Ad-hoc working group "Review of the MAA"

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Report of the ad-hoc working group to the 49th CIML Meeting

Contents:

1.   Presentation to the 49th CIML Meeting by the chair of the ad-hoc working group, Roman Schwartz (CIML Vice-President).

2.   Report on the activities of the ad-hoc working group as of 2014-10-01.

Report of the

Ad-hoc working group

„Review of the OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA)

Roman Schwartz

10 October 2014   Roman Schwartz: Report AHWG Review of the MAA   1

Seminar in Ho Chi Minh City, 2013

A Seminar on the

„OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA)"

was held in Ho Chi Min City (Vietnam) on 7 October 2013

⇒ **Seminar Report OIML S 7 (Edition 2013)**

CIML Resolutions 2013

Three „MAA Resolutions" were approved at the CIML meeting 2013:

1. Resolution no. 2013/15 on „raising awareness of the MAA system"

2. Resolution no. 2013/16 on „reviewing the CPR structure, rules and procedures"

3. Resolution no. 2013/17 on „steps towards one single certification system for OIML type evaluations"

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Ad-hoc Working Group (AHWG)

⇒ **Start: BIML letter, 20 Nov. 2013**

⇒ **15 P-members**

⇒ **2 O-members**

⇒ **4 manufacturer's associations + NCWM/NTEP**

⇒ **BIML (secretariat)**

⇒ **Chair: First Vice-President**

⇒ **Total: 34 participants**

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Questionnaire on the review of the MAA

$\Rightarrow$ 16 questions addressing all aspects of the three CIML "MAA resolutions"

$\Rightarrow$ Circulated 18 Dec. 2013; deadline 21 Feb. 2014

$\Rightarrow$ 21 responses !   Very good and useful proposals - Thanks !

$\Rightarrow$ Compilation and summary of the responses prepared by the BIML, and distributed to the AHWG, 13 March 2014

$\Rightarrow$ Input for the AHWG meeting at NIST/Gaithersburg, 20-21 March 2014

$\rightarrow$ **Results …**

Awareness raising…

1. **… by improving the information provided on the OIML MAA website?**

$\Rightarrow$ Support by 67% $\Rightarrow$ clear majority in favor

$\Rightarrow$ Rather detailed and useful proposals

$\Rightarrow$ Considered as a work item of high priority

$\Rightarrow$ **A task group (TG 1.1) was charged to take care**

Awareness raising…

2.   …by an updated OIML MAA leaflet?

⇒   **Support by 71% ⇒ clear majority in favor, but:**

- **Consider different leaflets for different target groups**

- **Existing leaflet is not really attracting manufacturers**

- **Different languages would be desirable**

⇒   **Considered as an important work item**

⇒   **TG 1.1 to take care**

TG 1.1 "MAA website and MAA leaflet"

Tasks:
- To develop, based on the respective responses to the questionnaire, a "functional specification" for the OIML web site pages pertaining to the OIML certification systems,
- To develop, based on the respective responses to the questionnaire, ideas for update / improvement of the OIML leaflet(s),

Objectives:
- to make the MAA more visible and attractive on the OIML home page,
- to better explain the benefits of the MAA and of MAA certificates (being "qualified certificates"), and
- to enable better promotion of the MAA by updated / improved leaflet(s)

Members:
DE (chair), UK, CECIP, IN, BIML

Results so far / Current status:
- A couple of proposals have been submitted to the BIML
- More time needed

Awareness raising…

3. …by an information letter from the BIML to potential users?

⇒ Support by 67% ⇒ majority in favor, but:

    - Would primarily address Issuing Authorities („regulators")

    - Manufacturers can be better reached through industrial

     organizations/associations or Authorities (in national language)

⇒ Considered as work item of lower priority compared to 1 and 2

⇒ Wait for the improved MAA website and MAA leaflet to refer to

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Awareness raising…

4. …by drawing the attention of trade negiotiators to the

    opportunities that OIML offers to reduce barriers to trade?

⇒ Support by only 38%

⇒ Uncertainty about how to reach the right persons

⇒ Considered to be primarily the task of CIML members

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Awareness raising…

5. **…by making presentations at conferences, organize workshops, etc. ?**

⇒ Support by 62% ⇒ majority is in favor

⇒ For example at meetings organized by RLMO's,
or at a workshop in conjunction with CIML meeting

⇒ Develop standard presentations to be used on different occasions

⇒ Also depends on the „CPR review" and decisions towards „one single system"

⇒ Wait until the MAA revision process is finalized

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Awareness raising…

6. **…by other means?**

⇒ There are a couple of good proposals, e.g. make more use of the OIML Bulletin

⇒ Some fundamental doubts about the performance of the MAA; some (few) requests to evaluate the MAA before reviewing it

⇒ Conclusion of the AHWG:
We should be more patient and consider the current MAA review as a good chance to make it more effective and better accepted

⇒ **A task group (TG 1.2) was charged to take care**

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TG 1.2 "Reasons for non-acceptance"

Tasks:

- To develop, based on respective responses to the questionnaire, proposals how CIML Members, RLMOs and manufacturers associations can be surveyed on their experience and knowledge about the reasons for non-acceptance of OIML certificates.

Members:

DE (chair), UK, NL, IN, ZM

Results so far / Current status:

- BIML letter?

- Feedback from RLMO's? CECIP? CECOD?

- Feedback from **CIML members** is of key importance

→ **First step: see proposed Draft Resolution addressing <u>CIML members</u>**

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CPR review

1. **Do you consider the current <u>structure</u> of the CPRs appropriate?**

⇒ **Yes: 43%, No: 43% ⇒ split vote**

⇒ **Depends on the number of DoMCs; a majority considers the current CPR structure not appropriate for more than 3 DoMCs**

⇒ **There are a couple of useful proposals to be considered**

⇒ **A task group (TG 2) was charged to take care**

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CPR review

2. **Do you consider the current <u>rules and procedures</u> of the CPRs appropriate?**

⇒ **Yes: 43%, No: 43% ⇒ split vote**

⇒ **Many useful proposals**

⇒ **Some concerns that the existing rules are not strictly followed**

⇒ **TG 2 to take care**

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CPR review

3. **Do you consider the current rules and procedures sufficiently clear and understandable?**

⇒ **Yes: 43%, No: 33% ⇒ split vote, but:**

⇒ **Clear support to revise document MAA 01 to align with B 10:2012**

⇒ **Support to add templates and forms that can be used by potential new Issuing Participants**

⇒ **TG 2 to take care**

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CPR review

4. **Do you think that the role of Utilizing Participants (UPs) should be redefined?**

⇒ **Yes: 43%, No: 43%** ⇒ split vote

⇒ There are two concerns:

   a) the number of UPs has not increased since the beginning of the MAA,

   b) UPs that originally signed-up in a DoMC, often don't participate in CPR meetings.

⇒ Proposal to let UPs choose between an <u>active</u> or a <u>passive</u> role

⇒ **TG 2 to take care**

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CPR review

5 **Do you support establishing other DoMCs?**

⇒ **Yes: 81%, No: 14%** ⇒ clear majority in favor

⇒ In principle, there should be DoMCs for all relevant OIML Recommendations, depending on the number of Basic Certificates issued so far, and the number of Issuing Authorities and testing laboratories, but ...

⇒ ... only on condition that the governance of the CPR has been revised and deemed effective

⇒ ... stakeholders have expressed their interest

⇒ **Task group 2 to take care**

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CPR review

6. Other ideas…

⇒ **A couple of useful proposals, e.g.**

⇒ **Investigate/reconsider reporting requirements and review periods for Issuing Participants**

⇒ **Improve/develop forms and checklists, and make them easily available**

⇒ **Develop guidance on how to implement OIML recommendations and documents into national legislation**

⇒ **Improve training of technical and metrological experts**

⇒ **Task group 2 to take care**

TG 2 "CPR Review"

Task:
To consider the respective responses to the questionnaire, especially:
- proposals to improve the effectiveness and the efficiency of the system,
- whether (or not) to have another layer of decision within the CPR,
- means to increase efficiency, e.g. more forms and templates,
- increased use of technical means (electronic voting, etc),
- to improve the preparation of CPR meetings,
- to develop a proposal concerning the chairing of CPR meetings,
- to expand the category of "associates" to include issuing authorities from OIML Member States that do not wish to actively participate in the CPR,
- to consider necessary amendments of both B 10 and MAA 01.

Members:
UK (chair), US, JP, DE, FR, NL, CH, BIML

Results so far / Current status:
- TG 2 had its first (informal) meeting on 21 March 2014 in Gaithersburg
- No concrete proposals yet; more time needed

Single system

1. **Would you support to stop the Basic certificate system for one or more categories?**

⇒ **Yes: 38%, No: 48% ⇒ No majority**

⇒ **Main argument of the proponents:**
    "Two systems in parallel are confusing; uncertainty should be removed as soon as possible"

⇒ **Main arguments of the opponents:**
    → **"Leave it to the market"**
    → **"Potential new IPs should be given a fair chance to get in the MAA system" (there should be no "closed circle")**

⇒ **But: There is a clear expectation of the CIML to have only <u>one</u> single OIML certification system as soon as possible**

⇒ **A task group (TG 3) was charged to take care**

Single system

2. **Further steps to arrive at one single certificate system?**

⇒ **A couple of useful responses**

⇒ **TG 3 to take care**

Single system

3.   **Do you know of any „well established certification schemes" from which we can take advantage?**

⇒   **Yes: 52%, No: 38%**

⇒   **IEC EE, IEC Ex, ISO/IEC 17065 and 17067, European conformity assessment system (MID, NAWID)**

⇒   **TG 3 to take care**

TG 3 "Single system"

Tasks:

- To investigate options how a single system may be organized, and how the transition could take place, considering the resp. responses to the questionnaire,

- to review/analyze (for R 60 and R 76 at the moment)
(a) past CIML decisions on the termination of the Basic system,
(b) the number of Basic certificates still being issued (including revisions),
(c) the implications of a CIML decision to terminate the Basic System for a category for which a DoMC exists,

- to define the conditions / options under which potential new Issuing Participants may get in the MAA system.

Members:

DE (chair), BIML, US, IN, UK, NL, CECIP

Results so far / Current status:

- The BIML has provided a list of all relevant CIML decisions

- CECIP responded: eight conditions to be fulfilled before a date be fixed for the termination of the Basic Certificate System for R 60 and R 76

- More time needed

Proposed CIML Resolution

Draft Resolution no. 2014/…

The Committee,

<u>Notes</u> the report given by the ad-hoc working group (AHWG) chair and First CIML Vice-President, Roman Schwartz,

<u>Considers</u> the review of the MAA as a high priority project, and therefore

<u>Encourages</u> the AHWG, including its task groups, to undertake every effort to present concrete proposals to the next CIML meeting,

<u>Requests</u> the BIML to provide any necessary support for the AHWG, including its task groups, in order to implement CIML Resolutions no. 2013/15, 2013/16 and 2013/17

<u>Requests</u> CIML members to inform the BIML about their experience and knowledge why OIML certificates and OIML Test Reports are not or not completely accepted in their countries.

Ad-hoc working group "Review of the MAA"

Report on the activities of the ad-hoc working group to the 49th CIML Meeting

(Status as of 2014-10-01)

1. On 7 October 2013, a seminar was held to review the operation of the OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA) The report of the seminar is available on the OIML web site (https://www.oiml.org/en/files/pdf_s/s007-e13.pdf).

2. The main conclusion of the seminar may be summarized as follows:
- The MAA is successful for a limited number of categories of measuring equipment; the MAA should be promoted more actively;
- The way in which the CPRs (Committees of Participation Review) work needs to be revised;
- It is necessary to speed up the transition from the Basic Certificate System to the MAA.

3. In three resolutions, the 48th CIML Meeting decided to set up an ad-hoc working group, chaired by first CIML Vice-President, Roman Schwartz, consisting of interested CIML and/or CPR members and representatives of manufacturers' associations to:
- consider how awareness of the MAA can be raised (Resolution no. 2013/15),
- review with the CPRs their structure, rules and procedures governing the operation of the MAA, and the role of Utilizing Participants, with a view to increasing the efficiency of the operation of the MAA (Resolution no. 2013/16),
- investigate options and make appropriate recommendations for steps to be taken to ensure that, in future, there will be only one single certification system for OIML type evaluations, based on the principles of the MAA (Resolution no. 2013/17).

4. On 20 November 2013, the BIML sent out a circular to the CIML Members, members of the CPRs and relevant manufacturer's associations, requesting those interested to join the ad-hoc working group (Circular BIML 13 No. 202). The circular also mentioned the intention to organize a meeting of the ad-hoc working group in conjunction with a meeting of the CPRs scheduled to be held at NIST in the week of 17 — 21 March 2014.

5. By March 2014, the ad-hoc working group had more than 30 members, including representatives from: Australia, Canada, Denmark (observer), France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Netherlands, P.R. China, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, USA, Yemen and Zambia, CECIP, CECOD, NCWM, NTEP, SMA and the BIML.

6.   In order to facilitate the work of the ad-hoc working group and to prepare the group's meeting, the chairman circulated a questionnaire to the members of the ad-hoc working group and to all CIML members and all members of the CPRs (Circular BIML 13 No. 208). By 26 February 2014, 21 responses to the questionnaire were received.

7.   The meeting of the ad-hoc working group took place on 20 and 21 March 2014. The main agenda items were:

5	Explanation of the background and the task of the AHWG (chair)
6	Presentation of the responses to the questionnaire (BIML)
7	Discussion of proposals concerning "awareness raising" (item no. 1 of the questionnaire)
8	Discussion of proposals concerning "structure, rules and procedures for the CPR" (item no. 2 of the questionnaire)
9	Discussion of proposals concerning a "single OIML certification scheme" (item no. 3 of the questionnaire)
10	Summary, conclusions, next steps and recommendations to the CIML.

8.   On the issue of "awareness raising", the meeting formed a task group (T1.1) to:
- develop, based on the respective responses to the questionnaire, a "functional specification" for the OIML web site pages pertaining to the OIML certification systems,
- develop, based on the respective responses to the questionnaire, ideas for update / improvement of the OIML leaflet(s),
with the following objectives:
- to make the MAA more visible and attractive on the OIML home page,
- to better explain the benefits of the MAA and of MAA certificates (being "qualified certificates"), and
- to enable better promotion of the MAA by updated / improved leaflet(s).

9.   Also on the issue of awareness raising, a second task group (T1.2) was formed to develop, based on respective responses to the questionnaire, proposals how CIML Members, RLMOs and manufacturers associations can be surveyed on their experience and knowledge about the reasons for non-acceptance of OIML certificates.

10.   On the issue of the "structure, rules and procedures for the CPR", the meeting formed a task group (T2) to consider the proposals from the responses to the questionnaire concerning:
- improvement of the effectiveness and the efficiency of the system,
- whether (or not) to have another layer of decision within the CPR,
- means to increase efficiency, e.g. more forms and templates,
- increased use of technical means (electronic voting, etc),
- improvement of the preparation of CPR meetings,
- the chairing of CPR meetings,
- expanding the category of "associates" to include issuing authorities from OIML Member States that do not wish to actively participate in the CPR,
- necessary amendments of both OIML B 10 and MAA 01.

11.   On the issue of the "single OIML certification scheme", a further task group (T3) was formed to review/analyze (for R 60 and R 76 for the moment):

- past CIML decisions on the termination of the Basic system,
- the number of Basic certificates still being issued (out of scope, revision, …),
- the implications of a decision to terminate (value, …).

12.	To date, the task groups have not completed their work. The chair of the ad-hoc working group will provide further information on the progress of the task groups at the CIML meeting.

13.	All documents of the ad-hoc working group (AHWG-MAA-Nxx) are available for download at the following address:
https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B0_ZTTqRItquMmVjejhPLTRaMmM&usp=drive_web