



DRAFT ACTION PLAN

OBJECTIVES FOR THE YEARS 2005-2010

1 TECHNICAL WORK

1.1 Directives for Technical Work (See Strategy, 1, 2)

The Directives for Technical Work shall be revised in order to provide:

- More flexibility and reactivity in the allocation of work,
- Simpler working procedures for the Secretariats of TCs/SCs,
- Shorter delays in the consultation and voting procedures,
- Transparency and openness as expected by the WTO for standardization processes.

The use of electronic media and the internet shall be taken into account in these new Directives.

1.2 Acceleration of work – "Zero paper" (See Strategy, 1, 2)

In order to improve the efficiency of both the Bureau and the Technical Committees, the aim should be to eliminate as many paper documents as possible.

It was unanimously accepted by the CIML that the Bureau cease to publish paper version of OIML publications and that these would henceforth only be downloadable from the OIML web site. This shows that nearly all Member States and Corresponding Members are now able to use the web and e-mail; it follows that all the work of the Organization may be reorganized using the web and e-mail. Paper Circulars from the BIML should be limited to very official issues that require them, and all exchange of information, working documents, inquiries and votes should use these new media.

1.3 Acceleration of work – Interactivity of the web site (See Strategy, 1, 2)

To allow this evolution in the methods of work, the OIML web site will continue to be equipped with interactive facilities, in particular:

- A dedicated part for each working structure (TC/SC, Working Group, MAA CPR), administered by the Secretariats, on which working documents may be posted by the Secretariat, comments may be uploaded by participants, votes may be processed on line, etc.,
- Online registration for CIML Meetings and the Conference, online consultations and voting by CIML Members (ex. postal ballots),
- Different fora (FAQ: "Frequently Asked Questions") open to CIML Members and Corresponding Members,
- A forum on technical assistance to Developing Countries, where needs for and offers of assistance and equipment may be reunited,
- Online updating of their data by CIML Members and Corresponding Members,

- Online updating of their data by Issuing Authorities,
- Online updating of TC/SC information by their Secretariats (progress of work, meetings, etc.), which will replace the present reports of TCs/SCs Secretariats.

2 OIML CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS

2.1 OIML Certificate System (See Strategy, 2, 4, 6)

The OIML Certificate System shall be revised as being a first step towards the application of the MAA for the different categories.

This revision shall provide mechanisms to organize a permanent feedback to the BIML on the application of the System and any necessary improvements.

2.2 MAA (See Strategy, 2, 4, 6)

Declarations of Mutual Confidence shall be extended to a number of key categories of measuring instruments (for example R 49, R 50, R 51, R 61, R 107, R 105, R 117/118).

The participants in these DoMCs should comprise the most outstanding economies.

These DoMCs should answer the needs of Developing Countries to accept OIML Certificates issued under the MAA with an appropriate level of confidence.

The MAA Basic Publication OIML B 10 shall be revised in order to meet these objectives and in order to provide mechanisms for organizing permanent feedback to the BIML on its implementation and any necessary improvements. This revision of B 10 shall allow this system to be the second step towards mutual recognition of individual certification of measuring instruments (see 2.1.5).

The necessary documents, guides and procedures for the implementation of the MAA shall be issued.

2.3 Individual OIML certification of instruments (See Strategy, 2, 4, 6)

An OIML system for certifying the conformity of individual measuring instruments with the applicable OIML Recommendations shall be defined. This system shall:

- Be legally compatible with the national regulations on measuring instruments of most, if not all Member States and Corresponding Members,
- Allow an OIML conformity mark to be affixed to each measuring instrument certified under this System,
- Comply with any requirements of the WTO/TBT Agreement concerning product certification,
- Take account of the existing accreditation standards and of the existing recognition and/or acceptance agreements on accreditation,
- Take account of the certification of manufacturers' quality systems and of international agreements in this field,
- Provide confidence in the conformity of the measuring instruments with the provisions of the applicable Recommendation so that this system may be recognized in national legal metrology regulations.

The implementation of this system should be able to start on 01/01/2009.

2.4 Prepackage conformity mark (See Strategy, 2, 4, 6)

An OIML system for certifying the conformity of the contents of prepackages with the requirements of R 87 shall be defined. This system shall :

- Be legally compatible with the national regulations on prepackages of most, if not all Member States and Corresponding Members,
- Allow an OIML conformity mark to be affixed on each prepackage realized under the system,
- Comply with any requirements of the WTO/TBT Agreement concerning product certification,
- Take account of the existing accreditation standards and of the existing recognition and/or acceptance agreements on accreditation,
- Take account of the certification of manufacturers' quality systems and of international agreements in this field,
- Provide confidence in the conformity of the content of prepackages with the provisions of R 87 so that this system may be recognized in national prepackages regulations.

The implementation of this system should be able to start on 01/01/2009.

2.5 System of OIML bulk measurement results certificates (See Strategy, 2, 4, 6)

In the same way as has been planned with the OIML Certificate System, the MAA, the IQ Mark and individual OIML certification of instruments, systems for issuing OIML measurement results certificates for bulk products should be set up. Such measurement certificates, if accepted worldwide, would considerably facilitate international trade and avoid disputes.

3 MUTUAL INFORMATION, GUIDES

3.1 Mutual information among Member States and Corresponding Members (See Strategy, 1, 2, 5)

The Bureau has the responsibility for organizing the exchange of information between Member States and Corresponding Members concerning their national regulations. This should be done as follows:

- Defining which information should be accessible on Members' web sites (list of categories subject to national control, list of regulatory texts, where these texts may be found, structure of the national authorities, list and addresses of national and local authorities and inspection bodies, etc.),
- Encouraging Members to set up a web site if they do not yet have one, and to post information on their web site in a harmonized way,
- Setting up a search engine on the OIML web site, able to search for this information among Members' web sites.

In addition, the Bureau will study the possibility of having access to notifications of new regulations sent out in the framework of the WTO/TBT Agreement, to search among these notifications which ones are relevant for legal metrology and to make such notifications available to Member States and Corresponding Members on the OIML web site.

The inquiries on the implementation of OIML publications in Member States will be replaced by an interactive online facility which will allow Members to permanently update this information.

The Bureau will also collect together presentations on legal metrology which have been given at national level by various Members (presentations to ministers, presentations to the Parliament, articles in the press) and will make them available on the OIML web site.

3.2 Technical documents on measurements of bulk products (See Strategy, 3, 4)

The measurement of bulk products for international trade is of high economic importance and may give rise to expensive disputes. The OIML has issued a number of Recommendations related to measuring instruments used for bulk measurements, but should now address the issues of good practice for such measurements. Documents on the recommended equipment and procedures (including follow-up of the equipment) should be drawn up for measurements associated with:

- Loading ships with grain,
- Loading ships with bulk minerals,
- Loading ships with petroleum products,
- etc.

3.3 Document/Guide on measurement uncertainties in regulated measurements (See Strategy, 3, 4)

An informative document, for users of measurement results, should be drawn up in order to describe which measurement uncertainties can be expected when using measuring instruments which comply with the requirements of OIML Recommendations. As far as possible, guidance for the selection of the appropriate metrology classes should be given in this document.

3.4 Guides for accreditation of legal metrology bodies (See Strategy, 1, 2)

A number of countries have specified in their national legal metrology regulations that certain legal metrology bodies must be accredited. Such provisions have been adopted at national level in order to give confidence to the public in the national legal metrology system. In order to support this and to harmonize such accreditations, the OIML should issue guides for the interpretation of the accreditation standards when applied to legal metrology activities. Such guides should be developed in close relation with ILAC.

In addition these guides would be applicable for the implementation of the MAA and for further OIML systems.

4 PROMOTION OF LEGAL METROLOGY – GLOBAL METROLOGY SYSTEM

4.1 General awareness on metrology and legal metrology (See Strategy, 1, 2, 7)

The Bureau will develop documents for raising the awareness on metrology and on legal metrology. These documents will be intended to:

- Other international organizations,
- National governments.

Such documents will be:

- A general presentation of metrology and legal metrology and their stakes,
- Presentation of the metrological issues raised in specific fields (health, environment, etc.).

They will be developed jointly with the Metre Convention and ILAC each time this is relevant and will be made available to CIML Members and contact persons in Corresponding Member States, so that they can be used (translated into other languages if necessary) for raising the awareness on metrology at national level.

4.2 Liaisons with other bodies

Networking with other International Organizations is a necessity for the OIML, in order to better fulfill our missions, to increase the efficiency of our work and to avoid duplication of work. Liaisons with other International Organizations should be still increased and their objectives should be:

- With the WTO: better answering the needs of trade facilitation, having metrology and legal metrology recognized by the WTO as an important tool,
- With the Metre Convention and ILAC: setting up a consistent global metrology system supporting economic and social development,
- With other technical international organizations (WHO, etc.), providing a sound metrological basis for their technical activities,
- With international standardization organizations: co-developing a consistent system of technical requirements and avoiding duplication of work.

To this end, memorandums and/or cooperative agreements should be discussed with these Organizations.

4.3 Coordination with RLMOs (See Strategy, 7)

The Bureau should become a central point for the exchange of information between the RLMOs. To this end, the Bureau will set up facilities on the OIML web site, to:

- Search the RLMO web sites and present information found on them,
- Interactive pages which will allow RLMOs to post documents and information on their activities on the OIML web site.

The Bureau will collect and maintain updated information on training programs and training material developed by the RLMOs and post this information on the OIML web site.

For certain OIML systems (for example the prepackages conformity mark, individual certification of measuring instruments), RLMOs will play an important role. They should set up regional systems, under the coordination of the Bureau, to address the issues of regional mutual assessment and regional supervision and surveillance of the implementation of these systems.

5 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

5.1 Operation of the PWGDC (See Strategy, 7)

The Permanent Working Group on Developing Countries should collect and analyze the needs of Developing Countries and make proposals to be included in the Action Plan and in the annual work program.

This Working Group should also be charged with monitoring the specific actions described below.

5.2 Organization of Seminars and Fora (See Strategy, 7)

Seminars and fora on Developing Country issues should be organized annually, either in conjunction with the CIML Meeting or in conjunction with other international or regional events (WTO/TBT Meetings, UNIDO General Assembly, Regional Organization Meetings, etc.)

5.3 Dissemination of information, Expert Reports (See Strategy, 1, 2, 7)

The OIML web site will include a section on the PWGDC activities, which will provide information, and include a Forum on the needs and offers of technical assistance and of equipment.

The Bureau will continue to obtain and publish online Expert Reports on issues of interest for Developing Countries, such as guidance for the implementation of certain OIML Recommendations in Developing Countries, guidance for the equipment of type evaluation laboratories, guidance for the equipment of local inspection offices, inspection procedures, etc.

5.4 Coordination with other international Organizations on Developing Country issues (JCDCMAS, others) (See Strategy, 7)

Coordination with other Organizations (mainly the Metre Convention and ILAC) on Developing Countries should continue and result in concrete actions:

- Joint presentations on the needs for metrology,
- Raising the awareness of donor organizations by contacts and seminars to be organized.

5.5 Specific actions on voluntary funding from Member States or donor bodies (See Strategy, 7)

A special account should be opened in the OIML accountancy, to be endowed by the OIML and by voluntary contributions by donor countries or organizations, and to be used for specific actions of assistance to Developing Countries.

The actions funded from this special account would be proposed by the PWGDC and the follow-up of these actions would be supervised by the PWGDC and by the donor organizations or countries. Such actions shall be focused on the specific missions and competences of the OIML and shall not "compete" with the bilateral programs of Member States or of International or Regional Development Bodies.

6 STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS

6.1 Basic procedures (Conference, CIML, Guide for CIML Members, etc.)

Basic procedures for the operation of the CIML and the Conference should be drawn up and approved. This would complement the OIML Convention and clarify the interpretation of its provisions, which are rather general in nature.

A guide for countries who are preparing to host a CIML Meeting will also be prepared.

The Guide for CIML Members has to be revised. It appears that the role of CIML Members is not consistently understood by Members, under its two symmetrical aspects:

- The CIML Member represents his country in the CIML,
- The CIML Member represents the OIML in his country.

This needs to be reviewed and the revision should make this clearer.

6.2 Organization of the Bureau

The organization of the Bureau will be improved in order to comply with the following requirements:

- The distribution of responsibilities of the BIML Staff will be clarified, both internally and to provide better information as to whom to contact in the Bureau,
- This reorganization shall make the best use of the competencies of each staff member,
- It will develop the opportunity for BIML staff members to take calculated initiatives, while ensuring adequate monitoring by the BIML Director.

The organizational chart of the BIML will be kept up-to-date on the OIML web site.

A number of internal procedures will be set up (accountancy procedures, internal financial procedures, etc.)