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Report on OIML Liaisons with other institutions

1 Policy paper on OIML liaisons with other institutions

A policy paper (B 12) was approved by the CIML at its 38th Meeting in Kyoto in 2003. This policy paper presents the rules governing OIML liaisons with the various kinds of organizations (international and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental) and describes the conditions for the exchange of information and, when applicable, for joint action.

2 Metre Convention

Liaison with the Metre Convention has become closer. In addition to the annual meeting held with the Metre Convention and ILAC and participation in joint committees (JCGM), the Metre Convention was consulted during the revision of OIML Document D 1 “Law on Metrology”, and frequent contacts have been made between the BIML and the BIPM. Three specific outcomes may be noted:

- The setting up of JCDCMAS with other organizations (see item 5 below),
- The envisaged possibility of developing a joint general brochure for the two organizations, and of setting up a common portal for the respective web sites of both organizations, and
- The envisaged development of a common consistent presentation by the Metre Convention, the OIML and ILAC, of the three respective MRAs or MAAs.

3 ILAC and IAF

Liaisons with international accreditation organizations have also been kept active. ILAC was consulted in the revision of OIML D 1, and numerous contacts were made and maintained on the occasion of various actions (JCDCMAS in particular).

The implementation of the OIML MAA will require increasing liaisons with ILAC, especially for discussing the accreditation of OIML Issuing Authorities by ILAC MRA signatories.

4 ISO and IEC

The OIML has active liaisons with ISO and the IEC.

These liaisons are related to several issues of technical work, resulting in joint publications such as R 99/ISO 3930 (exhaust gas analyzers), or at least in compatible documents. A number of OIML publications such as OIML D 11 (electronic devices) refer to international standards.

The OIML is also in liaison with ISO CASCO and ISO DEVCO, in order to exchange information on issues of certification and actions for Developing Countries.

5 WTO/TBT Committee

The activity of the OIML, as an observer at the WTO TBT Committee, has been significantly developed over the past four years. In addition to OIML presence at TBT Committee meetings, strong emphasis has been placed on specific issues of interest to the WTO:

- Information on the OIML MAA, which responds to the requirements of the TBT Agreement,
- Participation in WTO workshops and studies on the needs of Developing Countries, and
- Co-organization (with the WTO and the IEC) of specific Regional Awareness Seminars addressing Developing Countries.

6 JCDCMAS

The Joint Committee for the co-ordination of Technical Assistance to Developing Countries in Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization (JCDCMAS), was set up by a number of international organizations, in particular the Metre Convention, OIML, ILAC, IAF, ISO, IEC, ITU-T and UNIDO.

The Terms of Reference of this Joint Committee were, in particular, approved by the CIML at its 38th Meeting in Kyoto, and by the CGPM in 2003. The main purpose of the Joint Committee is to raise the awareness of decision-making bodies as to the importance and necessity for consistency in metrology, accreditation and standardization in development programs.

A common background information document has been finalized and a common presentation is being developed. Communication with organizations such as the WTO or the World Bank is now organized in a co-ordinated way.

7 Others

An important and very active liaison is kept with UNIDO, concerning actions for Developing Countries.

Other important issues concern the implementation of the new European Measuring Instruments Directive (MID) which recognized that OIML Recommendations may be accepted to give presumption of conformity. The BIML and the CIML Presidential Council maintain close liaisons with WELMEC and with CEN and CENELEC so that the implementation of the MID can make as wide a use of OIML Recommendations as possible, ensuring that this implementation does not deviate from the work of the OIML.

The BIML also has active cooperation with UN-ECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe) and UN-ECA (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa) who engage in some work related to legal metrology (weighing of vehicles in transit to facilitate cross-border formalities).