



## **Liaisons – Report by the BIML**

### **Additional information**

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## **MEMORANDUM of UNDERSTANDING**

**between**

**The INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION (IEC) and the IEC  
CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS**

**and**

**The INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LEGAL METROLOGY**

**concerning**

**LIAISONS and COLLABORATION BETWEEN BOTH ORGANIZATIONS**

The scope of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) covers the relationship between the OIML and IEC in matters of relevant technical cooperation, conformity assessment, standards development and practices.

The **International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML)** and the **International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)** and its **Conformity Assessment Systems (IECEE, IECEX and IECQ)**:

- **CONSIDERING** that the OIML is an Intergovernmental Organization which was established to harmonize legal metrology regulations and methods of control, to solve, at the international level, technical and administrative issues as they relate to legal metrology concerning the manufacture, the use and the control of measuring instruments and to facilitate the coordination of the efforts of its Member States in this field,
- **CONSIDERING** that the IEC is an International Standardization Organization which was established to promote the development of standardization and conformity assessment in the Electrotechnical Sector with a view to facilitating international exchange of goods and services and to developing cooperation in the spheres of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity,
- **CONSIDERING** that the OIML and the IEC are international standards-setting bodies as stipulated in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement of the World Trade Organization,
- **CONSIDERING** that both Organizations are involved in certain related technical activities which it would be desirable to harmonize,
- **CONSIDERING** that the IEC provides global conformity assessment services in the electrotechnical field, and that the OIML develops systems for the acceptance and mutual recognition of conformity assessment in the field of legal metrology,
- **DESIRING** to coordinate their efforts to attain their joint objectives and to this end, to define the terms and conditions of their liaisons and collaboration,



HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

*Preliminary provisions*

**Article I**

The OIML and the IEC shall maintain mutual liaisons and collaboration through:

- the International Bureau of Legal Metrology and the Central Secretariat of the International Electrotechnical Commission,
- the Secretariats of OIML Technical Committees and Subcommittees and IEC Technical Committees and Subcommittees, and
- the relevant conformity assessment systems of both Organizations.

**Article II**

The OIML and the IEC shall consult each other on any technical issues of joint interest and shall provide each other with any information or documentation concerning matters of mutual interest, particularly concerning legal metrology related to standardization and conformity assessment.

*Liaisons*

**Article III**

In accordance with the IEC's policy on liaison given in the ISO/IEC Directives, the OIML can make an effective contribution by participating in the metrology-related work of IEC Technical Committees or Subcommittees (category A-liaison).

In accordance with the IEC's policy on options for development of a project, as a Liaison with IEC Committees, the OIML may submit OIML Recommendations or Documents for consideration to be processed according to the ISO/IEC Directives.

**Article IV**

In accordance with the OIML *Policy paper on liaisons between the OIML and other bodies* and the OIML Directives, the IEC can make an effective contribution by participating in the technical work of the OIML.

**Article V**

The IEC and the OIML may agree to jointly develop publications. Such development shall be in accordance with the procedures of the respective Organizations. The IEC and the OIML shall also coordinate the maintenance of such publications.



## *Publications*

### **Article VI**

An OIML Recommendation or Document that has been processed under IEC procedures, including the Fast-Track procedure, may be published by the IEC as an IEC Standard or Guide under the IEC's normal sales, copyright and exploitation conditions. Such an IEC Standard or Guide shall include appropriate indication of the equivalent OIML Recommendation or Document as its source.

### **Article VII**

An IEC Standard or Guide that has been processed under OIML procedures may be published by the OIML as a Recommendation or Document under the OIML's normal translation, copyright and distribution conditions. Such an OIML Recommendation or Document shall include appropriate indication of the equivalent IEC Standard or Guide as its source.

### **Article VIII**

In the case of jointly developed publications, both Organizations shall apply their own rules and procedures. Appropriate indication of the joint development shall be included in the publications.

## *Conformity assessment systems*

### **Article IX**

IEC Conformity Assessment Systems may participate as liaisons in relevant OIML Technical Committees and Subcommittees.

Relevant OIML TCs/SCs may participate as liaisons in the work of IEC Conformity Assessment Systems whose work is of interest to them

### **Article X**

The IEC and the OIML, in their attempt to avoid duplication of effort in their technical work, agree to the normative referencing of each other's publications as far as possible.

A portion of the technical content of one of the Organizations' publications may be reproduced in the other's publications on condition that formal permission has been granted and due credit is given.

### **Article XI**

Both Organizations shall take the utmost account of existing publications of, and ongoing work in the other Organization.



### **Article XII**

The OIML and the IEC may work together to prepare, release and jointly publicize external communications on matters of common interest.

External communications in the name of both Organizations shall be mutually agreed prior to their publication.

### *Implementation*

### **Article XIII**

The effectiveness of this MoU shall be monitored during the period of its implementation.

### **Article XIV**

To facilitate the implementation and maintenance of this MoU, Liaison Officers shall be appointed by each Organization.

Liaison Officers shall be responsible for drawing up a joint work programme and ensuring its acceptance for implementation by their respective Organization.

The joint work programme shall be reviewed at least once a year.

### *Final provisions*

### **Article XV**

This MoU cancels and supersedes the prior MoU between the IEC and the OIML established in 1968.

### **Article XVI**

This MoU does not make any legal or otherwise enforceable commitments on behalf of any of the parties.

### **Article XVII**

Initially, this MoU is established for a period of three years from the date of signature.

This MoU may be amended and/or renewed with the approval of both Organizations.

Each party may terminate this MoU by giving the other party at least six months' written notice.

### **Article XVIII**

This MoU shall be signed by the duly authorized representatives of the International Organization of Legal Metrology and the International Electrotechnical Commission and shall become effective from the date of signature.



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Mr. Peter Mason  
OIML President  
International Organization of Legal  
Metrology

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Mr. Aharon AMIT  
General Secretary and CEO of the IEC  
International Electrotechnical  
Commission

Signed on \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_

This Agreement is signed in English (in duplicate).

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Subject: ILAC/IAF-OIML Liaison: Report of the meeting of 9 February 2011 in the BIML

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**ILAC/IAF/OIML Meeting  
9 February 2011 at the BIML**

Participants: Laurent Vinson (COFRAC, ILAC/IAF liaison officer);  
Stephen Patoray (BIML Director);  
Luis Mussio (BIML Engineer);  
Willem Kool (BIML Assistant Director, OIML liaison officer).

The purpose of the meeting was to review and update the joint work program between ILAC and OIML and to draft a joint work program between IAF and OIML. This report is a summary of the discussions and agreed actions.

The reports of the previous ILAC/IAF/OIML meeting (1 April 2010) and of a meeting in the BIML with Randy Dougherty, the IAF Chair (16 November 2010) were noted and remaining actions identified. These are included in the items below.

## **1. Joint ILAC-OIML work program**

### *1.1 Joint ILAC-OIML Assessment Procedure*

A draft dated 20 January 2009 was tabled. LV thought there is a further draft and will send it to OIML together with a draft ILAC publication on guidelines for the accreditation of NMIs.

It was agreed that this activity has priority over the training activities (see 1.2). A working group is established with representation from ILAC and OIML to further develop the draft. OIML will take the lead in this activity (WK act as convenor of the WG). LV will send details of ILAC representatives to WK. The WG should produce a next draft for circulation to the ILAC AIC (Accreditation Committee) and the OIML MAA CPRs (Committees for Participation Review under the OIML MAA) for comment by the end of September 2011.

### *1.2 Training of (lead-)assessors*

The joint work program includes two kinds of training. One is for lead assessors designated by ABs on legal metrology aspects and the other for technical and metrological experts on ISO/IEC 17025 requirements.

It was agreed the development of training material and the organization of trainings is postponed until the Joint ILAC-OIML Assessment Procedure is in the final drafting stage (possibly 2012).

### *1.3 Communication*

It was noted that during 2010 a joint article had been published in the OIML Bulletin and in ILAC News on the cooperation between ILAC and OIML. Both publications published articles on the renewal of the MoU between ILAC, IAF and OIML that was signed in Shanghai on 28 October 2010.

It was agreed that LV and WK would review the progress of the joint activities by the end of 2011 to see if it is appropriate to have another (joint) communication to OIML and ILAC members.

### *1.4 Review of OIML D 10 / ILAC G 24*

This joint ILAC-OIML publication contains guidance for determining calibration intervals for measuring instruments. The ILAC AIC had requested OIML to start the revision process for this publication.



It was noted that this joint publication is dated 2007 and that it is up for periodic review under the OIML Directives for technical work in 2012. It was considered that the only issues were perhaps in the terminology, which should be made compliant with the new edition of the VIM.

LV will report to the ILAC AIC that the OIML will start the periodic review of this publication in 2012.

### *1.5 Update of the Joint ILAC-OIML Work Program*

WK will update the 2010-2011 Joint ILAC-OIML Work program (dated 2 April 2010) and prepare a revised version (2011-2012 Joint Work Program) for approval by the ILAC Chair and the CIML President<sup>1</sup> and for subsequent distribution for information to ILAC and OIML members.

## **2. Joint IAF-OIML Work Program**

In the meeting in the BIML with the IAF Chair on 16 November 2010, three possible activities for the initial Joint IAF-OIML Work Program were identified:

- A survey among IAF members;
- Review of a draft OIML Basic Publication (certification system for prepackages);
- Review of the draft program for an OIML seminar on conformity to type (CTT).

### *2.1 Survey among IAF members*

The intention of the survey is to gather information about current accredited certification activities with regard to regulated and non-regulated measuring instruments. The information obtained should be the basis for defining further joint activities.

LV will consult with Randy Dougherty in order to draft a plan for conducting the survey.

### *2.2 Review of a draft OIML Basic Publication (certification system for prepackages)*

OIML TC 6 is currently discussing the framework for a certification system for the quantity of product in prepackages. This framework, if agreed, is to be published as an OIML Basic Publication. The intention of this activity in the joint work program is to have IAF review the draft publication for compliance with relevant ISO standards and ISO/IEC conformity assessment standards and IAF application documents.

Considering that it is not yet clear what the certification system will look like, or, indeed, whether the OIML will approve such a Publication at all, and that it is unlikely that the OIML technical committee will finalize a draft this year, it was agreed that it is too early to include this activity in the joint work program.

### *2.3 Review of the draft program for an OIML seminar on conformity to type (CTT)*

The OIML is organizing a seminar on conformity to type. This seminar is tentatively scheduled for 29 and 30 June 2011 to take place in Utrecht, the Netherlands. A small OIML working group is preparing the program for this seminar. The working group is expected to circulate a draft program very soon.

As soon as it is available the OIML will send the draft program to IAF for their comment and suggestions for presentations and possible speakers.

<sup>1</sup> The 2010-2011 Joint Work Program identifies the ILAC Chair and the CIML President as the approving authorities.

### **3. Other items discussed**

#### *3.1 Revision of OIML D 1:2004 (Elements for a law on metrology)*

OIML D 1: 2004 is under revision. A working draft has been circulated to the members of OIML TC 3 and to some liaison organizations (ILAC, IAF and BIPM) for comment with a deadline of 8 April 2011.

WK will send a copy of the WD to LV.

#### *3.2 Financial arrangements in the MAA peer assessment process*

It is currently not very clear what decisions have been taken with regard to the financial arrangements for assessments by ABs and for on-site peer assessments.

It was agreed that the financial arrangements should be made clear in the joint assessment procedure. The OIML will draft a procedure for the peer assessment which will also include provisions for financial arrangement between the assessed test laboratory and the assessors.

#### *3.3 Joint ILAC-OIML presentation to the EA LC*

LV and LM will attend the meeting of the EA Laboratory Committee on 9 March 2011 in Paris and prepare a joint presentation on the ILAC-OIML Liaison activities.

#### *3.4 Joint BIPM-OIML-ILAC-ISO Policy Declaration on Traceability*

A draft for a Joint Policy Declaration between BIPM, OIML, ILAC and ISO was tabled in the March 2010 4Party meeting. The draft states that NMIs and laboratories providing calibration services in the dissemination of and the traceability to the SI-units should be accredited. Because ISO has a neutrality policy stating that they do not favor any type of conformity assessment, ISO could not sign or endorse such a declaration.

It was agreed that it is up to the BIPM to this activity further, or not.

### **4. Next meeting**

The date for the next meeting will be decided at the end of 2011, after LV and WK have looked at the progress made with the joint work programs.

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Attachments:

- Updated version of the 2010-2011 Joint ILAC-OIML Work Program
- Joint 2011-2012 ILAC-OIML Work Program
- Joint 2011-2012 IAF-OIML Work Program

10 February 2011

**Joint ILAC/OIML Work Program  
2011–2012**

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in October 2010 between ILAC/IAF and the OIML, the joint ILAC-OIML Work Program has now been revised on the basis of the conclusions of the ILAC/IAF-OIML Meeting held on 9 February 2011 and approved by the ILAC Chair and CIML President.

Laurent Vinson (ILAC/IAF Liaison officer) and Willem Kool (OIML Liaison officer) are responsible for the implementation of this Program.

Action	Comments	Lead	Means	Deadline
Improvement in communication between National Accreditation Bodies and National Legal Metrology Bodies	Draft joint ILAC/OIML Communiqué	ILAC	Joint ILAC/OIML Communiqué to be sent to CIML Members and to National Accreditation Bodies. Communiqué to be uploaded on both ILAC and OIML web sites and to be published in ILAC News and in the OIML Bulletin	To be decided end of 2011
Training for lead assessors from Accreditation Bodies, ILAC full Members	Development of training material	BIML	Presentation to be used for the training	2012
	Training organization	OIML	One-day training sessions	To be decided
Training for technical and metrological experts	To train technical and metrological experts on accreditation on the basis of ISO/IEC 17025 and related assessments	ILAC	One-day training sessions	To be decided
Procedure for assessment in the field of legal metrology	Draft OIML/ILAC procedure to be prepared by a joint ILAC/OIML Working Group to be set up	BIML	Joint ILAC/OIML Publication	Next draft circulated end of September 2011 Final publication 2012

Action	Comments	Lead	Means	Deadline
Review of joint publication on determining the calibration period for measuring instruments	The joint publication ILAC G24/OIML D10 is dated 2007 and is up for periodical review in OIML in 2012. Revision mainly to comply with the VIM3.	BIML	OIML periodic review procedure	Start of the review process in 2012

10 February 2011

**Joint IAF/OIML Work Program  
2011–2012**

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in October 2010 between ILAC/IAF and the OIML, the joint IAF-OIML Work Program has been drawn up on the basis of the conclusions of the ILAC/IAF-OIML Meeting held on 9 February 2011 and approved by the IAF Chair and CIML President.

Laurent Vinson (ILAC/IAF Liaison officer) and Willem Kool (OIML Liaison officer) are responsible for the implementation of this Program.

Action	Comments	Lead	Means	Deadline
Survey among IAF Members	To gather information about current accredited certification activities with regard to regulated and non-regulated measuring instruments. The information obtained should be the basis for defining further joint activities	IAF	Questionnaire	end of 2011
Review draft program for OIML seminar on CTT	CTT seminar takes place in June 2011. IAF to comment on the draft program and suggest presentations and speakers.	BIML	E-mail communication	February/March 2011