OIML-CS

Update on the OIML Certification System (OIML-CS)

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Introduction

The article in the January 2017 edition of the OIML Bulletin on the new OIML Certification System (OIML-CS) provided an overview of the development of the *Framework* for the OIML-CS, the principles and objectives of the OIML-CS and information on the OIML-CS scope and structure. This article describes recent developments relating to the implementation of the OIML-CS, including the outcomes of the first provisional Management Committee (prMC) meeting, as well as information on a proposed OIML-CS Seminar that will be held in Shanghai, P.R. China on 15 June 2017.

Provisional Management Committee (prMC)

With the *Framework* approved and subsequently published as OIML B 18:2016, the CIML created a provisional Management Committee (prMC) under CIML Resolution 2016/17. The prMC, chaired by the CIML First Vice-President, was requested by the CIML to take all appropriate actions so that the new OIML-CS may become effective from 1 January 2018.

Resolution 2016/17 also specified that the prMC has the authority to act as the Management Committee for the purposes of approving OIML-CS Operational and Procedural Documents, Guidance Documents, Templates and Forms.

The prMC has been established with representatives from 18 OIML Member States and two Organizations in Liaison and it held its first meeting on 14–16 February 2017 at the PTB, Berlin, Germany. Representatives from 11 OIML Member States (Australia, France, Germany, India, Japan, Korea (R.), Netherlands, P.R. China, Russian Federation, Slovakia and United States) and one Organization in Liaison (CECIP) participated in the meeting.

The primary aims of the first prMC meeting were to

a) agree responses to the comments that had been received from prMC members on the Working Drafts of the Operational and Procedural Documents,

b) develop proposals to improve and amend OIML B 18:2016 for approval at the 2017 CIML Meeting,

Participants in the first prMC Meeting at the PTB in Berlin, Germany

c) discuss proposals for an OIML-CS website and logo,

d) develop proposals for promotion and awareness raising,

e) consider the process for the identification and approval of experts to participate in peer assessments and accreditation assessments, and

f) develop the transitional arrangements from the current OIML Basic Certificate System and OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA) to the new OIML-CS.

Key outcomes from the first prMC meeting

At its meeting the prMC made a number of decisions and agreed on a set of actions to progress with the implementation of the OIML-CS. Some of the key outcomes from the meeting were to

a) amend the OIML-CS structure to replace the Advisory Panel with a Review Committee which will be a sub-committee of the Management Committee (see below),

b) finalize the Working Drafts of the Operational and Procedural Documents to reflect the agreed responses to the comments raised by prMC Members,

c) finalize the necessary templates and forms to support the operation of the OIML-CS,

d) develop a 'temporary' area on the OIML website to provide information on the implementation of the

OIML-CS while the full OIML-CS website is being developed,

e) develop detailed proposals for the transitional arrangements from the current Certificate Systems to the OIML-CS, including a proposal for a two-year transition period for existing OIML Issuing Participants under the MAA to demonstrate compliance with ISO/IEC 17065 through accreditation or peer assessment, and

f) undertake various promotion and awareness-raising activities relating to the OIML-CS, including a Seminar (see below).

Proposal for a new OIML-CS structure

As mentioned above, one of the key outcomes from the first prMC Meeting was a proposal to move responsibility for reviewing applications for potential Issuing Authorities and legal metrology experts from the Advisory Panel (AP) to a "Review Committee" which will be a sub-committee of the Management Committee. This change was agreed due to concerns over the potential for additional bureaucracy created by having an AP and the potential difficulties in finding suitable AP members; it was felt that suitable candidates to participate in the AP would either be members of the MC or legal metrology experts. This change will entail the deletion of the AP from the structure, with consequential changes to the documentation including a revision of OIML B 18:2016. Figure 1 shows the proposed new OIML-CS structure.
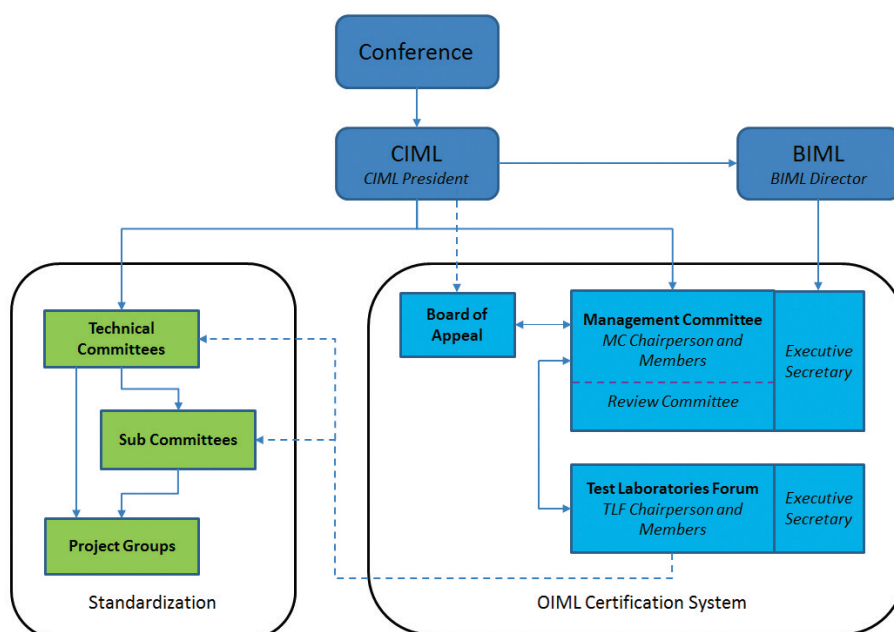

Figure 1: Proposed new OIML-CS Structure

Seminar on the OIML-CS
(Shanghai, P.R. China, 15 June 2017)

The prMC agreed that it is essential to promote the OIML-CS and raise awareness with key stakeholders. To support this key requirement it was decided that a Seminar on the OIML-CS should be held to provide the key stakeholders with information on the implementation of the OIML-CS and the actions that potential Issuing Authorities and Utilizers will need to take to enable them to participate in the OIML-CS.

With close support from the Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ), P.R. China, a Seminar on the OIML-CS will be held in Shanghai, P.R. China, on 15 June 2017. The Seminar is open to representatives of OIML member countries, representatives from RLMOs, members of the OIML-CS prMC, CIML Presidential Council Members, manufacturer representatives and others who are interested in the OIML-CS.

An outline agenda for the Seminar has been developed and it is proposed that the event will cover four key themes:

a) Introduction and General Information on the OIML-CS;
b) Stakeholder Perspectives;
c) Preparing for the new OIML-CS;
d) What will happen after implementation?

This is an important event which is intended to support the successful implementation of the OIML-CS and which will help to ensure that all key stakeholders are aware of the requirements for participation in the OIML-CS. Further information on the Seminar, including information on registration, can be found on the OIML website at:

https://www.oiml.org/en/events/oiml-seminars

Next steps

The prMC will continue to take steps to ensure that the new OIML-CS will become operational on 1 January 2018, with a number of Working Groups established to address the actions that were raised at the first prMC Meeting. The BIML will work on the development of the proposed OIML-CS website, and members of the prMC and BIML staff will identify opportunities to promote and raise awareness of the OIML-CS amongst key stakeholders such as potential Issuing Authorities, Utilizers and manufacturers.

A second prMC meeting is scheduled to take place on 13–14 June 2017 in conjunction with the Seminar on the OIML-CS. It is anticipated that at the second prMC meeting a revised version of OIML B 18 will be finalized for approval at the 52nd CIML Meeting in October 2017, and the Working Drafts of the Operational and Procedural Documents will be finalized and approved by the prMC.

A final meeting of the OIML MAA Committee on Participation Review (CPR) will also be held on 16 June 2017 to support the transition of existing Issuing Participants under the OIML MAA to the OIML-CS.

The prMC will provide a report on its activities at the 52nd CIML Meeting in 2017, with a view to the OIML-CS becoming effective on 1 January 2018. ∎