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# Economy Report – 2026

# *Viet Nam*

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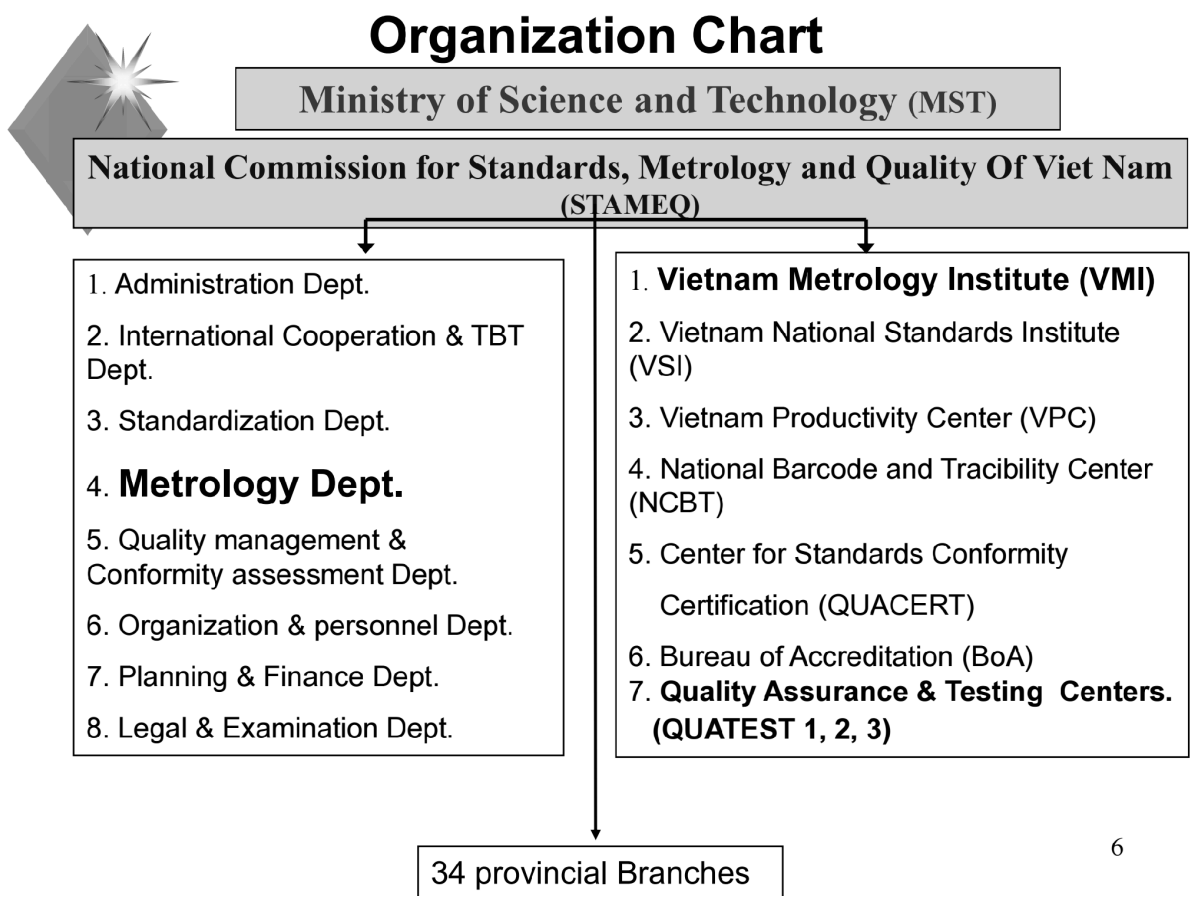
## SECTION 1 – Structure and organisations for metrology

### Organisation Structures

1) Commission for Standards, Metrology and Quality (STAMEQ), under Ministry of Science and Technology, is the governmental body in charge of metrological management on behalf of the Central Government in many fields. Since 1 March 2025, the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Information and Communications have been merged into one ministry under the name Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST). Within STAMEQ, the Metrology Department advises the STAMEQ Chairman on legal metrology management and is the national focal point for OIML, APLMF and ACCSQ/WG3, coordinating with VMI on CGPM and APMP matters.
2) STAMEQ includes subordinate technical organization such as Vietnam Metrology Institute (VMI), three Quality Assurance and Testing Centers (QUATEST).
3) VMI is the national metrology institute of Vietnam, in charge of metrological research as well as various metrological activities. VMI is the custodian of national measurement standards (the first level of Measurement Standards Labs) and provide traceability services for regional, local technical bodies and other private organizations
4) QUATEST centers are STAMEQ's regional technical bodies that hold reference standards in different regions of Vietnam (the second level of Measurement Standards Labs). They provide traceability services within the regions.

5) Following the reorganisation into a two-tier local government model (provincial and commune levels) from 1 July 2025, the Provincial Branches for Standards, Metrology and Quality under the Departments of Science and Technology of the 34 provinces and centrally-run cities (Provincial Branches) are in charge of local metrological management. They also include Provincial Technical Centers as the third level of Measurement Standards Labs. Under Decrees No. 132/2025/ND-CP and No. 133/2025/ND-CP, tasks such as the registration of verification, calibration and testing services and the certification of working standards used for verification of Group 2 measuring instruments have been decentralised to provincial People's Committees, while commune-level People's Committees take part in state metrological inspection at markets and retail outlets.
6) Organization chart:

STAMEQ and 34 provincial Branches for Standards, Metrology and Quality are in charge of metrological management.
VMI, QUATEST 1,2, 3 and provincial Technical Centers are only responsibly for technical services.




## Legislative Frameworks

1) The Vietnam Metrology Law approved by the Vietnam National Assembly in November 2011.

2) The Decree 86/2012/ND-CP for implementing Vietnam Metrology Law was issued by the Government and in October 2012.
3) The Decree 119/2017/ND-CP for administrative fine on violations of standardization, metrology and quality control.
4) Decree No. 126/2021/ND-CP of the Government: Amending and supplementing a number of articles of the decrees regulating administrative sanctions for violations in the fields of industrial property; standards, measurement and quality of products and goods; scientific and technological activities, technology transfer; atomic energy
5) The Decree 105/2016/ND-CP prescribes the operating requirements for verification, calibration and testing organizations for measuring instruments and measurement standards in July 2016
6) Decree 154/2018/ND-CP amending, supplementing and abolishing a number of regulations on business investment conditions in the field of state management of the Ministry of Science and Technology.
7) Decree No. 13/2022/ND-CP dated January 21, 2022 amending and supplementing a number of articles Decree No. 132/2008/ND-CP, Decree No. 74/2018/ND-CP and Decree No. 86 /2012/ND-CP.
8) Decree No. 133/2025/ND-CP of the Government dated June 12, 2025: Stipulating the assignment and decentralization of authority in the field of state management of the Ministry of Science and Technology.
9) Decree No. 132/2025/ND-CP of the Government dated June 12, 2025: Stipulating the delimitation of authority of the two-tier local government in the fields under the state management of the Ministry of Science and Technology.
10) Decree No. 36/2026/ND-CP of the Government dated January 23, 2026 amending and supplementing a number of articles of Decree No. 105/2016/ND-CP: the registration of verification, calibration and testing services is now granted by the Chairman of the provincial People's Committee within 5 working days; service providers must operate a quality management system in line with TCVN ISO/IEC 17025, publicly post service prices and report annually; MOST builds the national database on standards, metrology and quality.
11) Law No. 70/2025/QH15 amending and supplementing the Law on Standards and Technical Regulations and Law No. 78/2025/QH15 amending and supplementing the Law on Product and Goods Quality (both effective from January 1, 2026), detailed by Decrees No. 22/2026/ND-CP and No. 37/2026/ND-CP. Together with the Law on Metrology, they form the legal basis of Viet Nam's National Quality Infrastructure (NQI).
12) Circulars for implementing the Law on Metrology were issued by Minister of Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) included:
    a. Circular 14/2013/TT-BKHCN on approval of National measurement standards;
    b. Circular 23/2013/TT-BKHCN on Group 2 measuring instruments;
    c. Circular 24/2013/TT-BKHCN on management of Verification, Calibration, Testing; (replaced by Circular No. 54/2025/TT-BKHCN from February 15, 2026)
    d. Circular 22/2013/TT-BKHCN on measurement management on trade of gold & quality management on trade of jewel;
    e. Circular 28/2013/TT-BKHCN on State metrological supervision;

f. Circular 21/2014/TT-BKHCN on quantity of pre-packaged goods;
g. Circular 15/2015/TT-BKHCN on measurement management and quality management on fuel;
h. Circular 06/2017/TT-BKHCN on economic technical quotas for verification and calibration of measuring instruments in continuous water-environment-monitoring stations;
i. Circular 09/2017/TT-BKHCN on weight measurement of retail in markets;
j. Circular 08/2018/TT-BKHCN amending a number of articles of Circular 15/2015/TT-BKHCN dated August 25, 2015 on the measurement and quality of petrol and oil trading;
k. Circular 11/2018/TT-BKHCN on economic technical quotas for verification and calibration of measuring instruments in continuous air-environment-monitoring stations;
l. Circular 07/2019/TT-BKHCN amending Circular on Group 2 measuring instruments in 2013;
m. Circular 20/2019/TT-BKHCN on metrological and quality regulations on gas business and gas preparation activities.
n. Circular No. 04/2022/TT-BKHCN stipulating economic technical quotas for public non-business services funded by the state budget on maintaining, preserving and using the national system of measurement standards;
o. Circular No. 10/2022/TT-BKHCN dated July 28, 2022 amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular 28/2013/TT-BKHCN dated December 17, 2013;
p. Circular No. 03/2024/TT-BKHCN of the Ministry of Science and Technology: Amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular No. 23/2013/TT-BKHCN dated September 26, 2013 of the Minister of Science and Technology regulating measurement for group 2 measuring instruments, which was amended and supplemented by Circular No. 07/2019/TT-BKHCN dated July 26, 2019 of the Minister of Science and Technology.
q. Circular No. 06/2025/TT-BKHCN of the Minister of Science and Technology dated June 04, 2025: Amending, supplementing, and abolishing a number of articles of Circular No. 15/2015/TT-BKHCN dated August 25, 2015, of the Minister of Science and Technology, which stipulates metrology and quality in petroleum business and was amended and supplemented by Circular No. 08/2018/TT-BKHCN dated June 15, 2018, of the Minister of Science and Technology.
r. Circular No. 07/2025/TT-BKHCN of the Minister of Science and Technology dated June 20, 2025: Stipulating the decentralization and demarcation of authority when organizing local government at two levels in the fields of standardization, metrology, and quality under the state management scope of the Ministry of Science and Technology.
s. Circular No. 54/2025/TT-BKHCN of the Minister of Science and Technology dated December 31, 2025 (effective February 15, 2026): Regulating verification, calibration and testing of measuring instruments and measurement standards, replacing Circular No. 24/2013/TT-BKHCN;

t. Circular No. 04/2026/TT-BKHCN dated February 27, 2026 (effective April 15, 2026): Amending Circular No. 22/2013/TT-BKHCN (weighing instruments and permissible errors in gold trading) and Circular No. 23/2013/TT-BKHCN (list of Group 2 measuring instruments, control measures and verification intervals);
u. Circular No. 22/2026/TT-BKHCN dated May 20, 2026: Amending several circulars to cut administrative procedures – pattern approval decisions for Group 2 measuring instruments are valid for 10 years, and requests to adjust them can be filed online and are processed within 5 working days;
v. Circular No. 45/2026/TT-BKHCN dated July 31, 2026 (effective September 1, 2026): Amending and supplementing several circulars (including Circulars No. 14/2013/TT-BKHCN and No. 54/2025/TT-BKHCN) to cut and simplify administrative procedures in metrology. Consolidated texts of the main metrology circulars were published in 2026.

13) Minister's Decision 2284/QD-BKHCN to publish the HS code assignment for Group-2 measuring instruments subject to type approval as part of state examination of measurement upon import in August 2018
14) Prime Minister's Decision No 996/QD-TTg dated August 10, 2018 approving the Project "Strengthening and Innovating measurement activities to support Vietnamese enterprises in improving their competitiveness and international integration in the period up to 2025, with the outlook to 2030".
15) Minister's Decision No. 1537/QD-BKHCN Promulgating "Guidelines for developing and implementing the metrological inter-laboratory comparison program", dated July 18, 2023
16) Prime Minister's Decision No. 1876/QD-TTg dated September 30, 2026 approving the Project on developing the system of national technical organisations for standards, metrology and quality to 2030.
17) So far, more than 499 Authorized Verification Units (AVU) belong to various governmental and private organizations have been designated for verification of measuring instruments, including utility meters: electricity meters, water meters, etc. There have been more than 580 verification, calibration and testing organisations registered with STAMEQ.
18) The draft Law amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Law on Metrology was approved by the Government (Resolution No. 162/NQ-CP dated June 23, 2026) and submitted to the 2nd Session of the 16th National Assembly (October–November 2026) for adoption at one session; it is expected to take effect on March 1, 2027 (see Section 3).

## International arrangements and engagement

1) Hosting and attending ASEAN events
   a. Hosted the 43rd ACCSQ WG3 meeting and the workshop on the WG3 Work Plan 2026–2030, Hanoi, 13–16 October 2025
   b. WG3–EGM Workshop on developing the ASEAN Metrology Vision, Jakarta, Indonesia, 30–31 March 2026
   c. ASEAN–PTB training course on verification of automatic catchweighing instruments, Sepang, Malaysia, 28 September–1 October 2026
   d. The 45th ACCSQ WG3 meeting, Brunei Darussalam, 2026

2) Attending OIML events
    a. The 60th CIML meeting and 17th International Conference on Legal Metrology, Paris, France, 13–15 October 2025
    b. APLMF/OIML Seminar on OIML D 1 (National metrology systems), Shanghai, China, 26–27 November 2025
    c. APLMF/OIML Seminar on the OIML-CS – application to OIML R 134, Xi'an, China, 3–4 September 2026
    d. The 61st CIML meeting, New Delhi, India, 26–28 October 2026
3) Attending APLMF events
    a. The 32nd APLMF Forum and Working Group meetings, Indonesia, 5–7 November 2025
    b. APLMF training course on software evaluation for type approval, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 24–26 March 2026
    c. APLMF training course on verification and type approval of EVSE, Changsha, China, 8–9 July 2026
    d. The 33rd APLMF Forum and Working Group meetings, Chiang Rai, Thailand, 4–6 November 2026
4) Other international and bilateral events
    a. PTB's 5th CABUREK workshop on digital metrology infrastructure, Thailand, 17–20 November 2025
    b. Hosted a working session with GOST R (Russian Federation), Hanoi, 28 January 2026
    c. Working visit to the Central Office of Measures (GUM), Poland, 20–21 May 2026
    d. Study visit to the Republic of Korea (incl. KATS) on the amendment of the Law on Metrology, 25–30 July 2026
    e. VMI: 41st APMP General Assembly (November 2025); signing of an MoU with the Guangxi Institute of Metrology and Test, Nanning, China (28 May 2026)

# SECTION 2 – Key activities of 2025/26

## Working with the industry

1) **Final review of Project 996 (2018–2025).** On 28 November 2025, STAMEQ held a national conference reviewing the implementation of Decision No. 996/QD-TTg. Key results:
    a. 48 national measurement standards approved (117% of the target of 41);
    b. 10,079 trainee attendances in metrology (100.8% of the target);
    c. 45,596 enterprises supported in implementing measurement assurance programmes (91.2% of the target);
    d. 29 reference materials and 100 types of measuring instruments produced domestically (about 129% of the plan);
    e. only 32 of the 200 targeted CMCs (16%) achieved – see lessons learned below.
2) **Vietnam Metrology Day 2026.** On 16 January 2026, STAMEQ and the Ninh Binh Department of Science and Technology organised the scientific workshop "Review of the implementation of the Law on Metrology and proposals for amendments" together with the celebration of Vietnam Metrology Day (20 January); medals "For the cause of Metrology" were presented to collectives and individuals. World Metrology Day 2026 ("Metrology: Building Trust in Policy Making") was promoted nationwide.
3) **Digital services for industry.** STAMEQ piloted electronic certificates and QR codes attached to verification and calibration stamps at its technical units, towards an official regulation. The national digital platform and database on standards, metrology and quality is used by all 34 provinces (500–700 conformity declarations per day since 1 July 2026); metrology modules will be added after the amended Law is adopted.
4) **Local measurement-innovation plans.** For example, Ho Chi Minh City raised the verification capacity of its public units to 64.7% of demand by 30 September 2026 (target 57%) and trained 436 officials and 1,091 enterprise attendances; the city power corporation (EVNHCMC) has converted about 3.9 million electricity meters to remote reading (AMR/AMI).

## Protecting consumers

1) Regular examinations and inspections at specific provinces in compliance of metrological regulations; in 2026, a nationwide inspection of E10 bio-gasoline (Plan No. 3927/KH-BKHCN of 5 June 2026) covered metrology and quality at blending, production and supply facilities – no violations were found at the inspected facilities as of end-July 2026. Provincial authorities continued to sanction metrology violations in fuel and gold trading.
2) Review the metrological capabilities of registered and designated organization in verification, calibration and testing.
3) Review the manufacturers and importers of measuring instruments

4) **Supporting decentralisation:** STAMEQ issued guidance documents for localities on their decentralised tasks and a training manual on state metrological inspection for commune/ward officials (October 2025), and organised training and on-site surveys in provinces.
5) **Stronger sanctions:** MOST is consulting on a new decree replacing Decree No. 119/2017/ND-CP on administrative sanctions in standards, technical regulations, metrology and product quality, with fines graded by risk and consequences and heavier penalties for falsifying measurement results and systemic fraud.

## Major projects - What we did and what we learned

1) Vietnam's Prime Minister has signed Decision No 996/QD-TTg dated August 10, 2018. The project is aimed to improve the National Metrology Infrastructure across organizations and businesses, technical regulation harmonization and business competitiveness in the process of economic integration of Vietnam into international community. The first phase (2018–2025) was reviewed in November 2025. What we learned:

- **What worked:** measurement assurance programmes reached tens of thousands of enterprises; model provinces (Quang Ninh, Dak Lak, Ha Tinh, Hai Phong) and the Ministry of National Defence showed that combining training, inter-laboratory comparisons and consulting brings measurable savings – e.g. water utilities applying ISO/IEC 17025 to water-meter verification reduced errors and correction costs.
- **What needs improvement:** international recognition of CMCs lagged (32/200) because of limited expertise and facilities, few domestic inter-laboratory comparisons and costly international comparisons; investment in standards must come with funding for operation, maintenance and participation in key comparisons.
- **Next phase (2026–2030):** complete the legal basis for measurement assurance in enterprises; build a digital national measurement database linking central, local and enterprise levels, with an early-warning system for violations; extend programmes to AI, semiconductors, biomedicine, autonomous vehicles and high-speed rail; join more CIPM-MRA comparisons and receive technology transfer from partner NMIs.

2) **Amending the Law on Metrology (2011).** As the drafting agency, STAMEQ led the amendment process: review workshop (16 January 2026); drafting team meeting (25 February 2026); publication of the draft for public consultation (March 2026); consultation workshop in Ho Chi Minh City (10 April 2026); workshop of the National Assembly Committee on Science, Technology and Environment (15 June 2026); Government Resolution No. 162/NQ-CP (23 June 2026); study visit to Korea, incl. KATS (25–30 July 2026); verification session of the National Assembly Committee (1 October 2026); submission to the 2nd Session of the 16th National Assembly (October 2026). What we learned: broad consultation (enterprises, associations, deputies), international benchmarking (OIML and other economies) and a quantified regulatory impact assessment (8 administrative procedures cut, about VND 400 billion of compliance costs saved over five years) helped build consensus;

deputies stressed that less pre-market control must be matched by evidence-based post-market control and effective redress for consumers.

3) In improving the Measuring Instrument Regulation, Ministry of Science and Technology has issued Circular No. 03/2024/TT-BKHCN which requires Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) to be type-approved and verified. STAMEQ has been working closely with regulators from other ministries, EV manufacturers and International partners to establish technical procedures, facilies and personnel training involved to meet the requirement of the Circular No. 03/2024/TT-BKHCN In July 2026, a STAMEQ Metrology Department official attended the APLMF training course on verification and type approval of EVSE (China) to support the implementation of this requirement.
4) In 2025, in compliance with latest policies and directives, Decree No. 133/2025/ND-CP of the Government and Circular No. 07/2025/TT-BKHCN of the Minister of Science and Technology have been issued for reassignment and decentralization of metrological control to the local governments. Ministry of Science and Technology and STAMEQ specifically have trained local officials and staff as well as survey the local situation onsite to devise measures to support local governments. In 2026, Decree No. 36/2026/ND-CP further decentralised the registration of verification, calibration and testing services to provincial People's Committees, and provinces have published the corresponding administrative procedures (e.g. Bac Ninh certified 68 working standards used for verification of measuring instruments in August 2026).

# SECTION 3 – Future focus

## New initiatives planned (next 1-2 years)

1) **Implementing the amended Law on Metrology** (expected to take effect on March 1, 2027) along three policy pillars:
    a. **Digital transformation and data-driven management –** a new chapter on digital transformation in metrology; a digital platform and shared database; legal recognition of digitised measurement results and electronic certificates; identification codes and life-cycle management for Group 2 measuring instruments and related standards; protection of software-controlled instruments; risk-based post-market control instead of blanket checks.
    b. **National metrology capacity and the role of enterprises –** development of scientific and industrial metrology; priority to measurement standards for strategic technologies, new energy, the digital and green economy; first-time legal basis for voluntary Measurement Assurance Programmes in enterprises; combining public and private resources; recognition of foreign measurement results where domestic capability is not yet available.

c. **Decentralisation and administrative reform –** self-declaration of capability for verification, calibration and testing of Group 1 instruments, while organisations serving Group 2 (mandatory control) are assessed and designated by the State; abolishing the certification of working standards, the classification of prepackages and the certificate for using the quantity mark (replaced by batch-based quantity control and record keeping by businesses); a clear split of inspection authority among central, provincial and commune levels.
d. Drafting the implementing decrees and circulars in parallel, with transitional provisions so that lawful activities are not interrupted.

2) **Implementing Decision No. 1876/QD-TTg to 2030:** upgrade one national-level metrology organisation; maintain and develop the national measurement standards and gain at least 50 more internationally recognised CMCs; produce at least 30 types of certified reference materials; run at least 100 proficiency testing schemes; build pattern-evaluation capability in line with OIML Recommendations; manage 100% of verification, calibration and testing data digitally and gradually apply electronic certificates.
3) Continue the integration and promotion of digital transformation in national metrology infrastructure of standards, metrology and quality, starting with the establishment of national database on standards, metrology and quality. Metrology modules (measuring instruments, standards, service providers and verification results) will be added once the amended Law is adopted.
4) Establishing plans for STAMEQ divisions to develop and produce CRM that allows technological application, promote industrialization and modernizaton, meets the needs of society, reduce import cost, protect health and environment. Producers of reference materials will seek accreditation to ISO 17034.
5) Issuing a new decree on administrative sanctions replacing Decree No. 119/2017/ND-CP, aligned with the amended Law on Metrology.
6) **Regional and international cooperation:** implementing the WG3 Work Plan 2026–2030; contributing to WG3–EGM cooperation on the priority areas of EVSE, digital transformation in metrology and software evaluation of measuring instruments; proposing Viet Nam's training and technical-assistance needs for the new ASEAN–PTB phase (from 2027); following the finalisation of the ASEAN guidelines on automatic catchweighing instruments and WIM instruments and the revision of OIML R 51; and applying the knowledge gained from APLMF and ASEAN–PTB training courses (software evaluation, EVSE, automatic catchweighing instruments) when reviewing national verification procedures and type-approval requirements.

## Emerging issues – challenges and opportunities

1) The role of legal metrology become more important as metrological requirements are included in the regulations of various industries. We will be involved in the legislation process in order to harmonize the metrological regulations across the fields and industries especially environmental protection, health and resource management.
2) Metrological equipment for anti-fraud measures and consumer protection requires enormous investment especially for smart meters and virtual measurement system. The

government, on the other hand, is limited in funding for equipment such equipment for metrological bodies. The Government's estimate presented to the National Assembly puts the need at about VND 9,000 billion for 2026–2030 for the national measurement standards system and the digital platform; priorities, shared use and measurable results (internationally recognised CMCs, services to enterprises, lower service costs) must be clearly defined.

3) There's an enormous need for training metrological officials, inspectors as well as technical staff from SMEs to implement and improve measurement activities in accordance with Decision 996/QD-Ttg to improve the competitiveness of Viet Nam's economy.
4) Enterprises in general and in the fields of metrology still have enormous challenges in facing the era of Industry 4.0 and digital transformation. Legal metrology in Vietnam must develop legal framework as well as infrastructures such as database; devise measures to manage digital transformation in Metrology such as DCC, smart meters and/or smart metering system; otherwises, regulators won't be able to keep up with changes and protect consumers and promote fair trade, health and environmental protection, international integration.
5) **Consumer protection in the data era:** with smart, automatic and remote metering of electricity, water, fuel and gas, consumers need access to raw measurement data, history and billing information, and mechanisms for bill adjustment, refunds and compensation when errors or fraud are found; automated alerts should support – not replace – evidence-based conclusions.
6) **Software and e-commerce:** control of software updates and remote verification, and the scope of control over apps and digital interfaces that calculate measurement results for payment, and over e-commerce platforms selling regulated measuring instruments.
7) **Capacity at commune level:** decentralised inspection requires staff, expertise and equipment, with technical support from the provincial level and coordination to avoid overlapping inspections.
8) **How APLMF could assist:** sharing members' experience and guidance on (i) risk-based post-market surveillance and quantity control of prepackages without a quantity mark; (ii) software control and remote/digital verification of utility meters (OIML D 31, digital calibration certificates); (iii) training for local inspectors; and (iv) wider use of OIML-CS. Follow-up APLMF training on EVSE and on software evaluation, building on the 2026 courses, would be particularly useful.