

MINUTES

COMPTE RENDU

OIML Development Council Meeting
Kyoto, Japan
5 November 2003

Réunion du Conseil de Développement de l'OIML
Kyoto, Japon
5 novembre 2003



ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE
DE MÉTROLOGIE LÉGALE

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION
OF LEGAL METROLOGY



International Organization of Legal Metrology

Secretariat:

BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DE MÉTROLOGIE LÉGALE (BIML)
11, RUE TURGOT - 75009 PARIS - FRANCE

TEL: 33 (0)1 48 78 12 82

FAX: 33 (0)1 42 82 17 27

E-MAIL: biml@oiml.org

INTERNET: www.oiml.org

MEETING
of the
OIML DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
5 November 2003
Kyoto, Japan

The OIML Development Council met on 5 November 2003 at the Kyoto International Conference Hall, Japan, in conjunction with the 38th CIML Meeting.

The meeting was chaired by Mrs. Ghâïet-El-Mouna Annabi, Development Council Chairperson. Also present at the presiding table were Mr. G. Faber, CIML President, Mr. J-F Magaña, BIML Director and Mr. I. Dunmill, BIML Assistant Director.



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Participation

Member States

ALBANIA	Mr. Bashkim Koçi Mr. Vladimir Gjonaj
AUSTRIA	Dr. Arnold Leitner
CAMEROON	Mr. H. Ela Essi Mr. Liman Maloum
CHINA	Mr. Zhenmin Li Ms. Yue Bao
CUBA	Mr. Martin Antunez Ramirez
CZECH REPUBLIC	Mr. Pavel Klenovský Mr Alexander Šafarik-Pstrosz
FRANCE	Mr. Gérard Lagauterie
GERMANY	Pr. Manfred Kochsiek Mrs. S. Ludwig Dr. H. Wallerus
INDIA	Mr. P. A. Krishnamoorthy Mrs. Satwant Reddy
INDONESIA	Mr. Hari Prawoko
IRAN	Mr. Mohammad Ali Akhavan Behabadi
ISRAEL	Mr. Timor Zarin Mr. Michael Harel
JAPAN	Dr. Mitsuru Tanaka Dr. Akira Ooiwa Mr. Tatsuya Daigo Mr. Kiyoshi Takahashi Mr. Toru Kojima Ms. Hiroe Sakai Dr. Masahiro Okaji
KOREA (R.)	Mr. Jong-Oh Choi
MOROCCO	Embassy Representative

NETHERLANDS	Mr. G. J. Faber
NEW ZEALAND	Mr. John Barker Mr. Terry Collins
PORTUGAL	Mr. J. N. Cartaxo Reis
ROMANIA	Mr. F. Iacobescu
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	Prof. L. K. Issaev
SAUDI ARABIA	Mr. Abdul-Aziz A.M. Al-Gossair
SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO	Mr. Z. M. Marković
SLOVAKIA	Mr. Jozef Orlovský Mr. Jaromir Marković
SOUTH AFRICA	Mr. Stuart H. Carstens Mr. T. T. Mathosi Mr. M. Miller Mr. H. F. Ferreira
SPAIN	Dr. Carmen Sevilla Anton
SWITZERLAND	Dr. Bruno Vaucher
TANZANIA	Mr. A. H. M. Tukai
TUNISIA	Mrs. Ghâïet-El-Mouna Annabi
UNITED KINGDOM	Dr. J. W. Llewellyn Mr. Martin Birdseye
UNITED STATES	Dr. Charles D. Ehrlich Mr. Wayne Stiefel
VIET NAM	Mr. Bui Quy Long Mr. Pham Ngoc Tran

Corresponding Members

BURKINA FASO	Mr. Oumarou Yankine
CAMBODIA	Mr. Ho Kadeb Mr. Hou Leng
CHINESE TAIPEI	Mr. Su Bo-Chong
MALAYSIA	Mr. Moho Ismail Md Yunus
MALTA	Mr. Francis E. Farrugia
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	Mr. Khaled Osman Ms. A. Shamdin
UZBEKISTAN	Mr. T. B. Abdullaev Mr. G. Yuldashev

Liaison Institution

International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)	Mr. Jonathan Buck
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CIML Honorary Member

Mr. Knut Birkeland	CIML Past President
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BIML Staff

Mr. Jean-François Magaña	Director
Mr. Attila Szilvassy	Assistant Director
Mr. Ian Dunmill	Assistant Director
Mr. Chris Pulham	Editor
Mrs. Patricia Saint-Germain	Office Manager

OIML Development Council Meeting

5 November 2003

Kyoto, Japan

Opening

Mrs. Annabi welcomed delegates to Japan and thanked the Japanese hosts for the excellent organization and facilities in the Conference Hall. She pointed out that very important issues would be discussed and decisions made for future work on developing countries. Expressing the hope that the meeting would be fruitful, she invited Mr. Magaña to take the roll call of delegates.

Roll call

The roll call of delegates was taken and it was established that 49 CIML Members (out of 60) were present as well as members of the BIML staff.

Approval of the agenda

The Council approved the agenda as follows:

- 1 Activities of interest to developing countries 2002–2003
- 1.1 Joint Committee on coordination of assistance to Developing Countries in Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization (JCDCMAS)
- 1.2 PTB
- 1.3 Others
- 2 Report and discussion on the meeting of the Development Council Task Group (4 November 2003)
- 3 Proposals for Development Council activities for 2003–2004
- 4 Other matters
- 5 Next meeting
- 6 Conclusion and closure of the meeting

1 Activities of interest to developing countries 2002–2003

Mrs. Annabi asked the Bureau to present the report on the activities of interest to developing countries 2002–2003; Mr. Magaña commented that there were three sub-items in this report, as detailed below.

1.1 Joint Committee on coordination of assistance to Developing Countries in Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization (JCDCMAS)

Mr. Magaña explained that the previous February it had been decided to work together with the BIPM, ILAC and other Organizations on the issue of developing countries. This decision had been

taken in a joint meeting with the BIPM and ILAC in February, and then other interested organizations had been invited to join as well.

A meeting was organized between the two international metrology organizations, accreditation and standardization bodies and UNIDO, all of whom had decided to set up a Joint Committee, currently comprising the BIPM, the OIML, ILAC, IAF, ISO, IEC and also ITU (the international standardization organization for telecommunications), as well as UNIDO, which strongly supported this initiative. A presentation had been made very shortly after this to the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade Committee, announcing the intention of members of these organizations to coordinate their efforts better for the benefit of developing countries. The WTO had reacted very favorably to this initiative.

Mr. Magaña then invited Mr. Dunmill to give a more detailed explanation of what had been discussed and was being done in this Joint Committee.

Mr. Dunmill said that the aim of this Committee was to try to better coordinate the work being done by the group of organizations, working in slightly different but very closely related fields, in setting up metrology, accreditation and standardization infrastructures in various countries. In the time since its inception, it had worked on developing terms of reference (which would be discussed during the CIML Meeting), but, briefly, the aims of this Committee had been set as being:

- to pool the expertise which existed within the different organizations for helping developing countries;
- to provide information to developing countries;
- to try to raise the general level of awareness in both developing and industrialized countries relating to the fields of metrology, accreditation and standardization; and
- using these three themes, to support sustainable economic development, with an emphasis on “sustainable”, such that the aid provided would be really useful in the future as well as at the time it was provided.

Mr. Dunmill went on to say that the principal way in which the Committee wished to coordinate and assist in this development work was through supporting and enhancing the existing activities within all the different organizations.

The scope of the work which this Committee proposed to conduct was:

- to develop modules of information on the importance of activities in metrology, accreditation and standardization;
- to liaise with countries which were trying to introduce such systems; and
- to try to develop web-based information resources, this being a much cheaper and easier way for developing countries to obtain access to the information.

So far the Committee had held three meetings, of which:

- the first was in September 2002, in association with the ISO General Assembly in Stockholm;
- the second was in April 2003, at UNIDO in Vienna; and
- the third was held in July 2003, at the BIPM.

A fourth meeting was proposed to be held in March 2004 in Geneva, hosted by the IEC. As could be seen from the frequency of the meetings, the Committee was trying actively to work on the above-mentioned items.

The actions which had so far been undertaken or considered by this Committee were:

- a survey conducted by the WTO in mid-2002 amongst its member countries. They had approached the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) contact points within their countries and asked what needs those countries had, in order to help them achieve the objectives of the TBT Committee. Mr. Dunmill presented figures which were of interest to the OIML, indicating that 50 % of WTO member countries had declared that they had metrology infrastructure needs;

- completion of a database started by the WTO on the technical assistance needs and technical assistance being provided to member countries. Information on this had been sent out to the OIML and Metre Convention Member States in September 2003, to encourage countries to complete the information which was held in this database;
- development of an e-learning package, in association with UNIDO and ISO, and of a series of information modules on different aspects of its work. There would be a metrology module, an accreditation module and a standardization module, containing information which could be used by different countries to help in raising awareness amongst decision makers, the public, government officials, and others; and
- as mentioned earlier, continuing development of web-based resources, discussion forums, etc.

Future actions in the program or under consideration at the moment included:

- some kind of activity associated with the UNIDO General Conference to be held in December 2003; since a number of fairly high-level people would be grouped together for this Conference, this was seen as a beneficial opportunity to raise the profile of the Committee and of its member organizations; and
- an invitation to be sent to the World Bank, as an important player in development activities, to attend the next meeting in 2004, to see how their funding and assistance programs could be integrated into the work of the Committee.

Mr. Magaña thanked Mr. Dunmill for his report, mentioning that the work of the Committee was progressing very efficiently. The OIML was developing a joint presentation module on metrology together with the BIPM which could be used by all these partners, and also by Member States. This very interesting presentation would combine scientific metrology, legal metrology and any other aspect of the subject.

Mr. Magaña invited questions and comments on this work, which was important for all the developing countries.

No comments being immediately forthcoming, Mr. Magaña asked whether any of those present had been approached by the WTO TBT contact points in their own countries about this or other issues. In his opinion, TBT contact points were not always very aware of the existence of metrology and legal metrology bodies in their countries.

Mr. Carstens commented that in South Africa they were probably quite fortunate, in that the WTO notification point was in the Bureau of Standards, so that they were in direct contact with them.

Mr. Antuñez Ramirez remarked that the same situation existed in Cuba.

Mr. Magaña agreed that in general the contact points for the WTO were within the national standardization organization. He invited all developed and developing countries to establish relations with these WTO contact points. He explained that the WTO was very keen on the aspects of creating infrastructures for developing countries, and the TBT Committee was interested in surveys both about the needs of these countries and also about the technical assistance which was provided by industrialized countries. For these reasons this contact was important for developing legal metrology in every country.

Mr. Birdseye said that he and his colleagues would of course make their contact point aware of this development, and in fact they already knew the person concerned. He wanted to know whether any summary introductory paper on the topic existed which could be provided to help explain this material to the contact, who was obviously interested in all the other aspects of the TBT.

Mr. Magaña replied that several papers were in existence and would be sent to all Member States and Corresponding Members of the OIML; these included:

- a background paper presenting the aims of the JCDCMAS and what they were trying to develop, elaborated jointly by the organizations, which had been presented to the TBT Committee; and

- a module on metrology, prepared together with the BIPM, which should be ready within a month or two.

Mr. Carstens asked whether comments could be submitted for inclusion in this draft paper, and Mr. Magaña stated that there would be no problem in improving or revising it.

Mr. Šafarik-Pstrosz wished to make two points regarding the WTO and the TBT itself:

- speaking on behalf of the Czech TBT Inquiry Point, to remind Members that, in both developed and developing countries, all technical regulations in the metrology area had to be notified in any case through the TBT Inquiry Point. This applied not only to those for technical equipment, but also to those concerning formal procedural matters; and
- briefly to inform Members that the Czech Republic had developed quite close cooperation with Albania and was supporting that country in their preparations for harmonization with EU technical requirements and regulations in the areas of standards, conformity assessment and metrology. The Albanians were interested in developing the metrology area and improving their facilities, which up to the present had been relatively limited. He wished the Committee to be aware of the cooperation and technical support that his country was giving to Albania.

Mr. Magaña thanked Mr. Šafarik-Pstrosz for this important information. He then welcomed Mr. Al-Gossair, who had just joined the meeting.

Mr. Magaña drew this item to a close by saying that he took the absence of further comments as an encouragement to continue working with the other organizations and with the WTO on all these issues. There would be further discussion of this topic very shortly in the CIML. The JCDC-MAS draft Terms of Reference (ToR) had already been approved by the General Conference of Weights and Measures the previous month, and these ToR should also be approved by the CIML during the course of the week, so that the Joint Committee would have a more official status for the Organization. Naturally the Joint Committee had not awaited this official approval of its ToR before setting up contacts and progressing with its activities.

1.2 PTB

Mr. Magaña introduced Pr. Kochsiek, who would give information on the activities of the PTB concerning developing countries.

Pr. Kochsiek said he would be giving a brief summary of the PTB's contribution to legal metrology in developing countries and countries in transition to market economies. This included activities announced at the last OIML Development Council Meeting, at the 2000 OIML Conference and also at last year's OIML Development Council Task Group meeting, comprising:

- a seminar on *The role of metrology in the conditions of a globalized market* in cooperation with COOMET and the OIML which had been held in Moscow in May 2003, and details of which had been published in the OIML Bulletin;
- a seminar, with the participation of the BIML, held in Tunis in October 2003 for French speaking North African countries, followed by a Planning Workshop with the aim of establishing a Regional Cooperation project with Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia. This seminar was in line with the Euro-Mediterranean Legal Metrology Forum, and this point had also been discussed in Saint-Jean-de-Luz the previous year; and
- a proposal for verification of commercial weights which had been prepared by Mr. Gupta, from India, which had been sent to the BIML for publication and distribution to interested developing countries.

Bilateral projects between Germany and other countries:

Thailand:

- Senior German and European experts were making some study visits; some instruments had been delivered, especially a mass comparator and standard weights; key persons had been trained by German experts in the context of the *Train the Trainer* system on the verification of thermometers, meters for liquids other than water, gas meters, and automatic weighing instruments. Some instrumentation, such as standard thermometers, standard glass pipettes and so on had been delivered;

Romania:

- A seminar had been organized on the subject of medical measuring instruments such as tonometers, alcoholometers and so on, as well as on the checking of pre-packages;

Bulgaria:

- Here also a seminar had been organized on the subject of medical measuring instruments, clinical thermometers, dosimeters and others;

Southern Region projects:

- There had been some activities with the Southern African Development Community (SADC), where training courses had been held on the verification of Class II and III non-automatic self-indicating weighing instruments, and another training course was proposed for the current month, November 2003, on *Checking of pre-packed products according to OIML R 87*, and the delivery of balances, sets of weights, and volume standards to the following countries: Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia;

ASEAN countries:

- A regional seminar on the *Harmonization of Requirements of Pre-packed Goods* had been organized in Bangkok, with the Central Bureau of Weights and Measures and the PTB, for nineteen participants from seven ASEAN countries, and a second seminar was planned for the following year. Agreements had been concluded with Cambodia and Laos with the aim of supporting legal metrology. Selected instruments and training would be financed by the German side, and all measures would be coordinated with the UNIDO Mekong Project;
- Another example of cooperation between UNIDO, the OIML and the PTB was a project *Promotion of Metrology and Testing* aimed at West African countries. This was implemented by UNIDO in coordination with an EU project. The BIML had contributed to the development of legal metrology in West African countries by participating in seminars and workshops; and
- Some activities had been planned for the following year. It had already been decided that, in cooperation with the Euro-Mediterranean Legal Metrology Forum, a seminar would be arranged in Malta next year. There would also be a seminar in the South East Asia Region, and the previous week, Pr. Kochsiek himself had been in the Caucasus region, where a decision had been taken to hold a seminar for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, also in 2004, on the subject of *General Metrology and the Implementation of the EU Measuring Instruments Directive*.

After the current CIML Meeting, planning of new activities would continue and details would be communicated in due course through the BIML.

Mr. Magaña thanked Pr. Kochsiek and added the further information that the electronic version of Mr. Gupta's document on *Verification of Weights* was in the course of preparation and would be on the web site shortly, so that all Member States and Corresponding Members would be able to download it.

Mr. Magaña also mentioned that one of the Bureau's activities had been to organize, jointly with the IEC and the WTO, regional seminars for developing countries on facilitating developing coun-

tries' participation in the work of the OIML and the IEC. One of these Seminars had been held in Lima, Peru, and the other in Maputo, Mozambique. As reports of these Seminars would be heard in the CIML Meeting, Mr. Magaña did not propose to say much at this point, in order to avoid repetition, but this was an outcome of the Organization's good relations with the WTO and the IEC and also of the work of the JCDCMAS.

1.3 Others

UK

Recounting developments in the UK and the UK's involvement in this field, Mr. Birdseye pointed out that it was of course UK Government policy on international development to concentrate on capacity building by investment within the developing countries concerned, so as to help in building their institutions. It was acknowledged that everybody needed these legal metrology institutions for stable and prosperous economies. This of course included the framework for trade, both domestic and international. It was also policy to support participation in standards setting. In principle, therefore, the aims of the OIML Development Council were totally consistent with the UK policy on international development. Mr. Birdseye also wished to mention that the UK overseas aid budget had approximately doubled under the present Government.

However, like most colleagues present, the British delegates had the problem of explaining to their Government the value of legal metrology which was, ironically, quite difficult to measure! It may have been a mistake for those in the NWML to identify their work for developing countries as a separate program item because their funding department, the Department of Trade and Industry, had decided (with some logic) that the work in this field should be funded by the Department for International Development (DFID). British delegates therefore now had to start again to explain legal metrology to another Government Department. With the support of colleagues in the BIML, they had begun this task. This year, a meeting had been organized for all the UK national organizations involved in the broad sector of standards, quality, accreditation and metrology. With all these national organizations, and with the help of speakers from UNIDO and the BIML, they had been able to assemble a good case for legal metrology being an essential part of capacity building for developing countries. The DFID had followed this up with another national meeting, which also involved representatives from the World Bank and from Germany. Colleagues in the DFID had been acquainted with the experience that the BMZ and the PTB had in this field. There now remained the problem of translating all this effort into a real commitment through their next program.

Along with others, British delegates believed they had the ability to play a useful role in this work, but for now it was a question of priorities. A significant investment of time was necessary even to respond to tenders on a purely commercial basis, and all of their time of course had to be accounted for.

Meanwhile, the British delegates had continued to run their international course on legal metrology, as well as some other training events, and maintained helpful contacts with developing countries wherever possible. Mr. Birdseye said that for the future, more thought should be given to cooperation with other Member States for this problem of explaining the importance of legal metrology for development, as well as possibly cooperating in practical projects, and perhaps a multilateral approach to funding should be sought. In discussion with the DFID, it had become very clear that they had a commendable policy towards a multilateral approach to overseas aid. It would be much easier to put the case if there existed, for instance, a multilateral fund in this field.

Mr. Magaña thanked Mr. Birdseye for his interesting contribution. He then invited Dr. Wallerus to take the floor with his presentation on the activities of the DAM.

Germany

Dr. Wallerus (DAM - the German Academy of Metrology) said that he would be informing the meeting first about the activities of the DAM last year, this year and next year, and afterwards about the final draft of International Document D 14 *Training*. He said that DAM activities for international participants were of two kinds:

- workshops dealing with specific objectives, which lasted about one or two weeks and combined theory and practice. The number of participants was normally between twelve and twenty; and
- training activities over shorter periods of time (one, two or four days) and for a smaller number of participants, normally between one and four. Often this activity was connected with on-the-job training.

The Academy's past, present and future activities and plans were:

- in 2002, a workshop on the verification of weighing instruments, with twelve participants from all over the world. There were also three training activities on pressure measurement, non-automatic weighing instruments, and checking the net content in prepackages;
- in 2003, some training on general legal metrology, training in checking the net content in prepackages for four participants, training in testing measuring instruments in general and prepackage controls. This last session had been attended by sixteen participants from China, but had lasted only one day. The following week, there would be a "train the trainer" workshop on automatic weighing instruments (in cooperation with the PTB) in Thailand, with about twenty participants; and
- in 2004, an international workshop in Thailand on automatic weighing instruments, conducted by colleagues from Thailand who had themselves been trained at the "train the trainer" workshop. This was for participants from Thailand and neighboring states. The next workshop would also be a "train the trainer" session, this time on mass flow meters. It could be seen that there was a move from training the experts to training the trainers. This type of course was much more expensive, difficult and time consuming than the previous type of course. Of course, additional weekend training in the field of legal metrology could be performed on demand: those with special needs should email the Academy or look at their website www.dam-germany.de. The Academy would attempt to set up special courses to meet the specific needs of those who contacted it.

Dr. Wallerus then went on to announce that Development Council WG 1 *Training* had nearly finished its work on the draft of D 14 *Training of legal metrology personnel*. All proposals which had been supported by the members had been incorporated, and a new draft prepared. The scope of this new draft was to define in general the outlines for qualification of legal metrology technicians (not engineers or scientists) and to suggest models for training programs. The training and qualification was set up in a modular structure. Each country could arrange a tailor-made training program according to conditions and specific needs in that country. This meant that a qualification could be made on demand.

The structure of this new document was as follows:

- first, setting out the scope - some general remarks about definitions, fields of tasks and equipping of technicians in the field of legal metrology, recommended qualifications for legal metrology, knowledge and competence required, etc.; and
- the main part of the document - how to qualify people for the work of the future, structure of training, content of training modules, organization of theoretical and practical training, and follow-up training.

The proposed modules were as follows:

- Legal and administrative basics - a theoretical module;
- Theory and general metrology basics encompassing standards, feasibility, errors, and measurement in general;

- Theory and practice - how to test and verify various measuring instruments. Some examples were given in four very important annexes to this section of the document; for instance weighing instruments, measuring instruments for vehicles and other uses. Annex A contained a list of measuring instruments, and special ways of testing them;
- A new module dealing with quality management, accreditation and certification according to ISO 9000 and ISO/IEC 17025. Training was provided here for the new schemes and this would become more and more important in the future;
- Last but not least, supervision (for instance of net content in prepackages).

The annexes deal respectively with the following:

- A A list of measuring instruments, organized according to range of application. These differed from one country to another and could be used to tailor the specific training modules.
- B A list of reference documents, not for each country but for each region. Examples had been made for the European Region, and examples from other regions should be added. South Africa had already put forward some proposals, and further contributions would be welcomed from other Members.
- C Some examples of curricula of practical and theoretical training. Different topics of training were detailed, with the suggested time for each section. This was only an example and not prescriptive. It was hoped that this annex would also include some examples from other qualification institutions.
- D A list of addresses of institutions which were active in the field of legal metrology. Other institutions were asked to check and amend their addresses and websites.

Dr. Wallerus told the meeting that he had prepared some copies of the transparencies he was showing, which he would make available to delegates. The final version of the document would be available for downloading from 17 November from the Academy's web site, and comments and additions, especially for the annexes, would be accepted up to the end of December. Assuming that there were no further comments, at the end of December the document would be finished and the final draft sent to the Chairperson of the OIML Development Council for further administrative handling by the BIML. The document would be available for downloading from the OIML web site or in printed form. Later, a decision would have to be taken as to how the document should be published.

Dr. Wallerus thanked all those who had contributed comments and proposals on the document, and all the other members of the Working Group.

Mr. Faber thanked Dr. Wallerus, pointing out the importance of the revision of OIML D 14 and expressing pleasure that work on it was almost complete. It would now be necessary to look into the means of making the document into an official OIML Document accepted by the CIML. It had been prepared within the Development Council, which used slightly different procedures from those applied in the *Directives for Technical Work*.

Cameroon

Mr. Ela Essi informed the Development Council that the Fifteenth Central African Region Conference of African Ministers of Industry had taken place in Yaoundi, Cameroon from 17 to 19 March 2003. This grouped the Republic of Gabon, Chad, Central Africa, Equatorial Guinea, The Congo and the Republic of Cameroon, under the patronage of UNIDO. The principal goal of this Conference had been to identify factors of competitiveness for the industries and economies of the above-mentioned countries. One of the resolutions taken had been the creation of a Regional Legal Metrology Organization grouping all the countries of the region in order to unify their effort and combine their experience and knowledge in the field of legal metrology, accreditation and standardization. The project had to be approved by all Governments concerned. Support and

expertise from the OIML Development Council and other RLMOs would be welcomed in due course, in order to assist the region in the matter.

Mr. Faber thanked Mr. Ela Essi and expressed pleasure at the creation of a new Regional Metrology Organization.

Mrs. Annabi asked whether any other delegate had any further information of comment about activities of interest to developing countries; as there were none, the meeting would move forward to the next item.

2 Report and discussion on the meeting of the Development Council Task Group (4 November 2003)

Mrs. Annabi said that the Task Group had held its first meeting last year in Saint-Jean-de-Luz and its members had continued to work since then, communicating with the BIML by e-mail. She saw it as being important for the OIML to continue to promote actions directed at developing countries. Mr. Magaña would communicate the details of the work and the conclusions reached by the Task Group as to how best direct supportive action towards these countries.

Mr. Magaña reminded the Council that the previous year the CIML President had appointed a Task Group to reflect on the organization of the OIML's work for developing countries. Following its first meeting in 2002, the Task Group had subsequently worked by correspondence. There had been a further meeting on the morning prior to this meeting. The Task Group had worked on two main issues, namely:

- To propose actions of interest to developing countries for inclusion in the OIML Action Plan. A number of proposals had been sent to the BIML. These had been circulated, leading to a draft revision of the Action Plan. Information about this draft would be given in the CIML Meeting and the revision of the Action Plan would have to be adopted by correspondence within the next month. Some items proposed by the Task Group were then shown to delegates; these concerned improvements to and acceleration of the technical work of the OIML, and how the participation of developing countries in this work could be facilitated. Suggested methods of achieving this included developing the use of the Internet and other electronic means, setting up forums for Technical Committees, and so on. Also, importantly, to take account of the WTO TBT Committee's documents and the Triennial Review of this Committee when revising the *Directives for the Technical Work*. The revision of the *Directives* had now been completed, but they would continue to be revised and updated. There were a number of initiatives for the promotion and development of legal metrology; these would take the form of organizing seminars and workshops run in conjunction with other organizations. As previously stated, two workshops had already been organized with the IEC, and a report on them would be given to the Committee. Additionally, information from certain Member States would be circulated to other Member States, the need for interchange of information being still very important. Furthermore, papers and presentations would be developed which could be used by Member States and Corresponding Members to raise awareness of metrology. The Action Plan also contained some initiatives to facilitate the work of CIML Members in general, using the web not only for Technical Committees but also for the exchange of information. There should be forums in which any country could put questions and receive answers from others. It was also intended that a number of issues should be improved and made more detailed on the Development Council web site. There was a database of experts for technical assistance, and it was intended that this should be updated. The training database would also be improved and modified so that it would function better; also the exchange of information about training materials developed in different regions would be coordinated and facilitated so that other countries could benefit. These were the elements of the Action Plan.

- Secondly, discussion of the evolution of the structures for the work intended to help developing countries. The Task Group had looked at the following three Development Council Working Groups:

WG 2 Information

The Task Group considered that this WG was obsolete and should be replaced by three actions:

- a to develop more information pages on the OIML web site;
- b to work jointly with the other organizations in the JCDCMAS (presented to members that morning) to develop material of mutual interest, largely in the framework of WTO inquiries about developing countries. The WTO was looking very seriously at the problems faced by these countries, so the effort towards mutual information should be placed in this context; and
- c to improve and make available a database of experts.

If these three actions could be implemented, they could replace the Working Group on *Information*, which would probably no longer be necessary.

WG 3 Equipment

This WG also had difficulties in issuing documents, a problem which had been discussed the previous year. The Task Group had proposed the idea that instead of having a very formal Working Group it would probably be more efficient if the BIML could hire some experts to provide papers on the equipment which was needed for specific tasks in legal metrology. It would be easy to hire an expert to provide a list of equipment needed, for example for on-site verification of petrol pumps, or of weighing instruments in markets. This would be much more efficient and the OIML budget would permit it. Within a matter of six months it would be possible to have a number of such expert reports; although these would not be considered as official OIML Documents, they would be of great help to developing countries. The Task Group therefore felt that it would be much more efficient to replace this Working Group by actions of this kind.

WG 1 Training

Here, the situation was slightly different. Dr. Wallerus had spoken of one aspect of training, the work being done on the revision of D 14. This work had in fact been carried out within this Development Council WG, but in principle the drawing up of OIML Documents should be done within the network of Technical Committees and Subcommittees. This work had not therefore followed the usual OIML procedures, and it was generally considered that if it was necessary to develop an OIML Document, then it should be done according to the normal rules of the OIML. This kind of work should therefore be transferred from this WG to a Subcommittee. Since the revision of D 14 was nearing its end, it might not be necessary to set up a Subcommittee to finish it. Dr. Wallerus would look into the work and ways would be found to finish and adopt it. For the other aspects of training, some important work had also been done in making inquiries and reviewing the training needs of developing countries. Here again, however, Mr. Magaña considered that this work should be done in two ways: firstly, by facilitating mutual information on the needs of developing countries and on the technical assistance which is offered by industrialized countries; and secondly, by working on this issue in conjunction with other organizations, because there was some overlap between legal and scientific metrology in the needs for, and the offers of training. A need for training in weighing instruments might well go together with a need for training in mass calibration. This should also be examined in the JCDCMAS, and account should also be taken of the work being done by the WTO, which was collecting information on the needs of developing countries and on programs of technical assistance. The work of the OIML should not proceed along separate

and parallel lines from that organized by the WTO and other sister organizations, and so the WG on *Training* was also deemed to be no longer appropriate for future work on developing countries.

These conclusions of the Task Group would be discussed later, perhaps in the current meeting. The Task Group proposed simply to stop these three Working Groups; not to put an end to the work, but to replace them as described above.

Concerning the structures for the future work on developing countries, the Task Group had reported to the President of the Committee about what should be set up for the future. Mr. Magaña asked Mr. Faber to inform members of the conclusions which had been reached.

Mr. Faber said that the decision-making process showed how complex the Organization sometimes was. He did not very much like this, but as it was a Treaty Organization, the rules had to be respected. As President, he had set up this Task Group one year before, and it had made its final report the day before. The report was very good, and the activities of the Task Group were thereby brought to an end. The report had also been discussed in the Presidential Council, which was, as Members knew, an advisory council to the President. After that, it had been decided to present it to this Development Council, which existed for the purpose of discussing all kinds of problems concerning the OIML's developing country activities. It would subsequently be presented to the Committee in the afternoon or on the following day, since only the Committee could take a decision. The Committee would then have to present it to the Conference in 2004, because the Conference had set up the structure for the OIML's developing country activities, so only the Conference could change or stop these activities. The process of decision-making was quite complicated. It was now well underway, but although the main work had been done, a number of formalities remained. The headline proposals arising from Mr. Faber's discussions with the Task Group when it reported to him, were as follows:

- to stop the activities of the Working Groups. As explained by Mr. Magaña, all the work would be maintained, but organized in another way;
- to stop the activities of the Task Group. The Task Group had done a good job, but instead of working with this Development Council, a much more simple structure could be created, which would also be, in his opinion, much more effective than the existing one could be. This might seem to be criticizing the existing structures, but certainly no blame was attached to any of the persons who had been active in them. There were a lot of them, but the BIML had always worked very hard to come to Group activities, and certainly Mrs. Annabi, the Chairperson of the Development Council, had done a lot, with great commitment and enthusiasm, to try to extend the work done for developing countries. In proposing a new structure, therefore, the aim was to do more and do it better, and certainly not to reduce any work. More details would follow, but the only forum in which decisions could be made was the CIML, and, in the case of some aspects, the Conference. As would be seen in the afternoon's meeting, there was some duplication of work - the same people, in the same room, were having the same discussions twice. There were means whereby this situation could be improved. Having read all the papers produced by the Task Group and having listened to all the presentations, Mr. Faber was proposing that, from next year on, the activities of this Development Council should be stopped. They would be replaced in two different ways:
 - There was certainly a need for meetings with a number of developing countries and other interested countries, including developed countries. This would be organized, not as a Council but in the form of workshops, seminars, round table conferences, etc., where information and all kinds of programs could be fully discussed. The following year, in place of this Council meeting, they would attempt to organize a workshop with the aim of continuing the work for developing countries; and
 - Mr. Faber had proposed to the Task Group and to the Presidential Council the setting up of a permanent *Working Group for developing countries*; such a Group should be very small, because in order for really good strategy and policy to be drafted, it was only possible to

work with a small committee. As previously, it would not be able to take decisions, which was the responsibility of the CIML. The WG would have the same terms of reference as the Presidential Council, which would mean that its members would be appointed for three years. The President would still be entitled to change or adapt the composition of the WG regarding the persons or the regional interests, as was the case under present arrangements with the Presidential Council. It would thus be possible to act very quickly when necessary. The core, so to speak, of this WG should be two persons who were real experts in the field of activities for developing countries, but not necessarily CIML Members. They would need to be experienced and knowledgeable about metrology, the concerns of developing countries and where to find financial resources. Mr. Faber was thinking of two persons, from different parts of the world. The group should be chaired by one of the Vice-Presidents in order to show that these activities were taken care of at the highest level of the Organization. The group needed of course, a person representing the voice of the developing countries, and the Director or one of the Assistant Directors of the BIML, making a total of five persons.

Mr. Faber said that the exact terms of reference could not yet be given. The above were the main characteristics of the group under discussion. He was, however, in a position to say that the Task Group, where developing countries were represented, had the previous day accepted the proposal unanimously, as also had the Presidential Council. The new structure could therefore be presented to the Development Council with the confidence that it would really be helpful in improving what was being done. Mr. Faber reiterated that a lot was already being done; he was not implying that there was any lack of activities, as was shown by the morning's presentations, but there must be no let-up in the effort to improve the work and to reduce bureaucracy in the Organization. Whenever possible, things should be simplified so that the OIML's money could be spent on real activities instead of paying excessive amounts for meetings and structures and so on. It was therefore with some enthusiasm that he presented this new structure in the hope that it would be accepted and that the Committee would adopt it; this would mean that the following year much more precise information could be given concerning terms of reference and other aspects. Assuming that the proposal was accepted during the week, the President would then be able to appoint this Working Group within a mere few weeks. The fact that the Development Council would still be in existence during the following year's Conference would not prevent the small group from beginning its work. The President had the right at any time to appoint a Working Group, and in Mr. Faber's view a start should be made as soon as possible.

Mrs. Annabi thanked Mr. Faber and asked for comments and suggestions about the proposals.

Mr. Antuñez Ramirez felt that this was a very important change in the Development Council, whose work was vital. It was very important that there should be developing country participation in this group. He also commented that an OIML Document could be a good document, but might need to be changed because it had been drawn up many years before. He felt that this work was essential because many developing countries had a strong need for metrology. From what he was hearing, very few countries would be participating - participation would be less than before. He hoped that a high level of participation could be maintained, as metrology in his country was improving because of participation in the work of the OIML.

Mr. Magaña agreed that it was very important for developing countries to participate in the work and be well represented. This issue had been discussed very intensively with the WTO. One of the most important issues that was how to improve and facilitate the participation of developing countries in the work. Regional seminars had been organized in Peru and in Mozambique for this purpose, and there were a number of proposals for progress on this front. As Mr. Faber had said, there would be a representative of developing countries within the Group; that was of course essential. There would be experts in technical assistance, who also would be representatives of developing countries. In the technical work of TCs and SCs, the increased use of the Internet would be promoted, as this was the easiest way for developing countries to participate in discussions, and more efficient than organizing meetings and asking people to travel around the world.

The development of the internet would therefore be very important for facilitating the participation of developing countries. Last but not least, regional legal metrology organizations could also play a very important role in facilitating the participation of developing countries in OIML work. It was indeed a very important issue, on which the OIML was working with other organizations and with the WTO.

Dr. Llewellyn thanked the President and Director. He welcomed this initiative, saying that he felt that reducing the level of bureaucracy was entirely the right thing to do, in order to free up resources for delivering what was seriously needed. He had a couple of small concerns regarding the detail of the arrangement and had noticed that there was a proposal for a single member from a developing country. It must be borne in mind that the main task of this Working Group would be to serve the needs of developing countries. He was slightly concerned therefore that it might place a very heavy burden upon that single member if he or she had to try to combine or identify the needs from a broad range of countries. That might be addressed by the nature of the experts who were on the panel, and Dr. Llewellyn would be grateful to hear what expertise it was envisaged that these people should have.

Dr. Llewellyn's other major concern was to avoid the situation where the Development Council was driven "top down". He felt that it needed to be "bottom up", responding to the needs of countries rather than trying to tell them what their needs were. However, he reiterated that in his opinion this was a very welcome and very correct initiative.

Mr. Faber assured Dr. Llewellyn that the mission of the small Working Group would be double: on the one hand, to prepare activities and proposals to be discussed in the Presidential Council and, of course and by definition, in the Committee. Here, all the developing countries were represented, and this was really the place for discussion. The other part of the mission of this WG would be to prepare workshops and seminars on whatever ideas they might come up with. This is why the core value of the Group must be professionalism. If he had a criticism of the work done up to the present, it might be that there had been a lack of real professionalism, and it was essential to improve that situation. For him, this was the core of the matter. One of the Vice-Presidents would lead the Group and Mr. Faber was sure that he was absolutely expert in the work for developing countries. Mr. Faber did not himself see as a problem the fact that there would be only one member of the Group representing developing countries, since there would not be voting within the Group, but he could understand Dr. Llewellyn's concerns. For himself, the main thing was that the voice of developing countries must be heard in the Group, and that when the Group was set up, all countries should know whose was this voice, and to whom they should go when they had something to say. The role of this person was also to be a contact address for developing countries, to whom they would take their ideas, concerns and complaints. However, Mr. Faber had had some experience which suggested that enlarging the Group would result in its becoming more formal and less effective. He appreciated Dr. Llewellyn's remarks; the possibility had been considered, but if the person selected played the role of link between developing countries and this Committee to the full, and was committed, it could be organized as suggested. As was the case whenever choices had to be made, there were pros and cons; Mr. Faber thanked Dr. Llewellyn for his general support for the proposals and asked whether he could accept this.

Dr. Llewellyn replied that it was always difficult to strike a balance in such cases. He drew the meeting's attention to the fact that developing countries had different types and levels of needs. He appreciated the suggestion that one person should be a conduit for all their needs; he had just wondered whether it was too big a job for one person, and whether thought had been given to the possibility of appointing, for example, one person for the Asia-Pacific Region and others for other parts of the world, thus splitting it geographically. This could be done in a number of ways. This had been Dr. Llewellyn's concern, but he understood Mr. Faber's point and reasoning.

Pr. Kochsiek said that he had been acting Chair of the Council before Mrs. Annabi took over, and, from his point of view, the main task at that time had been to find out what needs developing countries had. In the least developed countries there was no metrology infrastructure and therefore no contact with whom to discuss what the needs might be. There was therefore a need for a

professional expert who had built up experience in metrology infrastructure, especially legal metrology. For this reason his proposal was to have metrology experts from the least developed countries, though this was very difficult. Where countries were in transition, they might point out what their needs were, but for the really least developed countries it was very difficult for them to find this out for themselves.

Mr. Vaucher said that the proposal to keep things as simple as possible should definitely be supported. In his opinion, what developing countries really needed was not paperwork and meetings but help, for instance funding for appropriate facilities and instrumentation and necessary training on the job. A small group of competent people would surely be able to help in this case.

Support for developing countries in metrology could not be the responsibility of the OIML alone; legal metrology could not be split off from scientific and industrial metrology. The JCDCMAS was a move in that direction. Mr. Vaucher had been concerned to learn that in “only” two years they had already had three meetings and a fourth was planned. He would like to suggest that in addition to the planned meeting there should also be more actions. The suggestion was that the planned group, which would replace the Development Council, should work in close collaboration with the other Organizations and especially with that new Committee which had been set up for exactly that purpose.

Mr. Faber thanked Mr. Vaucher for his support. On the subject of the JCDCMAS, he saw it as in a certain way a step forward, since its big advantage was that it opened the possibility of coordinating a number of activities for developing countries. There was, however, one problem, which was that a lot of organizations were represented, so this group itself was by no means small. Mr. Faber had recently been discussing with Mr. Magaña the possibility of having at least a sub-group in this JCDCMAS concentrating on metrology together with BIPM, in order to be as practical and as effective as possible.

Mr. Cartaxo Reis offered some information on this item. He agreed with what Mr. Vaucher had said, i.e. that developing countries needed not only papers but practical action. In Portugal also it was felt necessary to plan practical actions. For this reason, in June, the Portuguese Institute for Quality had signed an agreement with the Angolan Authority for Quality, with the aim of supporting the Angolan authorities in building a metrology infrastructure. They had had many discussions with the Angolan authorities over the last two years, and, following this agreement, they had participated in two seminars on the subject of legal metrology in July in Angola, one in the capital Luanda, and the other in the second most important city, Bengala. Following the seminars, they had moved on to practical actions. When the information had been given to governmental authorities, businesses and so on, one training course had been organized for verification officers in the field of mass, nonautomatic weighing machines and petrol pumps. After the training course, more consistent metrology control had been set up in Angola. Plans for 2004 included two more seminars on legal metrology, in different Angolan towns since Angola was so large that work had to be progressive. Another training course for verification officers was envisaged.

Mr. Faber thanked Mr. Cartaxo Reis, saying that this was very interesting information for the South African region and for other Portuguese speaking countries.

Mr. Šafarik-Pstrosz wished to return to the President’s address and to the understandable concerns which had been voiced by the UK. He appreciated that one of the members of the Group should be an expert in assistance to developing countries, with general knowledge of their needs and with an ability to organize and coordinate these in the permanent Working Group from this point of view. His point and proposal, which might go some way towards resolving these concerns, was that perhaps one person could be appointed from each of the Regional Metrology Organizations, who would act as a contact point for this one expert in the WG. This might initiate a mechanism for good coordination and cooperation.

Mr. Faber thanked Mr. Šafarik-Pstrosz for his suggestion, which was in no way contradictory to the proposed structure, but an addition to it. He asked for some time to consider the idea, which

was interesting, but in his view, once the President had set up the Working Group, this very fruitful idea should be studied with the member representing developing countries during discussions on how to organize good contacts with these countries.

Dr. Leitner also wished to support the program, particularly emphasizing that it was vital to avoid the separation of legal metrology from other aspects of metrology. This must be done from the outset in the drafting of the Group's policies and perhaps procedures. He felt that a good document of this kind was that on secondary dosimetry laboratories, some of which was outside the scope of legal metrology, because it dealt with secondary standards and with calibration. Nevertheless, in this document, there were details of basic equipment and calibration procedures which were under the umbrella of legal metrology. Here there was really a merger between industrial metrology, basic metrology and legal metrology. Dr. Leitner felt that this should be the guiding example in drawing up documents for developing countries.

Mr. Krishnamoorthy expressed his appreciation for these actions in formulating a different procedure, but wished to add some comments. He knew that at the present time the proposals and recommendations of the Development Council would involve a long and time-consuming process. At this time, when developing countries were integrating with the world economy, quick action-oriented recommendations needed to be made by the OIML which were also acceptable to governments, because it was essential that the recommendations be made a part of a government's ongoing transformations. He suggested that the two experts whom it was proposed to appoint might be from developing countries, so that they could reflect the needs of the developing countries to the Working Group, and also that certain procedures needed to be further formulated. He pointed out that in most developing countries regulations were drawn up by government agencies. With the growth and development of the economy which was taking place, it was also necessary to ensure the participation of other accredited bodies in the verification process, and that if the Working Group were to make specific recommendations concerning this, these ideas would be more easily accepted by governments.

Mr. Faber thanked delegates for their strong support for changing the structures. The suggestions which had been made about the experts would be taken into account, but in saying that, it must be realized that the first thing that was needed was perhaps not to look at where they came from, but rather at how professional they were. As he had previously said, the problem in the past had been the degree of professionalism. However, it was important, when appointing people, to look to the regions so as to what was happening in the world and take into account factors such as those mentioned.

3 Proposals for Development Council activities for 2003–2004

Mr. Faber proposed the following four activities regarding the BIML's program for the coming year, in preparation for the next meeting of the Development Council, which would be as follows:

- to seek good subject matter for the 2004 meeting which would take the form of a Round Table Workshop and exchange of ideas, possibly less formal than this year's;
- to seek to continue to work very actively with the JCDCMAS, as well as with other organizations, and to develop documents and be very active in this Committee, which would be a very effective tool for helping developing countries;
- more specifically, and in liaison with the aforementioned Working Groups, to look for and hire experts to develop documents on equipment for developing countries, for several different categories of legal metrology activity. Some of these experts might be able to bring reports of their activities to the following year's meeting; and
- to continue to develop the web site facilities for developing countries. For the moment, this was called the Development Council web site, and was part of the OIML web site.

Mr. Faber asked whether there were any other recommendations for work during the coming year. He commented that he would presume the silence to mean consent and that there was a consensus for acceptance of the program.

4 Other matters

Mrs. Annabi drew the meeting's attention to the section of the OIML web site which Tunisia had now translated into Arabic for the OIML; these pages could be accessed from the main menu and were regularly updated, but remained the responsibility of Tunisia. If other countries would like to translate OIML web pages into their national language, this could be discussed with the BIML. Naturally the Bureau could not, however, be held responsible for the translations, and the pages should therefore contain a disclaimer to the effect that they were the responsibility of the country which had translated them. This could easily be facilitated, and it was a good way to promote the activities of the OIML in all countries.

Mr. Lagauterie stated that, as everyone knew, the main goal of the Euro-Mediterranean Legal Metrology Forum was to improve the legal metrology activities in its developing members. Unfortunately, for various reasons, it had not been possible to have a meeting of this Forum during the past year. He therefore proposed that members who were interested in knowing what could be done in the future should, in the course of the coming days, have a short discussion, lasting perhaps half an hour. He would let members know by letter what would be the most appropriate time for this would be.

5 Next meeting

Mr. Magaña informed members that the next meeting would be held jointly with the 39th CIML Meeting and 12th OIML Conference, in Berlin in October 2004.

6 Conclusion and closure of the meeting

Returning to Item 2, Mr. Faber asked for a clear conclusion that could be presented to the CIML. He believed that this conclusion was that there was very strong support for the proposals and that, in addition to these, some very important observations had been made. The President should be asked, in appointing the members of this permanent Working Group, to bear these recommendations in mind. With the agreement of the meeting, these conclusions would be recorded in the minutes of the current meeting and he would present them to the CIML. Agreement was given to this, and Mr. Faber pointed out that the Development Council was coming to the end of its existence. There would be a short meeting the following year because there might be some formalities to observe. That would also be an opportunity to look back over its history and to thank all those who had played a role in this Development Council, last but not least the President. Now was not the time for that, however, so the meeting was closed, with final thanks to all contributors, and a fervent hope that soon the discussions of structures could come to an end and the real work and activities could begin. ■

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