Title: Official Observer

Authoring Group: AHWP SECRETARIAT

Date: 26 November 2016
1. **Purpose**

This document proposes to make amendment to the Asian Harmonization Working Party (AHWP) & AHWP Technical Committee (AHWPTC) Terms of Reference (hereafter as “TOR”) as detailed in section 3 below under “Proposed Amendment to the AHWP TOR”.

2. **Background**


2.2. To set up a role of Official Observer of AHWP, for close collaborating partnership with international organizations and other regulatory authorities, which have constraints to join AHWP liaison membership.

2.3. The Amendments will follow the below general principles:
- TOR can override the AHWP House Rules when there is any discrepancy;
- Under the same conditions, it is preferred to make the minimum amendments to the current TOR and House Rules possible.

3. **Proposed Amendment to the AHWP TOR**

3.1. The below new clause 1.4 Official Observers is proposed to be added in AHWP TOR between the current clause 1.3 Leadership and 1.4 Decisions and Resolutions, with numbering of clauses under Clause 1. Asian Harmonization Working Party (AHWP; or the “Working Party”) to be updated accordingly:

**Clause 1.4 Official Observers**
The AHWP leadership may designate Official Observers on the basis of expected contribution and value. Official Observers must be approved by the unanimous consent of the voting members present in AHWP annual meetings. Official Observers do not participate in the decision making process.

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