

situation in trade, health services, environmental protection or other fields in which measurements are needed.

- ◆ To study the possibility of performing calibrations, testing and conformity assessment in order to serve the local needs faster and in a less expensive way than being dependent on geographically distant infrastructures, but also to consider carrying out these measurements for overseas customers and to participate in the "Testing business".
- ◆ To build up an accordingly decentralized but practical infrastructure calling on the advice and support of experts having the overview, technical experience and competence in the corresponding fields.

■ Dr. Seiler made some recommendations for the development of metrology in Bahrain:

- ◆ Set up a Metrology Committee under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry with representatives from the private sector, other Ministries (e.g. Health, The Environment and the Armed Forces) and to set up the task to initiate, supervise and follow-up on the necessary activities.
- ◆ Carry out a "Needs assessment" and a survey on existing metrology laboratories in the country.
- ◆ Draw up a master plan for the development of metrology.
- ◆ Increase contacts/coordination with GSMO and other National Metrology Institutes and Organizations across the world and make use of expert knowledge ■

Symposium Report

by Roberto Luiz de Lima Guimarães, INMETRO

INMETRO

International Meeting on Metrology and Quality

◆ Tools for Competitivity ◆

9-12 April 2002, Rio de Janeiro



Introduction

The International Meeting on Metrology and Quality was organized by Inmetro and was attended by 61 experts from 21 European and American countries, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The Symposium was opened by the Minister of Science and Technology and by the Head of Inmetro, Mr. Armando Mariante. The President of Brazil and the Minister of Development attended the official closing session. The President of Brazil delivered a very impressive speech on the role of Inmetro and the importance of Metrology and Quality for the sustained development of Brazil.

The Symposium was attended by some thousand participants, and 136 parallel sessions were organized on the following themes :

- a) Metrology
- b) TBT Agreement
- c) Conformity Assessment
- d) Accreditation

The Legal Metrology Seminar

The program of Legal Metrology shared a wide variety of information concerning three important sub-themes:

- Software applied to measuring;
- Ways of performing metrological control; and
- Measurement in custody transferance and legal measurement of petroleum products.

Conclusion

The meeting was an important forum for discussions on Metrology and Quality and represented a positive contribution to develop an integrated view on Metrology and Quality, fostering the cooperation between these two key issues in modern trade and industry. ■