



Long-term policy

Report on actions carried out since the Eleventh Conference

Resolution of the 11th Conference (Item 3, Long-term policy):

"The Conference noted that most of the information concerning the actions carried out since the Tenth Conference, including the development of an Action Plan for 1999–2002, had been given in the report on activities delivered by the CIML President. The Conference endorsed this Action Plan and requested the CIML to monitor its implementation and to extend it as far as necessary in order to cover the 2002–2004 period."

The OIML Action Plan for 1999–2002, adopted by the Committee and extended to cover the period 2003–2004, resulted in the following actions and achievements.

A Facilitation of trade of measuring instruments

- A.1 To improve and accelerate the technical activity of TCs/SCs and increase participation of OIML Members.

The use of electronic communication (e-mail) has been developed in TC/SC work. The BIML is currently developing web-based facilities for the Technical Committees and Subcommittees' work (on-line fora).

The *Directives for Technical Work* are being revised in order to accelerate the decision-making procedures and to take account of the use of electronic media.

Some Member States which were not yet responsible for Secretariats have been invited to undertake such responsibilities. A number of Secretariats have been reallocated and Countries took over responsibility for projects within some TCs/SCs.

13 OIML Recommendations, 8 OIML International Documents and 3 Basic Documents (with technical content) were issued or revised since the last OIML Conference, including those submitted to the present 39th CIML Meeting and 12th Conference.

- A.2 To develop the *OIML Certificate System* in order to better respond to the needs of manufacturers and users of measuring instruments, and to those of legal metrology services.

The *OIML Certificate System* document was revised to allow the issuing of Certificates for modules of instruments, families of instruments and families of modules. OIML Recommendations are being revised to cater for these new possibilities.

The number of OIML Recommendations included in the *OIML Certificate System* was expanded from 30 in 2000 to 39 in 2004. The number of OIML Certificates was 671 on 15/09/2000 and reached 1287 on 05/10/2004.

A database of OIML Certificates has been set up and will be shortly searchable on the OIML web site.

B Promotion of acceptance of measurement results in international trade

- B.1 To develop procedures for acceptance or equivalence agreements.

Document B 10-1 "*Framework for a Mutual Acceptance Arrangement on OIML Type Evaluations (MAA)*" was adopted at the 38th CIML Meeting in 2003. This document will be implemented in 2005, starting with Declarations of Mutual Confidence (DoMCs) covering R 60 *Load cells* and R 76 *Nonautomatic weighing instruments*.

Work will start over the coming years concerning an OIML system for the initial verification of measuring instruments.

- B.2 To favor the accreditation of legal metrology laboratories with a view to achieving acceptance of test results.

The development of Guides for the interpretation of accreditation standards has been started.

- B.3 To facilitate acceptance of test results by evidencing the equivalence of test procedures.

Under consideration.

- B.4 To promote the international trade of prepacked products according to OIML requirements.

OIML R 87 *Quantity of product in prepackages* has been approved by the CIML and work on an OIML system of prepackage certification is starting.

C Promotion and development of legal metrology in OIML Member States

- C.1 To demonstrate the importance of legal metrology and to identify the basis of legal metrology and its specific place amongst other aspects of metrology and related activities.

Following the Birkeland Report, the OIML published a study made by Mr. John Birch on the *Benefit of Legal Metrology for the Economy and Society*.

The OIML was represented and gave presentations in numerous national or regional Conferences, Seminars and Workshops. In particular the OIML co-organized Seminars with the World Trade Organization, and in 2002 it organized the Seminar "What will Legal Metrology be in the Year 2020" in conjunction with the 37th CIML Meeting.

The OIML was one of the organizations which took the initiative of setting up the JCDCMAS, *Joint Committee for the coordination of technical assistance to Developing Countries in Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization*.

All OIML publications have been converted to electronic format and are available on the OIML web site. It is proposed to make them available to the public free of charge from 2005 onwards.

D Structural improvements

- D.1 To facilitate and improve the work of CIML Members.

A number of applications have been developed on the OIML web site to facilitate the participation of CIML Members: on-line data, reminders of Circulars, voting deadlines, summary of votes received, etc.

Participation in TC/SC work will be facilitated in the future by using the web, and on-line voting will be introduced over the coming years.

The OIML has started to improve the support it offers to the national missions of Members by publishing expert reports and developing mutual information. This process will be developed significantly over the coming years.

D.2 To improve the effectiveness of the Presidential Council.

This issue will be addressed in the CIML President's report.

D.3 To improve the activity of the BIML.

The *BIML Staff Regulations* have been revised and the revision of the *OIML Financial Regulations* is now complete. These revisions allow the management of the BIML to be modernized.

Two positions being vacant in the BIML, the job descriptions were modified in order to answer the needs of modernization, and two new staff members were recruited to fill these positions. This new structure has proved to be very beneficial for the Bureau.

D.4 To improve cooperation between the OIML and Regional Legal Metrology Organizations (RLMOs).

The Bureau or the CIML President attended all RLMO meetings held each year. RLMO activity is quite significant now, and the output of this work is of great value for the OIML. The Bureau is studying, in liaison with the different RLMOs, how to facilitate the exchange of information between them and how to develop inter-regional cooperation.

D.5 To improve cooperation between the OIML and other international and regional bodies.

Cooperation with other international organizations has been developed over recent years:

- Regular meetings (formal and informal) are held with the BIPM and the two Directors keep in constant contact to exchange information and views.
- Cooperation with other international organizations concerning support to Developing Countries was formalized in the MoU establishing the Joint Committee for the coordination of technical assistance to Developing Countries in Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization (JCDCMAS). The work of this Joint Committee is quite active. In particular a common background paper has been published and a common presentation of MAS is about to be issued.
- Cooperation with the World Trade Organization was developed and in particular joint seminars were organized.
- The Bureau attended the opening of the 2004 World Health Day in Paris, dedicated to road safety.

D.6 To improve the operation of the Development Council.

A Permanent Working Group on Developing Countries was set up in order to provide high reactivity and efficiency in the work on Developing Countries. A proposal to reorganize OIML structures for Developing Countries and to base them on this Permanent Working Group, will be presented to the Conference.

D.7 Training: to facilitate harmonized development of legal metrology training systems in OIML Member States and to make training facilities available for OIML Members that do not have such systems.

OIML Document D 14 has been revised and submitted for CIML approval.

The Forum "Metrology, Trade Facilitator", organized on Monday 25 October 2004, enabled requests for and offers of technical assistance to be matched up, in particular for training. This Forum will continue in the form of an internet forum on the OIML web site.

A series of Expert Reports dealing with technical issues has been instigated and will be published on the OIML web site. Two such Reports are already available.

D.8 Public relations, promotion of OIML activities.

Many Member States or Corresponding Members organized National Seminars on Metrology and Legal Metrology. These Seminars, and a number of other general events on metrology, were attended by the CIML President and/or by staff of the Bureau.

The Bureau will publish the presentations that its staff gave at these events on the OIML web site.

In particular, the 2005 CIML Meeting will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the OIML and will be organized in conjunction with the International Metrology Congress to be held in Lyon, France. Two legal metrology sessions will be organized, the first one mostly addressed to CIML delegates before the Congress, and the second addressed to all participants of the Congress.

A new general brochure on international metrology will be developed and published shortly and will be common to the OIML and the Metre Convention.