

# 2 L O I M L N D O N 0 0

## Eleventh International Conference of Legal Metrology Thirty-fifth CIML Meeting Development Council Meeting Round Table on “Mutual Recognition” Meeting of Representatives of RLMOs

*The Eleventh International Conference of Legal Metrology, Thirty-fifth Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology, Development Council Meeting and Round Table on “Mutual Recognition” took place at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Westminster, London from 9–13 October 2000, at the invitation of the United Kingdom National Weights and Measures Laboratory (NWML).*

*The events were co-organized by the NWML, the BIML and London-based Concorde Services, and the week of meetings ended with a technical visit to NWML and NPL facilities in Teddington.*

*The official Minutes of all these meetings, together with the Decisions and Resolutions, are being drawn up by the BIML. In the meantime, a summary account of proceedings is given in English and in French on the following pages. ■*



Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Westminster, London

## Program for the week's meetings



<b>Monday 9 October</b>	08:00 – 09:00	Registration, CIML
	09:00 – 12:30	CIML Meeting
	13:30 – 14:30	Registration, Conference
	14:30 – 17:30	Conference, opening and plenary session
<b>Tuesday 10 October</b>	09:30 – 11:30	Conference, plenary session
	11:30 – 12:30	CIML Meeting
	14:30 – 17:30	Conference, plenary session
	<b>18:30 – 21:00</b>	<b>OIML Concert and Reception</b>
<b>Wednesday 11 October</b>	09:30 – 12:30	Development Council
	14:30 – 16:30	Round Table: <i>Mutual recognition</i>
	16:30 – 18:00	CIML Meeting
<b>Thursday 12 October</b>	08:00 – 09:30	Finance Commission
	09:30 – 11:00	Technical work Commission
	11:00 – 12:00	CIML Meeting
	14:30 – 17:30	Conference, plenary session
	<b>18:00 – 19:30</b>	<b>UK Government Reception</b>
<b>Friday 13 October</b>	09:00 – 10:30	Conference, plenary session, approval of Decisions and Resolutions, closure
	11:00 – 12:00	CIML Meeting
	12:00 – 18:00	Technical visit



Delegates attending the Conference

## Eleventh Conference Agenda



### 1 ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

- 1.1 Opening
- 1.2 Roll-call - Verification of credentials - Quorum
- 1.3 Voting procedures during Conference sessions
- 1.4 Election of President and Vice-Presidents of the Conference
- 1.5 Adoption of the agenda
- 1.6 Constitution of working commissions
- 1.7 Establishment of the schedule
- 1.8 Approval of the minutes of the Tenth Conference
- 1.9 Report on activities, by the President of the International Committee of Legal Metrology
- 1.10 Miscellaneous information

### 2 MEMBER STATES AND CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

- 2.1 New Members - Expected accessions
- 2.2 The situation of certain Members

### 3 LONG-TERM POLICY

- 3.1 Report on actions carried out since the Tenth Conference
- 3.2 Guidelines for the period 2001–2004

### 4 LIAISONS WITH INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- 4.1 Report on liaisons
- 4.2 Addresses by Representatives of Institutions
- 4.3 Discussions and conclusions

### 5 WORK OF OIML TECHNICAL COMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEES

- 5.1 Work undertaken - State of progress
- 5.2 Implementation of Recommendations by OIML Members
- 5.3 Formal sanction of Recommendations already approved by the Committee in 1997, 1998 and 1999
- 5.4 Draft Recommendations directly presented for sanctioning by the Conference

### 6 OIML CERTIFICATE SYSTEM FOR MEASURING INSTRUMENTS

- 6.1 Report on the situation of the *System*
- 6.2 Report on the setting up of a recognition agreement for OIML type evaluations
- 6.3 Guidelines for future developments

### 7 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

- 7.1 Report on activities for the period 1997–2000
- 7.2 Guidelines for future activity

### 8 ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 8.1 Examination of the management of the budget from 1996 to 1999 and the estimates for 2000
- 8.2 Bureau staff and retirement scheme
- 8.3 Credits for the financial period 2001–2004 and Member State contributions for this same period

### 9 OTHER BUSINESS

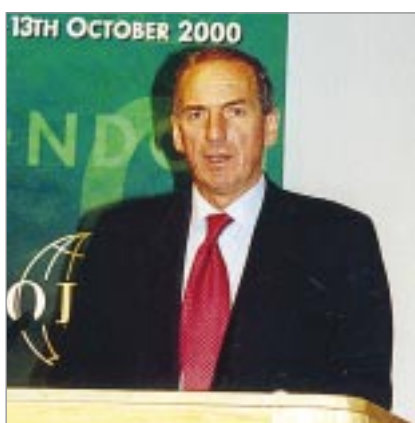
### 10 CLOSURE

- 10.1 Adoption of decisions and resolutions of the Conference
- 10.2 Date and place of the next Conference

## 11<sup>TH</sup> OIML CONFERENCE

### Opening Address - Dr. Kim Howells (MP)

MINISTER FOR CONSUMERS AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS



Dr. Kim Howells MP,  
welcoming Delegates in his opening speech

Dr. Faber, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to welcome you to London - to the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre - and to the 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Legal Metrology.

Since taking up my current ministerial responsibilities, I have become increasingly aware how important measurement is in nearly all aspects of our lives. The Olympic Games, which finished last week in Sydney, highlighted over and over again how important, and how precious, a few thousandths of a second or a fraction of a centimetre can be. The measurements with which OIML, and therefore this Conference, are concerned are of far greater significance, because they affect all our lives in so many ways. Fair trade, personal health and safety, and the protection of the environment all depend on our ability to measure accurately and on our confidence in the results.

In this country, as in so many others, the Government has a long record of taking the necessary steps to guarantee the integrity of measurement. In 1215, King John's Magna Carta included an instruction that there should be consistent standards for the measurement of grain, beer, and cloth throughout the country and from the thirteenth century onwards there were frequent Acts of Parliament to improve and develop the regulation of measurement. In the twenty-first century this development is still continuing, reflecting new technologies and a growing awareness of the contribution quality systems and accreditation can make to the reliability of products and the accuracy of measurements. Today it is not only the measurement of food and drink which is of interest to consumers and governments. Recent events in Europe have drawn attention to the measurement of vehicle fuels, where high prices increase consumer concern and provide greater incentive for fraud. Outside the area of trade, medical diagnosis and treatment, for instance, depend on reliable

assessment of symptoms and accurate measurement of doses, whether of medicine or of radiation.

Today in many countries, legislation is largely based on Recommendations prepared by you in the OIML. In the UK, we have aligned our requirements for trade measuring instruments with OIML specifications. Thus collaboration at the international level not only facilitates the sharing of best practice, it is also helping to remove barriers to trade which had grown up as nations developed their national laws.

Here in Europe, the European Commission has just published its proposals for a measuring instruments Directive, which will ensure common regulatory requirements for a wide range of measuring instruments throughout the European Union. One of the unusual features of this Directive is the inclusion of references to OIML Recommendations for the performance requirements for measuring instruments. The UK will work with its partners in Europe, and with you in OIML, so that our legislation is consistent with that in the rest of the world. OIML has an important task here, ensuring that the necessary specifications are available and up-to-date, to form the basis for this new European regime.

It is of course essential to ensure that access to these modern markets and the benefits of good metrological regulation are equally available to developing countries. I see that developing countries are well represented at this Conference and I am interested to learn that your own Development Council will meet here on Wednesday morning. By providing information, advice, and training to developing countries, as well as by listening to their particular concerns, you can facilitate their access to markets and contribute to the removal of technical barriers which discriminate against those countries which are still in a state of industrial development.

By hosting this Conference, my government has indicated its continuing support for international collaboration in the field of metrology. UK representatives play an active role in OIML and in the work of other international bodies with an interest in metrology. My officials at the National Weights and Measures Laboratory participate in OIML in various ways, and they have been instrumental in establishing WELMEC as the European regional cooperation in legal metrology. There are now no fewer than nine similar regional groups, and the meeting on Saturday morning will offer them the opportunity to compare notes with a view to dissolving barriers which may still exist between them.

All in all, you have a full and busy week ahead of you. I wish you a successful Conference and hope that the resolutions at your final session on Friday morning will reflect fruitful discussion and set the agenda for the success of OIML in the coming years. I look forward to hearing a report of your progress from Dr. Bennett and to meeting you all again at the reception on Thursday evening.

Have a good week!



11<sup>TH</sup> OIML CONFERENCE

## Report

CHRIS PULHAM

## 1 Organization of the Meeting

Following some introductory remarks made by Mr. Faber, the Eleventh International Conference of Legal Metrology was officially opened by Dr. Kim Howells (Member of Parliament), the Minister for Consumers and Corporate Affairs of the United Kingdom. Dr. Howells' speech is reproduced in full opposite.

The roll of Delegates was called and it was established that 48 (47 in some Conference sessions) Member States were present out of a total of 57, thus the required quorum of two thirds was reached. Also present were observers from a number of OIML Corresponding Members and International and Regional liaison Organizations, CIML Immediate Past-President Knut Birkeland and Messrs. Athané, Szilvássy, Dunmill and Pulham from the BIML.

Mr. Athané explained voting procedures at the Conference, as votes would be cast during the week to formally sanction OIML Recommendations and approve financial decisions. The Conference President was elected: Dr. Robert Foster, Director for Innovation Services at the Department of Trade and Industry of the United Kingdom. Seton Bennett (United Kingdom) would stand in as and when required since Dr. Foster had a busy schedule that week, and Mr. Beard (South Africa) and Dr. Pákay (Hungary) were elected as Conference Vice-Presidents.

The Conference adopted the proposed agenda (see earlier) with one slight change: Item 6.2, *Report on the setting up of a recognition agreement for OIML type evaluations* would be dealt with during the Round Table on *Mutual Recognition*, to be held on Wednesday 11.

Two working commissions were formed: one for financial matters and one for technical work. The Conference then approved the minutes of its Tenth Conference (Vancouver, 1996) without comment or modification.

Gerard Faber then presented his *Report on Activities* since the last Conference, the purpose of which was to enable the Conference to determine how decisions made in the past have been implemented, and on which present and future actions the OIML should focus in order to set the guidelines to be followed by the OIML in its strategy over the forthcoming years.

Mr. Faber specified that the OIML does not just operate within a "closed circuit", but rather externalizes its work and seeks to increase its connections and hence its audience. Since the Tenth Conference, the number of OIML Members (its "internal audience") had steadily increased from 96 to a current 105, comprising 57 Member States and 48 Corresponding Members. This progression was regarded as globally satisfactory.

The "external audience" from the numerous international and regional organizations whose activities are related to those of the OIML was also of importance, pursued Mr. Faber. In the context of globalization it is



Opening of the Conference (L to R): Bernard Athané, Robert Foster, Kim Howells MP, Gerard Faber, Seton Bennett

essential that the various international and regional organizations carrying out similar activities closely cooperate and consult each other in order to avoid duplication of work and discrepancies. From this point of view, Mr. Faber felt that the last four years had been extremely profitable for the OIML.

He affirmed that cooperation between the OIML and certain of these organizations was also progressing bilaterally, in particular ISO and the IEC with whom joint projects are being developed; efforts towards increased cooperation were deployed with the Metre Convention, after it had come to light that at present a merger was not possible: this led, for example, to the joint organization by the BIPM, the OIML, IMEKO and the PTB of an important Seminar on the Economic and Social Role of Metrology in 1998.

At the same as we are experiencing cooperation at the worldwide level, said Mr. Faber, we have also experienced (and continue to experience) increasing and extremely promising cooperation at the regional level. At present, many parts of the globe are covered by regional legal metrology organizations (RLMO's) and the CIML's policy concerning this is clear: to encourage appropriate development of regional cooperation by observing RLMO activities and by informing them of the corresponding OIML activities, by ensuring that these regional activities are not in conflict with or do not duplicate international activities, by ensuring that regional needs that may be satisfied at international level are quickly and appropriately satisfied, and, finally, by enabling RLMO's to become acquainted amongst

themselves and establish the contacts which they deem appropriate.

A third category of bodies is extremely interested in our work and whose cooperation with OIML may be essential, added Mr. Faber: the manufacturers and users of measuring instruments, including consumers, whom we can consider as users in a larger sense since, for a great part, the conditions, whether economic, social or environmental, in which they live are dependent on measurements.

One OIML activity which is quickly gaining ground is the OIML Certificate of Conformity System, he continued: over 400 certificates have been issued since the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference, and the total number of certificates issued is currently round the 700 mark.

Mr. Faber then reminded those present that the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference had instructed the Committee to work on a certain number of subjects, including:

- activities in favor of developing countries: a full report would be given during the Development Council Meeting;
- closer cooperation between the OIML and the measuring instruments industry (as mentioned above, this cooperation is increasing);
- the development of documents covering various aspects of metrology, not restricted to legal metrology, which had not yet effectively got off the ground: actually, this project would need the assistance of other metrology and standardization organizations, as the OIML cannot deal with such topics alone;
- thoughts on accreditation in legal metrology (related to the item on the measuring instruments industry); and
- reconsideration of OIML's communication policy (for example, increased use of the Internet).

Two decisive elements had helped to determine and finalize the objectives laid down at the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference, he continued:

- the 1998 Braunschweig International Seminar helped to bring to light a certain number of fundamental aspects of metrology and its role in society's economic and social development; and
- the report *Legal Metrology at the Dawn of the Twenty-first Century* by Knut Birkeland gave additional direction to the OIML's goals.

Numerous thoughts and discussions also developed within the Committee and its Presidential Council, which - together with the BIML - drew up a list of actions aimed at progressively satisfying the needs which were encountered, specific persons or organizations being designated to carry out these actions according to a fixed calendar. The resulting document is the *1999-2002 Action Plan*, distributed in April 1999; by and large, Mr. Faber commented that the majority of the



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scheduled objectives are being carried out in an appropriate manner, though it was sometimes hard to find enough time to accomplish everything that should be done.

Among the actions which Mr. Faber considered as being top priority for the OIML is the establishment of a Mutual Recognition Agreement concerning the testing of measuring instruments covered by OIML Recommendations. This topic would be the subject of a Round Table, to be held on the Wednesday afternoon.

A second top priority action concerns OIML assistance to countries that are currently developing their metrological infrastructure.

The OIML cannot be held solely responsible for such action; other organizations, and Mr. Faber was especially referring to the BIPM, are concerned by this topic and the OIML is, of course, ready to cooperate with them. But, scientific and technical aspects aside, for this type of action nothing of significance can be set up without the active participation of national, regional and international organizations to settle the financial, material and administrative aspects of this aid.

Top priority should also be given to pursuing and developing cooperation between the OIML and other international and regional institutions with similar objectives.

Finally, warned Mr. Faber, the OIML would have to face up to sometimes profound changes occurring within the national legal metrology organizations of certain of its Members. These changes may take on different aspects but they will, more often than not, result in a decrease in the human and financial resources that our Member States may put at the OIML's disposal.

The privatization of certain fields of activity, already effective or envisaged in a certain number of countries, is often accompanied by eagerness to gain immediate profitability and international cooperation sometimes no longer becomes a priority. In addition, many administrations see their budgets stagnate or diminish, which also results in a decrease in our work capacity.

The OIML will have thus to cope with such evolutions which seem unavoidable even if they may seem regrettable.

Better adaptability in confronting external evolutions, greater use of the work projects of other international and regional organizations, and concentrating on top priority projects, seemed to Mr. Faber as being the methods that should enable the OIML to continue to carry out the role it has been assigned by its Member States and it was now up to those present to make the decisions which will allow us to better plan for such events and to adapt the OIML's strategy to their repercussions.

This concluded Mr. Faber's *Report on Activities* since the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference.

## 2 Member States and Corresponding Members

The total number of OIML Members had significantly increased since the Tenth Conference, although a number of Corresponding Members had been delisted for not having paid their subscriptions for over three years. Some Corresponding Members were also envisaging joining as Member States, as they wished to participate more actively in OIML activities, and a number of new countries or economies were expected to join as Corresponding Members in the not too distant future.

However, it was pointed out that two or three Corresponding Members would probably have to be delisted by the end of 2000 for not having paid their subscriptions for over three years; it was also noted that the situation of two Member States would be examined by the Finance Commission, which would then report to the Conference under Item 8.1; in fact to reaffirm the Organization's commitment to helping its Members to face up to their obligations, and not defeat the object of the exercise it was decided not to strike these two Members off the list, provided that their 2000 and subsequent contributions were paid on time. There was general consensus that this decision was the best solution until these countries could pay the remainder of their outstanding dues.

## 3 Long-Term Policy

Most of the information concerning the actions carried out since the Tenth Conference, including the development of the *1999–2002 Action Plan*, was given in Mr. Faber's *Report on Activities* (see above). 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.

## 4 Liaisons with International and Regional Institutions

A report on liaisons was presented by Mr. Athané, and a written report was distributed to participants; following individual presentations by representatives of a number of institutions, the floor was opened for discussion.

The OIML currently enjoys cooperation - to varying degrees - with over a hundred other institutions, ranging from frequent contacts (for example ISO) to more



occasional work (for example the WHO). The degree of cooperation was regarded as generally satisfactory, and one prime example of the success of such work is the recently published joint ISO-OIML publication on *Vehicle Exhaust Emissions*. The OIML would also soon be in a position to accept IEC Standards as OIML Recommendations, especially in the field of acoustics: a future sound level meters Standard is likely to replace the existing OIML R 58 and R 88.

Below are brief summaries of the presentations made by representatives of international and regional organizations, including summaries of the current situation in cases where a representative was unable to attend the Conference.

### **BIPM**

Although a merger is currently not possible, it was nevertheless decided by both the BIPM and the OIML to continue to study areas in which cooperation could be mutually beneficial, for example in coordinating aid to developing countries which develop their own national metrology systems, as well as the development of texts that could serve as the basis for national metrology laws. The two Organizations meet annually, and ILAC is also now invited to attend.

### **ISO and IEC**

Cooperation is developing satisfactorily and the OIML is participating more and more actively in ISO DEVCO and CASCO work. Other joint projects are outlined above, and both Organizations agree that continuing to work closely together can cut down on wasted time and resources, by avoiding duplication of work and pooling experts' knowledge.

### **JCGM**

The *Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology*, comprising BIPM, IEC, IFCC, ILAC, ISO, IUPAC, IUPAP and OIML, has to date published two publications: the VIM and the GUM. Meetings on these Guides are scheduled to take place at the BIPM in November 2000 with a view to their revision.

### **WTO**

The BIML regularly attends the World Trade Organization TBT Committee meetings and a regional (Mediterranean) seminar on metrology is soon to be organized by Mr. Magana at the WTO's request and will include BIML participation. It is envisaged that the CIPM President will hold a conference on scientific metrology on that occasion.

### **UNIDO**

Cooperation between UNIDO, the PTB and the OIML in favor of certain least developed African countries is underway.

### **ILAC / IAF**

Mr. Squirrel gave a presentation and delivered a written report on behalf of ILAC Chair Belinda Collins. Cooperation between the OIML and ILAC is developing; the two Organizations share a common interest in the accuracy of test reports, and the BIML will participate in the ILAC 2000 General Assembly in Washington, D.C.; this will also be an opportunity to establish new contacts with the IAF secretariat.

### **IMEKO**

Cooperation is good in all fields of common interest and should also soon develop in the field of software.

### **CECIP**

Mr. Anthony addressed the OIML, stressing how important it was to build up a certain level of confidence between OIML Members; he was surprised to see that OIML certificates are not always accepted by all the Member States. He urged the OIML to involve manufacturers more actively in its activities, and stressed CECIP's desire to maintain the current high level of cooperation with the OIML.

### **CECOD**

Mr. Wim Klein, who was presented with an OIML award for his outstanding contribution to OIML work, addressed Delegates on behalf of CECOD. This was the first time that a CECOD spokesperson was present at an OIML Conference, despite previous close cooperation over Recommendations R 117/R 118. Work was ongoing to ensure that these Recommendations were updated in line with the MID requirements, which would probably take about 2-3 years. He affirmed his satisfaction in working in cooperation with the OIML and looked forward to continued close collaboration.

### **RLMO's**

Regional Legal Metrology Organizations are developing and, as indicated by Mr. Faber in his *Report on Activities*, the OIML is closely following these developments which it encourages, whilst still endeavoring to ensure that these activities at international and regional levels are accomplished without there being any contradiction



between them, nor any overlap in scope. OIML/RLMO cooperation is at the same time satisfying, useful and very promising for the future (see the CIML President's *Report on Activities*).

The OIML has made efforts to participate in all the main RLMO meetings either via CIML Members or BIML Staff, and has most often contributed to the success of seminars and workshops by the participation of experts, supplying OIML documents, etc. The BIML is making a point of being better aware of the results of the work of certain RLMO's and letting other regions benefit from this work (for example, videos developed by the APLMF).

Addresses were given by representatives of the APLMF, the Balkan Cooperation, COOMET, the Euro-Mediterranean Legal Metrology Forum (EMLMF), IOLMF, SADCMEC, SIM and WELMEC. Accounts of recent RLMO meetings have been published in previous issues of the OIML Bulletin; suffice to say that OIML-RLMO cooperation is becoming increasingly close in fields such as prepackages, taximeters, utility meters, legal metrology training and provision of technical assistance, mutual recognition, use of the Internet as a more rapid and universal communication means, etc.

### European Union

Mr. Hanekuyk gave up to date information on behalf of the European Commission in view of the development of the European Directive on Measuring Instruments (MID) which will cover nearly all the measuring instruments that are subject to legal metrology controls in the EU and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries, as well as in those countries that are candidates to become EU members, i.e. a total of about 25-30 countries, all of whom are OIML Member States or Corresponding Members.

The MID text has been approved by the European Commission and must now be approved by the Council and the European Parliament. Its actual putting into application could be accomplished in four years (though a target date of 1 July 2002 was mentioned by Mr. Hanekuyk) and it is quite possible that between now and then certain metrological requirements will have been modified.

Given the fact that the format of the MID is noticeably different to that of OIML Recommendations, only the aspect of compatibility between MID and Recommendation requirements has been assured: basically, the aim is for instruments that conform to the OIML to be recognized as conforming to the MID.

For this to happen, and thanks to the action of European experts and WELMEC, this aspect was managed in such a way that the major metrological requirements of the MID do not contradict those of the OIML. Moreover, senior Commission staff recognized

that it was appropriate that the "presumption of conformity" chapter in the MID should refer not only to European standards (CEN/CENELEC) but also to the "normative documents" developed by the OIML which are recognized as giving a presumption of conformity to the requirements of the MID. In this way, manufacturers of measuring instruments will generally have the choice between directly applying the requirements of the MID, following European standards or following OIML Recommendations, this third possibility giving them the assurance that they will more readily be able to offer their instruments for sale outside Europe.

These developments at the European level have, moreover, led the BIML to reopen discussions on cooperation with CEN and CENELEC.

### Other regional organizations

The BIML cooperates whenever necessary with regional organizations, a part of whose work is directed towards metrology, in particular ARSO.

### Manufacturers' and users' associations

Over the last two years, the BIML has tried to identify such associations that are likely to participate in OIML work. Mainly European associations have been contacted, but in some cases worldwide associations are also concerned (distribution of electricity, vehicles that function on natural gas, etc.).

The floor was then opened up for a discussion on cooperation between the OIML and the various institutions, and a number of Delegates suggested items of concern for the future:



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- Mr. Magana stressed the need to revise certain OIML Recommendations to bring them into line with the MID.
- Mr. Zhagora wondered why not that many joint publications had been produced, and also suggested that new areas of application of legal metrology should be investigated such as environmental protection systems, accounting systems, auditing systems for materials being used, etc.
- Mr. Da Silva suggested putting Draft Recommendations on the Internet for consultation.
- Mr. Birch reaffirmed the need to establish a global system which ensures a high degree of mutual trust.
- Mr. Anthony commented that many manufacturers are accredited to ISO 9000, but sometimes actual production instruments bear little resemblance to the type or pattern that was approved; this implied that more emphasis should be placed on market surveillance. Type approval is easy to obtain, but ensuring that production conforms to the type is another matter.
- Mrs. Bennett, Australia, replied that this type of surveillance is expensive to implement, and Mr. Vaucher too wondered how such market activity would be financed. Maybe the OIML could propose package solutions, that included re-verification.

In his concluding remarks to the series of presentations and wrapping up discussions, Seton Bennett confirmed his feeling that international and regional cooperation is becoming stronger and more widespread, constantly providing benefits in a diversified range of fields to metrological communities worldwide.



HMS Belfast

## 5 OIML TC/SC Work

Attila Szilvássy presented a report drawn up by the BIML on this subject.

Since the Tenth Conference there has been an overall decrease in OIML technical activities, despite the Conference's decision to encourage the OIML TC's and SC's to accelerate and improve their activity. This is particularly highlighted by the declining number of technical body meetings and by the decrease in the number of Recommendations produced (15, compared to 25 during the previous 4-year period).

Among the objective reasons for this decline, as a general trend it was recognized that most matters of "classical" legal metrology have already been dealt with and that OIML activity is developing in fields for which most national legal metrology services have no responsibility or competence (e.g. the environment, health). Another reason is the tendency towards staff reductions in line with deregulation; the lack of additional resources (i.e. staff and/or financing) for OIML activities is also a problem.

There were of course subjective reasons such as the low number of P-members in some SC's, inactive P-members in several TC's and SC's (not even participating in activities by correspondence) and the relatively high number of inactive technical bodies.

This problem has been discussed several times by the Presidential Council and addressed during CIML Meetings: the results are taken into account in the 1999-2002 Action Plan.

Over the last four years:

- 12 draft Recommendations (7 revised and 5 new) were approved by the 32<sup>nd</sup> to 34<sup>th</sup> CIML Meetings;
- 3 new drafts are to be directly presented for sanctioning by the 11<sup>th</sup> Conference;
- 3 draft annexes (Test report formats), 3 new International Documents and the VIML were approved by the CIML (by postal vote); and
- the OIML Certificate System was extended by 14 new categories of measuring instruments.

Mr. Szilvássy continued by pointing out that during the last period, several activities and actions - initiated by the Presidential Council or by the BIML - were carried out in order to facilitate improvements in technical activities, including:

- The revision and publication of the *Guide for CIML Members*;
- Actions for important strategy issues and technical activities addressed by the CIML and included in the 1999-2002 Action Plan;
- Regular updating and inclusion on the OIML web site of the series of documents on OIML Technical

Committees including the document on external liaisons;

- Summaries of OIML TC/SC technical activities based on the Annual Reports published every year in the April issue of the OIML Bulletin;
- In addition to the monitoring of technical activities, updating documents and regular distribution of information on OIML technical work, regular contacts with the Secretariats of TC's and SC's by BIML staff in order to identify difficulties and to try to find appropriate solutions to problems;
- Increased checking of OIML Recommendations and Documents by BIML staff prior to publication for both editorial and technical content.

In 2000 a total of 67 OIML technical bodies (18 TC's and 49 SC's) are responsible for 122 work projects. Two Technical Committees - TC 5 and TC 13 - have been vacant since last year and TC 8/SC 2 became vacant recently.

On the subject of the implementation of OIML Recommendations by Member States, Mr. Szilvássy reminded participants that the degree of implementation must be reviewed every four years. The last inquiry having been carried out in 1996, a new one was instigated by the BIML in April 2000. But in order for the BIML to be able to draw up and publish the fully updated versions of the two documents in question and draw more accurate and well-founded conclusions, it is necessary that those OIML Member States that have not yet replied send their responses to the BIML as soon as possible.

Mr. Szilvássy went on to comment that a number of existing differences (and/or additional requirements) in national regulations (especially in OIML Member States) compared to OIML Recommendations need to be eliminated, since they create unnecessary barriers to trade and - at the same time - hinder acceptance of OIML type test results/OIML certificates.

Although the necessary measures to be taken are not explicitly included in the *1999-2002 Action Plan* they are formulated in the *OIML Long-term policy - Assessment of OIML strategies and activities* and endorsed by the Tenth Conference in its decision. This issue is to be regarded as a permanent task for all OIML Member States.

The moral obligation of Member States to implement OIML Recommendations in national regulations is also reinforced by the WTO TBT Agreement.

In addition, there is a proposal from UN/ECE (circulated by the WTO TBT Committee) to develop a global model for implementing *Good regulatory practice for the preparation, adoption and application of technical regulations via the use of international standards*. The acceptance of this proposal and the provisions of such a document will most likely enhance the necessity for

internationally harmonized national regulations based on international standards.

The probable approval of the MID in the near future and the development of *Normative Documents* based on OIML Recommendations by joint efforts of EU Member States (that are also OIML Member States) and the BIML will have a positive effect on improving the implementation of OIML Recommendations.

Under the supervision of Mr. Johansen (Denmark), the Conference then proceeded to formally sanction the 12 new or revised Recommendations already approved by the Committee in 1997, 1998 and 1999 (R's 49-1, 60, 65, 81, 85, 93, 99, 125, 126, 127, 128 and 129). All these Recommendations were successfully sanctioned.

The Conference then sanctioned three draft Recommendations (*Octave and one-third-octave band filters, Polymethylmethacrylate dosimetry systems and Alanine EPR dosimetry systems*) directly.

## 6 OIML Certificate System

Prof. Kochsiek distributed a detailed report drawn up by the BIML listing the main developments since the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference; the most important of these is the result of surveys carried out in 1997, 1998 and 2000, which indicate that:

- the System and the acceptance of certificates (test results) are evolving by themselves on a voluntary basis;
- results achieved and further developments are encouraged both by manufacturers and by OIML Members; and
- actions envisaged in the *1999-2002 Action Plan* are in line with the needs and proposals of manufacturers and OIML Members.

Concerning future developments of the System, he pointed out that two sets of activities are being carried out in parallel:

- the first set is directly related to the promotion and development of the System itself; and
- the second set is related to the promotion of the acceptance of OIML type test results/OIML certificates and to confidence building between the parties concerned (see actions as formulated in B.1-B.3 of the *1999-2002 Action Plan*).

Other relevant facts and figures were given (as at 2000.09.15):

- 671 certificates registered;
- 30 Recommendations applicable within the OIML Certificate System;



- 209 applicants and manufacturers from 31 countries have been granted certificates;
- 23 Issuing Authorities in 20 Member States established.

A problem was put forward for consideration: statistics on the evolution of the System clearly show not only that a natural time delay exists between the approval and publication of a Recommendation and the issuing of the first OIML certificates, but also that there is a growing gap between the categories of measuring instruments applicable within the System (currently 30) and the categories for which OIML certificates have actually been issued (currently only 11).

The situation is likely to improve taking into account the lead time, the applicability in the near future of the revised Recommendations on utility meters (R 49, R 75, etc.) and the future implications of the Measuring Instruments Directive (MID) of the EU.

Nevertheless, Recommendations will exist for categories of measuring instruments for which there is practically no interest for their real application within the System.

In concluding, it was therefore proposed that consideration be given by all interested parties (especially the TC's/SC's responsible for the development of given Recommendations) as to whether it is really worth developing Test Report Formats (which require considerable time and energy to produce) for categories of measuring instruments for which practically no interest can be envisaged for issuing (and accepting) OIML certificates.

Prof. Kochsiek concluded this Item by mentioning that the Round Table on *Mutual Recognition* would doubtless provide more ideas for the further development of the System.

## 7 Developing Countries

Mrs. Annabi chaired the Development Council meeting together with Ian Dunmill; a full account is published separately.

## 8 Administrative and Financial Matters

Mr. Birch led discussions on this item. As already reported in paragraph 2 of this report, the question of whether or not two particular Member States should be struck off the list for not having paid their subscriptions for over three years was debated at some length, as was the issue of whether the monies paid in 2000 should be set against their arrears or against this year's contri-

butions; the latter solution was chosen and the Conference adopted a resolution not to strike them off, assuming that future years' dues were paid on time.

The Conference examined the management of the budget since the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference, and deemed that it had been managed satisfactorily by the CIML President and BIML Director. Reports on fiscal years 1996–1999 were distributed but no observations were made by Delegates; the report also included estimates for 2000.

The budget for the next four years drawn up by Mr. Athané was accepted with some modifications, notably a reduction in travel expenses for OIML Representatives or BIML Staff representing the Organization in meetings abroad.

The amount to be set aside in the Reserve Fund was reduced to zero since the reserve fund was deemed to be at a high enough level to cope with any unforeseen and non-budgeted expenses.

The 4-year budget, explained Mr. Athané, took into account the items listed on the *1999–2002 Action Plan* (which would affect the BIML's workload for a number of years), the resulting BIML staff requirements, and constraints resulting from the current worldwide economic situation. The BIML would do its best, he assured Delegates, to cope with an ever-increasing workload despite the fact that the BIML staffing level had remained constant for some time.

Mr. Athané also suggested that in the not too distant future, BIML salaries should be reconsidered to bring them more into line with other similar Organizations operating out of Paris; no resolution was proposed on this topic.

The actual contributory shares and other details are set out in full in the *Decisions* of the Conference, and in the official *Minutes*.

## 9 Other Business

Awards were presented by Mr. Faber to Mr. W. Klein (Tokheim) and to Prof. Dr. C. Volkmann (PTB) (received by Prof. Kochsiek on his behalf) for their outstanding contribution to OIML technical work, and this gesture was unanimously approved by the audience.

## 10 Closure

The decisions and resolutions were adopted and it was decided to wait for two years before deciding where to hold the Twelfth Conference; if no invitation was forthcoming, the BIML would organize the Conference in France. ■





Cleopatra's Needle



Big Ben

## 35<sup>TH</sup> CIML MEETING

### Report

CHRIS PULHAM

## Agenda

- Opening address
- Roll-call - Quorum
- Approval of the agenda
- 0 Appointment of an *Honorary Member* of the Committee
- 1 Approval of the minutes of the 34<sup>th</sup> CIML Meeting
- 2 Member States and Corresponding Members  
Situation of certain Members
- 3 Financial matters  
Adoption of the Auditor's report for 1999
- 4 Presidential Council activities
- 5 BIML activities
- 6 Technical activities  
Examination of the situation of certain TC's/SC's, if appropriate
- 7 Eleventh International Conference of Legal Metrology: Agenda and program
- 8 CIML Presidency
- 9 Director of the BIML
- 10 Eleventh International Conference of Legal Metrology: Examination of the decisions made by the Conference
- 11 Future meetings
  - 11.1 36<sup>th</sup> CIML Meeting (2001)
  - 11.2 37<sup>th</sup> CIML Meeting (2002)
- 12 Adoption of decisions
- Closure

## 35<sup>TH</sup> CIML MEETING

### Opening Address - Mr. Gerard Faber

PRESIDENT, CIML

My Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this, the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology held in London in conjunction with our Organization's Eleventh Conference.

My opening address will be very brief since I will be delivering a rather more detailed report on OIML activities this afternoon after the opening of the Conference.

However, I cannot start without first expressing our deep appreciation to Seton Bennett and his colleagues who have worked so hard during the past twelve months to ensure the success of these meetings. Dear Seton, I am sure that, at the end of the week, all of us will be fully satisfied and it will be my pleasure to express my thanks on behalf of all the participants.

Now, according to tradition I would like to welcome those CIML Members who have joined our Committee on the occasion of, or following, our Tunis meeting.

These are:

- Mr. Boudissa, Algeria, who was appointed CIML Member at the time of our Tunis meeting but whom I had therefore not been able to welcome at the opening of the meeting;
- Mr. Eggermont, Belgium;
- Mr. Botev, Bulgaria;
- Mr. Eisa, Egypt;
- Mr. Teklehaimanot, Ethiopia;
- Mr. Valkeapää, Finland;
- Mr. Gunaryo, Indonesia;
- Mr. Imai, Japan, who already occupied the position of CIML Member some time ago;
- Mr. Rysbekov, Kazakhstan;
- Mr. Chun Haeng Cho, Republic of Korea;
- Mr. Iacobescu, Romania;
- Mr. Björkqvist, Sweden; and
- Mr. Ehrlich, USA.

To all these numerous new colleagues, whether they are present or not at this meeting, I am pleased to offer my sincere welcome and thanks for their participation in our work.

Let me now evoke certain items that we will have to decide upon during the various sessions of this CIML Meeting.

First of all, this morning, we will have to make the final preparations for the Conference. This should not take too much time.

We will also have to look at matters which are typically the Committee's responsibility, such as the situation of certain Technical Committees and Sub-committees.

Finally, the Committee will have to make decisions which will be vital for the future of our Organization: the election of the CIML President and of the CIML Second Vice-President, and the appointment of the future BIML Director.

Discussions on these subjects may take some time, as well as the secret ballots by which you will express your choices. Therefore, as already indicated in the program which you have found on your tables this morning, the CIML will have to meet on several occasions during this week. Of course, during each of these meetings, the quorum of three-quarters of CIML Members present or represented will have to be reached. May I therefore ask you not only to make sure that you are duly present or represented at each of these CIML Meetings, but also to listen to any announcement concerning possible changes in the program.

Thank you for your attention, and may our meetings be successful. ■



Gerard Faber

35<sup>TH</sup> CIML MEETING

## Opening Address - Dr. Seton Bennett

CHIEF EXECUTIVE, NWML – CIML MEMBER FOR THE UK

Mr. Faber,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the National Weights and Measures Laboratory and the Department of Trade and Industry, I would like to welcome you to London and in particular this morning to the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology. I know many of you have been to London before, but perhaps for some of you this is your first visit. The famous eighteenth century writer Dr. Samuel Johnson said that the man who is tired of London is tired of life and I hope that while you are here you will find a lot of interesting and exciting things to do.

One year ago in Tunis we had an excellent meeting in a fascinating city and some of us were privileged to tour around that wonderful country. London is very different to Tunis and the United Kingdom very different to Tunisia, but I hope that you will find much here of interest.

This Conference Center is, as you can see, a relatively new building standing among many older buildings very close to the heart of London, the heart of Government. We are within a few hundred meters of the Parliament building, of Downing Street where the Prime Minister lives, of Westminster Abbey and of most of the large



Seton Bennett

Government offices. From the windows here you have I think one of the best views in London where you can see not only some of the oldest structures in London but also some of the newest. Westminster Abbey is more than nine hundred years old. The London Eye, the big wheel, which you cannot miss, has been open for only about eight months, so you have the old London and the new London together.

The Parliament building itself which you can also see from the window here does have one connection with legal metrology because that building was built in the middle of the nineteenth century, following a fire in 1834 which destroyed not only the old Parliament building, but also the British standards, the yard and the pound, and that caused great consternation and it took some twenty or thirty years to really reconstruct the pound and the yard.

One of the consequences of that was the establishment of a separate department to take care of weights and measures and that department eventually became the National Weights and Measures Laboratory. So we can thank that fire both for the splendid new Parliament building and also for my laboratory!

But you did not come to see these buildings, you came here for a week of meetings, and this will be a very busy week with the CIML, the OIML Conference, the meeting of the Development Council, the meeting yesterday of the Euro-Mediterranean Legal Metrology Cooperation, the meeting of the Presidential Council and on Saturday the meeting of Regional Organizations.

I hope it will be an interesting and fruitful week for you all, and I have three wishes for you this week: first of all that you have an excellent and successful meeting, that everything we discuss will come to good conclusions; my second wish is that you will enjoy your stay in London and that you will have a chance to see the city; and my third wish is that I will have the opportunity to speak with each of you in the course of the week. Welcome to London. ■



The Thirty-fifth meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology took place in conjunction with the Eleventh International Conference from 9 through 13 October 2000.

Opening addresses were given by Seton Bennett and Gerard Faber - these texts are reproduced in full on pages 34-35. The roll of Delegates was called: fifty-two CIML Members were present or represented out of a total of fifty-seven so the quorum of 3/4 was reached.

Mr. Faber specially welcomed Mr. Birkeland, CIML Immediate Past President and Honorary Member of the Committee. After the Agenda (see insert) was approved, Mr. Faber explained that the main purpose of the London meeting - apart from regular business - would be to appoint the new BIML Director to succeed Mr. Athané, and to elect the CIML President.

## 0 Appointment of an *Honorary Member* of the Committee

The Committee was unanimous in accepting Mr. Faber's proposal to appoint Dr. Samuel Chappell, Former CIML First Vice-President and US Member, *Honorary Member* of the Committee (see photo, page 37). Mr. Faber evoked Dr. Chappell's career and the role he played in developing US participation in OIML activities and in contributing to the improvement of many aspects of OIML work.



Westminster Abbey

## 2 Member States and Corresponding Members

After the minutes of the 34<sup>th</sup> CIML Meeting were approved (**Item 1**), a list was distributed to Delegates informing them of the latest Member State population counts; these figures serve as a basis for determining each country's annual contribution. The list also identified those Member States that benefit from a lower contributory class than that assigned by their population count. In fact, this new classification of Member States was the same as for previous years, despite the fact that certain populations might have changed and certain developing Member States might have requested to remain in the same contributory class.

## 3 Financial matters

The Committee adopted the Auditor's report for 1999; this document would be submitted to the Eleventh Conference during the week.

## 4 Presidential Council activities

The Presidential Council met twice in 2000; its main responsibilities are firstly to advise the President, and secondly to prepare and implement the decisions made by the CIML or by the Conference concerning budgetary and long term policy decisions. The February 2000 meeting held at the BIML had mainly focused on the financial situation of the OIML and preparation of the 2001-2004 budget, and a thorough examination of the Action Plan. Mr. Faber added that in addition, the Council examined the preparations for the Round Table on *Mutual Recognition* and the BIPM/ILAC/OIML meeting which followed the Council meeting.

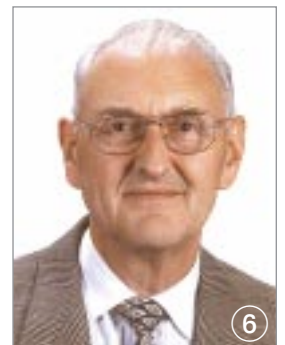
## 5 BIML activities

This report is printed in full later in this issue of the Bulletin. Mr. Athané pointed out that the report showed a significant increase in certain BIML activities connected, for example, with participating in OIML technical work, representing the OIML in meetings of other international and regional bodies, acting as secretariat of the Development Council, issuing publications and





- ① Gerard Faber (Netherlands)  
Elected to continue as CIML  
President for 3 years
- ② Lev Issaev (Russian Federation)  
Elected CIML Second Vice-President  
for 6 years
- ③ Ghâïet-El-Mouna Annabi (Tunisia)  
Elected to continue as Development  
Council Chairperson for 2 years
- ④ Jean-François Magana (France)  
Appointed future BIML Director
- ⑤ } Wim Klein (Tokheim, Netherlands) and  
⑥ } Christian Volkmann (PTB, Germany)  
Each presented with an award from the  
OIML for their outstanding contribution  
to the technical work of the Organization
- ⑦ Sam Chappell (United States)  
Appointed CIML Honorary Member



## *Conference and CIML Meeting: Appointments • Elections • Nominations*

developing communication means, etc. Mr. Athané said he was convinced that the future BIML Director, with the assistance of the current BIML Staff, will be able to pursue its progression and development in terms of quality and quantity of BIML work.

## 6 Technical activities

Mr. Szilvássy indicated that a more complete report would be presented to the Conference and that the CIML should only examine the situation of a small number of Technical Committees or Sub-Committees. Please also refer to pages 30–31 of this Bulletin for further information.

The situation of TC 5, TC 13, TC 8/SC 2 and TC 16/SC 1 was discussed, then concerning the *1999–2002 Action Plan* Mr. Szilvássy said that a list of high priority work projects had been prepared by the BIML based on an inquiry carried out recently and that this list would be submitted to the Conference. In addition, a list of priority projects was being developed; the two lists would subsequently be distributed to Members.

An additional paper on TC/SC work was being prepared and would be distributed by the end of 2000; the paper lists ongoing projects and details of the process for reviewing existing publications with their proposed reconfirmation, revision or withdrawal.



Tower of London

## 7 Eleventh International Conference of Legal Metrology

The CIML accepted the draft agenda and schedule proposed for the Eleventh Conference and endorsed the proposals from the United Kingdom and from the CIML President to nominate Dr. Foster as Conference President and Dr. Pákay and Mr. Beard as Conference Vice-Presidents.

## 8 CIML Presidency

The two Candidates, Dr. Bennett from the United Kingdom and Mr. Faber from The Netherlands, introduced themselves and presented their views concerning the future of the OIML. Mr. Faber pointed out that he would be available for three years only.

Following two consecutive secret ballots, the CIML elected (with the required majority) Mr. Faber as its President for the next three years.

The three Candidates for CIML Second Vice-President, Dr. Imai (Japan), Dr. Issaev (Russian Federation) and Mr. Johnston (Canada) introduced themselves and presented their views concerning the future of the OIML.

Following three consecutive secret ballots the CIML elected (with the required majority) Dr. Issaev as its Second Vice-President for the next six years.

Photos are featured on page 37.

## 9 Director of the BIML

The Candidate nominated by the Selection Committee, Mr. Magana (France) introduced himself and presented his views concerning the role of the BIML within the OIML.

Following a secret ballot, the Committee appointed (with the required majority) Mr. Magana as the future BIML Director (photo page 37).

## 10 Eleventh International Conference

Mr. Faber rapidly reviewed the decisions made by the Eleventh Conference and suggested that the Committee

should charge the Presidential Council with their implementation, though some actions should perhaps be initiated by the CIML President or Presidium. The Committee expressed its agreement with this procedure.

## 11 Future meetings

Mr. Issaev confirmed that the CIML was invited to hold its **36<sup>th</sup> Meeting** in Moscow over the period 22–27 September 2001. This invitation was accepted and the Committee requested its President and the BIML to start preparations in due course in close connection with the host country.

Mr. Zarin confirmed that Israel was willing to host the **37<sup>th</sup> CIML Meeting** in 2002. The Committee noted this invitation with thanks and decided that the final decision would be made at its next meeting.

## 12 Adoption of decisions

The text of the proposed decisions was read and adopted by the Committee with some minor corrections.

### Closure

Mr. Faber expressed his satisfaction with the output of the 35<sup>th</sup> CIML Meeting and said that the thanks he had expressed at the closure of the Eleventh Conference were of course equally applicable to this meeting. He also noted that the CIML Presidium now included three persons originating from Europe and that he would duly consider this fact when establishing the new Presidential Council so that the various regions of the world be represented equally. ■



Knightsbridge

## DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

### Report

IAN DUNMILL & CHRIS PULHAM

The Development Council meeting was held on 11 October 2000, chaired by Mrs. Ghâïet-El-Mouna Annabi. Also present at the presiding table were Messrs. Faber, Kochsiek, Athané and Dunmill. 37 Member States and nine Corresponding Members attended and Representatives from eight Regional Legal Metrology Organizations (RLMOs) as well as from CECIP, CECOD and the BIML were also present.

#### 0 Election of the Chairperson

Mrs. Annabi had indicated her willingness to continue as Chair, and despite a call for other nominations, no other candidacies had been put forward. Many comments had been made to Mr. Faber expressing appreciation for the way in which Mrs. Annabi had chaired the Council for the last two years, and so she was unanimously re-elected for another period of office. She indicated her hope that ongoing actions would continue throughout the next two years.

#### Agenda

- 0 Election of the Chairperson
- 1 Report and discussion on activities since the 1999 Council meeting in Tunisia
- 2 Working Groups
- 3 Reports by representatives of RLMOs
- 4 Proposal for the 2001–2002 work program
- 5 Information on project proposals
- 6 Information on special activities of Members
- 7 Other matters
- 8 Next meeting
- 9 Conclusion and closure

#### 1 Report and discussion on activities since the 1999 Council meeting in Tunisia

Mrs. Annabi explained that three out of five OIML Members are considered by the OECD as developing countries: this therefore indicates the importance of the Council and its work, particularly in the areas of training and technical assistance. OIML interest in the problems of developing countries had continued to grow over the years and new actions on publications, seminars / training courses and information must be instigated. Mrs. Annabi then gave a brief report on the past year's activities:

##### Recomposition of the Development Council

Since the establishment of the Council, it had become unclear which countries were officially enrolled. At the Tunis meeting, 37 countries were represented. An inquiry had established a list of countries wishing to register as members but this list is in no way restrictive and in fact any country wishing to participate may do so.

##### Revitalization of working groups

There are now three working groups (*Training, Information and Equipment*), all of which have established terms of reference and working programs during the past year.

##### External liaisons

Mrs. Annabi reported that this action, which is the responsibility of the Chair (assisted by the BIML) consists of establishing contacts with appropriate international and regional organizations, since finance is one of the main problems encountered. Contacts had been made with ISO DEVCO, UNIDO and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa; other contacts were formed at the *Metrology 2000* event (May 2000, Havana, Cuba).

##### Regulation

The revision of OIML D 1 *Law on Metrology* had begun this year and an initial proposal has been prepared for further action by the appropriate TC/SC.

##### Work of TC's and SC's

The Council would try to participate in those TC's/SC's which were of direct interest to developing countries. This year, it had been represented at meetings of TC 3/SC 5 *Conformity assessment* and TC 6 *Prepackages*, though other TC's/SC's may be equally relevant.



## Development Council web site and lists of experts / training courses

The Council site is now operational, accessible via the main OIML site. It is intended to be available in three languages, English, French and Spanish. A list of some fifty experts (sorted by subject, region and language spoken) and forty training courses have now been established and published, though they are still open for any CIML Member to propose additions. It was important for them to be kept up to date. "Validation" of the training courses was still under consideration.

Mr. Magana pointed out that he had also given information on scientific metrology experts and training courses, and asked whether contacts had been made with the BIPM in order to examine common interests. Mr. Athané replied that the two organizations should cooperate to offer common services to countries which are developing their metrological infrastructures. It was hoped that the BIPM, which does not yet have a specialized body dealing with development assistance, would now be able to devote more time to cooperation with the OIML, in particular in the field of development assistance. This subject would be discussed during the next joint meeting on 21 February 2001, and it would appear to be a good solution for the Council to become a common body with the BIPM.

Mr. Birch commented that the changing relationship between the Development Council and the RLMOs needed to be considered. One of his main concerns was the low level of active involvement by developing countries in the Organization, as shown by the low level of response to the inquiries conducted this year. He said it was encouraging that the OIML's own funding of the Development Council had increased. Often, however, the costs of training course attendance had been paid, but this is very specific to particular individuals. Another perhaps more effective method may be to fund the participation of developing countries in the operation of the Council itself (and in its working groups) and in TC's and SC's.

Mr. Imai reported that a developing countries working group had been set up within the Asia Pacific Metrology Program (APMP) and that its relationship with various international and regional organizations will be examined.

Mr. Boudissa confirmed the need to benefit from the experience of developed countries and stressed that Council activities should be costed and timed.

Mr. Athané commented that one reason why the OIML was promoting regional cooperation was to make it possible for non OIML Members which are able to join regional cooperations, to benefit indirectly from the work of the OIML.

## 2 Working Groups

Mr. Dunmill reported that it had been decided to re-establish the membership for each of the working groups.

### 2.1 WG 1 - Training

Mr. Wallerus reported on progress: since 1999 the number of participants in this group has doubled to about twenty. A working program was proposed whose most important item was the revision of OIML D 14 *Training of legal metrology personnel*. Courses need to have definite content, be of fixed duration, and be based on OIML Recommendations or ISO standards. Training institutions need to have requirement for the equipment, accommodation and personnel. Trainers should have some kind of teaching qualification as well as professional experience and examinations should be recognized by different countries.

He also pointed out that the DAM now also intended to offer workshops for trainers, which, in addition to the technical content, will offer training on teaching methods and practice.

Mr. Magana said that he had identified two main topics in the work of this group: the definition of the required content of training courses, and the quality of the training given.

Mr. Boudissa realized that funding was required for any developing country to put a training program into place, and that this was therefore the most important theme to enable the Development Council to proceed with its work program. He also pointed out that there is often a language problem in the training courses and asked that consideration be given to offering courses in a variety of languages.

Mr. Kochsiek reported that the European Commission had been approached for funding on a number of occasions without success.

### 2.2 WG 2 - Information

Mr. Mardin reported that the response to a BIML questionnaire to launch the work of this group, as well as its work program, was rather disappointing since only five replies have been received. However, these would form a good initial basis.

Mr. Birdseye reported that he and Mr. Laamoumri had been looking at the recognition of type approvals, certification, etc. within the EMLMF. They had discovered that information exchange between metro-

logical authorities was the most important aspect in improving the operation of the OIML Certificate System from the point of view of developing countries. Information on certification, non-compliance, identification of equipment, market surveillance, etc. could be made available, for example by means of web sites, and the coordination of this information at an international level could be done through this working group.

### 2.3 WG 3 – Equipment

Mr. Mardin reported that it was planned to develop a classification of equipment and he hoped that developing countries would be able to provide information on their needs in this respect. Any assistance in providing equipment will be subject to funding being located.

## 3 Reports by representatives of RLMOs

### 3.1 Asia-Pacific Legal Metrology Forum (APLMF)

Mr. Birch reported that the APLMF now had 25 members (including nine OIML Member States and nine Corresponding Members), indicating that regional organizations complement, rather than compete with, the OIML. Over the last few years the APLMF has made use of written reports submitted by countries before meetings in order to identify key issues and to overcome language barriers which may exist at meetings; he recommended the use of such reports to the Development Council. At the last meeting, these reports illustrated the large amount of legislative activity and the degree of modernization of legislation which was occurring in the region.

### 3.2 South-East European Cooperation

Mr. Grkov reported that this is a very new regional organization. He said that not all the countries have a national quality infrastructure, concerning standardization, metrology, accreditation and conformity assessment. He also gave details of a training course on the expression of uncertainty, which will include both theoretical and practical aspects of the subject.

### 3.3 Cooperation in Metrology of Central and Eastern European countries (COOMET)

Mr. Zhagora reported that the Community of Independent States (CIS) had concluded several mutual recogni-

tion agreements which are very effective; every year hundreds of type approvals are added to the registry. He also reported that concerning the harmonization of metrology legislation, there is a model law which it is intended may be used by COOMET members. He felt that there should be close cooperation between the OIML and the BIPM so as to ensure the equivalence of national measurement systems.

### 3.4 Euro-Mediterranean Legal Metrology Forum (EMLMF)

Mr. Magana said that this emerging cooperation had not yet been formalized by a memorandum of understanding. Two meetings had been held: the first in Tunis in 1999 and the second in London. He hoped that more countries would participate, particularly those from the Mediterranean area. He explained that there were four working groups:

- *Training*, which has looked at the training needs in the region;
- *Mutual information*, which hoped to produce a regional legal metrology directory;
- *Mutual recognition*, working to resolve the problems of existing agreements, as well as being concerned with future agreements; and
- *Equipment and technical assistance*, which has not yet begun its work.

### 3.5 Indian Ocean Legal Metrology Forum (IOLMF)

Mr. Birch reported that a workshop in November 1998 in Sri Lanka had developed a number of programs of regional importance, and explained that two programs of current interest were concerned with the modernization and harmonization of legal metrology legislation and with prepackaged goods. He suggested that these were areas in which the establishment of additional Development Council working groups would enable the views of developing countries to be put forward on these topics.

### 3.6 Southern African Development Community Legal Metrology Cooperation (SADC MEL)

Mr. Beard reported that six of SADC MEL's 14 members were not OIML Members, but that it was the aim of the organization that all members should eventually join the OIML. Training was considered as a regional priority,

but there were currently no courses aimed specifically at OIML Recommendations. He indicated that none of SADCMEI's member countries were fully developed and that therefore they intended to cooperate as fully as possible with the Development Council.

### 3.7 Inter-American Metrology System (SIM) - Legal Metrology Working Group

Mr. da Silva reported that SIM currently has 34 members which are also members of the Organization of American States (OAS). Established in 1979, SIM is primarily devoted to the development of metrology in its member states, with an emphasis on less developed countries. It works in cooperation with the BIPM and the OIML in order to improve free trade and the quality of life in the region.

In 1997, SIM and the OIML signed a memorandum of cooperation which aims to improve the development of legal metrology in the American countries. There are two Legal Metrology working groups: *Laws and regulations* and *Metrological control*. At the last meeting of the legal metrology working group in July 2000, a task group on the metrological control of measuring instruments was established in order to provide and improve confidence in legal measuring instruments used for trade, health and environmental protection, thereby minimizing technical barriers to trade.

### 3.8 European Cooperation in Legal Metrology (WELMEC)

Mr. Magana reported on the following important developments within WELMEC:

- The proposed *European Measuring Instrument Directive* has now been published by the European Commission and is expected to be adopted within two to three years. This Directive is in line with OIML Recommendations, so measuring instruments which comply with certain OIML Recommendations will be able to be placed on the European market more easily.
- WELMEC is also doing much work in the field of pre-packages. A guide for packers has been published which explains the European prepackaging legislation. As European legislation is likely to be changed, it is important that WELMEC members are also active in the OIML prepackaging work, ensuring that both requirements are harmonized.
- Market surveillance is also an important subject for WELMEC, as it is for developing countries, so as to ensure the quality of the instruments placed on their markets.

## 4 Proposal for the 2001–2002 work program

Mr. Dunmill reminded delegates of the work conducted this year, in particular the re-establishment of the working groups and the setting up of the Council web site. He felt that this existing program should be maintained for the coming year to enable the working groups to proceed with the programs which they have established this year.

### Technical work

The Development Council should continue to participate actively in the revision of D 1 *Law on Metrology* and to maintain and increase its interest in certain important TC's and SC's so as to ensure that the interests of developing countries are taken into account.

### Web site

This could be further improved during the year and it is hoped that a Spanish version would also become available. Information on experts and training courses must be kept up to date.

### Training courses

The Development Council needs to examine the possibilities for "validation" of training courses.

### External liaisons and funding

Mr. Dunmill explained that useful contacts had been made during the last year, but that other points on the work program had needed to be put in place before funding for any specific projects could be sought. Mr. Athané added that on the subject of external liaisons, it would be useful to pursue closer liaison with ISO DEVCO and with the BIPM.

Mr. Birch suggested that the establishment of a Development Council working group on *Legislation* would provide a focus for the views of developing countries to be put forward to the revision of D 1. Similarly, a working group on *Prepackaged goods* would enable developing countries' views to be added to the technical work in this field. He hoped that chairs or co-chairs from developing countries could be identified for each of the working groups.

Mr. Yankine said that Burkina Faso was already heavily involved with WTO activities in connection with which they have established a consultative committee; he felt that it was very important for the OIML to continue its close involvement with the WTO.

## 5 Information on project proposals

### 5.1 UNIDO - OIML - PTB

Mr. Kochsiek reported that the Presidential Council had decided to launch this joint project during its meeting in February 2000. A work plan had been established for the following 18 months and UNIDO had recently indicated that the funds were now available. Certain least developed countries in Africa had been contacted and it was intended that experts would begin to work in these countries in December. The aim of the project was to demonstrate how legal metrology contributes to the state income through taxes and royalties based on correct measurements, fair trade and consumer protection. The chosen countries had been selected due to their lack of legal metrology infrastructure. UNIDO have also indicated that if this project is successful, more funding may be available in 2001–2002 for similar projects in other regions.

## 6 Information on special activities of Members

### 6.1 PTB

Mr. Kochsiek reported that the PTB carries out work for developing countries in the areas of advisory services, basic and/or advanced training, supply of materials and equipment, accreditation or certification. Detailed information is given in the “Update” Section.

## 7 Other matters

Mr. Magana suggested that promoting the use of the Internet amongst members could save a lot of money and therefore enable more developing countries to participate actively in the work. The problem is that some do not yet have easy access to the Internet. He felt that the CIML should draw these governments’ attention to this need.

## 8 Next meeting

The next meeting could be held in conjunction with the 36<sup>th</sup> CIML Meeting, lasting perhaps last half a day, plus at least a further half day dedicated to a working group, or to several working groups holding sessions in parallel. The specific program would depend upon the state of progress of the working groups’ activities and upon the possible creation of additional working groups as mentioned.

## 9 Conclusion and closure of the meeting

In concluding, Mr. Faber said that the importance of the Council’s work was increasing and that he hoped that means could be found to raise funds. He also commented on the extensive discussions which had taken place, particularly on the subject of training in legal metrology. He said he believed that the Development Council was progressing in the right way and thanked both Mrs. Annabi for chairing the meeting and also delegates for their contributions. ■



Development Council Table. *L to R*: Bernard Athané, Ian Dunmill, Ghaïet-El-Mouna Annabi, Manfred Kochsiek, Gerard Faber



## ROUND TABLE

### Mutual recognition

ATTILA SZILVÁSSY

In his opening address, Mr. Faber reminded participants that the Round Table was not actually part of the Conference and requested them to express their views not as national representatives, but rather as experts.

Dr. M. Kochsiek, Round Table Chairman, said that the objectives were to inform attendees about activities of other organizations in the field of mutual recognition and to obtain inputs for the development of the OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA) and the proposed OIML IQ mark for prepackages.

#### Presentations on the present situation

Mr. Vaucher (Switzerland) gave additional information on the *Convention du Mètre* MRA, which was a prerequisite for other MRAs in the field of metrology. As for the OIML arrangement he said that regulatory bodies had to agree to accept test results; the MAA must be as simple as possible and it should be left to participants to decide to use accreditation or self assessment.

Mr. Hayward (UKAS) gave an outlook on the international situation of laboratory accreditation and gave information on the objectives of the ILAC MRA that had been prepared based on the MRAs of two regional groupings (EA and APLAC).

Mr. Engler (The Netherlands) gave information on the Netherlands' experience on bilateral agreements on recognition of test reports. He said that the NMI supports recognition and that there was no conflict between the NMI bilateral agreements and the proposed OIML MAA. He further added that the MAA should concentrate on the acceptance of the test reports and that priority should be given to accreditation for demonstrating competence.

Dr. Chappell (USA) gave a detailed transparency presentation on the ongoing activities of TC 3/SC 5 to develop the necessary documents for the MAA. In his second presentation he gave an overview on the proposed voluntary OIML International Quantity (IQ) Mark System which is included in the draft of revision of R 87 *Net content in packages*.

## Discussions

Mr. Magana (France) made a general remark that it was necessary for the requirements for evaluating the competence of type testing laboratories to be equivalent to those applied by ILAC (EA and APLAC).

Mr. Lagauterie (France) drew attention to ambiguities in the draft OIML MAA document: the subject of acceptance should be the test reports associated with OIML certificates, and not the type evaluations.

Mr. Johansen (Denmark) said that many points needed to be clarified in the recent MAA draft. He expressed concerns about the real necessity of this document. He explained that the OIML Certificate System was functioning well and there had already been a number of cases of voluntary acceptance. For confidence building, he emphasized, accreditation is needed.

Mr. Stoichituiu (Romania) reminded delegates of the conclusions to the Round Table on accreditation held in Vancouver in 1996 and said that only accreditation can serve as a basis for mutual confidence and for agreements on mutual recognition.

Mr. Birch (Australia) reminded the participants of the need for a Global Measurement System. Unfortunately for the time being there is no international legal metrology system that can provide support for the Global System. Mr. Birch said that self assessment as proposed by the MAA would not provide the transparency and consistency necessary for international acceptance.

Dr. Issaev (Russia) reminded participants that *self declaration* had already been discussed several times and accepted as a necessary option. Further, he stressed the need for the OIML MAA and the necessity to enable developing countries to participate in the Arrangement.

Dr. Bennett (UK) explained that an agreement shall pass four tests: (i) confidence; (ii) transparency; (iii) accessibility for all those interested; and (iv) benefit for interested parties. The OIML MAA in its present form does not pass these tests, and much has to be done to improve its transparency and accessibility.

As regards the proposed OIML IQ mark Dr. Bennett expressed doubts on its possible acceptance, and concern over the additional burden that such a mark can cause for small packers.

Mr. Andersson (USA) said that the USA is interested in the MAA and would apply the OIML Certificate System. He mentioned the US experience in raising mutual confidence at national level without obligatory accreditation. He drew attention to the importance of market surveillance and of regular conformity control of measuring instruments in production.

Mr. Faber (The Netherlands) said he believed in the establishment of a Global Measurement System. He felt

that the OIML MAA was very important and urgent; it should also be very precise, complete and transparent, and should be developed step by step.

Mr. Kildal (Norway) said that the *Convention du Mètre* MRA was heading along the right lines towards the Global Measurement System. Since the OIML Certificate System itself was functioning well, in order to improve the OIML MAA (if it was found necessary at all) he proposed to take other international documents and existing systems into consideration.

In summarizing the discussions, Dr. Chappell said that he felt encouraged by all the contributions and requested the participants to send in their comments on both the draft MAA and the proposed IQ mark.

### Conclusion of the discussions

Mr. Athané (BIML) formulated the conclusions to the Round Table as follows:

After having listened to reports on the subject what is happening in the field of mutual recognition agreements or arrangements within CIPM, ILAC, WTO and also at the bilateral level, the Round Table heard information concerning the state of progress of work in OIML TC 3/SC 5 and TC 6. The points of view on these activities - in particular in relation to TC 3/SC 5 - as expressed by certain participants differed considerably and opposite opinions were expressed particularly concerning the necessity for the work of TC 3/SC 5 and of accreditation, and the sufficiency of self declaration.

However, there was a consensus concerning the fact that the mutual recognition of test results associated with OIML certificates of conformity is a necessary objective to achieve, but the ways to achieve this have still to be identified. ■

## LONDON 2000

### Meeting of representatives of RLMOs

14 October 2000

SETON BENNETT, Chief Executive, NWML and CIML Member for the UK

The growth of regionalisation and the growing importance of regional economic groupings are increasingly influencing the development of legal metrology. Most, if not all, OIML members are also participants in regional legal metrology organisations (RLMOs), which are proving to be effective organisations for the discussion and resolution of regional issues. The nine or ten existing RLMOs have different agendas, reflecting the political, commercial, and technical priorities in their respective regions. These regional issues (some common - some specific) are also of interest to the rest of the OIML.

Representatives of eight RLMOs met in London on Saturday, 14 October, following the OIML Conference and CIML Meeting, to

exchange information about their activities, to identify topics of common interest, and to explore ways of working together. The RLMOs represented ranged from the mature (WELMEC, COOMET, APLMF) to some new, fledgling organisations (Euro-Mediterranean Forum and Balkan Cooperation). In a few hours of discussion, similarities and differences were highlighted as each representative gave an account of current priorities.

There was some discussion of the extent of membership overlap. Although in some cases there is considerable overlap (e.g. WELMEC and the Euro-Mediterranean Forum) it is quite clear that there are few common topics on the various agendas, and the meeting concluded that it would neither be practicable nor desirable to attempt to limit the membership of individual countries to a single RLMO. One topic of almost universal interest, however, is that of mutual recognition, which might have progressed more easily in the OIML if regional agreements had been in place. Discussion revealed that expectations of an agreement vary, but there is a need for transparency and general access to any agreement, with greater flexibility to allow more than one agreement for each category of instruments. The needs of developing countries and the possibility of including non-OIML states must also be considered.

The relationship between RLMOs and the OIML is necessarily an informal one, but the BIML has a role as an information centre. Discussion of draft Recommendations in RLMOs would encourage wider participation in the preparation of texts, aided by the intended publication of all drafts on the Internet. Mr. Athané said that the BIML would take responsibility for organising future meetings of RLMO representatives and would add regional meetings to the OIML web site diary.

It was agreed that the meeting had been valuable and that the next opportunity to meet would be in Moscow in September 2001. ■