



BIML 06 N° 307/JFM

5 July 2006

Note

For the attention of CIML Members

Subject: OIML / Metre Convention joint Action Plan

Dear CIML Members,

Following various comments received and suggestions made during recent CIML Meetings, the Presidents of the Committees, and also the Bureaux of the two Organizations have now held meetings in order to define concrete steps for increased coordination and cooperation between the OIML and the Metre Convention, with the primary objective of increasing our visibility and further contributing to the promotion of all the aspects of metrology worldwide.

The focus was put on very practical actions which do not modify the responsibilities incumbent on each Organization, but which aim to portray a more consistent view of international metrology both to the public and to senior government officials around the world and which will facilitate the exchange of appropriate information on each other's work.

These discussions resulted in the attached joint Action Plan, which will be examined by the appropriate structures in the two Organizations.

If you as CIML Member of your country have any comments on this document, please send them to the BIML no later than **September 30th 2006** so that the Bureau can summarize them and draft a resolution which will be submitted to the CIML at its 41st Meeting in Cape Town this October to enable us to quickly move forward in this very practical cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

J.F. Magaña
BIML Director

Metre Convention - OIML

Draft Common Action Plan

The Presidiums and the Bureaux of the Metre Convention and of the OIML met on February 8th in Braunschweig and on March 8th at the BIPM. It has been agreed that the bilateral cooperation between the two Organizations has to be reinforced and made more active in order to present to the public and to stakeholders a consistent image of international metrology.

Following these conclusions, the draft action plan is submitted to the consideration of the competent bodies of the two Organizations.

1 Production of common informative and awareness documents

- Joint production of a single, four-page leaflet on "International Metrology" which would set out a general description of what metrology is, the roles of the two Organizations, and how they collaborate. This leaflet is intended for a general, non-specialist audience (politicians, general interest readers, etc.) and would illustrate some of the technical and economic benefits of metrology.
- Joint production of a number of general one-page leaflets which describe the issues based on themes such as metrology for health, metrology for domestic or for international trade, metrology for road safety, metrology for the environment, etc. These leaflets would address technical domains where metrology plays an important role, and would be used for raising awareness in Ministries or other international organisations.
- Developing a common web site. This would involve setting up a common portal which would contain copies of the leaflets mentioned above, any general talks/papers, etc. produced by the Organisations and which would have direct links to the BIPM and the OIML web sites.
- Gather papers or examples of the economic benefits from metrology for use by Member States and posting them on the relevant web sites;
- Exchange general PowerPoint presentations used to show the work of the OIML, BIPM, etc., and plan a common presentation with an introduction which deals with world metrology and two optional parts: one focussing more on the Metre Convention, the other on the OIML.

2 Common representation of International Metrology

- Represent the interests of the other Organization where possible in international, regional or national meetings, seminars and workshops. Examples are the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO TBT) meetings, workshops on conformity assessment and the launch of the inter-African metrology system.
- Exchange the contact lists used by the two Organizations for distribution of their newsletters (KCDB newsletter and the CIPM electronic newsletter, appropriate OIML mailing lists).
- Lists of organisations/individuals to whom general information such as the Tripartite Statement is sent and identifies any follow-up actions.
- Determine if representatives of the Organisations could be promoters/lobbyists on behalf of the two Organizations. The problem faced by the BIPM and BIML is that to make an impact and

lobby effectively there has to be regular rather than ad-hoc interaction which could be the case for two Bureaux.

3 Common organization of special events

- Consideration of a World Conference on Metrology organised by the BIPM and the BIML, at a date to be decided. This could be a multi-day affair with a daily focus on metrology for "X" and would be an occasion to invite guest speakers from, for example, the World Trade Organization, World Meteorological Organization, World Health Organization, UNIDO, World Bank, etc.

Regional events are an opportunity to meet "decision makers" and here collaboration with UNIDO and others who have this sort of access should be sought.

4 Traceability issues

- The OIML will consider how to address traceability to SI in general OIML Documents and Guides and in the OIML MAA, in particular making use of the CIPM MRA. The ILAC policy document on traceability should also be taken into account.
- The OIML will identify Recommendations where there may be traceability problems and will establish liaisons with the CIPM Consultative Committees and other appropriate CIPM Working Groups to address them.

This should also facilitate cooperation at a national level between legal and scientific metrology.