



BIML 10 No. 202 /RG

2010.02.09

**Note**  
**to CIML Members, OIML Corresponding Members and OIML Issuing Authorities**

**Subject: Declaration of Mutual Confidence (DoMC) for automatic catchweighing instruments (OIML R 51)**

Dear Colleagues,

In BIML Circulars No. 09-372/RG dated 17 July 2009 and No. 09-676/RG dated 14 December 2009, the BIML informed you of the launch of the R 51 DoMC and requested candidacies for participation.

The deadline has now expired and the BIML has received three candidacies for participation (two from potential Issuing Participants and one from a Utilizing Participant).

According to the rules to establish a DoMC defined in 4.5 of OIML B 10-1:2004 *Framework for a Mutual Acceptance Arrangement on OIML Type Evaluations*, a minimum of two potential Issuing Participants is required.

This requirement is therefore fulfilled and the BIML has decided to pursue the implementation of the MAA for automatic catchweighing instruments.

The next steps of the process are:

- Setting up the provisional R 51 Committee on Participation Review (CPR);
- The review of the application files of the potential Issuing Participants by the CPR;
- The validation of candidacies of technical and metrological experts for R 51, by the CPR.

Even though this process has already started, we would like to still give you the opportunity to join the DoMC either as a potential Issuing Participant or as a Utilizing Participant.

Analyzing the (partial) results that are so far available further to the inquiry organized on the implementation of OIML Recommendations in the various Member States, it is evident that OIML R 51 is a Recommendation which is widely used as the basis for national regulations, even though in some countries additional tests are required.

We would like to remind you of the added value of an OIML MAA Evaluation Report. The evaluation of the testing laboratories on the basis of a widely recognized international standard (ISO/IEC 17025) guarantees in particular competency, consistency in the application of the relevant procedures and quality of test results.

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Even if in the various countries, accreditation for certification activities such as testing is not required, the inquiry we have conducted on the use of accreditation in legal metrology controls shows that conformity to the relevant ISO/IEC standards on conformity assessment is often required. The OIML has published guidelines for the implementation of two of them to legal metrology: OIML D 29:2008 *Guide for the application of ISO/IEC Guide 65 to assessment of measuring instrument certification bodies in legal metrology* and OIML D 30:2008 *Guide for the application of ISO/IEC 17025 to the assessment of Testing Laboratories involved in legal metrology*.

The OIML MAA is a tool to fulfill such requirements.

We count on your continued support and look forward to soon receiving additional candidacies for participation.

Candidacies for technical and metrological experts are also very welcome.

We would like to remind you that such candidacies may also be submitted by CIML Members of countries which do not intend to participate in the R 51 DoMC.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any additional information.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Gaucher', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Mrs. Régine Gaucher**

*Project Leader*