



BIML 06 No. 273/JFM/RG

19 May 2006

To: CIML Members

Subject: Draft of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ILAC and the OIML

Dear Colleagues,

Considering the implementation of the OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA), the OIML and ILAC have started cooperation in the field of the evaluation of testing laboratories involved in type approval testing and examinations.

Both organizations have also suggested extending this cooperation to additional topics, and the chair of ILAC and the CIML President have agreed to draw up an MoU.

The draft MoU, which is to be signed at the ILAC General Assembly in November 2006, is annexed to the present Circular.

You are invited to comment on this draft at the latest by 31 August 2006. Comments will be examined at the 41st CIML Meeting in order to draw up the final version to be signed.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require further clarification.

Yours faithfully,

Jean-François Magaña
BIML Director

DRAFT

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)
BETWEEN
THE INTERNATIONAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION COOPERATION (ILAC)
AND
THE ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE MÉTROLOGIE LÉGALE (OIML)**

The Chair of the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) and the President of the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML),

- considering that measurement plays an essential role in developing confidence between trading partners and in demonstrating that goods comply with written specifications and legal requirements;
- considering that accreditation and legal metrology are key elements of an essential infrastructure for national and international consistency of measurements;
- considering that the existence of a Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) between the ILAC members has already led to the acceptance of foreign test data by a number of national regulatory bodies and that further acceptance is being pursued in a number of regulated sectors, including telecommunications, electrical and electronic goods, electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), energy efficiency, pressure vessels, food, machinery etc.;
- considering the importance of the Organisation Internationale de Métrologie Légale (OIML) Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA) and the ILAC MRA to underpin the unified worldwide metrology system for industry, commerce and world-wide trade; and
- considering the complementarity of OIML and ILAC work and the benefits of working together for the development of an international, global metrology system

have agreed to establish a bilateral cooperation by this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

Scope of the Memorandum of Understanding

The aim of this cooperation is to:

- a) maintain an active ILAC-OIML liaison by:
 - i) facilitating common approaches in the interpretation and implementation of ISO/IEC 17025 and relevant technical criteria, and
 - ii) harmonizing assessment procedures;
- b) share interpretations of common technical issues of relevance to common client laboratories by:
 - i) exchanging information,
 - ii) jointly developing publications, and where practicable, conducting joint work on the development of technical guides, standards, procedures and policies relevant to the affected laboratories/bodies, and
 - iii) cooperating in the development of joint training courses for conformity assessment experts;
- c) request ILAC Members to use technical and metrological experts validated by the OIML where legal metrology is included in the scope of the accreditation;
- d) request the OIML to use assessors from ILAC full Members for OIML peer assessments;
- e) promote and develop the consistency and complementarity of the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement and the OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement;
- f) cooperate in promoting and developing inter-laboratory comparisons and, in particular, proficiency testing; and
- g) invite representatives of each organization to participate as liaisons in certain meetings of the other organization.

Implementation

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into force upon its signature by the ILAC Chair and the CIML President, and will remain in force until terminated in accordance with the provisions hereafter defined. It will be reviewed every three years.

The work program implementing this MoU will be decided by the ILAC Chair and the CIML President during an annual meeting.

The appropriate ILAC bodies and the Bureau International de Métrologie Légale (BIML) will jointly be responsible for implementing this work program and for reporting on it at the ILAC General Assembly and at the CIML Meeting.

Amendments

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended at any time by a written agreement between the parties.

Termination

This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by either party upon three months written notice.

Daniel Pierre
Chair
International Laboratory Accreditation
Cooperation

Alan Johnston
President
International Committee of Legal
Metrology

Signed on: _____