

Adopted

4 December 2015, New Delhi

Terms of Reference Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM)

1. Background

The Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM) was first proposed at the Roundtable Forum for the Regional Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers/Distributors Associations held by CSAM (then called UNAPCAEM) in Seoul, Korea in 2006 in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Republic of Korea and the Korea Agricultural Machinery Industry Cooperative (KAMICO). ANTAM is aimed to promote sustainable agricultural mechanization through region-wide standard-setting to address safety, efficiency and environmental aspects of agricultural mechanization, and to facilitate intraregional trade in agricultural machinery.

ANTAM was officially launched at the regional policy-makers roundtable on 18 November 2013 in Bangkok, where the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Network was approved. The ToR was then adopted by the Governing Council of CSAM at its session on 19 November 2013 in Bangkok. As of December 2015, 17 member States and associate members of ESCAP have designated focal points for ANTAM: Armenia; Bangladesh; Cambodia; China; France; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Malaysia; Pakistan; Philippines; Russia; Republic of Korea; Sri Lanka; Thailand; Turkey and Viet Nam.

At the first annual meeting of ANTAM held on 17-18 September 2014 in Beijing, participating member countries of ANTAM reviewed the ToR and suggested amendments be made to the ToR.

The present ToR replaces the previous ToR adopted in November 2013.

2. Mission and objectives

(a) Mission of ANTAM

The mission of ANTAM is to ensure the sustainability and high quality of agricultural machinery produced, traded and used in participating countries in the Asia-Pacific region through harmonization of testing codes and standards of agricultural machinery applied in the region, and application of uniform or mutually recognized testing procedures that address quality, performance, occupational safety and environmental sustainability of agricultural machinery.

(b) Objectives of ANTAM

- Forge a common definition and understanding of minimum standards for sustainable agricultural machinery among participating countries;
- Upgrade and improve existing testing facilities of participating countries through capacity building programmes, seminars and site visits, and facilitate the testing stations in participating countries to improve efficiency;
- Contribute to the development of national, regional and international testing standards and common procedures and strategies for sustainable agricultural mechanization;
- Promote mutual recognition of testing results through development and adoption of harmonized region-wide testing codes and procedures, so as to avoid duplication of testing of the same machinery;
- Reduce the social cost of production and use of unsafe, inefficient and inappropriate agricultural machinery; and
- Facilitate intraregional trade in sustainable agricultural machinery.

3. Functions of ANTAM

ANTAM shall have the following functions for the purpose of furthering its objectives:

- Act as a platform for national testing centres/stations in the region to exchange information on agricultural machinery and equipment testing and share expertise and best practices;
- Promote collaborative activities and technology transfer among national testing centres/stations in the region;
- Provide a discussion forum for developing and harmonizing testing codes and standards of sustainable agricultural machinery in the region;
- Facilitate intraregional trade in sustainable agricultural machinery;
- Organize regional seminars, workshops and professional training programmes;
- Provide a database and a reference point for agricultural machinery testing in the region;
- Coordinate research and undertake surveys of existing testing standards and procedures;
- Facilitate the adoption of a commonly agreed methodology for agricultural machinery and equipment testing and mutual recognition of testing results by participating countries in the region; and

- Act as a coordinating and independent agency to guarantee a fair adoption of procedures and test results by participating member States.

4. Work plan

As a region-wide project, ANTAM requires long-term concerted efforts and compatible levels of economic development of participating member countries to ensure its success. Hence, ANTAM shall adopt phased action plans to deliver outcomes at different stages and mobilize technical and financial resources to facilitate the realization of its objectives. Detailed work plans of the Network shall be discussed and approved by the annual meeting of the Network.

5. Members

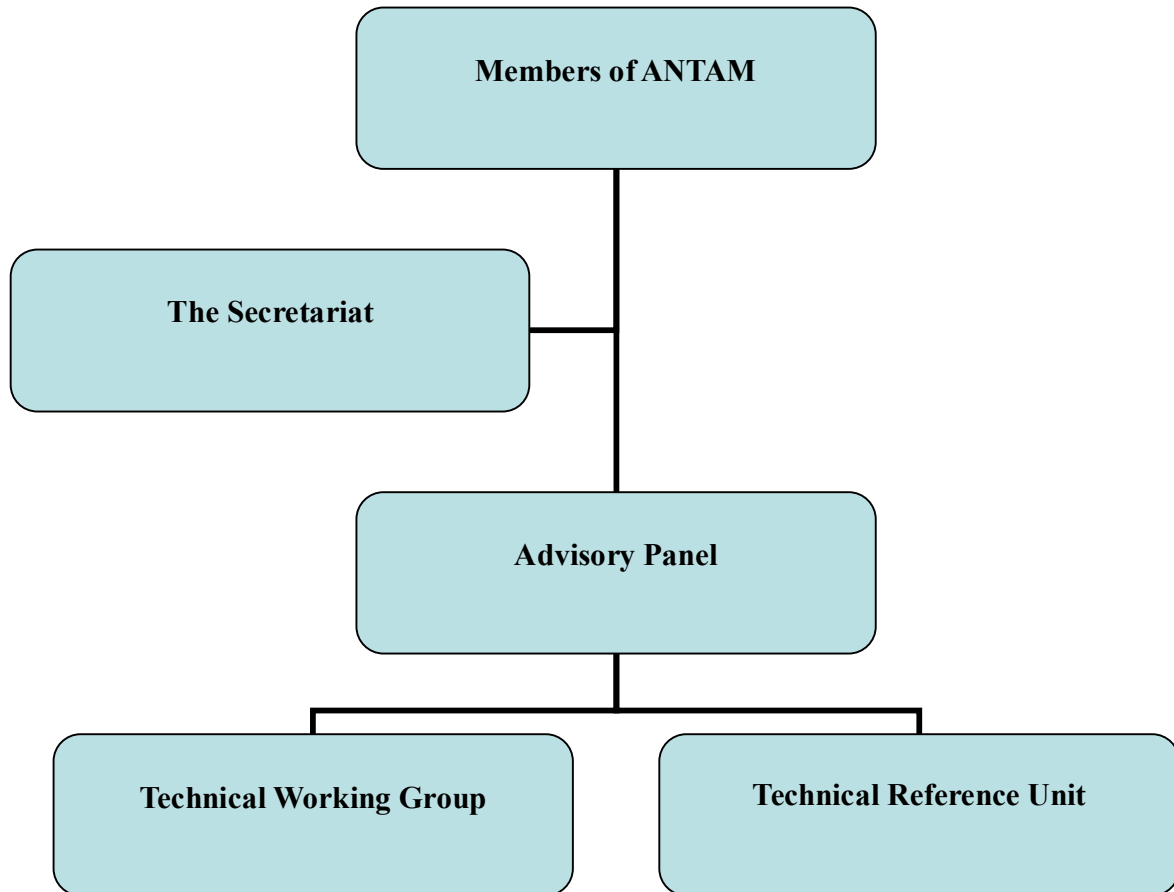
The Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery (ANTAM) is a regional network composed of officially designated focal points which are nominated by participating member countries through official communication to ESCAP. The focal points include national testing stations of agricultural machinery, research institutes of agricultural engineering and relevant government agencies in charge of agricultural mechanization and standardization.

ANTAM is open to member States and associate members of ESCAP. Participation in ANTAM is voluntary. Others shall be accepted as observers upon application and approval by the Secretariat of ANTAM. Observers do not have the right to vote.

Members of ANTAM are expected to actively contribute to the work and deliverables of ANTAM including the provision of information and data, organization of activities and making in-kind contributions where appropriate.

Members of ANTAM are required to waive their rights to enforce any intellectual property that would be necessary to implement or use deliverables developed by ANTAM. Deliverables include tools, guides, handbooks and regional specification of standards.

6. Organizational structure



(a) Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel consists of Head of CSAM, representatives from ENTAM/ENAMA, FAO, OECD, UNIDO, the Chair, the incoming Chair and outgoing Chair of ANTAM. The Panel, in reference to the existing work done by relevant international organizations in the field of development and standardization of testing codes and procedures of agricultural machinery, and with special attention to the local conditions in participating member States, is to ensure that the Network fulfils its objectives, and is responsible, inter alia, for:

- Reviewing the strategic focus, objectives and priorities of ANTAM;
- Making recommendations for the operations of ANTAM;
- Monitoring and evaluating the programme of activities of ANTAM on a regular basis at least once a year; and

- Conducting outreach activities with other organizations to assist in resource mobilization.

(b) Secretariat

The Secretariat is based at CSAM. CSAM is the executing agency of the Network with the support of relevant backstopping divisions of ESCAP. The Secretariat provides necessary logistical and administrative support to, and assists and coordinates the operation of the Network. The Secretariat hosts the website of the Network.

The Head of CSAM serves as the Secretary of the Network.

CSAM assists the Network in accomplishing its mission and achieving its objectives through undertaking activities and implementing its programme of work within available resources. In particular, it:

- Assists in the organization of the annual meeting, meeting of the Advisory Panel and other major events of ANTAM;
- Coordinates ANTAM activities;
- Acts as a central repository of information and documentation relevant to ANTAM, and disseminate information and documents to members and interested parties as appropriate; and
- Establishes and maintains the ANTAM website and database with substantive inputs from participating members.

(c) Technical Working Group (TWG)

The Technical Working Group (TWG) is composed of technical experts in the field of agricultural machinery testing nominated by participating member countries. The TWG is mandated to develop and review testing codes based on the decision of the ANTAM annual meeting. It also provides technical guidance for the implementation of ANTAM activities. The TWG shall convene at least once a year, and present its annual work report to the ANTAM annual meeting. Sub-Technical Working Groups can be established based on the decision of the ANATM annual meeting. The composition of the TWG shall be reviewed at its annual meeting. The TWG operates under its Terms of Reference adopted by the ANTAM annual meeting. Based on the needs of the TWG, a lead technical expert shall be appointed by the Secretariat.

(d) Technical Reference Unit (TRU)

The Technical Reference Unit (TRU) provides technical support and third-party, objective check on the technical content of the testing reports performed by participating member countries in compliance with ANTAM codes and procedures. The TRU is selected by consensus at the ANTAM annual meeting.

(e) Annual meeting

ANTAM convenes one annual meeting. Decisions of the annual meeting shall be adopted by consensus of participating members. The annual meeting is to:

- Review the annual programme of activities and adopt the programme for the next year;
- Deliberate on major administrative and financial matters of the Network;
- Approve strategic documents and publications of ANTAM;
- Review and approve participation of member States and applications of observers; and
- Approve common requirements and methodologies to be used for testing.

A Chair and a Vice Chair are elected at the annual meeting with respective terms of office of one year. Both the Chair and the Vice Chair shall be represented by the official focal points for ANTAM. The Vice Chair shall become the incoming Chair of the next year. The Chair, incoming Chair and the outgoing Chair shall sit on the Advisory Panel of ANTAM. The Chair and the Vice Chair shall collaborate with the Secretariat in organizing the ANTAM annual meeting.

In order to efficiently utilize limited resources and to increase members' ownership of the Network, it is desirable to rotate the annual meeting venues among members based on their consent and voluntary in-kind contribution.

7. Funding

The daily operation of the ANTAM Secretariat is financed by CSAM. The Secretariat shall seek extra-budgetary resources, including financial and in-kind contributions from participating members of ANTAM to fund substantive activities of the Network.

Annex I

Members of the Advisory Panel of ANTAM

1. Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization(CSAM)
2. Italian Agency for Agricultural Mechanization (ENAMA) /European Network for Testing Agricultural Machinery (ENTAM)
3. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
4. Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
5. United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
6. Chair of ANTAM
7. Incoming Chair of ANTAM
8. Outgoing Chair of ANTAM