

FAMI Convenes 14th Management Committee Meeting and 7th Annual General Meeting in the Philippines ~ Announces Decision to Join IMMA ~

The Federation of Asian Motorcycle Industries*¹ (FAMI; Dato' Syed Mohamad Aidid, Chairman) held its 14th Management Committee Meeting and 7th Annual General Meeting during the three days of March 16-18 in Manila. Convened at this time were meetings of two related committees and four task forces. A grand total of over 80 industry representatives were on hand for these meetings, among them delegates of the International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (IMMA) as observers.



The Management Committee Meeting and the Annual General Meeting were convened on March 18, the final day of the gathering, with the following major agenda items confirmed.

1. FAMI to Obtain IMMA Membership

All members confirmed that FAMI would become an official member of IMMA as of April 1, 2006, further strengthening its presence at the focus of the global motorcycle industry.

Through IMMA, Asian motorcycle manufacturers will become more involved in the processes of crafting technical regulations and other measures affecting the industry at the world level. IMMA serves as the voice of the industry in the United Nations (UN) and World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP29).

During the meeting FAMI President Dato' Syed Mohamad Aidid commented on this new chapter in the history of FAMI: "With this membership, FAMI has moved on from being an Asian-wide association to emerge as a player on the global motorcycle stage. We look forward to working hand in hand with IMMA to promote the welfare of the motorcycle industry on a genuine international level."



2. Technical Committee (chaired by Mr. K. Ochi, JAMA)

The activities of the Harmonization Task Force were reported.

1) Harmonization Task Force (chaired by Mr. O. Yamana, JAMA)

The delegates exchanged information on the latest situation for implementing ECE Regulations within their own government and industry's implementation plans.

They also discussed the latest developments in safety, noise and emission issues.

In preparation for its membership in IMMA, FAMI has restructured its Technical Committee to become more actively involved in the process of promoting technical harmonization across the world motorcycle industry.

3. Research & Planning Committee (chaired by Dr. W. Wisoot, TAIA)

The activities of three task forces were reported.

1) Statistics Task Force (chaired by Ms. Stone Shih, TTVMA)

Statistics on seven major motorcycle themes (production, domestic sales, exports, imports, registration, in-use status and accidents) are being collected and uploaded to the FAMI website statistics database. This website, incidentally, cannot be accessed by the general public.

The Statistics Task Force will be upgraded to the "Information Task Force." The idea is to have this group expand its discussions beyond statistical data, and address the issues of releasing future information to the general public to contribute to greater understanding and progress for the motorcycle industry.

2) Road Safety Task Force (chaired by Mr. Joseph Sison, MDPPA)

Road Safety Seminars aimed at helping reduce traffic accidents have been held five times to date, rotating the hosting duties among the member associations. The 5th Road Safety Seminar was held in January in India.*² The 6th Road Safety Seminar was scheduled for March 29 in Bangkok to coincide with the Bangkok Motor Show. Agreement has been reached for Indonesia to hold the 7th seminar in this series next November.

Each member association agreed to continue the Road Safety Poster Campaign in 2006, adopting the unified theme of "Ride Safely, Enjoy Life." Both the poster campaign and the seminars have generated a positive impact in raising the road safety awareness of motorcycle riders in FAMI member countries.

3) Intellectual Property Rights Task Force (chaired by Mr. Andi Hartanto, AISI)

The Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Task Force was set up at the previous Management Committee, based on the agreement of members of the need to tackle the issue of infringement of IPR and promote greater awareness and respect of IPR throughout the Asian motorcycle industry. It was likewise decided to hold an IPR Poster Campaign in each member country, while holding the first IPR Symposium on this May 25 in Penang, Malaysia (organized by MASAAM).

Following the report, the countries swapped general information on the situations in their respective motorcycle industries and markets.

A press conference was held after the Annual General Meeting, with some 20 journalists in attendance. This event was used to announce the official move by FAMI to become a member of IMMA.



The next FAMI Management Committee and the related meetings are scheduled for this coming September in Japan.

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

*2 see <http://www.jama-english.jp/motor/200602.pdf>