

**48th Meeting of the
International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML)
08-10 October, 2013
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam**

Report ILAC Liaison with OIML

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According to the joint ILAC/OIML Working Program, the main action is the drafting of a “Joint ILAC/OIML procedure for assessment in the field of legal metrology”.

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines related to the assessment of testing laboratories in the field of legal metrology so that it supports the laboratories approval and participation in a DoMC (Declaration of Mutual Confidence) in the framework of the OIML MAA (Mutual Acceptance Arrangement) in order to harmonize the accreditation assessments and the peer assessments. The guidance specifies in particular the competence of the assessment team and the reference documents which define the requirements to be assessed.

Its scope is for now limited to the framework of the OIML MAA, which covers three categories of measuring instruments :

- Load cells on the basis of OIML R 60 ;
- Non-automatic weighing instruments on the basis of OIML R 76 ;
- Water meters on the basis of OIML R 49.

A fifth draft of the “Joint ILAC/OIML Assessment Procedure in the field of legal metrology” was recently sent to the OIML Committees on Participation Review and to the ILAC Accreditation Committee.

The sixth draft will soon be prepared and will enter the ILAC and OIML approval processes.

The second action of the joint ILAC/OIML Working Program is the periodic review of the joint document OIML D10 / ILAC G24 “*Guidelines for the determination of calibration intervals of measuring instruments*”.

OIML will take the lead on this project and ILAC Accreditation Committee members will be involved in the revision process.

Laurent VINSON
Liaison Officer ILAC/IAF-OIML

International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation Report

48th CIML Meeting - 8 to 10 October 2013

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

I am pleased to be able to commence this ILAC update with the announcement that the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement was extended to include the accreditation of inspection bodies, during the ILAC Arrangement Council meeting on 24 October 2012. The formal signing ceremony took place at the Gala Dinner, held in conjunction with the ILAC/IAF Annual meetings in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 25 October 2012.

Congratulations to the three Recognised Regional Cooperation Bodies, APLAC, EA and IAAC and to the individual accreditation body members who have signed the ILAC MRA for Inspection.

Thank you to all those people who worked very hard in the lead up to the meetings in Rio de Janeiro, in order to make it possible for the ILAC MRA to be extended to include the accreditation of inspection bodies.

ILAC Meetings

The annual meetings for 2012 were hosted by our colleagues from CGCRE in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil between 17 and 26 October 2012. The meetings were very productive and saw the introduction of a new session specifically designed to provide information about the structure and operation of ILAC and IAF, for new members and delegates. The orientation session was very well received by those who attended and it was agreed that this session would be included in the program for the 2013 meetings. Special thanks go to our colleagues from CGCRE, for the excellent facilities and arrangements provided throughout the meetings.

The 2013 mid-year meetings were held in April/May, in Frankfurt, Germany. These meetings were very successful and in particular our thanks go to Chantel Beaupre, the conference organiser who did a fantastic job!

Information about other ILAC Committee meetings can be found in the Accreditation Calendar of Events on the ILAC website under the Events tab.

The annual meetings for 2013 are being hosted in Seoul, Korea by the Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS) – (Korea Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (KOLAS) & Korea Accreditation System (KAS)) and the dates are 16 – 25 October 2013. The meeting website is now available for members to register and make accommodation bookings at <http://www.iafilac2013.org/>.

The dates for the 2014 mid-year meetings are set as 23 April – 29 April, in Frankfurt, Germany.

The ILAC Arrangement

As at 18 September 2013, there were **83 Signatories** (Full Members) to the ILAC Arrangement, representing **68 economies**.

Following the publication of *ILAC R6:07/2012 Structure of the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement and Procedure for Expansion of the Scope of the ILAC Arrangement*, ILAC has produced new signature sheets for the ILAC Full Members (MRA Signatories) to sign. The new signature sheets list both the conformity assessment activity and the associated generic normative document for which each member is recognised under the ILAC MRA. Members involved in the signing ceremony in Rio de Janeiro in October have received a copy of the new signature sheet and the distribution of the new signature sheets to the remaining ILAC Full Members has subsequently been completed.

There are currently 52 ILAC Full Members that have signed Licensing Agreements with ILAC, for the use of the Combined MRA Mark (the Combined MRA Mark is the ILAC-MRA Mark used in combination with the

accreditation body's own mark). The registration of the ILAC MRA Mark is also underway in several countries and the members in these countries are awaiting the completion of this process so they can commence using the Combined MRA Mark.

We also wrote to the accreditation bodies that are signatories to the ILAC MRA for inspection, earlier this year, reminding them that the Combined ILAC MRA Mark cannot at this stage be used by their accredited inspection bodies. ILAC continues to work on addressing the legal issues that need resolving prior to allowing accredited inspection bodies to use the Combined ILAC MRA Mark.

ILAC Membership

ILAC membership as at 18 September 2013 is as follows:

- 83 Full Members (Signatories to the ILAC Arrangement) representing 68 economies;
- 17 Associates representing 29 economies;
- 18 Affiliates representing 22 economies;
- 6 Regional Cooperation Bodies
- 24 Stakeholders

The ILAC membership (total 148 bodies) now covers a total of 112 different economies worldwide and approximately 44,000 laboratories and over 7,500 inspection bodies are accredited by the 83 ILAC Full Members (signatories to the ILAC Arrangement).

ILAC Executive

The ILAC Executive Committee is progressing with the overall review of the ILAC Articles and Bylaws and the process of getting an initial review by the Dutch legal experts is underway.

It was agreed by members during the ILAC General Assembly in Rio, that the revised proposal on the ILAC Voting Rules and associated information should be sent out to members for another comment period. The comment period has concluded and the comments received were reviewed during the mid-year Frankfurt meetings. The resulting amendments to the proposal are currently receiving a final review by the ILAC Executive Committee prior to being sent to the members for a 30 day ballot.

The scope of the review of the ILAC Strategic Plan has been changed to incorporate a more extensive and fundamental review process and accordingly, the ILAC Executive Committee requested the General Assembly to extend the existing strategic plan for 2 years. *ILAC Resolution GA 16.17* addresses this request.

The ILAC Executive has established a Strategic Plan Task Force and is already progressing with the fundamental review to develop proposals for the next version of the Strategic Plan. In addition, Graham Talbot (formerly a member of the ILAC Executive Committee and Chair of the ILAC MCC) has agreed to provide external assistance to the Executive in the facilitation of the review and the development of the plan. A questionnaire is currently being completed by members to ensure that the member's views can be discussed and considered fully during the development of this important document.

The ILAC Executive Committee is now finalising the review of the current ILAC Fee formula and the preparation of the plan to return the reserves to the agreed range of 50 – 75% of the total annual expenses. This information is expected to be available for distribution to members in the coming weeks.

The Adopted Resolutions of the 16th ILAC General Assembly can be downloaded from the public area of the ILAC website at https://www.ilac.org/ga_resolutions.html.

The resolutions contain details on the agreed transition periods and implementation for ISO/IEC 17020 and ISO 15189. The other resolution that will be of particular interest is *ILAC Resolution GA 16.20, As ISO Guide 34:2009 includes normative references to ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 15189, the General Assembly resolves that accreditation of reference material producers is conducted in accordance with ISO Guide 34:2009 alone. This resolution rescinds ILAC resolution 8.12. In addition ILAC R6:07/2012 will be amended to reflect this decision.*

Congratulations to the re-elected members of the ILAC Executive Committee and to the new members elected for the first time at the 16th ILAC General Assembly. The complete list is as follows:

Chair	Peter Unger
Vice-Chair	Merih Malmqvist Nilsson
Arrangement Committee	Ileana Martinez
Accreditation Committee	Regina Robertson
Inspection Committee	Lal Ilan
Marketing & Communications Committee	Jon Murthy
Joint Development Support Committee	Liliane Somma
Arrangement Management Committee	Andreas Steinhorst
Unaffiliated Representative	Etty Feller
Laboratory Committee	Steve Sidney

A special thank you is extended to the members of the ILAC Executive who did not stand for re-election, Graham Talbot and Linda Crawford, for their contributions to the work of the ILAC.

ILAC Liaisons

ILAC was again represented at a number of important meetings during 2012. Some examples include the following ISO meetings - CASCO Chairman's Policy Committee (CPC), IAF/ILAC/ISO Joint Working Group, CASCO Plenary, WG 29, WG 31, TC 69 and, ISO/REMCO. ILAC also participated in the ISO TC212 Plenary, meetings of CCQM, the Joint Committees on Guides in Metrology (JCGM), and Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM). ILAC representatives also participated in meetings of the WADA Laboratory Committee and in the regular March round of meetings with OIML and BIPM.

ILAC also attempts to have a representative at the General Assemblies of the Regional Cooperations where possible.

At the recent ILAC/IAF Annual meetings we were fortunate to receive presentations from representatives from a number of our liaison organisations including, WADA, BIPM, ISO, IEC, ITU, UNIDO, OIML and WTO. A presentation was also received from a representative from the US Food and Drug Administration.

The first major liaison activity for ILAC in 2013 was the annual meeting between ILAC and the BIPM, together with the Quadripartite meeting between ILAC, BIPM, OIML and ISO. These meetings took place on 6 and 7 March in Paris.

The CASCO meetings held in April 2013 were attended by ILAC representatives as were the WADA Laboratory Committee meetings, which were held in Sydney, Australia in mid-March and Montreal in June. The annual ISO-REMCO meeting was held in Sydney in June and was attended by ILAC Representatives as were the ISO TC 69 and TC 212 meetings and the meeting of the Joint Committees on Guides in Metrology (JCGM).

In addition to the meetings noted above, the ILAC Chair represented ILAC at a number of different events throughout the first half of 2013, including the General Assembly of the newest ILAC Regional Cooperation Body member, the Arab Accreditation Cooperation (ARAC), in late March.

The Liaison Database, located in the members area of the ILAC website, continues to serve as the main repository for the reports and documents produced as part of ILAC's liaison activity. It can be accessed via the members area of the ILAC website. (ILAC members who have not as yet sought access to the Members Area of the website can do so on-line, via the 'Home' page of the website).

ILAC thanks all of the ILAC liaison officers, and their organisations, who volunteer their time to assist ILAC in carrying out these activities for the benefit of all ILAC members.

ILAC Secretariat

ILAC publications can be downloaded from the ILAC Website by clicking on the Publications and Resources button on the left hand side of the home page. Documents published in 2012 and 2013 are as follows:

ILAC-G3:08/2012 *Guidelines for Training Courses for Assessors Used by Accreditation Bodies*
ILAC-G21:09/2012 *Cross Frontier Accreditation — Principles for Cooperation*
ILAC G26:07/2012 *Guidance for the Implementation of a Medical Laboratory Accreditation System*
ILAC P4:03/2012 *ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (Arrangement): Policy Statement*
ILAC P8:12/2012 *ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement (Arrangement): Supplementary Requirements and Guidelines for the Use of Accreditation Symbols and for Claims of Accreditation Status by Accredited Laboratories and Inspection Bodies*
ILAC P10:01/2013 *ILAC Policy on Traceability of Measurement Results*
ILAC P14:01/2013 *ILAC Policy for Uncertainty in Calibration*
ILAC R6:02/2013 *Structure of the ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement and Procedure for Expansion of the Scope of the ILAC Arrangement*

IAF/ILAC A2:01/2013 *IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Requirements and Procedures for Evaluation of a Single Accreditation Body*
IAF/ILAC A3:01/2013 *IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Narrative Framework for Reporting on the Performance of an Accreditation Body (AB) - A Tool for the Evaluation Process*
IAF/ILAC A5:07/2012 *IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangement (Arrangements): Application of ISO/IEC 17011:2004*

Several new brochures have been published since the end of 2012 (see below) and all the current ILAC Brochures have been now been re-published in the new corporate style. It should also be noted that many of the brochures have also been translated into a range of languages.

IAF/ILAC B2:11/2012 *How do I gain confidence in an Inspection Body? Do they need ISO 9001 Certification or ISO/IEC 17020 Accreditation?*
IAF/ILAC B3:2/2013 *Accreditation: Supporting safe food and clean drinking water.*
IAF/ILAC B4:7/2013 *Recommended guide for engaging with Government & Regulators*
ILAC B10:11/2012 *Why use an accredited inspection body?*
ILAC B11:11/2012 *Why become an accredited inspection body?*
ILAC B12:11/2012 *How does accredited inspection benefit Government and Regulators?*

A complete list of all documents, that have been (or are being) circulated to members for either comments or voting, can be obtained from the ILAC website in the Members Section under Ballots.

The latest edition of ILAC News was published in May 2013. Past editions of ILAC News are available to download from the ILAC website.

The theme for World Accreditation Day in 2013 was “**Accreditation: Facilitating World Trade**”. World Accreditation Day was celebrated on the 9 June 2013 and supporting materials are still available to download from the ILAC website.

Further information on ILAC can be obtained from the ILAC website at www.ilac.org, or by emailing the Secretariat on ilac@nata.com.au.

Alan Squirrel
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18 September 2013