

FAMI Convenes 5th Annual General Meeting in Hanoi



The Federation of Asian Motorcycle Industries (FAMI; Dato'Syed Mohamad Aidid, chairman) held its 5th Annual General Meeting and related committee meetings on March 2-5 in Hanoi, Vietnam. This marks the first time the gathering has been held outside of the FAMI member countries. Over 60 representatives from FAMI member associations* were on hand for the event, with a delegate from the International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (IMMA) also attending as an observer.

Recent years have seen the countries of Asia grow into the world's largest motorcycle production and sales region, with the motorcycle industry now viewed as a key sector having a major impact on the national economies. Hand in hand with this trend, however, harmonization of technical standards, improvements in statistics, road traffic safety and other problems are steadily emerging as shared themes in all Asian nations.

FAMI firmly believes that proper responses must be mounted to these issues, in support of sound development for the motorcycle industries in all member countries. The federation is advancing vigorous activities toward this end, based on the strength of mutual collaboration between its member countries and associations.

Technical Committee Report

During the session held by the FAMI Technical Committee, a report was delivered by the Standards Harmonization Task Force. Each country presented updates on the progress made in safety, noise and emissions, in a brisk exchange of useful information.

The Standards Harmonization Task Force has run comparisons of the laws and

regulations between the ECE and the individual FAMI member countries concerning speedometers, tires, horns and mirrors, in studies aimed at confirming the actual conditions in each of the countries. The current plan calls for completing comparisons between the six ECE legal systems with those of the individual countries by the next meeting, proceeding at a pace of one system per month. A brief explanation was also provided on type approvals, with more detailed studies to be advanced from the next meeting on.

Research & Planning Committee Report

The Research & Planning Committee reported on the latest market trends in the various countries, as well as the regulatory trends for non-technical matters. This was followed by separate reports on the results of studies by the Statistics Task Force and Traffic Safety Task Force.

The Statistics Task Force has worked to confirm the current status, key needs and upcoming plans for improving the compilation of motorcycle statistics, while conducting studies on how to make such positive changes at the earliest possible point in time.

The Traffic Safety Task Force reported on the results of the 2nd Traffic Safety Seminar, a meeting convened by MDPPA in the Philippines last November. It was explained how the momentum from this event is being used to conduct a safe riding poster campaign, traffic safety seminars and other independent programs in the Philippines.

The task force also held discussions on its potential second-year activities. This produced consensus on continuing the safe riding poster campaign under the main theme of "Ride Safely, Enjoy Life," studying the key points for holding the 3rd Traffic Safety Seminar and otherwise strengthening its activity portfolio.

The General Meeting was followed by a press conference. This included introductions of the FAMI organization and its activities to the Vietnamese media, as well as a message designed to encourage local motorcycle users to wear helmets on the road.

The next FAMI Management Committee meeting is scheduled to be held this coming September in India. For its part, JAMA continues to energetically support efforts to further strengthen FAMI programs and activities, in striving to promote healthy development and progress for the motorcycle industry.



Discussion at the 5th FAMI General Meeting

*** FAMI member associations include AISI (Indonesia), MASAAM (Malaysia), MDPPA (Philippines), SIAM (India), SMCTA (Singapore), TAIA (Thailand), TTVMA (Taiwan) and JAMA (Japan).**