INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING

## **The World Organisation for NDT** ICNDT MRA Signatory Event – Tokyo Japan

In the last decade the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) had been promoting the industrial application of NDT among the East Asian countries, and the Japanese Society for Non-destructive Inspection (JSNDI) has been contributing to the technological development of Asia Pacific NDT societies from the beginning of the twenty first century. As one of its priorities the JSNDI had planned to stage regular regional workshops for enhancement of cooperation with 13 Asia Pacific Societies (Bangladesh, China, Chinese Taipei, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippine, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam), and the first NDT workshop was held in 2007. The 13 societies nominated Japan, China, India, Korea and Malaysia to form the present Task Group in 2008. JSNDI nominated Singapore to stage the workshop in 2009, and Australia in 2011.

Amongst the many objectives of the Task Group, it has an advisory role in connection with the staging of the Asia-Pacific Conference on NDT (APCNDT), and on the development and implementing ISO 9712 Certification as a common standard. The present (the  $3^{rd}$ ) Task Group meeting was arranged by JSNDI on  $9^{th} - 11^{th}$  October 2012 in Tokyo and focussed on the organisation of the  $14^{th}$  APCNDT, which will be held in India, and the  $15^{th}$  APCNDT which will be staged in Singapore.

The Task Group meeting, with Chairman, Dr Norikazu Ooka, and members representing Australia, China, India, Korea, Malaysia and Singapore, discussed the future framework of each of the Asia Pacific societies. Furthermore, the meeting took the opportunity for the exchange of comments and discussions on NDT strategies in order to strengthen the already good cooperation within the Asia Pacific NDT societies.

The following key topics were discussed during the task group meeting:

1. APFNDT Constitution & Working Group

ICNDT

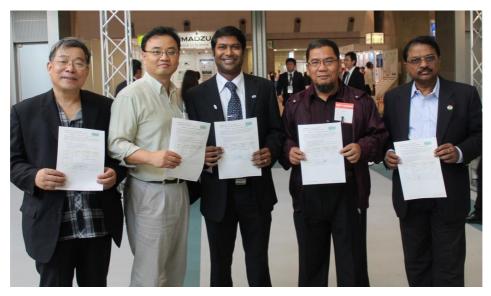
- 2. Common Examination Question Bank (EQB) for Asia pacific
- 3. Common Sourcing of Examination Specimens
- 4. Technical specifications for Examination Specimens
- 5. Model Quality Management System for EN ISO 17024
- 6. Common training notes
- 7. A 'train the trainers' program for developing NDT societies in Asia
- 8. 14<sup>th</sup> APCNDT & 20<sup>th</sup> WCNDT plans.

During this Event, the following member countries supported and signed the ICNDT Multilateral Recognition Agreement at the offices of the JSNDI office on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> October 2012:

- 1. China Represented by Dr. Shen
- 2. India Represented by Mr. V.Pari
- 3. Korea Represented by Prof Younho
- 4. Malaysia Represented by Dr. Nassir
- 5. Singapore Represented by Mr. S.K.Babu

Before they could sign the MRA, Japan & Australia would require approval from their executive board meetings, which is expected in the coming months.

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From left to right, representatives of China, Korea, Singapore, Malaysia and India holding the signed MRA schedule 1, with ICNDT General Secretary, Mr S.K.Babu (centre).



Members joining hands together to symbolize the promotion of the ICNDT MRA & the planned adoption of EN ISO 9712:2012 in the Asia Pacific region.