

## ISO CASCO

### 17<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting

29–30 November 2001 (Geneva)

In opening the meeting, Dr. Eicher, ISO Secretary-General, recalled that conformity assessment had been an important topic in the 2001 ISO General Assembly. CASCO's future role would be more influential and would need to be strengthened: one of the challenges was the integrity of conformity assessment operations, since these have a direct impact on the image of ISO.

Key points on the agenda which are relevant to current OIML work included the following:

#### WG 11: Mutual recognition agreements

Draft ISO/IEC Guide 68 *Arrangements for the recognition and acceptance of conformity assessment results* would be circulated early in 2002.

#### WG 12: Use of marks of conformity

The consultation on ISO/IEC CD 17030 *Third-party marks of conformity and their use* has started. This is being prepared as an international standard, but its possible conversion to a Guide will be considered.

#### WG 14: Fundamentals of product certification

The clauses of ISO/IEC CD Guide 67 *Fundamentals of product certification* which cover basic components of product certification and elements and types of product certification systems, will be published as ISO/IEC CD2 Guide 67 after including the comments received. Clauses 7–8 may be better included in a future revision of Guide 65:1996.

A revision of ISO/IEC Guide 28:1982 *General rules for a model third-party certification system for products* which currently covers only one model for a third-party product certification system will be proposed.

#### WG 17: Certification of persons

Voting on Draft International Standard (DIS) ISO/IEC 17024 *General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons* will start shortly.

#### WG 18: Assessment and accreditation

Consultation on ISO/IEC CD2 17011 *General requirements for bodies providing assessment and accreditation of conformity assessment bodies* has begun.

#### WG 19: Peer assessment

Consultation on ISO/IEC CD 17040 *General requirements for peer assessment of conformity assessment bodies* has begun.

#### WG 20: Standards and conformity assessment

Most of the provisions of ISO/IEC Guide 7:1994 *Guidelines for drafting of standards suitable for use for conformity assessment* are now included in the ISO/IEC Directives, and the CASCO Advisory Group on Standards and Conformity Assessment now exists to advise TCs with specific concerns. However, WG 20 will continue with a revision of Guide 7 for "external" users.

#### WG 22: Code of good practice for conformity assessment

A second WD revision of ISO/IEC Guide 60 *Code of good practice for conformity assessment* will be ready by mid 2002 and the WTO TBT Committee will be kept informed of WG 22's progress to improve coordination.

#### WG 24: Supplier's declaration of conformity and its supporting documentation

Work has begun on converting ISO/IEC Guide 22:1996 into ISO/IEC 17050 *Supplier's Declaration of Conformity* and on developing ISO/IEC 17051 *Supporting Documentation for Supplier's Declaration of Conformity*. Opinions differ over the scope of these projects and the WG will send a proposed scope and rationale to CASCO.

#### Report from the OIML

Ian Dunmill briefly summarized relevant OIML activities, referring participants to the printed report which had been distributed. The Chairman encouraged CASCO members to become more familiar with the OIML system. He also welcomed the OIML as an A-liaison organisation, recognizing that these liaison arrangements should operate in both directions and suggesting that opportunities for effective participation of CASCO representatives in the relevant work of organizations having A-liaison status should be explored.

#### DEVCO

The DEVCO Secretary, Anwar El-Tawil, reported that a joint advisory DEVCO–CASCO Group on Conformity Assessment Strategies and chat room had been set up.

The next CASCO plenary meeting will provisionally be held in Geneva on 7–8 November 2002. ■