



ILAC Update to the 15th OIML Conference and 51st CIML Meeting being held in Strasbourg, France during 17-21 October 2016

ILAC Meetings

The 2016 ILAC and IAF mid-term meetings were held at the Le Meridien Park Hotel in Frankfurt, Germany during 30 March – 6 April 2016. The ILAC Accreditation Committee (AIC), Proficiency Testing Working Group (PTWG), Inspection Committee (IC), Laboratory Committee (LC), Joint Working Group A Series, Arrangement Committee (ARC), Arrangement Management Committee (AMC), Joint meeting of the ILAC and IAF Management Committees (JMC), ILAC Executive Committee and Joint meeting of the ILAC and IAF Executives (JEC) were held during this period.

The ILAC Marketing and Communications Committee (MCC) held their meeting as well as a workshop in Pretoria, South Africa during 18-21 April 2016.

The 2016 ILAC and IAF Joint Annual Meetings will be held at the Lalit Hotel in New Delhi, India during 26 October – 4 November 2016. Registration is now open via: <http://www.iaf-ilac2016.org/>.

The ILAC MRA

As at 1 August 2016, there are **91 ILAC MRA signatories**, representing **93 economies**. The ILAC MRA covers recognition for accreditation in the areas of calibration (ISO/IEC 17025), testing (ISO/IEC 17025), medical testing (ISO 15189), and inspection (ISO/IEC 17020). The list of signatories to the ILAC MRA is available from the [ILAC MRA Signatory Search](#).

The *ILAC MRA Annual Report 2015* is now available from the [ILAC MRA and Signatories page](#).

It should be noted that the signatory status of The Kyrgyz Center of Accreditation (KCA), Kyrgyz Republic, to the ILAC MRA for the accreditation of testing laboratories using ISO/IEC 17025 was suspended on 4 November 2015. This suspension is a result of the decision taken at the 15th Meeting of the ILAC Arrangement Council held on 4 November 2015.

The ILAC MRA acts as an internationally recognised 'stamp of approval' to demonstrate compliance against agreed standards and requirements. Many specifiers, such as government agencies, have recognised the importance of credible accreditation programs that are developed against internationally recognised standards. Accreditation and the ILAC MRA help regulators meet their own legislated responsibilities by providing a globally recognised system to accept accredited test reports. Case studies and research on the recognition of the ILAC MRA by governments and regulators are available from the [Public Sector Assurance website](#).

A resolution was adopted at the 2014 ILAC General Assembly (GA) in Vancouver that will allow the implementation of the extension of the ILAC MRA to include accreditation of proficiency testing providers (ISO/IEC 17043), when the appropriate peer evaluation documents within ILAC are updated to cover this new scope.

ILAC Membership

ILAC membership as at 1 August 2016 is as follows:

- 91 Full Members (signatories to the ILAC MRA) representing 93 economies;
- 15 Associates representing 15 economies;
- 13 Affiliates representing 17 economies;
- 26 Stakeholders
- 6 Regional Cooperation Bodies

The ILAC membership consists of 151 organisations from 118 different economies worldwide. Over 52,000 laboratories and almost 8,000 inspection bodies are accredited by the ILAC Full Members (signatories to the ILAC MRA). The latest statistics and graphs on the number of accreditation bodies, accredited laboratories and inspection bodies are available from the [ILAC Facts & Figures page](#).

ILAC Executive

The ILAC Executive Committee continues to work on the implementation of *ILAC-R3 ILAC Strategic Plan 2015-2020* and the actions detailed in *Supplement 1 to ILAC R3*. Several task force groups have been established to address the implementation of the ILAC Strategic Plan. In addition, the ILAC Strategic Plan is a standing item for the agenda of each of the ILAC committee meetings. ILAC-R3 can be downloaded from the [ILAC Publications and Resources section](#).

The IECEE-ILAC-IAF *Guidance for the Conduct of Unified Assessments in the Electrotechnical Sector* was published in June 2016 and the revised IEC-ILAC-IAF MoU was re-signed in October 2015.

The BIPM-IFCC-ILAC *Declaration of Cooperation* for the establishment of the Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM) was re-signed in April 2016 and the BIPM-ILAC MoU was re-signed in March 2016.

Information on ILAC's partnerships, including copies of communiqués, press releases and MoUs, are available from the [ILAC Partnerships page](#).

International Activities

ILAC has been represented at numerous international conferences, workshops and meetings during 2015 and this has continued in 2016.

Mr Jon Murthy, ILAC and IAF Marketing and Communications Committee (MCC) Chair, again hosted a working session on "Accreditation: Making Trade Work" at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) Public Forum on 1 October 2015.

In addition, Ms Wanji Yang, Taiwan Accreditation Foundation (TAF), participated in the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) @20 meeting on 4 November 2015 on behalf of ILAC and IAF.

Mr Jon Murthy also presented on behalf of ILAC and IAF at the IEC-ISO-ITU World Standards Cooperation (WSC) Conformity Assessment Workshop and participated in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardisation Policies (WP. 6) Annual Session, both during December 2015.

Ms Merih Malmqvist-Nilsson, ILAC Vice-Chair, presented on behalf of ILAC at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) meeting on "International Regulatory Cooperation: Fostering the contribution of international organisations to better rules of globalisation" in April 2016.

Mr Peter Unger, ILAC Chair, presented on behalf of ILAC and IAF at the WTO TBT Workshop for Zimbabwe and also participated via WebEx in the UNECE Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards - High Level Segment on Regulatory and Procedural Barriers to Trade in Albania and Moldova, both during May 2016.

Mr Xiao Jianhua, IAF Chair, presented on behalf of ILAC and IAF at the 2016 Annual Forum of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and International Trade Centre (ITC) Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade on 1 June 2016. Mr Xiao Jianhua also participated via WebEx in a UNECE WP.6 meeting on behalf of ILAC and IAF during June 2016.

On 14 June 2016, Mr Makoto Kubo, Japan Accreditation Board (JAB), presented on behalf of ILAC and IAF at the WTO TBT Committee Workshop on Energy Efficiency.

Liaisons

ILAC has been represented at a number of ISO technical committee and working group meetings throughout 2015 and 2016.

The ILAC Chair and Vice-Chair both attended the regular round of ISO/CASCO meetings in December 2015, including the Chairman's Policy Committee (CPC), the Strategic Alliance and Regulatory Group (STAR) and the Technical Interface Group (TIG). The ILAC Chair and Vice-Chair also attended the CASCO policy meetings as well as the CASCO Plenary which took place during May 2016 in Dubai.

In addition, ILAC representatives have participated in the ISO TC69, ISO TC212 and ISO/REMCO meetings during 2016. ILAC representatives are also actively participating in each of the following ISO/CASCO working groups:

- **ISO CASCO WG42: ISO/IEC 17011 revision**

ILAC Representatives: Ms Jennifer Evans (NATA) and Dr Andreas Steinhorst (EA).

ILAC Support Committee: Arrangement Committee (ARC).

ILAC has been represented at all of the WG42 meetings to date, including the subcommittee and drafting group.

- **ISO CASCO WG44: ISO/IEC 17025 revision**

CASCO Convenor: Mr Warren Merkel (nominated by ILAC).

ILAC Representatives: Ms Mingxia Zhang (CNAS) and Ms Johanna Acuna Loria (ECA).

ILAC Support Committees: Accreditation Committee (AIC) and Laboratory Committee (LC).

ILAC has been represented at all of the WG44 meetings to date, including the drafting group.

- **ISO CASCO/REMCO JWG 43: transformation of ISO Guide 34 into ISO 17034**

ILAC Representatives: Ms Lorraine Turner (UKAS) and Mr He Ping (CNAS).

ILAC Support Committee: Accreditation Committee (AIC).

ILAC has been represented at all of the JWG43 meetings to date, including the drafting group. The ILAC Representatives were also on the ISO-REMCO ad-hoc advisory group (AHG3) that prepared the ground work for the transformation to an international standard.

In addition to the ISO meetings noted above, ILAC representatives participate in numerous meetings and events of other international organisations where ILAC maintains a liaison.

In October 2015, ILAC liaison officers participated in the CIPM MRA Review Preparatory Workshop as well as the 50th Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML) and the 60th Anniversary of the International Organisation of Legal Metrology (OIML).

ILAC was also represented at the Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology (JCGM) WG1 (GUM), WG2 (VIM) and Plenary meetings in October and December 2015, the IEC-ILAC-IAF Steering Committee meeting in November 2015 and the Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM) Executive and Stakeholder meetings in December 2015.

In March 2016, the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) again hosted the annual BIPM and ILAC bipartite working group meeting and the BIPM, ILAC, OIML and ISO quadripartite meeting. The ILAC delegation to each of these meetings consisted of three representatives.

The ILAC Chair and the ILAC Joint Development Support Committee (JDSC) Co-Chair participated in the annual meeting of the Network on Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization for Developing Countries (DCMAS Network) via WebEx in March 2016.

ILAC representatives also participated in the Cooperation on International Traceability in Analytical Chemistry (CITAC) members meeting during April 2016.

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.

The Liaison information page, located in the member's area of the ILAC website, continues to serve as the main repository for the reports and documents produced as part of ILAC's liaison activities. ILAC members can also find copies of all ILAC comments submitted during ISO/CASCO ballots on international standards pertinent to the work of ILAC. The *ILAC Liaison Procedure*, which provides information relating to ILAC's liaison activities, can also be downloaded from this page.

ILAC Secretariat

The ILAC Secretariat is currently staffed as follows: Annette Dever, Sharon Kelly, Rana Baleh, Rose De Rota and Joëlle Nicolas.

[World Accreditation Day](#) was successfully celebrated on 9 June 2016 and the theme this year was:

“Accreditation: A Global Tool to Support Public Policy”

ILAC and the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) have also recently produced a presentation, with commentary, on “Medical laboratory accreditation: what is it and why is it important?” The presentation is freely available from the [IFCC e-Academy](#).

ILAC documents and brochures published since September 2015 are as follows:

ILAC P15:07/2016 *Application of ISO/IEC 17020:2012 for the Accreditation of Inspection Bodies*

ILAC R5:04/2016 *ILAC Procedure for Handling Complaints*

ILAC P4:02/2016 *ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Policy and Management*

ILAC P5:02/2016 *ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement: Scope and Obligations*

ILAC G7:02/2016 *Accreditation Requirements and Operating Criteria for Horseracing Laboratories*

ILAC B1:10/2015 *Why use an Accredited Laboratory?*

ILAC B3:10/2015 *How does using an Accredited Laboratory benefit Government and Regulators?*

ILAC B7:10/2015 *The ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement*

ILAC B13:09/2015 *Why become an Accredited Reference Materials Producer*

Many of the ILAC documents and brochures have been translated into a range of different languages.

Follow [@ILAC_Official](#) on Twitter to receive the latest ILAC news, including information on meetings, events, liaison activities and new publications.

The latest edition of the newsletter can be accessed via the following link: [ILAC News 49, April 2016](#). [Subscribe to the ILAC Newsletter](#) to receive updates from ILAC members and liaisons.

Further information can be obtained from the [ILAC website](#) or by emailing the [ILAC Secretariat](#).