Laboratories (JET). In concrete, encouraging improvements within through the identification of problems that may be pointed out by the assessors if those bodies and laboratories undergo examinations for the IECEE-CB Scheme registration. JICA – through the support of JET and JQA – will continue to dispatch experts several times until March 2012 as part of its cooperation activities to contribute to Indonesia’s capacity building for standards and certification in the field of electrotechnology.