Agenda item 7.1: Report by the BIML on activities with organisations in liaison
1 International

1.1 BIPM

BIPM-OIML Bilateral Meeting

The BIPM and OIML held their bilateral meeting in March 2019. Topics discussed during the meeting included:

Mutual visits

It was agreed that mutual visits would continue between the two organisations. These exchanges aid cooperation and coordination on capacity building initiatives and other functions.

Representation at meetings / workshops

Where appropriate and feasible, joint representation at meetings should be made. It was acknowledged that this already occurs and that there are numerous examples of where collaboration and mutual representation at meetings and workshops already takes place.

e-Learning

This was identified as an important initiative for outreach to exemplify the added value that both organisations can provide to their members, prospective members and the community.

Technical cooperation

The two new representatives of the OIML to JCGM-WG1 and JCGM-WG2 were noted. The participants also discussed current and future collaboration between the two organisations concerning OIML TC 1, TC 1/p 3, the VIM and the VIML. The new representative from OIML TC 2 Units of measurement to the CCU was noted.

Revision of OIML D 1

The OIML, under the responsibility of the CEEMS Advisory Group – which includes representatives from the BIPM – will continue to develop the approach and methodology for the revision of OIML D 1 to ensure that it is fit-for-purpose in 21st century metrology systems, and that it is widely applicable and useful in different contexts.

Closer cooperation to promote “one metrology” as part of a national quality infrastructure

The preference is to build on initiatives proposed by the CIML President at the 2018 CGPM regarding a more coordinated “one metrology” platform. It was agreed that a Joint Operational Task Group will be established.

Quadrilateral Meeting

The BIPM, ILAC, ISO and OIML held their quadrilateral meeting in March 2019. The meeting included an update from each organisation and a specific paper produced by the OIML on the INetQI.
Cooperation between the BIPM and the BIML on World Metrology Day (WMD)

The BIML has again this year worked in very close cooperation with the BIPM in organising World Metrology Day. The theme for 2019 was “The International System of Units – Fundamentally better” and marks the coming into force of the revised SI on 20 May 2019.

Cooperation between the two Organisations on this key project has again been excellent, as it is every year, and involves the complete process from reviewing the draft poster designs together, approving the final version, developing the strapline, designing the website, and uploading the various posters and events.

This year was a record year for hits to the WMD Website: there were 19,300 distinct visitors in May 2019, of which 9,000 were on 20 May itself. The BIPM and the BIML look forward to working together again on the 2020 event, on which work has already started.

1.2 IEC

The updated OIML-IEC MoU was signed at the 53rd CIML Meeting in Hamburg. Following a proposal from IECEx, the CIML also approved the establishment of a Joint Working Group (JWG) between the IECEx and the OIML to explore synergies and areas where the two organisations may be able to cooperate (see CIML Resolution 2018/13).

Two telephone meetings (in November 2019 and February 2019) took place between Paul Dixon and Chris Agius (IECEx Executive Secretary) to establish the JWG and to discuss initial ideas and proposals for areas of work for the JWG. Chris Agius joined the OIML-CS Management Committee (MC) meeting by video conference and provided information to the OIML-CS MC on the IECEx processes for establishing competence of certification bodies and test laboratories under the IECEx system.

The first full meeting of the JWG was held in Dubai, UAE, on 25 September 2019, with the OIML represented by Roman Schwartz (JWG Convener) and Paul Dixon. Key activities and outcomes from the first JWG meeting were as follows:

- Updating the Terms of Reference to include a reference to the OIML-IEC MoU as a framework for the activities of the JWG;
- Balancing the representation of the two organisations on the JWG, with a proposal for the OIML-CS MC Chairperson and a member of the Presidential Council to also represent the OIML;
- Paul Dixon and Chris Agius provided the JWG with an update on activities and future developments of the respective OIML and IECEx certification systems;
- Areas for collaboration were explored, with ideas for short-term and medium- to long-term opportunities discussed, e.g. procedures for the assessment and monitoring of certification bodies, processes for the acceptance of Manufacturer Test facilities and the possible use of the IECEx On-Line certificate system;
Other areas to consider from an OIML perspective were highlighted, including intercomparisons/proficiency testing, monitoring of experts participating in accreditations and peer assessments, and the possible extension of the OIML-CS towards a full conformity assessment system; JWG activities and outcomes to be fed into a higher level OIML-IEC Joint Work Program; and

An initial project to be established to consider mechanisms to assist manufactures requiring both IECEx and OIML-CS certifications, with an initial meeting to be held at the PTB in early 2020.

Paul Dixon attended the IECEx MC meeting on 26–27 September 2019. He provided an update on the OIML and a report to the IECEx MC on the outcomes of the first meeting of the JWG.

1.3 ILAC and the IAF

The updated OIML-ILAC-IAF MoU was signed at the 53rd CIML Meeting in Hamburg. In support of the MoU, the BIML actively participates in the work of ILAC and the IAF. The BIML (Paul Dixon) attended the ILAC Accreditation Committee meeting in April 2019, and will represent the OIML at the Joint General Assembly in Frankfurt on 29 October 2019.

Attendance at the ILAC Accreditation Committee meeting provided an opportunity to give an update on OIML activities and supported a number of activities with ILAC as follows:

- Development of an OIML-ILAC Joint Work Program (currently with ILAC for review and comment).
- The revision of the joint OIML/ILAC publication Guidelines for the determination of recalibration intervals of measuring equipment used in testing laboratories (OIML D 10 / ILAC G 24). ILAC and the OIML are collaborating on project OIML TC 4/p 9: Revision of D 10 Guidelines for the determination of recalibration intervals of measuring equipment used in testing laboratories.
- Identification of suitable Management System Experts to act as lead assessors for peer assessments of Test Laboratories under the OIML-CS.
- Providing comments on revised versions of ILAC P9 (proficiency testing activities), P10 (metrological traceability of measurement results) and P14 (uncertainty in calibration).
- Providing input to the revision of ILAC G17 (uncertainty in testing) and G18 (scopes of accreditation).

Through the course of 2019, the BIML has been working with the IAF on the development of a Joint OIML-IAF Assessment Procedure for the assessment of certification bodies under the OIML-CS. A draft procedure, developed by the OIML-CS MC, was circulated to IAF members for a 60-day comment period in July 2019, and an updated version has been developed to address the comments received. The updated version will be discussed at the IAF Product Certification Working Group meeting in October 2019. Depending on the outcome of the discussion, the new version will undergo a further 60-day comment period or will be submitted to the IAF membership for approval. When the procedure is approved, the BIML will work with the IAF to identify suitable Management System Experts to act as lead assessors for peer assessments of OIML Issuing Authorities under the OIML-CS.
1.4 International Network on Quality Infrastructure (INetQI)

The OIML handed over the chair of this Network of international organisations working in the fields of metrology, accreditation, standardisation, conformity assessment and infrastructure development to ILAC / ISO CASCO. New terms of reference were established at the Network’s meeting in June 2019, and the next meeting will be held at the beginning of December. The OIML remains responsible for the INetQI website, which it has continued to develop during 2019.

1.5 ISO

ISO/DEVCO

In June 2019, the BIML (Ian Dunmill and Guo Su) met representatives of the secretariat of ISO/DEVCO to discuss opportunities for possible future cooperation. Options will continue to be explored in 2020.

The BIML also attended the ISO/DEVCO meeting in Cape Town in September 2019, held in association with the ISO General Assembly. In addition to the normal agenda items, discussions in breakout groups during this meeting considered the issues of

- future trends in conformity assessment,
- standards in support of SDG5 on gender equality, and
- enhancing participation in ISO technical work through twinning.

As usual, this meeting was also an opportunity to hold discussions with various ISO officials and members, as well as with representatives of other international organisations present.

ISO/CASCO

The BIML actively participates in the work of ISO/CASCO and participated in meetings of CASCO STAR, the Strategic Alliance and Regulatory Group. The BIML is also represented in relevant ISO/CASCO Working Groups:

- ISO/CASCO WG 46 is working on the development of a new standard ISO/IEC 17029 General principles and requirements for bodies performing validation and verification activities.

- ISO/CASCO WG 49 is developing a revision of ISO/IEC 17000 Conformity assessment – Vocabulary and general principles. This standard is referenced in a number of OIML publications and is of particular relevance to OIML TC 1, OIML TC 3/SC 5 and the OIML-CS.
1.6 OECD

The BIML participated in the 6th meeting of the International Partnership on Regulatory Cooperation. The launch of the brochure *The contribution of international organisations to a rule-based international system: Key results from the partnership of international organisations for effective international rulemaking* at the meeting was a key milestone in facilitating a shared understanding and intelligence in the field of international organisations. The OIML features in the publication as an example of good international regulatory cooperation.

The OIML is one of 45 international organisations which participate in the Partnership, including many partner organisations and organisations with whom the OIML has an MoU.

1.7 UNECE

The BIML continues to participate in the work of UNECE WP.6 on regulatory cooperation, but was unable to attend its last annual meeting in November 2018 due to other commitments. The BIML will attend this year's meeting in November 2019.

In addition, in recent years the BIML has cooperated with the UNECE Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, in particular with its annual *Steering committee on trade capacity and standards* meetings. Amongst other matters, the May 2019 meeting dealt with a detailed analysis of Armenia’s quality infrastructure. The BIML was successful in including membership of the OIML as one of the formal recommendations of the report. The BIML is continuing to work with the UNECE and the Armenian government on its metrology needs.

1.8 UNIDO

The OIML and the BIPM have a joint MoU with UNIDO which enables them to cooperate on a number of initiatives, mainly in relation to the development of technical capacity.

Ian Dunmill was invited by UNIDO to participate in the first International Quality Infrastructure (QI) Forum, organised in cooperation with the African Union Commission, and held in Brussels in April 2019. The Forum focused on QI’s contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to implementing the African Continental Free Trade Agreement. It also showed how the private sector can help in this by adopting sustainability standards, and identified priority interventions for developing QI systems.

The technical sessions focused on steering African regional QI development towards the SDGs. The Forum also helped to disseminate knowledge and good practice in an effort to remove trade barriers, improve SMEs’ access to the QI, support investment in developing countries’ QI, provide technical assistance and tools to enable developing countries to connect with global value chains and international markets, and promote sustainable development to achieve SDGs.
In July 2019, Ian Dunmill was also invited by UNIDO to speak at a side event to the WTO Aid for Trade Global Review 2019 entitled *Adding Value: Quality Infrastructure for Sustainable Development*. The speakers explained how QI systems can contribute to strategies, policies and actions by developing countries to advance all 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and how they can better position developing economies to safeguard their people, create economic prosperity, and protect the planet. Ian Dunmill responded to a presentation on “Strengthening national metrology capacity to secure consumer protection” by the Malawi Bureau of Standards and showed how metrology, as part of a QI, affects everyone’s lives and can be used to protect consumers in trade, health and safety.

1.9 WTO TBT Committee

The BIML has attended all three meetings of the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade which have taken place since the last CIML Meeting, and has made a short oral report on the OIML’s activities which may be of interest to the Committee. As a result of an increased interest in quality infrastructure matters, the Ian Dunmill will, in cooperation with Andy Henson of the BIPM, be delivering a training session to WTO trade delegations on the vital role of scientific and legal metrology in the QI for facilitating trade, the typical challenges facing developing countries in this respect, and strategies for overcoming these challenges.

2 Regional

2.1 AFRIMETS

In addition to taking part in the annual AFRIMETS General Assembly, the BIML participated in an extraordinary AFRIMETS Directors’ and Executive Committee strategic planning meeting, as requested by the 2018 AFRIMETS General Assembly. This meeting was held in Johannesburg, South Africa in May 2019, and aimed to improve AFRIMETS’ strategic planning, with particular consideration of its sustainability and future funding needs and possibilities.

2.2 APLMF

In addition to participating in the 25th APLMF meeting and related events, a joint OIML-APLMF CEEMS event was held in Hangzhou in July 2019.
2.3 Central Asian Metrology Workshop

The BIML participated in a Central Asian Metrology Workshop in June 2019 in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan which was organised and funded by the PTB.

The BIML delivered presentations and moderated forum discussions during four sessions, which took place over two days. The event was attended by approximately 20 delegates from Central Asian economies. Priorities, proposals and project plans/agendas for action were defined, recorded and shared for each country present and these ideas were collated for future regional project activities.

2.4 MEDEA CABUREK Workshop

The OIML participated in the 2nd MEDEA CABUREK Workshop, held in April 2019 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. CABUREK (Capacity Building in Technical and Scientific Organisations Using Regional Experiences and Knowledge) is an instrument developed and implemented by the PTB in cooperation with NMI partners in Latin America and the Caribbean. The experiences and methodology were systematised and the CABUREK concept was developed. The following three topics are included in the CABUREK scheme:

- Metrology awareness program;
- Need analysis to implement a calibration / verification service;
- Market surveillance.

This project is being implemented from 2018–2020.

2.5 Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat

The BIML participated in the Pacific Regional Quality Infrastructure Initiative, an endeavour spearheaded by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) in September 2019. This initiative aims to strengthen national and regional institutions so as to support Pacific businesses in improving the quality of goods and services and in meeting international standards in trade.

The BIML delivered presentations and facilitated a breakout session on the role of metrology in Quality Infrastructure (QI).

The initiative is a partnership between the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ), the German Institute for Metrology (PTB), the Australian Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) and the EU-funded Trade Com II facility.
2.6 WELMEC WG8

The BIML (Paul Dixon) attended a meeting of WELMEC WG8 in September 2019. Of particular interest was the ongoing development of Normative Documents which are based on OIML Recommendations and which are used to demonstrate conformity with the Essential Requirements of the EU Measuring Instruments Directive (MID). It was agreed that the BIML would support the review of Normative Documents to ensure that they are based on the latest versions of the relevant OIML Recommendations. Attendance at the meeting also provided the opportunity to promote the OIML-CS as part of a wider presentation on OIML activities of interest to WELMEC.