MINUTES
COMPTE RENDU

Forty-First Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology: Cape Town, South Africa, 18–20 October 2006

Quarante-et-Unième Réunion du Comité International de Métrologie Légale: Le Cap, Afrique du Sud, 18–20 octobre 2006

ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE MÉTROLOGIE LÉGALE

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LEGAL METROLOGY

International Organization of Legal Metrology

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The International Committee of Legal Metrology was convened by its President, Mr. Alan E. Johnston, and met on 18–20 October 2006 at the Sheraton Arabella Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa.

Contents

Attendance

Member States

AUSTRALIA

Dr. Grahame Harvey ..... CIML Member
Dr. Angela Samuel

AUSTRIA

Dr. Arnold Leitner ..... CIML Member

BELGIUM

Mr. Frans Deleu

BRAZIL

Mr. Jorge Luiz Seewald
Mr. Mauricio Martinelli Rèche

BULGARIA

Dr. Katerin Katerinov ..... CIML Member

CAMEROON

Mr. H. Ela Essi ..... CIML Member
Mr. Diabelle Mongoleon

CANADA

Mr. Alan E. Johnston ..... CIML President
Mr. Gilles Vinet

CROATIA

Mr. Mirko Vukovic ..... CIML Member
Mr. Krešimir Vrgoè

CUBA

Dr. Martin Antunez Ramirez ..... CIML Member

CZECH REPUBLIC

Mr. Pavel Klenovský ..... CIML Member
Mr. Alexander Šafarík-Pštrosz
Mr. Vladimir Ludvik

EGYPT

Mr. Said Mahmoud Abo-Alala

FINLAND

Mr. Tuomo Valkeapää ..... CIML Member

FRANCE

Mr. Gérard Lagauterie ..... CIML Member
Mrs. Corinne Lagauterie

GERMANY

Prof. Manfred Kochsiek ..... CIML Vice-President
Dr. Roman Schwartz ..... CIML Member
Dr. Eberhard Seiler

HUNGARY

Dr. Peter Pákay ..... CIML Member

INDONESIA

Mr. Amir Saharuddin Sjahrial ..... CIML Member
Mr. Hari Prawoko
Mr. Oke Nurwan
Mr. Aris Garinto

IRELAND

Mr. P. Farragher ..... CIML Member

ISRAEL

Dr. Edward Kleiner

JAPAN

Dr. Yukinobu Miki ..... CIML Member
Mr. Masayuki Yabuuchi
Mr. Takeshi Mizuno
Mr. Tooru Kojima
Mrs. Hiroe Sakai
Dr. Akira Ooiwa

KAZAKHSTAN

Mr. Vassily Mikhalchenko
Mr. Talgat Momyshev
Ms. Saulet Kussainova

KENYA

Mr. James G. Kiarie ..... CIML Member

KOREA (R.)

Mr. Soon-Deok Park
Dr. Jong Oh Choi
Mr. Oh Yong Kwon

MOROCCO

Mr. M.H. Defouad

NETHERLANDS

Dr. Cees van Mullem ..... CIML Member
Ms. Anneke van Spronssen
Mr. Gep Engler

NEW ZEALAND

Mr. Tony Lee ..... CIML Member
Mr. Stephen O'Brien

NORWAY

Dr. Helge Kildal ..... CIML Member

P.R. CHINA

Mr. Wang Qinping ..... CIML Member
Mr. Xuan Xiang
Mr. Liu Hantian
Mr. Han Jianping
Ms. Ding Zhiyin
Mr. Lei Fenqiang
Mr. Zhang Xiaozhong
Mr. Shao Li

POLAND

Ms. Barbara Lisowska ..... CIML Member

PORTUGAL

Mr. J. N. Cartaxo Reis ..... CIML Member

ROMANIA

Mr. Dumitru Dinu ..... CIML Member
Mr. Marian Buzatu
Mr. Valentin Patasanu ..... CIML Member

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Prof. Dr. L. K. Issaev ..... CIML Vice-President
Dr. Sergey Kononogov
Dr. Vasily Mardin

SAUDI ARABIA

Mr. Abdulaziz Abdullah M Algossair
Mr. Adil Abdulkareem M Alyahya

SERBIA

Dr. Zoran M. Markovic ..... CIML Member

SLOVAKIA

Mr. Jozef Orlovský ..... CIML Member
Mr. Peter Šagát
Mr. Jaromír Markovic
Ms. Katarina Takacova

SLOVENIA

Ms. Natasa Mejak Vukovic

SOUTH AFRICA

Mr. Stuart H. Carstens ..... CIML Vice-President
Mr. Katima Temba
Mr. Brian Beard
Mr. Tony Konigkramer
Mr. David Swarts
Mr. Clifford Hicken
Mr. Jaco Marneweck
Mr. T. Tsotetsi
Mr. Bennie Swart

SPAIN

Mr. Fernando Ferrer Margalef ..... CIML Member
Mr. José Luis Manchado

SRI LANKA

Mr. K.A. Gunasoma ..... CIML Member

SWEDEN

Mr. Kari Björkqvist ..... CIML Member
Ms. Renée Hansson

SWITZERLAND

Dr. Bruno Vaucher ..... CIML Member

TANZANIA

Mr. A.H.M. Tukai ..... CIML Member
Mr. Constantine Mlela

TUNISIA

Mr. Mohamed Laouini ..... CIML Member
Mr. Mourad Ben Hassine

TURKEY

Dr. Atilla Sahin ..... CIML Member

UNITED KINGDOM

Dr. J.W. Llewellyn ..... CIML Member
Mr. Martin Birdseye
Mr. John Goulding

UNITED STATES

Dr. Charles D. Ehrlich ..... CIML Member

VIET NAM

Mr. Pham Ngoc Tran ..... CIML Member
Mr. Diep Nguyen Hung
Mr. Long Bui Quy

Corresponding Members

CAMBODIA

Mr. Ho Kadeb

CHINESE TAIPEI

Mr. Bo-Chang Su

LITHUANIA

Mr. Osvaladas Staugaitis
Mr. Viktoras Zabolotnas
Mrs. Audrone Zabolotniene

MALTA

Mr. Francis E. Farrugia

MOZAMBIQUE

Mr. Dos Santos Sidonio
Mr. Sitoe Alfredo

QATAR

Mr. Adel Hassan Ali Fakhroo
Mr. Johar Al Abdulla

ZAMBIA

Mr. Kimon Zulu

Observers and Liaisons

Mr. Gerard Faber ..... CIML Immediate Past President
Mr. John Birch ..... CIML Honorary Member
Prof. Andrew Wallard ..... BIPM
Mr. Martin Stoll ..... CECIP
Dr. C.J. Johnston ..... IEC
Mr. Mike Peet ..... ILAC
Mrs. Vivien Liu ..... WTO

BIML

Mr. Jean-François Magaña ..... Director
Mr. Attila Szilvássy ..... Assistant Director
Mr. Ian Dunmill ..... Assistant Director
Mr. Willem Kool ..... Assistant Director
Mrs. Régine Gaucher ..... Project Leader (MAA)
Mr. Chris Pulham ..... Editor
Mr. Samuel Just ..... Engineer
Mrs. Patricia Saint-Germain ..... Office Manager

Opening address by
Mr. Martin Kuscus, CEO, SABS, South Africa

Mr. President of the CIML Alan Johnston,
Officials of the OIML,
Delegates to the CIML,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I bring with me greetings from the Council of the South African Bureau of Standards, the host of this CIML Meeting, and would like to take the opportunity to welcome you all.

Now, I did not write the rules of geography, but it is an established fact that the world is divided into seven regions: North America, South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, and then… South Africa – the World in one place! And I trust that as you go about your work, you will experience the World in one place and that you will have time to savor the sights and the very interesting history that Cape Town has to offer.

Traditionally in the long history of Africa, the indigenous population traded by means of the barter system. In South Africa, formal legal metrology control can be traced back to the settlement of the Dutch at the Cape of Good Hope in the late 1600's.

The weights and measures system broke down to a large extent when the Dutch farmers trekked north to escape the English occupation.

And in the late 1800's there were weights and measures offices in the major towns such as Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban, Pretoria, and Bloemfontein.

The rural areas were not serviced however, and the first government of the Union of South Africa, through the Department of Mines, decided that the matter needed urgent attention.

In 1920, the first national legislation on legal metrology was promulgated. Later on, this Act was replaced by the Weights and Measures Act in 1958, and then by the Trade Metrology Act in 1977, which is the current legislation which governs our country.

I do not want to harp on about the vicissitudes of the past; our unfortunate past has been a matter of international concern which actually led to the exclusion of South Africa from participation in a lot of international forums. Through this period, legal metrology had to keep abreast in many areas through OIML publications, but there was no direct participation where our voice could be heard and where we could engage with our counterparts in a really meaningful way.

But during the advent of our democratic dispensation in 1994, when a new government came into power and South Africa entered the global stage, we wasted no time in applying for membership of the OIML and we were greatly encouraged and assisted by members of the BIML at that time.

South Africa became a member of the OIML in 1998 and has keenly participated in meetings and in several Technical Committees since then.

Our country has taken off in many ways, not only on the socio-political front, but also on the economic front and in many respects we became world leaders in certain industries which warranted enhancement of our metrology infrastructure – in fact not only metrology but our whole quality infrastructure.

In 1999, the Department of Trade and Industry undertook a review of Standards, Quality assurance, Accreditation and Metrology (commonly known as the SQAM review). This review looked at the whole technical infrastructure in South Africa, and in 2001 the results of this review group's recommendations were published.

This led to very fundamental changes in the SQAM environment, and there is now a whole series of legislative reviews including the promulgation of a new Standards Act, the Regulatory and Compulsory Standards Act, the Accreditation Act and the Measurements Act. As I am talking to you now, just last

week, in our parliament a new legal metrology infrastructure was debated around this Measurements Act, and we hope that by the middle of next year, this whole process will be finalized.

We cannot underscore enough the importance of legal metrology in our country, and the work done by yourselves as the OIML has greatly shaped our thinking and greatly influenced our approach in moving our country forward.

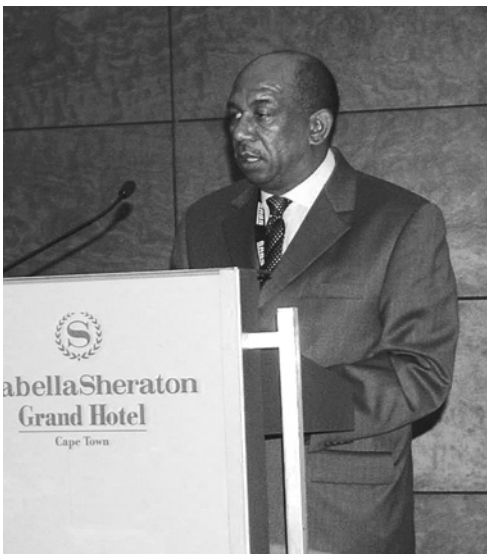
I am aware of how important legal metrology is to the economy – not only for our country but for our Region as a whole, as we are now pursuing in Southern Africa what we call SADC (the Southern African Development Community), a free trade block, which our political masters would like to be implemented in 2011.

This needs to be supported by a very strong standards, quality assurance, accreditation and metrology infrastructure. Therefore, I have been informed of the importance of the activities that have taken place since your arrival here, and how the deliberations in the various meetings (as well as those to be made during this prestigious gathering over the next three days) have produced and will continue to contribute to the aims and objectives of the Organization. I wish you every success in your deliberations and it is with great pride and humility that we host the 41st CIML Meeting.

Without any further ado, I would like to declare the CIML Meeting open, and trust that you enjoy your stay in our beautiful country, South Africa.

Lastly, for those of you who do not already know, we will be hosting the 2010 World Cup! So you may start booking your accommodation, and make sure that you start surveying the scene here, so that you return with as many of your friends as possible, to our wonderful shores.

Thank you, and may I wish you a very successful meeting. ■



Opening speech by Mr. Alan E. Johnston, CIML President

Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to Cape Town. First of all Martin Kuscus many thanks for your very gracious welcome and also for your geography lesson which I appreciated!

I would first like to thank the South African Government and the South African Bureau of Standards for hosting this CIML Meeting in Cape Town. South Africa is one of our most active and dynamic Members within the OIML thanks to Stuart Carstens, our Vice-President, and also to all his staff within SABS.

South Africa is also the leading country in this Region and contributes to the success of the Regional Metrology Cooperation, SADCMEL, whose Members have demonstrated a great interest in legal metrology developments. And, last but not least of course, I have to mention that SABS has done an excellent job in organizing this CIML Meeting in this beautiful city of Cape Town, taking care of the meeting facilities and organizing the accommodation of delegates. Thanks to Stuart and also a special thank to Ronèl Pretorius for these arrangements.

It is my pleasure to welcome you all here today to the 41st Meeting of our Committee where we have more than 120 delegates, Observers and Liaison Organizations.

Since the last CIML Meeting, a number of countries have expressed an interest in becoming an OIML Member State or a Corresponding Member, and we can expect our membership to grow in the near future. The following changes have occurred in the OIML membership:

- The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has asked to change from Member State to Corresponding Member; and
- Zambia was admitted as a Corresponding Member.

We therefore now have 59 Member States and 54 Corresponding Members.

In reviewing the composition of our Committee, I have the pleasure of welcoming some new CIML Members:

- Dr. Katerin Katerinov from Bulgaria,
- Mr. Mirko Vukovic from Croatia,
- Prof. Roman Schwartz from Germany,
- Mr. Mukhambetov from Kazakhstan,
- Mr. Nabil Bin Amin Molla from Saudi Arabia,
- Mr. Mohamed Laouini from Tunisia, and
- Dr. Atilla Sahin from Turkey.

I have also the pleasure of welcoming representatives from the Liaison Organizations:

- Mrs. Vivien Liu from the World Trade Organization,
- Dr. Andrew Wallard from the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures,
- Mr. Mike Peet from ILAC,
- Dr. C.J. Johnston from the IEC, and
- Mr. Martin Stoll from CECIP.

I am also pleased to have amongst us today:

- Gerard Faber, CIML Past President, and
- John Birch, Honorary CIML Member.

Coming now to a short review of the last year since the 40th Committee Meeting in Lyon, I would like to highlight a number of key issues:

- Cooperation between the OIML, the BIPM and ILAC has made some concrete progress; further information will be presented to you later in the Meeting,
- A new Long Term Strategy paper will be submitted for your approval,
- The implementation of the MAA has resulted in the signing of two Declarations of Mutual Confidence,
- Technical work has progressed well and a number of new and revised publications will be submitted for your approval,
- We will elect a Second CIML Vice-President, and

- The appointment of a new Assistant Director will be submitted for your approval.

An interesting Seminar was held this Monday, concentrating on an issue of considerable importance to the Member States and for international trade: pre-packaging. Stuart Carstens will provide you with a report of this Seminar during the CIML Meeting.

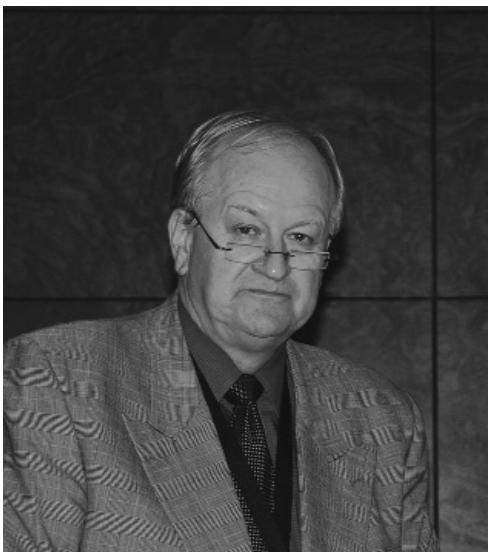
There is one issue which I would like to bring to your attention today. In recent years we have asked Jean-François Magana and his staff at the BIML to find ways to accelerate the technical work and the approval of OIML publications. A number of improvements have been made by the Bureau, in particular the use of the OIML web site. For example, we have had the ability to vote online for over a year. Unfortunately, the results of online voting have been disappointing, and in most cases only about 50 % of the CIML Members did vote online. For this reason, the approval of a number of projects had to be postponed to this CIML Meeting, which represented a delay of between six months to one year to obtain the required approval.

As you know, the success of the OIML depends on your participation and on your commitment and we cannot fulfill our goals if Members do not actively respond. In the near future, technical work will be conducted via the OIML web site and this activity will require your active involvement in these web-based activities so I urge you to vote in a timely manner on all projects that are submitted to you via the OIML web site, and also to ask your experts to actively participate via the site, which will be put at their disposal for technical work. This is necessary to answer the needs of all legal metrology stakeholders in all of our countries.

I would welcome any ideas from you as to how we can improve our ability to work and vote online; for example, would more reminders from the BIML be beneficial? Is more training required on how to effectively use the web site? Please bring any ideas forward to my attention, or feel free to contact any of the BIML staff.

In conclusion, we have a very busy and interesting agenda for the three-day CIML Meeting and I look forward to your assistance and cooperation to ensure its success.

Thank you very much for your time. ■



Forty-First Meeting

of the

International Committee of Legal Metrology

– Minutes –

41st Meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology

- Final Agenda -

Opening addresses
Roll-call - Quorum
Approval of the agenda

1 Approval of the minutes of the 40th CIML Meeting

2 Member States and Corresponding Members
2.1 Situation of certain Members

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3.1 Adoption of the Auditor's report for 2005
3.2 Assets and liabilities as at 01/01/2005 and at 01/01/2006
3.3 Financial report for 2005 and estimates for 2006
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4 Presidential Council activities
4.1 Report on Presidential Council activities
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6 Liaisons
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8.3 MAA
8.4 Progress on the revision of the Directives
8.5 Report of the Working Group on "Conformity to Type" *(New Item)*

9 Human resource matters
9.1 Approval of the Procedure for the election of the CIML President and Vice-Presidents
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9.3 Appointment of a new Assistant Director
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10 Future meetings
10.1 42nd CIML Meeting (2007)
10.2 13th Conference and 43rd CIML Meeting (2008)

11 Awards

12 Other matters

Roll-call - Quorum

The roll call of delegates was taken by Mr. Magaña. 52 Member States out of 59 were present or represented at the opening of the 41st CIML Meeting. The quorum (45 Member States) was therefore reached.

The Committee also noted the participation of a number of OIML Corresponding Members, Observer Countries, Liaison Institutions and Regional Legal Metrology Organizations, as well as the CIML Immediate Past President, one CIML Honorary Member, and members of SABS and BIML Staff.

Approval of the Agenda

The Draft Agenda (Version 2 dated 11 July 2006) was approved with the following modifications:

- New item 4a "Report on the Packaging Seminar";
- New item 8.2a "OIML Certificate System";
- New item 8.5 Report of the Working Group on "Conformity to Type".

1 Approval of the Minutes of the 40th CIML Meeting

Mr. Magaña reminded Members that they had received the Minutes of the 40th Meeting some time previously. He did not feel it was necessary to examine them page by page, which would be time consuming; he asked if there were any comments or corrections.

As none were forthcoming, Mr. Johnston declared the Minutes approved.

2 Member States and Corresponding Members

2.1 Situation of certain Members

Mr. Magaña stated that there had been no new Members since the Lyon CIML Meeting. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea had asked to become a Corresponding Member, as had Zambia; current membership therefore stood at 59 Member States and 54 Corresponding Members.

A certain number of countries had expressed interest in becoming Member States or Corresponding Members, and, thanks to the President and Vice-Presidents, the Bureau had received a number of very interesting contacts. There were grounds for hope for an increase in membership during the coming months and indeed for the next couple of years. Prospects for the OIML were therefore good.

Regarding arrears of contributions, there were situations giving cause for concern. Payments from one or two countries were a year or so overdue but these were for administrative reasons only.

The previous year the Committee had adopted a system for examining and modifying the classification of Member States, which now depended on their population and economic situation according to the World Bank categories. The Bureau collected the relevant World Bank data at the end of each year and established the appropriate classification based upon it. Classifications had been examined at the beginning of 2006, as a result of which about 10 countries had been notified that their contributions would be increased with effect from 2008. This would give them enough

time to make the necessary arrangements. The same procedure would be repeated each year, with the same preparation period before the increased amount would be due. The increases were for different reasons, some due to increases in population, others to increases in prosperity. One country had been declassified for financial reasons.

3 Financial matters

3.1 Adoption of the Auditor's report for 2005,

3.2 Assets and liabilities as at 01/01/2005 and at 01/01/2006 *and*

3.3 Financial report for 2005 and estimates for 2006

Mr. Magaña informed Members that the BIML had received the Auditor's report on the OIML accounts. The conclusions (though not the full report) had been translated from French to English and were accompanied by a Director's report clarifying certain matters. Members would have noticed that some figures in Mr. Magaña's report differed from the Auditor's; the reason for this was that in 2005, travel and entertainment expenses had been amalgamated into a single large sum. These included travel and mission expenses amounting to 92 000 € and 50th Anniversary expenses, which Mr. Magaña had preferred to show separately, of 186 000 €. The Auditor's figure of 278 000 € was not representative of a normal year's expenses. This exceptional expenditure had been partially offset by a contribution from the French Government. All the other figures were identical, including of course the overall deficit for the year.

Without going into too much detail Mr. Magaña drew Members' attention to the current figures. The deficit was slightly greater than foreseen due to the financial results being slightly below estimate, though the Anniversary expenses had also cost slightly less than anticipated. The overall deficit was consequently somewhat lower than that accepted by the Berlin Conference.

Regarding running expenditure of the Bureau, there had been a slight increase in both resources and costs over budget. Looking at this in detail, staff costs had been higher due to the implementation of the new international accounting standard regarding how the pension fund was accounted for. Travel and meeting expenses had been below estimate. Depreciation and reserves, due to the new way of providing for pensions, had exceeded estimates and other running costs had been largely as estimated despite inflation having been higher than anticipated.

Regarding other items of expenditure there were insignificant differences in both directions between the budgeted and actual amounts. The breakdown of the running costs of the BIML was as follows, based on the allocation of staff time:

- 17 % was accounted for by the CIML Meeting and meetings of Technical Committees and Subcommittees;
- Time spent on liaising with Technical Committees and Subcommittees by the bureau's technical staff, and drawing up of an analysis for the Presidential Council, amounted to 20 %;
- The MAA, with one full time engineer and office and travel costs, represented approximately 12 %;
- The Bureau now employed 11 members of staff; salaries therefore accounted for most of the rest of the expenditure;
- Publications and the Bulletin now represented only a minor actual printing cost but still took a considerable amount of staff time to edit, publish and sometimes translate;
- Developing countries took up approximately 6 %;
- The 50th Anniversary had been excluded, as previously explained, but, if included, would account for approximately one third of the Bureau's running costs.

Regarding 2006, it now seemed likely that the deficit would be greater than previously expected. This was again largely due to the impact of the new way of showing the pension provision. Pension payments had previously been shown as short term costs, over four years, rather than as a long term commitment to the paying of pensions to past, present and future employees. The new international accounting standard required that all rights acquired by staff must be shown in the Organization's commitments, resulting in a considerable increase in pension provision, with a corresponding decrease in the reserve fund. The money was still there, Mr. Magaña explained, but appeared in accounts as a debt, with sums reviewed and adjusted annually. For every year that an employee worked at the BIML, he or she acquired the right to a pension of another 2 % of his or her latest salary. This had not been shown in this way in the former accounting system, and so gave rise now to charges some 2 or 2.5 times greater than before. This point had not yet been clarified when the budget had been drawn up.

The deficit for 2006 would therefore be a little over budget; the Bureau would cut costs wherever possible to compensate for this.

Comparing 2005 with 2006, Mr. Magaña explained that staff costs would increase in 2006 because a vacant post had now been filled. It was hoped that travel and meeting costs would decrease; depreciation on equipment was expected to be stable; premises and office running costs should decrease; printing costs would be slightly lower; and savings would also be made on other miscellaneous items.

Mr. Johnston invited questions and comments from the floor.

Mr. Kildal of Norway said that in the next financial report he would like to see a special project report on the MAA, as had been the case in the previous year, showing its income and expenses separately so that these did not have to be sought in the body of the report.

Mr. Magaña reminded Members that there was an evaluation of the costs and resources of the MAA in the specific financial analysis which had been sent out to them. It was not customary to devote sections of the general financial report to specific activities, which normally only dealt with types of activity, for example, all travel, all salaries, etc. On the other hand, in the analytical plan, direct and indirect MAA expenditure had been specified, as had its resources. Its earnings had in practice been somewhat below what had been predicted in the budget. He had expected the Declarations of Mutual Confidence to be signed, and the Certificates issued, more rapidly than had actually been the case. He had underestimated the size of the task; those Members who had participated as users or as developers of Declarations of Mutual Confidence would have experienced the need for a great deal of complementary work to take place. There would be a progress report on the MAA later: DoMCs had been signed and the first Certificates would soon arrive; there was therefore something of a gap in time before it generated income. Regarding the cost of the MAA, this had been very much as predicted, i.e. the cost of one engineer, of which 65 % was to cover the cost of the BIML staff member who specialized in the MAA and the rest to the other professionals who contributed their support on the project. An unforeseen cause of expenditure had been the training seminars on Peer Assessment. There had been slight modifications to the original plan for Peer Assessments: it had been intended originally that the organization being assessed would foot the bill for these, but now the Bureau acted as intermediary. All of this had led to a delay in the first revenue from the scheme being received.

Mr. Klenovský, Czech Republic, said that if he had understood the figures correctly there was now a deficit in the accounts; he wished to know when the Organization would be in credit again and also whether there would be any financial savings when the full transfer to electronic conveying of information was complete.

Mr. Magaña replied that there was some saving in postal and printing costs; this was shown in the accounts under "running expenses", but not sufficient to counterbalance the extra 100 000 € p.a. caused by the accountancy change for the pension scheme. Merely to keep ordinary running expenses down was not sufficient. He would refer later in the day to certain other options which were under discussion. It was true that publication costs had gone down. However, publication

costs also embraced such items as editing, updates and reprints, conformity with other documents, and expert translation. All this accounted for the remaining publication expenses.

There were several possible options for countering the deficit: either planned fee increases on the one hand, or other reductions in expenses on the other.

There being no other questions or comments, Mr. Johnston asked Mr. Magaña to move on to the vote on the report.

Mr. Magaña explained that the Committee had to study the External Auditor's report each year and accept it, provided that it did not contain any anomalies. What was approved was not a matter of the management style, but of the accounts, which had to be correct and true to reality. Once the report was accepted, the President had to present it to the next Conference.

There were no negative votes or abstentions; the Auditor's report was therefore accepted unanimously for presentation to the 2008 Conference.

3.4 Progress on the Pension Scheme

Mr. Magaña reminded Members of the new international standard now being applied for the OIML's accountancy, notably concerning provision for the pension Scheme. The previous accounting system had not given a true picture of the financial situation of the OIML, as previously explained. The Bureau had also been asked to consider the future implications of its Pension Scheme and to report on it to the President. Work had begun on this task. He also reminded Members that this OIML Pension Scheme was for the benefit of those BIML employees who did not have access to other pension systems. Many of the employees did participate in the French state pension system and thus cost the Bureau much less; but those who were not French citizens (or not permanently resident in France) could not do so, and the OIML Pension Scheme had been set up to give the latter equivalent benefits. For each year of employment at the BIML they gained another 2 % of salary in retirement, just as in the normal French system. Staff contributed 8 % of salary, again as in the French system; the only difference lay in the costs of organizing this. An outside actuary had been asked to evaluate the impact on contributions, retirement age, etc. of several possible changes to the OIML Pension Scheme.

The actuary's report had just been received. Many of the alterations which had been suggested would have little or no effect; there seemed to be no easy way of lowering the deficit by altering any of these parameters. The Bureau would now go into the matter in more detail and depth and had already set up contacts with the French state system to see if it could take responsibility for the remaining minority of OIML employees who were not already under its auspices. This would indubitably be the best solution, but it was not yet known whether it was a possibility. The Bureau would report in more detail to the Presidential Council in March 2007 on possible means of reducing the deficit.

4 Presidential Council activities

4.1 Report on Presidential Council activities

Mr. Johnston said that most of the topics discussed by the Presidential Council would be dealt with in more detail later in the Meeting, but that he would touch immediately upon a few.

- The first was the composition of the Presidential Council. Mrs. Annabi and Mr. Tanaka had left the Council already, and this was the last meeting for Mr. Kochsiek (whom he congratulated on attending 40 Council meetings over 20 years without ever missing one). Its composition

might also be changed by the election of a Second CIML Vice-President. Mr. Johnston intended to announce replacements after the current Meeting but before the next Presidential Council Meeting in March 2007.

- The second topic was liaison with the BIPM and ILAC. Regarding cooperation with the BIPM, in February of the current year there had been a meeting between the Metre Convention and the OIML. The BIPM had been represented by Professor Göbel, Mr. Kaarls and its Director, Andrew Wallard; and the OIML by Mr. Johnston, Mr. Kochsiek, Mr. Magaña and Mr. Issaev. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss ways in which the two Organizations could cooperate better. In this day of shrinking budgets and attention to expenses, it was felt that it was important to determine whether a more collegial type of cooperation might be possible. One example was a common PowerPoint presentation; this might not seem to be a major point, but they had also agreed to liaise over attendance at international meetings with a view to seeing whether one representative could present the position of both the Metre Convention and the OIML. Mr. Magaña would go into further detail later on the common web site portal which had been developed. Mr. Johnston felt that this was an important step for the OIML and Mr. Wallard would give the BIPM viewpoint later in the Meeting. It was necessary to look globally at how things were done. A number of countries had expressed anxiety over their shrinking budgets and it was incumbent on organizations such as the OIML to look at ways in which they could cooperate with other organizations to promote metrology and legal metrology - the reason for which the OIML existed. It was not always possible to do that by sending somebody to meetings. Employees could be away for weeks on end on such missions; other ways had to be found of promoting metrology. Following the meeting, Messrs. Magaña and Wallard had together developed the Joint Action Plan. This was a step in the right direction, which demonstrated to policy makers around the world that cooperation was possible, that there was much in common between the two Organizations. Mr. Johnston awaited further developments with interest. Any outcome of all such discussions would be reported back fully and openly to Members and approval sought for any resulting action. He knew there was some apprehension regarding cooperation between the two Organizations, and assured Members that there was no cause for concern. It made good business sense to cooperate and be able to be represented at as many meetings as possible.
- An MoU had also been developed jointly with ILAC, and Mr. Johnston expected to sign this agreement in November of the current year; again, this showed the level of cooperation that was possible between the two Organizations. He would seek out similar agreements with the object of promoting what the OIML did and collaborating where feasible with other international organizations. Members would be kept informed of all such discussions and meetings, and further suggestions from Members about cooperation would be warmly welcomed when the Action Plan was discussed later in the Meeting.
- The MAA, with its implications for cooperation and liaison with other organizations, would be discussed later. Members who preferred not to make their comments in the Meeting were welcome to approach Mr. Johnston, Mr. Magaña or either of the Vice-Presidents privately.

4.2 Long Term Strategy and Action Plan

All Members, Mr. Johnston said, had seen the Long Term Strategy and the Action Plan, and they would be asked to vote on it later in the Meeting. Some comments had been received from the USA and Germany, but it had not yet been possible to incorporate them. Mr. Johnston wished the document to be voted on and approved in the current Meeting, and undertook to ensure that comments were incorporated in the Action Plan before it was finalized and put up on the web site. He felt it was important that this should be done at once. The Long Term Strategy was, however, by no means a static document; he would ask Mr. Magaña and the Presidential Council to review it annually and to also regularly update the Action Plan, which was more short term, and could be changed at short notice by events. It was important to be able to demonstrate that the Organization had a Long Term Strategy and Action Plan.

At Mr. Johnston's request, Mr. Magaña reminded Members that they had received the Long Term Strategy document in June 2006 along with a table summarizing comments received up to that point and the Bureau's responses to them. Most of the comments merely sought clarification, rather than questioning the content of the document. Staff had done their best to provide such clarification, and Mr. Magaña invited Members to express any further questions.

Mr. Lee, New Zealand, said that the documents outlined strategy and asked whether there was also an Action Plan.

Mr. Magaña replied that the Bureau had begun preparing a draft Action Plan but it was not yet ready to be submitted to the Committee. One of the Bureau's tasks would be to finish drawing up a more complete Action Plan to be submitted to the Presidential Council in March 2007 and subsequently to CIML Members.

Mr. Seiler referred to the chapter on developing countries in the Long Term Strategy document. As Chairman of the Permanent Working Group on Developing Countries, he wished to make some additions to this section regarding how to achieve the goals outlined there, and something on the Permanent Working Group itself, depending on discussion and decisions later in the Meeting.

Mr. Johnston said that there would be a vote on the Strategic Plan later in the week.

4a Report on the Packaging Seminar (Additional Item)

Mr. Carstens reported on the Seminar on Pre-packaging which had been attended by 153 delegates, of whom 57 were from South African industry covering areas such as the wine industry, food manufacturers and retailers.

Papers were presented by a number of stakeholders, including regulators, from various countries. Perspectives from industry, from associations (for instance the Worldwide Trade Group, a wine industry association), and also from a number of experts were presented, all of which gave a wide diversity of points of view and stimulated discussions.

The economic importance of pre-packages was once again highlighted, and participants noted the need to harmonize the various national regulations in existence and for the mutual acceptance of pre-package certification.

The issue of labeling was still a major barrier to trade, and was a subject that was brought up regularly. OIML R 79 *Labeling requirements for pre-packaged products* should be revised with a view to eliminating this problem, preferably in close cooperation with other international organizations such as CODEX and the OIV.

Work would begin on an OIML quantity mark for pre-packages and should involve in-depth contact with all OIML Members in order to assess their regulatory needs, and also pre-packers and consumers should be consulted in order to take account of their needs. It would be the responsibility of each OIML Member to discuss these issues on a national basis with their industry and consumers, and ideally in the future industry would be represented at meetings concerning pre-packaging. TC 6 meetings should therefore be open to pre-packers and their various associations, and also to consumers' associations in order to have adequate (but concentrated) representation during TC 6's future work.

The issue of minimum quantity versus average quantity required further study in order to ascertain the position of all OIML Members.

The issue of OIML R 96 *Measuring container bottles* was also raised: it was decided that this Recommendation should also be revised in order to allow easier non-destructive control of bottles - this should be the object of a mutual acceptance process.

It was envisaged that the OIML quantity mark scheme would be voluntary: Member States would be able to decide whether they would participate or not, and hence accept the mark or not. Similarly, packers would be able to decide whether they would apply for an OIML mark or not.

This step-by-step approach was decided on during the Seminar, since attempting to draw up and implement a pre-packaging MAA immediately could prove to be too ambitious a project to start off with. It was further decided that TC 6 should develop a number of guidance documents, in particular guides for pre-packers; these guides would assist in the interpretation of the relevant OIML Recommendations.

5 Developing Country activities

5.1 Report on PWGDC activities

Mr. Seiler informed delegates that they would find a report by Ian Dunmill in their files. He himself would add further details about what had been achieved and the meeting held a few days previously, which, due to the absence of some of its members, had been opened to any delegates to the CIML Meeting who wished to attend. Later he would present what he called "a new approach to an old problem" - a possible change in the direction of their work.

The Permanent Working Group on Developing Countries had been established in 2003 and had eight members, as shown in the documentation. The names in brackets were those of members who had moved to other positions or retired. The PWGDC had developed a strategy and begun to explore the needs of developing countries and to find potential donors of support. A Forum had been held in conjunction with the Berlin Conference in 2004, where parties could come together to exchange ideas and information, thus stimulating cooperation and support as well as creating awareness. This Forum was called *Metrology – Trade Facilitator*, because trade was seen as one vehicle to eliminate poverty and was on the agenda of many international organizations.

The PWGDC had wanted to emphasize the important role of metrology in trade. The first part of the Forum had consisted of awareness building through oral statements by invited speakers from international and regional organizations and from certain countries. The second part had been a poster session – about 40 posters on what was needed and about 20 on what was offered. The PWGDC work program had been developed based on the outcome of the Forum and discussions among members, and activities were assigned to them. The planned activities were as follows:

- Identification of simplified verification instructions;
- Identification of existing translations of OIML Publications into languages other than English or French;
- Identification of existing teaching materials; and
- Follow up of the needs assessment of the Berlin Forum.

The idea was to create a virtual Forum on the OIML web site.

The main achievement so far was that the BIML had developed a web site for developing countries where documentation from the Berlin Forum could be found, along with offers of used equipment for donation, as presented by way of posters in Berlin. Sources had been identified for OIML documents translated into Arabic, Portuguese and Russian; for teaching materials (mainly in English); and for simplified verification instructions in Portuguese. Mr. Seiler's main role had been in making arrangements for shipping to developing countries equipment donated by German verification authorities and in facilitating seminars and workshops. In total, 6 balances and 26 weights had been shipped together with much other equipment, some of it bulky. Not all the receiving countries were Members of the OIML, but it was hoped that some of them might be interested in joining.

Mr. Seiler had supported the running of several seminars, one on control of pre-packages in Belarus, one on hardness and pressure measurements at the PTB and one on the verification of bulk storage tanks in Tanzania. He thanked his supporters, especially the German verification authorities, which had donated a lot of equipment, and the PTB, which had allowed him to use

their infrastructure, facilitated the shipment of the equipment and organized workshops and seminars. He also thanked Mettler Toledo for checking the mechanical balances.

Mr. Seiler then moved on to his proposal for changing the working system. The overall goal of the PWGDC, he stated, was to strengthen legal metrology in developing countries. This was a big task and not easy to achieve. He therefore believed that more involvement should be sought from the target group. The PWGDC had used the resources available to it and done what it thought necessary. He now thought it was time to address the target group and ask them to contribute more. Another reason for this was the weakness in the Working Group, which was in effect that there was so much dependence on the work of so very few people. Input from CIML Members and the BIML was very limited, and it might not be possible to achieve sustainable results. The idea was, therefore, to appeal to the target group to communicate their achievements and to be prepared to let their colleagues benefit from their success. Of course, it was not easy to persuade people into action; he therefore believed that it was necessary to create some incentives and to be clear as to what could be the role of different organs of the OIML.

The BIML, he believed, should continue to develop the virtual forum on the web site for the publication of results and achievements; the OIML should provide the incentives and the PWGDC should assist in further developing the idea of reaching the overall goal of strengthening legal metrology in developing countries.

One proposal for an incentive was to create an OIML Award for "excellent contributions to legal metrology". For what could the Award be given? Some examples were:

- successful implementation and enforcement of new regulations on the basis of OIML Publications;
- application of new methods of verification adapted to the specific situation in the country;
- successful cooperation with other public or private bodies for the enforcement of regulations;
- ensuring consumer protection in various areas by non-conventional methods.

Members could think of other activities that might be similarly honored. Mr. Seiler wondered what the Award might look like; his idea was to hand out certificates to the ministries responsible, thus acknowledging their achievements and to do the same for the national legal metrology representative and to give a token of appreciation to the persons responsible. This might consist of the reimbursement of their OIML financial contribution for one year or an invitation to the heads of the metrology service to attend the CIML Meeting or other meetings at the expense of the CIML. These were just two examples among many possibilities.

How should the OIML Award be applied for? In Mr. Seiler's opinion, the relevant documentation should be submitted to the BIML for publication on the web site or in the OIML Bulletin. The candidates for the Award could be selected by a decision of the Presidential Council or by votes of the CIML Members. Selection criteria would of course be needed, and these could be the significance of the achievement, its novelty and the attractiveness for other metrology services to follow these examples.

The advantages for developing countries would be that they would have an incentive to be creative and to publish their results; this would stimulate the exchange of ideas, procedures and so on, and would increase the awareness of metrology not only in their countries but also in other countries, thus promoting legal metrology.

There would also be advantages for the OIML, in that this Award would promote OIML work and raise its attractiveness, while requiring only a few additional resources. The PWGDC would benefit from this approach because instead of relying on the work of a few members of the PWGDC, many others would be working towards its goals, since everyone would be invited to contribute and cooperate. Thus everyone should feel responsible for success; one of the dangers of having Working Groups was that others were inclined to sit back and let them do the work: this attitude had to be changed. In the long run, Mr. Seiler felt that there would no longer be a need for a Working Group and that the procedure would work on its own.

Mr. Seiler then referred to discussions during the meeting of the PWGDC held the previous day, which had been both fruitful and controversial. On the one hand there had been appreciation for the idea of creating an Award; on the other hand there was opposition to dissolving the Working Group: a number of attendees had been in favor of keeping it in existence. Nevertheless, Mr. Seiler's recommendation was:

- That the Award for excellent contributions to legal metrology should be introduced;
- That a contact person should be appointed to follow up these activities;
- That the BIML should acquire the necessary resources to develop and operate the Legal Metrology Virtual Forum; and
- That eventually the Permanent Working Group might be dissolved and reliance placed on all Members to carry out its tasks.

Mr. Johnston thanked Mr. Seiler, commenting that he had been a one man show most of the time. He asked all Members to contact Mr. Seiler with their ideas on how the OIML could support developing countries, and, if they had any time available, to volunteer to assist him. The OIML was struggling to know how best to serve developing countries and in the previous day's meeting there had been controversy as to whether to keep or disband the Working Group. The issue was, of course, that if the PWGDC was to be kept there must be both a purpose and some concrete results. Mr. Seiler had been very successful in obtaining equipment, but the cost of obtaining, refurbishing and shipping it was such that it was unclear whether there had been much progress. Suggestions could be made to himself, to any member of the Presidential Council, or to BIML staff. He then invited comments from the floor.

Mr. Vaucher, Switzerland, congratulated the PWGDC on the good job it had done. It had started with three topics: the creation of awareness of legal metrology; identifying the needs; and the offers. The problem was the lack of support received. Nevertheless, Mr. Vaucher would not wish to see the PWGDC disbanded, but would prefer to see a redirection of its terms of reference. This group was not the body to realize all the actions and projects, but rather to consult the Committee and to coordinate activities. Bearing in mind that the OIML was in the best position to support developing countries, because they not only had a lot of Developing Country Members, who had a right to be supported, but also an infrastructure already in place which made it the best equipped to do this work. CIML Members from developing countries knew the local situation and were therefore in the best position to raise their Governments' awareness. On the other hand, Members from Developed Countries could most easily find out what offers might be made. Mr. Vaucher expressed support for the idea of the Award, but did not believe that the problem could be solved by this means alone. Another scheme was needed. He therefore proposed that the Group be maintained but that the existing infrastructure be used to the best possible advantage while the PWGDC functioned as a coordinating body.

Mr. Kildal, Norway, wondered if it might be possible to work more closely with the Regional Metrology Organizations, who were perhaps closer to the issues than the OIML. Where Regional Organizations were not strong, the OIML should push to develop them so that they could do more local work.

He further commented that UNIDO had programs in this area and wondered what the relationship was between the OIML and UNIDO.

Mr. Johnston replied that at the recent meeting the possibility of working through the Regional Organizations had been discussed, and that was one avenue that would definitely be pursued. He passed the question of UNIDO to Mr. Dunmill, since this formed part of his presentation.

Mr. Dunmill said there was cooperation with UNIDO as part of the JCDCMAS group which he would be talking about shortly. It was just a matter of finding aspects which fitted into existing UNIDO projects. He added that the BIML not only participated in existing Regional Organization activities but also helped in setting up Regional Organizations where there was demand. He instanced the PTB which was running a project in West Africa; there was currently no Legal Metrology organization for that region, and the BIML had participated actively in helping to establish one.

Mr. Lagauterie, France, asked for clarification: every year, alongside the CIML Meeting there was a meeting on the theme of developing countries. If the decision were taken to close down the PWGDC, he wondered whether there would still be meetings on the developing countries, as an alternative on the subject.

Mr. Dunmill replied that there had also been discussion at the previous day's PWGDC meeting on the possibility of holding, alongside the CIML Meetings, seminars on a subject of interest to developing countries, not necessarily just for them but, as in the case of this year's seminar on Pre-packaging, of interest to both industrialized and developing countries. This was one other option which could be looked at, assuming that the current Meeting was in agreement.

Mr. Johnston said that the intention was to draw up a paper to be discussed at the next Presidential Council meeting in March with a view to determining how best to serve developing countries. As could be seen from the short discussion which had just taken place, the March debate could be very interesting. He also supported the idea of working with Regional Organizations, but care must be taken to work cooperatively and not to appear to be trying to direct them.

5.2 Report on JCDCMAS activities

Mr. Dunmill told Members that this group had been formed in 2002, with the aim of coordinating the technical assistance of a number of international organizations working for developing countries in the field of metrology, accreditation and standardization. They did this work individually, but increasingly felt that there would be a benefit in promoting these three subjects as a package, necessary to the development of technical infrastructures in developing countries.

Mr. Dunmill explained the list of current members: there were two metrology organizations, two accreditation organizations, and also a number for standardization; in addition there was the International Trade Center (a joint WTO/UN organization), and UNIDO. While neither of these was directly involved in metrology, accreditation and standardization, they did have, as had already been mentioned, programs that were involved in the implementation of these subjects in developing countries.

The secretariat of the Committee rotated each year at present, and had been held by the BIML for the period March 2005 to March 2006, when UNIDO took it over. Since the last CIML Meeting, when Mr. Dunmill had reported on activities to that date, the main activity had been the development of the Background Paper, which was to be used for awareness raising within countries; it promoted the benefits of metrology, accreditation and standardization together and explained how they could be used and implemented in the technical infrastructure of a country and how this would be of benefit to the country itself. The basic version was available on the JCDCMAS web site, but it had also been republished in two different forms: the International Trade Center had published it in their Trade Bulletin series, which had given it quite a wide circulation amongst their members, and also ISO had published a different version as a 4-page glossy brochure; the words and presentation had of necessity been altered to fit the format. It was hoped that an OIML version could also be produced, based on this.

During the current year there had also been the development of a PowerPoint presentation which could be used in conjunction with the background paper, so that any of the members of the organization could present a little about the others, and publicize the work of the other organizations and show how they fitted together. Work had also been done on a calendar of events of interest to all the members, since it was sometimes difficult for one organization to know about the activities of another. The only problem was that by the time the web pages had been created, the information on events was out of date. The idea was still quite popular with the members and would be pursued in the future, when a more interactive form of web site had been created.

Since UNIDO had taken over, the Committee's first workshop had been organized; this would be held the following week and participants would be supported by UNIDO. Various members of the Committee had participated in numerous other activities in regions where there was little metrology infrastructure; one example was a WTO/Pacific Islands Forum event in Fiji, aimed at the Pacific Islands, which had very little metrology infrastructure.

Whilst it held the secretariat, the BIML had acquired the internet domain names for JCDCMAS and offered to host its web site. A draft JCDCMAS site had been set up already, and although not yet formally approved; this would clarify access to various sections and make it easier for members of the Committee to exchange documents, and also make documentation available to the public.

Mr. Kochsiek, having heard the two reports and attended the previous day's session of the PWGDC, commented that another weak point was information and coordination. In the field of MSTQ (Measurement, Standardization, Testing and Quality Assurance), although this might be done by JCDCMAS, this should be a task of the PWGDC in the field of legal metrology,. He had heard the previous day of several activities in legal metrology carried out by Regional Organizations, by national institutes, and also by persons on a bilateral or regional basis. He proposed that in the future there should be improvements in information coordination at the international level and also for legal metrology on a regional basis.

Mr. Johnston promised to follow up this suggestion.

6 Liaisons

6.1 Presentation by the Bureau on liaison activities

Mr. Magaña did not intend to list all the liaison meetings of the past year but there had been three organizations with which the BIML had cooperated very closely. These were:

- The World Trade Organization: the OIML was an Observer on the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee in this organization, and several joint seminars had been arranged, such as the Pacific Islands one mentioned earlier and recently one in Tunis for Central and North African countries. Other seminars were also planned; this was always a very active liaison;
- The Metre Convention: there would shortly be a presentation on this liaison by the BIPM Director. Following the meetings between the Presidents of the two Committees, about which the OIML President had already spoken, the Presidents and Directors of the two Bureaus had drawn up a joint BIPM-OIML Action Plan, which laid out very concrete actions to present a unified approach towards international metrology. This Action Plan had already been distributed to Members for their comments; naturally he and his colleagues had not waited for the current meeting before beginning on some of the planned actions. In particular, a joint information brochure was already in quite an advanced state of production, presenting this joint approach to international metrology. A joint web site portal was also planned and a first model for this was already being discussed by the two Bureaus and should soon be ready. Fliers were also planned which would illustrate the role of metrology in different areas – health, safety, the environment, etc, theme by theme. Thus they would raise awareness of metrology. Mr. Wallard would speak further on this cooperation, which was progressing very well on a tangible level;
- ILAC: the two organizations had worked very closely together on the implementation of the OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA). Training of experts for Peer Assessment had been jointly arranged, and it had been mutually decided that these joint activities should be developed and continued. The project for an OIML-ILAC Memorandum of Understanding had been submitted to CIML Members for approval: this would principally lead to sharing OIML technical expertise resources and ILAC accreditation expertise resources. Members' opinions

on this agreement would be sought, so that it could be signed at the ILAC Conference which would take place shortly and which the CIML President would attend. Members should not formally adopt this MoU on the present occasion, but give a general opinion (which it was hoped would be positive), express any opinions they might have, and authorize the President to take their comments into account and to firm up the agreement on their behalf.

With ISO and the IEC there had not yet been a resumption of close relations in the field of technical work, though analysis of common fields of work was in progress. Coordination with them was good however, through the JCDCMAS. Mr. Magaña planned shortly to have a working meeting with them both in order to sort out liaisons in technical work.

On the subject of Regional Legal Metrology Organizations, the Bureau obviously took very close note of all they were doing and tried to help with or attend at least one meeting of each Regional Organization each year, except when the President or a Vice-President could be present, in which case travel expenses could be saved. There was also ongoing discussion about how the Bureau could help with circulating information between the different regions.

Mr. Johnston invited questions from the floor.

Mr. van Mullem, The Netherlands, asked for more information about the Memorandum of Understanding with ILAC.

Mr. Magaña said that cooperation between the two organizations had begun with Declarations of Mutual Confidence on weighing instruments and load cells; it was planned that the OIML should use ILAC's Quality Auditors for its peer assessments and, in reciprocation, ILAC Members would be able to use technical experts with OIML qualifications within the framework of the Participation Committee of a DoMC. The intention was that this cooperation should be extended: the OIML could identify technical experts in most fields of work who could be used by ILAC in its accreditation assessments, and in return the OIML would use ILAC's Quality Auditors for its peer assessments. All this was summarized in two brief pages.

Mr. Kildal also referred to the proposed MoU with ILAC. He noted that inter-comparisons were also mentioned: was the OIML going to run inter-comparison experiments? It seemed that EA was not doing so any more, and he was not sure of ILAC's policy on this front. Was the OIML therefore going to fill this gap?

Mr. Magaña replied that there had been discussions with ILAC concerning this field of action. There might be cases where the OIML might need to organize such inter-comparisons. They had not as yet done any, because they were complicated and difficult to organize. In the past, there had been inter-comparisons of evaluations of types of weighing instruments which had been extremely instructive; why should such comparisons not be undertaken by the OIML? They had no immediate plans, but it might be useful to do some in the future, and if that happened, cooperation with ILAC would be deemed appropriate.

Mrs. van Spronssen, The Netherlands, referring again to the ILAC agreement wondered what was meant by "experts validated by the OIML". Was the OIML going to pronounce upon which experts might be used? ILAC probably had other sources of technical and metrology experts and, if they had to use only those validated by the OIML, would not the range of available experts be very limited?

Mr. Magaña said that the OIML had a validation process for technical experts within the framework of Participation Review Committees, for the MAA procedure. This validation therefore already existed, there were experts qualified for load cells and non-automatic weighing instruments. He believed it was important for accreditors to use those experts when they were called upon to accredit type evaluation testing. In the past, simply because not enough was known about where experts and competent persons were to be found, an accreditor could accredit a type evaluation body for weighing instruments simply by using an expert in the field of mass calibration, but this was not sufficient for the task. People who were not in legal metrology were often not qualified for such tasks. The OIML gave qualifications in these two categories and also

in a third, that of measuring instruments, within the MAA; in general, he felt that if someone could attest to the competence of a technical expert it was a good thing; the OIML was now putting itself in a position to be able to do this. It was important to be able to identify experts, because they would be useful to accreditors and also to technical assistance bodies.

Mr. Van Mullem asked whether what had just been discussed was applicable only to the MAA or also to other fields where accreditation and legal metrology were involved; this could make for a very long list.

Mr. Magaña replied that this had not yet been decided. So far it was only within the framework of the MAA, but it was possible that it might be extended.

Mrs. Gaucher added that the point made by Mr. Van Mullem had also been raised by ILAC Members. It had been decided that the wording of the two relevant paragraphs should be slightly modified to make it possible to have more general cooperation between ILAC and the OIML, not only for implementation of the MAA but more generally in the fields of accreditation in legal metrology.

6.2 Updates by Liaison Organizations

BIPM

Mr. Wallard, BIPM Director, told Members that the relationship between the BIPM and the OIML was an extremely important one. Some time had passed since a BIPM Director had had the pleasure of speaking at a CIML Meeting; certainly in his few years in that post it had not happened. He expressed pleasure at seeing so many familiar faces, though others were new to him. The OIML had a larger number of Members than the Metre Convention and he hoped to have the opportunity for discussions with some of those present who were neither Members of the Metre Convention nor Associates of their General Conference. Much of what was done at present by the BIPM was connected with trade, particularly the reduction of technical barriers to trade, and was increasingly being taken up by regulators. He would return to this point later.

Because it was a long time since the recent work of the BIPM had last been explained, he would show some general slides of their activities. The BIPM had been set up in 1875 on the site just outside Paris where they were still based. Like the OIML, it was on international territory – at conferences, the BIPM was always shown with no country underneath. Occasionally France was written there, in which case he would say that it was "surrounded by France"! It was a pleasant site – many of those present had visited it. Their goal and mission statement was the worldwide uniformity of measurement. They could not do this alone so they had set up a framework within which it could be done so that the scientific and technical basis for uniformity of measurement was at the heart of what they did; but, increasingly, they had to collaborate with specialist organizations. The BIPM had started very much in the physical world of mass and length, but now a very significant part of their work was in fields such as clinical chemistry, laboratory medicine, drug testing in sport, and forensic science. The BIPM did not necessarily have the in-house expertise to deal with this so their links with bodies with application expertise were particularly important. The Mutual Recognition Arrangement (CIPM MRA) organized by the CIPM had already been mentioned. This had been developed in 1999, a little earlier than the OIML's MAA, with a rather similar or complementary set of objectives.

The CIPM had realized that lack of acceptance of measurement certificates from national laboratories could be interpreted as a technical barrier to trade and so signatures to the CIPM's MRA actually undertook to accept the calibration certificates from the other participants without any further questioning. The goal therefore was to develop objective confidence in the measurement capabilities of a national metrology institute, particularly when that was of importance to accreditors and to regulators. To do this, however, it was essential to have a sound and respected internationally recognized framework within which it could be done, and that was

concerned with the realization of the SI, the International System of Units by national metrology institutes, whether they were old or new, whether they were operating at the highest levels of sophistication or whether their national needs did not require that. So this was an activity which covered everybody who traded, and something like 90 % of the world trade was covered by the Member States or the Associates with whom the BIPM dealt.

Their goal was therefore to remove technical barriers to trade caused by the lack of traceability and equivalence, and very much to complement both the ILAC Arrangement, which of course operated at a different level in the national structure, and also the OIML's Mutual Acceptance Arrangement.

The Metre Convention had 51 Member States, and 21 Associate States and Economies, the 21st having just joined. The difference was that a Member State played a full role in the work of the Metre Convention and took advantage of all the benefits of free calibrations that it could offer. An Associate State or Economy was a category created so that the states and economies concerned could take part in the CIPM MRA. In their MRA they now covered some 67 Institutes from the Member States and Associates identified above, and they also had two international organizations that were signatories: a research laboratory of the European Community at the European Commission in Belgium, and the International Atomic Energy Agency. But because a national metrology institute in general would have expertise in physics or engineering, and perhaps not in chemistry and certainly not in laboratory medicine, they covered another 113 or so institutes that they called designated institutes. For example, a Member State might like to designate an institute as having particular responsibility for some measurements in laboratory medicine which did not exist in the national metrology institute.

Mr. Wallard continued that the Metre Convention's equivalent of the OIML Conference was the General Conference of Weights and Measures (CGPM), which happened every four years and which would next take place in November 2007. The job of the CGPM was to deal with any changes to the SI System, which was their responsibility and of course, like the OIML, it could issue resolutions on a wide variety of other topics. A wide range of resolutions was being planned for the 2007 Conference, which also approved the BIPM's budget and work plan, as in the OIML.

Mr. Wallard said that it might surprise Members that he was not going to go into great detail on collaboration between the OIML and the BIPM, but he knew it had already been covered to some extent and that colleagues from the BIML would be saying much more, and showing examples of the concrete cooperation between the two Organizations. Their formal meetings were simply once a year, but they saw each other quite often and colleagues from both the BIPM and the BIML met regularly. He wished to emphasize and underscore what Mr. Magaña had said: their relationships were extremely good and close and that was important to him and his colleagues. Mr. Magaña had already mentioned the joint Action Plan, the common statement on metrology, the short papers in specific areas and the common PowerPoint presentation about what they did. These seemed to him to be healthy and sensible steps towards which organizations with complementary or similar missions should be working. As BIPM Director, Mr. Wallard would put as much effort as was needed into really advancing this common action in portraying a unified face of metrology to the outside world.

On the subject of the BIPM's cooperation with other organizations, those present would know about the production of the tripartite statement on the importance of Mutual Recognition Arrangements, which had been issued in January 2006 to some 200 organizations worldwide. The BIPM had heard that it was having some influence and was being used by a variety of organizations and governments to show the importance of MRAs in reducing technical barriers to trade. A lot of hard work from the three organizations had gone into putting it together, but Mr. Wallard considered that it was a useful document.

Like the OIML, the BIPM cooperated very closely with ILAC, and they held regular meetings between the regional metrology bodies and the regional accreditation bodies. He and Mr. Magaña had considered the possibility of extending this in due course to the RLMOs.

The BIPM also had to collaborate fairly regularly with some 30 or 40 other bodies, in order to achieve their mission.

On the subject of publications, one of the things which had been done jointly for a number of years was to work together in the Joint Committee for Guides on Metrology (JCGM), which was responsible for the VIM and the GUM. He wished to give credit to Chuck Ehrlich (USA), who had put a lot of work into both these documents; they were grateful for his wise and intelligent input. The final draft of the Third Edition of the VIM had been out for comment for some while and comments were expected by the end of November. The GUM contained a Supplement on the use of Monte Carlo methods which was also available for comment from the partner organizations. The JCGM had met in November of the previous year, and one of the important decisions which had been taken was that all the Members could use the products of what was done, freely and in whatever way suited their purposes. It had certainly been the position of the BIPM that they wanted to put the VIM and the GUM supplements directly onto the BIPM web site so that they could be downloaded free by anybody. Up until then, the VIM and the GUM had only been available in hard copy produced by ISO, and had had to be paid for. It was now policy that the electronic documents were available free to anyone who wanted them, although hard copies were still available from ISO.

On the subject of the BIPM's scientific work, this could well, and perhaps in some ways ought to, have an impact on the work of those present. They were looking at some redefinitions of the seven base units of the SI; they were themselves active in this because they had a project which was called a Watt balance project; he would not go into detail on this, but it was generally thought that worldwide the Watt balance would provide a way of redefining the kilogram, which was the last physical artifact of the SI. He wanted therefore to finish his presentation with a few short slides about the SI and potential changes to it. If the base units were redefined, other quantities would also have to be redefined. What they would like to do was to relate all these definitions of base units to fundamental constants of physics, which already played a huge part in the relation between units: some base units were already related to a fundamental constant, but they would now like to do this in particular for the kilogram. Once work on this started, it was felt that it should also be done for the ampere, the kelvin and the mole, at least. Nobody was quite sure how many years it would take, but there could be some very radical changes to the way in which the SI units were defined.

This was not new; in 1983 the metre had been defined by a fixed value of the speed of light, moving away from the old krypton lamp definition. Could the kilogram be redefined, perhaps based on the fundamental Avogadro constant? The latest results, however, came from the experiments worldwide, the so-called Watt balance experiments, which basically put a kilogram on one arm of a balance and put a coil in a magnetic field on the other, with the downward force on the kilogram being related to the electrical forces on the coil, and related these forces to the highly precise electrical standards. These tied up reasonably well. However, latest results from the international Watt balance project showed a significant difference, going up to a part in 10^{-6} or so; clearly, no redefinitions would be made until convergence could be seen. There was every expectation that the international Avogadro project would produce results later in the current year, and they thought they knew why there was a difference and it should, they hoped, bring it into coincidence with the results obtained by the Watt balance. If that were so, it would give the confidence to go ahead and propose a redefinition of the kilogram to a General Conference. This might happen in 2011 at the earliest.

If the kilogram were to be redefined there would be a benefit to the scientific world of the fundamental constant scientist. They were looking at the possible advantages or disadvantages. A definition based on the Avogadro constant – how many molecules or how many entities were in a kilogram – was somewhat easier to understand than one based on the Planck constant. However, if the kilogram were defined using either the Planck constant or the Avogadro number, what would happen was that the mass of that piece of platinum already kept in a safe at the BIPM would no longer be exactly one kilogram; and that, of course, was the reference: this was what all

the balances and all the weights throughout the world took at the moment. If the project went ahead, this type of uncertainty might be attached to the current kilogram prototype, which, again everyone would use, since balances were always used to compare weights, whatever the actual definition might be. So the platinum-iridium artifacts would still have an important role to play in the international traceability system for mass. However, they must be certain that they had got it right, at least at the level of a few parts in 10^{-8}, because, if they got it wrong, at least so far as mass measurement within legal metrology was concerned, the whole E_1 class of weights could be affected by any change in the value of the kilogram. They would certainly not make this change unless they had the confidence of the present community and others that would be affected.

So what might shortly be seen? Mr. Wallard explained that time was based on a fundamental constant of nature, the hyperfine splitting of the caesium 133 atom; length was based on the speed of light and there might now be a change from the kilogram to either the Planck constant or the Avogadro constant. The ampere was based on the fundamental elementary charge, the kelvin on a fixed value of the Boltzmann constant and the mole on the Avogadro constant. The candela, which was an interesting unit, being based on a biological quantity (namely the response of the eye to light) was unlikely to change, but four of the base units could change within a few years.

In 2005, the CIPM had said that it felt this was going to happen, and that when a base unit was defined in relation to a fixed constant, there should be *mise en pratique*. This was a description of how a base unit defined in relation to a fundamental constant would actually be realized in a practical world. This was done at present with the metre; it would be done with the kelvin and the kilogram and the other definitions which would be changed. It was certainly necessary to get more confidence in the values that would be proposed to the General Conference before anything was redefined. Some people had suggested that this could happen in 2011; Mr. Wallard himself was not at this stage convinced because as a cautious metrologist, he would like to see convergence of the two sets of experiments before going any further. What was quite clear, however, was that the word should be spread that this might well change; they should try to ensure that when it did change it would not be a surprise to the communities affected by it. These few words had formed part of this awareness raising exercise. The rather curious ceremony which had taken place the previous week, in which the CIPM President, Professor Ernst O. Göbel from the PTB, the head of the mass section of the BIPM, Richard Davis, Mr. Wallard himself and the archivist of France had come together, each with a key to the vault that held the kilogram. All of these people had to be present to open up and look at the vital but small piece of platinum iridium on which the whole of the world's traceability system for mass measurement was based.

Mr. Wallard concluded by thanking the CIML President once again for allowing him to speak at the Meeting. He hoped that by giving Members a little insight into what the BIPM did, he would enable them to take away the idea that the relationship between what the Metre Convention did and what was done in legal metrology was critically important, and that a lot of effort would be put into doing things that were sensible and natural to ensure cooperation between the two bodies, and to advance the structure of metrology in the world. Different words might be used, but both organizations were talking about the totality of the worldwide Global Measurement System.

Mr. Magaña added that there would be meetings on the subject of new definitions of the kilogram. He had received information on this. His first reaction had been to say that, in his opinion, there would be no direct effect on the metrology of the kilogram, but others might be in a better position than he to comment upon this.

Mr. Wallard said that so long as the job was done well, and a good value was found which was not going to change as Watt balances had changed, then it should be possible to provide the confidence that the legal metrology system for mass should not change.

IEC

Mr. C. Johnston of the IEC said that he had entitled his presentation: *IEC and OIML leveraging the best from each other*; and he gave this in the spirit of the CIML President's opening remarks about sharing experiences and working together. He would make some positive suggestions towards the end of his talk which he thought would increase the current cooperation. Before that, however, he had been gloating a little: three weeks previously the IEC had celebrated its 100th birthday party in Berlin, and their President had said to the OIML: "you people are relative chicks; you have just celebrated your 50th birthday!"; and then the BIPM had come along and said it was another 30 years older than the IEC. So he was no longer gloating about his organization's seniority!

Nevertheless, this 100th anniversary of the IEC had given them cause to reflect a little upon how they had got to where they were, and also to look at the metrology aspect. What he was going to talk about therefore was first of all just a few statistics on the IEC, because there was always somebody new at these Meetings who had not heard this before. He would also mention the IEC's involvement in the development of fundamental units, and metrology in general, with all the organizations involved in it. Then he would go on to the growing relevance of the IEC in all these aspects. He would look at some specific collaborations and then at a particular scheme of the IEC's, that they believed was very successful and might have some synergy for CIML Members.

The IEC had been founded 100 years previously to promote international cooperation on all questions of standardization related matters in the field of electrotechnology. They covered a huge range of products and services. It had been said (though it was difficult to verify) that more than 50 % of all international trade in manufactured goods now fell within the electrotechnical sector. Certainly the amount of trade was very substantial. Of course they also had among their objectives to reduce barriers to trade. They currently had 67 Full Members and another 70 Affiliates, totaling 137. They had 172 active Technical Committees, with 961 working groups – quite an extensive organization. About 9000 experts altogether worked internationally on their projects. They had about 5500 publications in their catalog, and the previous year they had produced 545 of these, many of which were revisions. They had three Conformity Assessment Systems; among them at the present moment there were something like 100 000 valid certificates of conformity; these were accepted virtually world wide through the schemes he was about to describe.

The establishment of the IEC had begun in St. Louis in 1904; the organization had been set up in 1906, and its first Technical Committee began work in 1908 on terminology. Immediately terminology was being dealt with, quantities also had to be included. By 1927, these committees had dealt with the outstanding problems concerning electrical and magnetic quantities and units. In 1935 the IEC took the decision to adopt three of the four basic units; the fourth (electrical) was to be chosen later. TC 24 was established in 1935 as the advisory committee on electrical magnitudes and units, and with collaboration the IEC finally settled on the fourth unit, recommending the ampere in 1950. The recommendations were finally adopted in 1956, and in 1960 the SI officially came into being.

This background highlighted the importance of the IEC's collaboration over the years with the electrical industry. They believed, however, that their relevance was constantly increasing. It was hard to think of any of today's measuring instruments (except possibly a very simple balance) that did not have a huge amount of electrotechnical content. And the moment there was electrotechnical content, there were matters such as electro-magnetic compatibility considerations and a whole range of instrumentation. The IEC was very much involved in all of these aspects, and some of their TCs had particular interests, while others were needed to keep in touch with the OIML through liaisons.

To give an idea of some of the Technical Committees, TC 13 dealt with electrical energy measurements, tariff and load control. He would talk later about TC 25 quantities and units. Electro-acoustics and instrument transformers were also relevant to the work of the OIML. Radiation protection instrumentation was also an A-liaison, as was electro-medical equipment.

Sub Committee 65 (General) dealt with automation and the B Committee (Devices), and the D Committee (Analyzing equipment) obviously had huge liaison with the committees listed. Electro-magnetic compatibility was also important, as was measuring equipment for electrical and electro-magnetic quantities.

So in general, at operational level, there was a very close working relationship between the IEC and the OIML. This did not always surface at the higher levels, and Mr. C. Johnston wanted to deal with this in due course.

First, however, he wanted to point out that their IEC TC 25 was a useful model for harmonization, because they had joined forces with their sister organization, ISO. They had their TC 12 (Quantities, unit symbols and conversion factors), and this was leading to a rationalization of publications into a single range, the ISO-IEC 80000 series, which harmonized quantities and units into 14 parts.

The above was one aspect of the IEC's work, but they also had a very large conformity assessment area, and this distinguished them from many of the other international standardization bodies. Their system was the third party system: their schemes did not carry out testing themselves; they organized testing laboratories around the world and, interestingly, they used a system of peer assessment in assessing these laboratories. And, like the OIML, their schemes were collaborating very closely with ILAC in order to reduce the cost to the market, so that costs could be shared. Although their systems were relatively different, they could share the same competences on audit teams and, by so doing, lower the costs of laboratories and hence the entry into the market.

A description of the IECEE scheme would illustrate how it worked. This was their flagship scheme, which had been running for a long time and was a worldwide system for conformity testing and certification of electrical equipment to IEC standards. Mr. Johnston showed a slide of all the aspects this covered, including measuring instruments. What he thought would be of interest was the characteristics of the scheme, which worked as follows: a manufacturer made an electrical product and sent it for testing so that it could be certified, probably for safety or some regulatory activity. A laboratory under the scheme then tested the product for conformity to IEC standards and issued a test certificate. The manufacturer then wished to sell that product in another country. He sent the test certificate to a test laboratory in the second country and under the scheme it was an obligation of membership that the second lab must issue its certification mark without testing the equipment, unless there were differences in the basic standards in the different countries. It recognized the assessment and testing that had already been done. The IEC believed very strongly that the basis of that recognition was the fact that the assessments were done on the basis of Peer Assessment. The manufacturer might now affix the national mark of conformity of the second country and therefore had entered the market without re-testing.

The IEC believed that this scheme was very similar to that being run by the OIML, and that it might well be worth getting together to compare notes, even if the technologies and equipment were different. The other thing they had introduced was on-line certificates, which allowed immediate verification. Anyone who was not sure whether a certificate was valid could go on-line and check it on the web site.

The IEC was divided into two main areas: the development of standards with its hundred or so Technical Committees, and the conformity assessment board, which looked after all conformity assessment schemes, each of which was headed by a Vice-President and which reported directly to the top body.

The IEC believed that there might be some synergy between their schemes and the OIML Certificate system, and that there might be merit in collaboration, not necessarily at product level but perhaps in recognition of the competence of testing labs and recognition of certificates. He hereby made a formal offer from the IEC that if the OIML would like to enter into informal discussions, which might lead to some sort of collaboration, the IEC would be very willing.

He also wished to mention two other areas in which he had been interested to hear what had been said earlier in the Meeting. The first was the problems the OIML had encountered with the web

site and electronic voting. This was something that the IEC had gone through many years before. They had been one of the first standards bodies to have a completely electronic web site and they had been using electronic voting for the past 5 or 6 years. It had been terrible at the beginning, but they had through experience found out how to make it acceptable to users to encourage them to use it. They believed they had a particularly good system and, once again, at an operational level, the secretariats might like to exchange notes; they would be very welcome to contact the IEC on that.

The second area which had been mentioned was the programs for developing countries. The IEC had what it believed was a unique approach in its developing country program, the Affiliates Program, which did not concentrate actively on training of Affiliates so much as getting them to participate. When they had been involved in training activities, they had found that many developing countries actually had the expertise; what they lacked was firstly the funding to participate, and secondly the access to participate. Without going into great detail, the IEC had a system in place in which other people were there to provide the training: the IEC was not in competition for that. But developing countries who wished to participate in IEC activities actually had the opportunity to participate directly in a limited number of Committees and to adopt the standards. They believed, once again, not in direct comparison but that there might be some synergy in comparing notes, and they were very happy to make that offer to the OIML.

Mr. Klenovský, Czech Republic, said that he assumed that the members of the scheme mentioned were accredited testing laboratories. It seemed to him that the IEC scheme might be redundant. What was the added value of this scheme among all these accreditation bodies, etc.?

Mr. C. Johnston replied that many of the IEC's schemes pre-dated a lot of the accreditation systems, and there were some essential differences in the schemes. However, they were working very closely together with the accreditation bodies to avoid duplicate work. They believed, from the figures, that their scheme was currently more effective in driving international trade, in that the labs and the certification bodies that participated in it were required, as a condition of membership, to accept certificates from other members. This was not a question of recognition, it was a question of acceptance, and there was a difference between the two. As a consequence of this, they believed that their schemes actually resulted in facilitating a lot more international trade. This might change in the future; they were working very closely with ILAC, and where the IEC did assessment, it was independent of national accreditation. The IEC did it in collaboration with national accreditation bodies, using a common team to do the accreditation only once. The scheme operated separately from accreditation and the market seemed to like it.

Mr. Kildal referred to the certificates based on tests done in another country, which had to be accepted. He asked what the legal aspects of this were – if somebody had a legal case against you, who was responsible, the body that had written the certificate or the test laboratory?

Mr. C. Johnston believed that this was in fact one of the strengths of the IEC System, because the General Secretary of the IEC was ultimately responsible, and had to take out insurance to cover that. Because of this, there was no question of fingers pointing at any testing body. He believed that this was what gave confidence to the market and why it succeeded.

CECIP

Mr. Stoll, from CECIP, thanked Members for giving him an opportunity to address them and explained, for the benefit of those few Members who might not already know, that CECIP was the European Scale Manufacturers' Association. The previous President of the Legal Metrology Group of CECIP, Mr. Anthony, whom many Members would know, had sent his regards to everyone. Mr. Anthony had retired in June 2006 and Mr. Stoll had succeeded him.

Mr. Stoll then commented on the discussions on the MAA. There was a rule in industry, he explained, "Never change a winning horse". Of course, horses got older and sooner or later had to be changed. To train a new horse took a number of years, until the performance of that horse

equaled the performance of its predecessor. Another rule was the 80/20 rule, which said, "When you develop a new product then make sure that you can cover a minimum of 80 % of customers' demand. Mr. Stoll considered the MAA a product, and himself and all manufacturers as customers of this MAA. The larger companies could say, "OK, we can cope with a new Agreement or Arrangement", because a larger manufacturer could break down the cost of an OIML Certificate into many hundreds of units. However, there were many small companies, not only in Europe, which produced niche market products. They had a unique solution for a special application, of which they might be able to sell 5 or 10 units per year. Such companies had to break down the cost of these Certificates to only 10 units. When there was an increase in the Certificate cost, as was being experienced between the old and the new System, this contributed to a considerable increase in the end user price of a particular product. All this referred to small industry, which probably represented about 20 % of the world's industries.

Mr. Stoll told Members that for these reasons he would like to see in the first place an extended transition period for the MAA, and in the second place a reconsideration of the cost of OIML Certification.

Mr. Magaña commented that the Bureau would continue to look at the cost of Certificates, keeping close relations with industry and discussing with them all the issues raised by the MAA. Decisions could of course not be changed here and now in the current Meeting but they were open to discussion and the BIML would keep in contact.

Mr. Lagauterie commented that it was true that Certificates issued through the MAA framework were more expensive, but on the other hand the manufacturer had much to gain: he did not have to undergo repeated complete reassessments of his instruments in many other countries. The advantages and disadvantages had to be weighed up, and the final costs might not necessarily be greater.

Mr. Magaña agreed with Mr. Lagauterie that the MAA would facilitate type approval in many countries for manufacturers. If a manufacturer did not need approval in order to export to other countries, he probably did not need a Certificate at all. A national test or European type approval would suffice. This was the way the matter should be seen. However, everything remained open.

Mr. Magaña reminded Members that the list of MAA Participants was now on the web site; a link would be placed on the menu in the immediate future.

6.3 Updates by RMLOs

AFRIMETS

Introducing his presentation on AFRIMETS, Mr. Carstens said that he would speak of the background of this organization, which had started only two or three months previously. His content would consist of an introduction, overall objectives, guiding principles, strategic objectives, critical success factors, possible structure, developments, and the way forward.

During the seminar in St. Jean de Luz, Mr. Carstens had given a paper on legal metrology in Africa and how it fitted in with the NEPAD initiative. The paper had been noticed by Mr. Martin Kaiser, a PTB consultant, who had approached Mr. Carstens with the possibility of contacting the NEPAD Secretariat. This was done and contacts were initiated; a meeting took place on 23-24 March 2006 attended by 23 African organizations including a BIPM representative, and a SIM representative who gave a presentation on how SIM operated. It was decided that AFRIMETS would represent metrology and that the two branches of metrology would be equal partners in the organization.

The overall objective would be to bring the sub-regional metrology organizations together for the facilitation and harmonization of metrology practices and legislation. As suggested in St. Jean de Luz, there would be 4 or 5 sub-regional bodies, with AFRIMETS being able to speak for African metrology as a whole. AFRIMETS would therefore develop a united front on measurement issues

thus providing a platform for African representation on international metrology forums, and would be the body for coordination of metrology issues on the African continent. Later objectives would be capacity building, sharing experience and best practices, creating and raising awareness, particularly in the political forum, and obtaining signatories for MRAs and MAAs. There was also a wish to facilitate trade between African economies, as well as between them and other international economic groupings.

The guiding principles would be:

- to become an umbrella organization for sub-regional groupings by establishing cooperative and supportive relationships between RMOs and RLMOs and AFRIMETS;
- the sharing of experience and technical infrastructures;
- transparency;
- promotion of an equal partnership between organizations and disciplines in metrology;
- respect for national autonomy;
- commitment to the development of metrology;
- brotherliness, solidarity and mutual assistance;
- inclusiveness;
- a common approach and position;
- excellence; and
- an increased recognition of Africa's metrology competence.

The strategic objectives would be, firstly regarding customers:

- to satisfy and sensitize customers and stakeholders;
- to facilitate trade;
- to deliver value for money, in particular on the NMI level;
- to increase the number of services;
- to facilitate customer protection; and
- to integrate the needs of customers and stakeholders in Africa.

The secondary objectives were financial:

- to reduce the cost of metrology by the use of internal institutions;
- to sustain regional resources;
- further to ensure financially strong sub-regional bodies;
- to transfer traceability to end-users in a cost effective manner;
- to make AFRIMETS self-sufficient; and
- to maximize the financial resources.

The internal process objectives would be:

- regional interaction and exchange of members;
- harmonization of regulation and policy;
- entrenchment of Quality Management Systems;
- facilitating the removal, or at least reduction, of TBTs;
- improving capacity of members; and
- improving the standard of metrology within Africa.

Employer learning and growth objectives were:

- training of people at a lower cost by using African institutions;
- establishment of a database for use by members;
- use of African experts for training;

- becoming a forum for exchange between metrology organizations within and outside Africa;
- facilitating technical competence of personnel;
- sharing expertise and awareness;
- developing world class metrologists; and
- establishing a culture of continued learning.

Critical success factors decided upon were:

- putting in place a proper structure;
- properly defining roles and responsibilities;
- a clear understanding of the sub-regional bodies of AFRIMET;
- political buy-in;
- committed Members;
- a clear vision and mission for the organization;
- to enjoy national and international recognition;
- that regional coordination of NMIs and Legal Metrology Organizations should be undertaken and established;
- identification of needs such as training and equipment; and
- coordination of activities with African standardization and accreditation bodies.

The proposed structure was that:

- the Primary Members should be 4 or 5 sub-regional bodies representing NMIs and LMOs; only these, probably, would have voting rights; categories of members would be:
    - Ordinary Members: those countries which did not belong to sub-regional bodies but might nevertheless wish to join;
    - Associate Member;
    - Observer Member;
    - Executive Committee; and
    - Secretariat.

All the above had been suggested at the St. Jean de Luz seminar. Subsequently, however, it had been established that a number of states within Central Africa were not affiliated to any sub-regional organization, so it was intended to set up a Central African structure to help those countries to become part of AFRIMETS.

Developments so far had been:

- AFRIMETS was to become part of the NEPAD Market access initiative and the African quality infrastructure;
- The Task Force had recently met and put in place a first draft of an MoU; this would shortly be forwarded to all Members;
- Mr. Carstens had been given the task of contacting LMOs in Africa which had not been represented at the first meeting; he hoped to have undertaken this task by the end of February;
- the draft would be submitted to the sub-regional groupings;
- developing a funding strategy was one of the more difficult tasks;
- there needed to be an assessment of the existing legal metrology organizations in the regions;
- rules of procedure should have been developed by the end of February 2007;
- a General Assembly was planned for May or June 2007;
- Ministers of Science and Technology would be meeting in November 2006 in Egypt and AFRIMETS would make presentations to their forum to sensitize them on the importance of both metrology legs of the organization.

Mr. Seiler asked whether there were any working relations with the African Regional Standards Organization, which also claimed some responsibilities for metrology.

Mr. Carstens replied that the constitution of ARSO had been rewritten to exclude any responsibility for metrology matters, so that they would now be purely a standards organization; hence the formation of AFRIMETS. Currently therefore, there was ARSO for standardization, AFRIMETS for metrology, and the next step would be an African body for accreditation.

APLMF

Mr. Ooiwa, APLMF President, explained that that organization was one of the specialist regional organizations of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, which was an open community for economic cooperation in the Pacific region. It had as sister organizations the Asia Pacific Metrology Program, the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation, the Pacific Area Community and the Pacific Area Standardization Corporation.

Like the OIML, the APLMF acted in the field of legal metrology, but its task was a little different, because the APLMF had some obligations in the APEC area, especially for the facilitation of trade in supporting developing economies to participate in international and regional trade markets.

Mr. Ooiwa had been President for about 5 years. A new President was being sought, but there were no candidates yet.

There were 26 Member Economies (20 Full Members and 6 Corresponding Members): Australia, Cambodia, Canada, PR China, Hong Kong China, Indonesia, Japan, DPR Korea, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, USA, Vietnam, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Columbia, Lao PDR, Mexico and Peru, - a very wide spread of economies. Activities such as training cooperation and their main task, capacity building in the developing economies, were conducted by a very active Working Group.

There were also very active Working Groups for pre-packaged goods (chaired by New Zealand), mutual acceptance arrangements, utility meters, medical measurement, rice moisture measurement, traceability in legal metrology, and pattern compliance.

Training activities were funded under an APEC scheme and included courses in legal metrology, to prepare Members to take measures to meet internationally demanded areas such as the MAA and regionally important areas such as agricultural and medical related areas and the priority areas according to the results of each year's demands. In each year there were 4 courses in 10 categories, and the total continuous project length was 5 years.

Projects were ongoing and included (already completed) rice moisture meters, non-automatic weighing instruments and pre-packaged goods, sphygmomanometers, and fuel dispensers. Currently in process was training in electricity meters, utility meters, food quality, agriculture, mechanical weighing instruments, compressed natural gas meters, and product safety (which was just starting).

Under consideration for the future were volume meters and analytical chemistry.

The input to all this training was the materials prepared by instructors from legal metrology authorities of each of the economies or other regions in the area, and private sector manufacturers. The output was the final report. All the materials and output were available on the APLMF web site and these could be used by anyone.

Mr. Ooiwa said that in 2004, 7 training courses had been conducted. In 2005 there had been 6, including fuel dispensers and others. In 2006 there were also 6 training courses, including electricity meters, pre-packaged goods and liquid petroleum gas fuel dispensers. A workshop for metrology in agricultural products and foods was being planned for February 2007, and, among others, training courses in LPG meters, weighing scales and product safety.

Mr. Ooiwa showed a few examples of participants. On a course in Taipei, the trainer had been a specialist in medical measurement from the PTB. A trainer from Australia had held a course in

Shanghai on LPG fuel dispensers. A more complete list could be found on the web site, along with final reports from each training course.

A Korean delegate commented that under the umbrella of the APLMF there were many Working Groups, including one on traceability in legal metrology, but he had not seen one on uncertainty in legal metrology. He asked if there were any plans to organize such a Working Group.

Mr. Ooiwa answered that uncertainty was essential at the primary standard level, but in the field it was very difficult to introduce the concept of pure uncertainty, so he thought that a more effective way of approaching this subject was via some maximum tolerance of error or quality control method. Traceability and uncertainty were not the same; metrologists should think about how to use uncertainty concepts, but in the field accuracy was more effective, because uncertainty was just a concept put on the value, not a measurement by instruments.

SADCMEL

Mr. Carstens informed the Meeting that, following the withdrawal of Seychelles and with the addition of Madagascar, SADCMEL currently had 14 Members once again, and three Associate Members. Currently Mozambique held the chair and South Africa provided the Coordinating Secretary. Meetings had been held in April in Namibia, and recently in Cape Town. Training for the year had consisted of Documents 1 and 4, pertaining to R 79 and R 87; this had been offered by Mauritius in April and May. There had also been a course on ISO 17020 and 17025 in Pretoria in September, one in Tanzania on the metrological control of bulk storage tanks and another in Pretoria on verification of non-automatic weighing instruments. Later the same course had been presented in Brazil, in Portuguese.

Regional requirements for labeling and tolerances had been finalized; these would shortly be published as Regional Standards and adopted by Members as national technical regulations in whichever manner their legal systems entitled them to do. Training and equipment needs in preparation for EU funding were being evaluated.

A Chinese delegate asked whether there was any relationship or joint action between SADCMEL and AFRIMETS. Mr. Carstens replied that SADCMEL would be one of the sub-regional Primary Members of AFRIMETS.

SIM

Mr. Ehrlich, speaking of recent SIM activities, said that SIM had met in conjunction with the IMEKO meeting the previous month in Rio de Janeiro. A new President had been elected, Alberto Branchi from INMETRO. There had been a workshop, held in conjunction with the SIM Legal Metrology Working Group, on the subject of fuel dispensers and also a presentation on audit trails, looking at security issues in software. The Workshop had 32 representatives from 16 countries. He understood that there might be a change in the leadership of the SIM Legal Metrology Working Group in the near future.

WELMEC

Mrs. Lagauterie, WELMEC Vice-Chairperson, began by offering the apologies and good wishes of Mr. Freistetter, WELMEC Chairman, who had addressed the CIML the previous year in Lyon.

As the previous year's presentation had been very full, Mrs. Lagauterie would just give some brief information about WELMEC developments since the Lyon Meeting and then turn to the issue of the use of OIML Recommendations as Normative Documents according to the Measuring Instruments Directive, or MID.

WELMEC was not a very old organization but it had already witnessed several evolutions. Regarding the latest changes, in 2005 and 2006, Mrs. Lagauterie said there were two new Associate members: Turkey and Croatia. This meant that now there was a new structure, with many countries involved in a single market and sharing a lot, especially for the MID but also with the NAWI Directive.

The structure of WELMEC had not changed since the Chairman had explained it the previous year, and consisted of a Chairman with a Secretariat and a Chairman's Group. There were several Working Groups, some on general aspects and others dedicated to specific categories of measuring instruments. There was also a special Working Group for pre-packages. Almost all the Working Groups were working on the MID. Of course, there were also observers and corresponding organizations in all these Working Groups.

Regarding WELMEC responsibilities in Europe, the European Union established Directives which the EU Member States had to implement in their national laws, and together, the EU and the Member States had to find a common interpretation and reach a common application. This was where WELMEC was especially helpful and gave assistance and information. Of course, at the level of discussion within WELMEC it was important to have the participation of all stakeholders, especially the manufacturers.

Together with the European Commission, WELMEC had good cooperation in the fields of the MID and of the NAWI Directive. This included cooperation in market surveillance and operation of the Notified Bodies which performed the conformity assessment procedures. Members would shortly see that much work had been done on the identification of the relevant OIML Recommendations for conformity to the essential requirements of the MID. So WELMEC developed guidance documents and had administrative cooperation.

It had been necessary to determine who the participants were in the Working Groups, because WELMEC was a college of Member States, but very often in the Working Groups it was not only Governments that were represented. It was very important, especially for the Commission, to show that all the stakeholders were involved. So there had been a survey on participation in the Working Groups, which had been presented at the last Committee meeting in May 2006, showing how many countries were represented, how many different bodies there were with different activities: regulation bodies, bodies involved in the designation of Notified Bodies, market surveillance authorities, coordinators of Notified Bodies, and all the different Notified Bodies for the various conformity assessment modules. It had also been established that the corresponding organizations, mainly the EU and industry federations, were very active in the different Working Groups. The conclusion had been that a wide range of different stakeholders was represented in WELMEC work.

WELMEC provided Documents offering guidance on the implementation of EU Directives and tools which are useful for manufacturers of measuring instruments, for Notified Bodies responsible for conformity assessment, and for Member States for the designation of Notified Bodies as well as for market surveillance. These Guides presented no additional technical requirements beyond the EU Directive but they presented harmonized and best practice solutions. They were now recognized and referenced by the European Commission.

Mrs. Lagauterie showed the Meeting a partial list of documents. This could be downloaded on the welmec.org web site, which was free of charge and accessible to everybody.

A new Document on vocabulary had been approved this year, which had been especially prepared by Mr. Engler, and which made the link between the MID and the OIML and gave some explanation. There was also a new Guide on Module H1, and also several instrument specific Guides and a Document on pre-packages. Several further Guides were nearing completion and the Committee had already advised Members that they could use these draft Guides before they were voted on, because they were already in a sufficiently advanced state.

WELMEC worked a lot with the European Commission. Mrs. Lagauterie wished to mention especially that in the WELMEC Committee in May there had been an analysis of the WELMEC

work and an adoption of the Documents, and confirmation from both sides, the EU and WELMEC, of their partnership and wish to work together. As a result of that, the documents that were published by WELMEC, the Guides, would be a reference on the Commission web site for the harmonized implementation of the MID.

In the near future, WELMEC would continue to support the implementation of the MID, especially by trying to identify the unclear areas, and to cooperate with the Commission. They would pay close attention to the application of software requirements and would organize seminars and workshops concerning the MID and probably also market surveillance in the future. They would also not forget that legal metrology was not limited to the MID: there were several other issues to be dealt with because there were still many different situations, in the field of control of instruments in service, for example.

Mrs. Lagauterie then went on to speak of the use of OIML Recommendations as Normative Documents according to the MID. The MID had opened a new route for the presumption of conformity to the essential requirements by using OIML Recommendations as Normative Documents. In the past, and generally speaking in New Approach Directives, there was reference only to European Harmonized Standards and it was new for this MID that there was a reference to other publications. There were some specific conditions for this: to identify which requirements of which Recommendations gave presumption of conformity to the essential requirements; confirmation by the Measuring Instruments Committee; and finally publication of the references of the Recommendations and their requirements in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

WELMEC had agreed to prepare the work to help the Commission; this practical work, the identification of the Recommendations and the parts of these Recommendations corresponding to the essential requirements, had been initiated in 2005. There had been a statement from the Commission at the WELMEC Committee in May 2005 and a decision to allocate the work to the existing Working Groups of WELMEC and also to some small sub-groups of one WELMEC group. A condition imposed on this preparatory work had been that it must be done by at least three persons and that industry must be included.

Work had therefore begun in the summer of 2005. By October the first drafts had been ready and there were discussions in the full Working Groups on the basis of the Documents prepared by the sub-groups. Every member of a Working Group had therefore had the opportunity to read the documents and to comment on them. In May 2006, the identification tables were ready, with comments and gaps identified, and, as Mr. Magaña had said in the current Meeting, the WELMEC Committee Meeting had reached agreement on these Documents. In June the proposition had been transferred by WELMEC to the Commission.

Mrs. Lagauterie went on to give a short overview of the results. In terms of the Recommendations, she was able to say that for almost all categories of measuring instruments covered by the MID, there was available either an existing OIML Recommendation, or else a draft that was sufficiently advanced to be voted on in this CIML Meeting, to be a reference for the presumption of conformity to the essential requirements laid down in Annex 1 and in the specific Annexes of the MID. However, there were a few exceptions for which there was no Recommendation, and no draft was sufficiently advanced to be adopted. The gaps were in the fields of taximeters, electricity meters and material measures.

Concerning the correspondence of requirements, Mrs. Lagauterie set out the situation as follows: the most frequent case was that OIML requirements gave full presumption of conformity, so that an instrument with conformity to the relevant OIML Recommendation could be certified with a minimum of supplementary action by the Notified Body. However, in a few cases, a feature accepted by the OIML was not clearly allowed under the MID. One example was for MI-005/R 117 in the field of measurements of liquids other than water; there was a feature in R 117, a gas separator necessitating a gas indicator, which was not allowed under the MID. There were some other particular cases. Essential requirements for the MID were laid down in Annex 1, which was

general, and several specific annexes. In Annex 1, the MID allowed other possibilities than those foreseen by the OIML, particularly insofar as temperature ranges were concerned. In this case, if the manufacturer had chosen a range outside the OIML requirements, then obviously conformity to the OIML requirements could not be claimed, and of course presumption of conformity to the OIML could not be used for conformity to the MID. But WELMEC was confident that a solution could be found, perhaps in the form of a future guidance document by WELMEC, by directly using the tests listed in OIML D 11, with the allowances taken from the Recommendation. This was not yet available, however, it was an idea for the future.

Another particular situation was that a few MID requirements were not yet covered by OIML Recommendations. This mainly affected three areas: software requirements, which were not yet implemented by the OIML, but which were known to be in preparation; lists of tests and test severity levels for EMC presented some difficulties, mainly because not all OIML Recommendations had recently been revised according to D 11; and a problem had also been identified with the documentation. This was very specific: in the MID requirements, the documentation necessary to establish conformity to type was already referred to, and also documentation to accompany the instrument, and this was not the case in the OIML Recommendations.

Of course, WELMEC could offer some solutions for these gaps: for software, for instance, they already had a Guide; for EMC they could use D 11; but for the documentation they had a detailed list of what had to be included and it was easy to follow the MID directly.

The most recent step was that in September 2005 WELMEC had held a meeting with the Commission Working Group on the MID, followed by a Committee Meeting for the MID, and confirmation had been received of the acceptance of WELMEC work on this correspondence table. The tables would be published in a few weeks in the Official Journal and all the explanations about details of these tables would become WELMEC Guides. They had already been adopted and would soon be presented on the web site and the Commission would publish the link with the WELMEC documents so that manufacturers could have the explanation for the comments in the table.

At the end of the current month, the MID would come into force; Mrs. Lagauterie concluded that there was no doubt that OIML Recommendations would be used very widely for conformity to type. She had made a personal analysis for the future of OIML work. The result of WELMEC's experience showed that there was a need for updating and perhaps better harmonization of levels of severity in the fields of software and EMC tests, and a new development was needed for conformity to type, but she knew that work on this issue had already begun in the OIML.

Mr. Tukai of Tanzania asked when WELMEC would change its name to "ELMEC".

Mrs. Lagauterie replied that this topic was regularly under discussion but the Committee had preferred to keep the acronym WELMEC because it was well known. Under it, however, was written *European Cooperation in Legal Metrology*; so for the time being it would not be changed.

Mr. Birdseye (UK) pointed out that the reason why so many OIML Recommendations could be used in Europe in the role of standards in the MID was that, when the requirements for the Directive were being formulated, the Commission had given WELMEC a major role: by a matter of policy for most of the Member States, the OIML Recommendations had been applied. This was a very good example of the benefits of implementing OIML Recommendations into legislation. This had happened at the European level as well as at the national level.

Mr. Vaucher, Switzerland, commented that it was not quite clear to him how many OIML Recommendations would be accepted as giving presumption of conformity. Gaps and missing coverage in Recommendations had been mentioned; this was a rather negative result. It was not merely a European problem, it was an OIML problem – it did not give the best impression of the OIML's technical work. He would like to hear how the situation was going to be improved.

Mrs. Lagauterie repeated that most OIML Recommendations would be used, as had been the case in the past, and that only a little extra work was needed concerning documentation and software

aspects, which had not yet been touched by the OIML. But her feeling was that, for example, concerning the temperature ranges, manufacturers would not change from one day to the next but would continue to use the temperature ranges that they had been using in the past; so the OIML Recommendations would without doubt be used.

Also, in the presumption of conformity, it was not necessary to be in conformity with all of a Normative Document; it was possible to be in conformity with part of it and then to develop an individual solution for some of the essential requirements. This was a normal situation in Europe: there could be instruments according to OIML Recommendations, instruments according to European harmonized standards, and also manufacturers could mix these or even claim conformity without using any of the OIML or harmonized standards. This was the situation of the New Approach, of the Single Market and of the wish of the Commission to remove barriers to trade. There were now only essential requirements, although presumption of conformity via Normative Documents or via harmonized standards was of course the easiest solution. The gaps were not really very wide: very often no gap existed, because if an instrument was in conformity with an OIML Recommendation, it would be in conformity also with MID, unless the manufacturer had chosen to use other temperature ranges than those foreseen by the OIML. But in that case it was not the fault of the OIML, nor of WELMEC nor of the European Commission, but a possibility for the manufacturers; the instrument had to be tested by a Notified Body, but Mrs. Lagauterie was sure that they would not reinvent the wheel, but would probably use D 11 as a very good basis for the temperature test or the condensing humidity test because they were described.

Concerning tolerances, when these were not in the MID, the testers would obviously use those described by the OIML and widely accepted.

Mr. Kildal said that it was unfortunate that the Recommendations for taximeters and electricity meters were not ready, and asked whether industry would use standards rather than OIML Recommendations.

Mrs. Lagauterie replied that it was not known what industry would do. It was hoped that the Recommendation for taximeters would be ready in 2007, when the table of correspondence would be published. The latest draft seen by WELMEC was more in line with the MID, so that it was already possible for a taxi manufacturer or a Notified Body to use this draft; however, the decision was for the Notified Body to take. She wondered if Mr. Magaña might be able to inform the Meeting about progress on electricity meters.

Mr. Magaña explained that the situation for electricity meters was rather confusing, so that it might not be possible to produce a Recommendation in the immediate future. For taximeters he endorsed Mrs. Lagauterie's view that there would soon be a good Recommendation. He added the general comment that there were a number of very interesting WELMEC Guides, and the Secretariats of most OIML TCs/SCs concerning instruments covered by the MID were held by European countries, and were by and large the same people who wrote the WELMEC Guides. He wished to encourage WELMEC, instead of developing new Guides, to put this work within the framework of the OIML, so that it might perhaps not take much longer to produce the remaining OIML publications, which could be used very easily by everyone.

Mrs. Lagauterie said that what had been done in the past was to develop solutions where there were urgent needs because manufacturers were presenting new solutions and seeking European approval and there was a pressing need to find an immediate solution. She agreed that the best thing would be to make the OIML Recommendations first, but WELMEC had had to deal with a practical aspect, especially for NAWIs. As soon as an appropriate OIML Recommendation was ready, it would be used; this had already been done in the case of load cells; when the revision of R 60 was ready, the WELMEC Guide was no longer used. Soon, with the revision of R 76, WELMEC would ask for revision of Harmonized Standard EN 45501, which was practically a copy of OIML R 76. This was a situation that WELMEC had wished to avoid when Members had

pushed WELMEC to include reference to OIML Recommendations directly in the MID. There was very good cooperation between WELMEC and the OIML through these Committees, and Mrs. Lagauterie was able to say that everyone in WELMEC was well aware of this situation. She advised all OIML Members also to pay attention to developments: when there was a Secretariat in their country developing an OIML Recommendation they should make sure that there was a good link between these people and those in charge of the MID. If these were not the same people, problems could arise, but she hoped that these would be solved in the near future.

Mr. Lagauterie reassured the non-European countries that they should not focus too much on the differences which had been identified, because a very rigorous exercise had been carried out to identify the essential conformities with OIML Recommendations. He was very confident that a manufacturer referring to the electro-magnetic compatibility aspects of OIML D 11, or to a well-advanced draft of an OIML Recommendation, would have no difficulty in demonstrating conformity.

COOMET

Mr. Issaev said that in the absence of the COOMET President, he would summarize recent COOMET activities. In early September, in Braunschweig, the 16th Meeting of COOMET had been held, and its 15th anniversary celebrated. The new title of Honored Metrologist had been established and awarded to 15 persons.

There were 15 member Countries at the moment, including a newcomer, Georgia.

Among legal metrology activities, he mentioned:

- A Recommendation which had been drafted: Testing software in measuring instruments: General requirements;
- Procedures for initial verification in the framework of quality management systems of the manufacturer: this was extremely important for metrology.

Among other projects, he also mentioned:

- Some procedures and a special program of National Measurement Standards: Comparison and Calibration; and
- A new procedure was accepted for the election of the President of COOMET. Currently, the President Elect was from the Ukraine; he would take over the post in May.

WTO

For the WTO, Mrs. Liu expressed pleasure at being again with the OIML. She congratulated the OIML on various aspects of its work in cooperation with the WTO, especially with reference to work in Technical Barriers to Trade:

- in global harmonization of legal metrology procedures, for example the model Regulations;
- on the metrology guidelines for the manufacture and use of measuring instruments and the certification system for measuring instruments to facilitate their trade and to avoid the need for multiple certification;
- in ensuring the appropriate quality and credibility of measurements;
- in facilitation and support for Regulators in their official controls and the drawing up and adoption of regulations;
- the contribution to the work of manufacturers of measuring instruments, providing confidence in the measurement results of Conformity Assessment bodies; and
- the contribution to consumer protection in terms of the quantity and safety of purchased goods.

For all these reasons, the WTO considered the OIML's work to be very important to trade. But there was one important way in which the OIML's work could contribute to developing countries, in terms of their need to enter into the global market. The WTO believed that in order for developing countries' products to enter the global market, they needed international compatibility and to be able to compete. They needed to comply with the technical requirements and standards in the market place in order to acquire market access for their exports. One of the very important needs was an infrastructure and an institutional framework related to metrology.

Developing countries needed to have a holistic approach to trade. The WTO realized the need for capacity building in the areas of infrastructure and institutional framework, including metrology. It was important for developing countries to do their best to participate in the work relating to metrology at regional and international levels in order to have the opportunity to improve their technical know-how.

Coming back to the work of the OIML and its relation to the WTO, the OIML's work related very much to trade, in particular to the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade. The TBT Agreement, in brief, covered three subject areas:

- Technical regulations; since the OIML's work related to the work of Regulators, this was the part which related to the regulatory work;
- Voluntary standards: these were also related to international standards. Where the OIML's work related to harmonization of procedures, its international guidelines might be considered to be one of those international standards; and
- Conformity assessment procedures: testing bodies, laboratories, measurements.

Thus the OIML's work definitely related to all three areas covered by the TBT Agreement.

Mrs. Liu reminded the Meeting once again of the disciplines of the TBT Agreement for Members to prepare their technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures. The basic principles were non-discrimination, avoidance of unnecessary barriers to trade, the use of international standards, and for Members to participate as much as possible in the preparation of international standards.

The fourth area was transparency. Mrs. Liu supposed that the OIML's work related also to participation in the preparation of international standards. The other area of the TBT Agreement was to facilitate trade through the promotion of acceptance or recognition of conformity assessment results. Members were encouraged to use a mutual recognition approach in order to have confidence, for example in measurement results.

Recent activities in the TBT Committee had included much hard work preparing for the fourth Triennial Review. Under Article 15.4 of the TBT Agreement, every three years Members had to review the TBT Agreement; this fourth review was expected to be concluded by the end of 2006. There would be a TBT Committee Meeting from 7-10 November; the first two days would be informal and the last two would consist of formal meetings.

Before speaking of the fourth Triennial Review, Mrs. Liu informed Members that in the second Triennial Review the Committee had spent considerable time looking at Conformity Assessment procedures; she supposed that this area would be of interest to those present. The TBT Committee had already recognized at that time an indicative list of different approaches to facilitate acceptance of conformity assessment results. These approaches included, for example: mutual recognition agreements concerning specific regulations, cooperative agreements between domestic and foreign conformity assessment bodies in voluntary sectors, and accreditation to qualify conformity assessment bodies.

The other approaches were government designation, unilateral acceptance of foreign government assessments, and manufacturers' or suppliers' declarations. At the second Review, therefore, the TBT Committee had realized that outside, in the real world, there were different approaches to facilitate acceptance of conformity assessment results.

At the third Triennial Review, the Committee had looked further into conformity assessment procedures, and a work program in this area had been developed. This was mainly for Members to exchange information and experiences in the area of conformity assessment procedures and to promote a better understanding of conformity assessment systems, for example in the area of certification, and the use of relevant international standards, Guides and Recommendations. Of course, the Committee would also like to look into developing countries' participation in these systems and their use of these international standards.

The Committee would also like to have information from relevant international and regional forums concerning conformity assessment procedures; this was why a special TBT meeting on such procedures had been organized in June 2004. The WTO had been very thankful for the participation of the OIML in that special meeting, and the OIML's presentation had been most appreciated. Other participating bodies had been ILAC, IAF, BIPM, ISO and the IEC.

Besides that specific occasion, the OIML had contributed also to TBT activities, and representatives from the OIML Secretariat regularly participated in TBT Committee meetings, where they made statements relating to the TBT Committee's activities. These were contained in G/TBT/GEN documents. The OIML also cooperated at WTO/TBT regional workshops, for example lately in Uruguay, Fiji and Tunisia. The WTO was very thankful for the contribution and cooperation of the OIML.

Returning to the fourth Triennial Review, although this was still only in draft form, the report of the Review was under heavy negotiation and discussions of work by the Members. Up to the present time, six elements were included in the draft, which would be finalized in November. These six elements were:

- The implementation and administration of the Agreement;
- Good regulatory practice;
- Conformity assessment procedures;
- Transparency;
- Technical assistance; and
- Special and differential treatment.

One area of interest to the OIML, it seemed to Mrs. Liu, would be good regulatory practice. This was also of interest because it was an area upon which the TBT Committee had lately been working. It could hardly be said to be a new area, because the whole TBT Agreement in fact rested upon good regulatory practice; but it was the first time that the Committee had really looked in detail at what was meant by the term.

Conformity assessment procedures, of course, were also of interest to the OIML. Mrs. Liu would just, therefore, briefly tell the Meeting what the TBT Committee was looking into in terms of good regulatory practice regarding the preparation, adoption and application of technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures.

The first important principle was: no more trade restrictions than necessary, and the avoidance of promulgation of any unnecessary regulations in conformity assessment procedures. What did this mean? It meant that Members should look into whether it was necessary to have mandatory regulations. How did they do it? They looked into the mandatory and legitimate objectives and decide whether they were not creating regulations and conformity assessment procedures which were more trade-restricting than necessary.

The second principle was to consider alternative approaches, such as minimizing the use of mandatory measures and relying on voluntary instruments.

The third approach was to have regulatory impact assessments, assessing the costs and benefits of the regulations and whether it was necessary for Governments to intervene.

The fourth approach was to look into using, as much as possible, performance based regulations rather than regulations on the characteristics of the products, so that there was the possibility of facilitating adaptation and innovation.

The next approach was to use international standards. Members knew that the TBT Agreement was of huge importance, for Members to use international standards and to participate in the preparation of these. Of course, since the Agreement was of so much importance to international standards, the Committee itself, at the second Triennial Review, had also expressed a wish for these documents to be prepared with a view to transparency, consensus and openness, so that the credibility of these international standards could be promoted.

The other area of interest was regulatory coordination at the domestic level, to ensure that at this level there was transparency, openness and accountability in the development process. There should also be a mechanism for coordination between domestic competent authorities.

Lastly, Mrs. Liu continued, regulatory cooperation between Members was essential. At the present Meeting, for example, representatives from different countries were present, so that there could be cooperation and mutual understanding of the procedures in other places. Training was also provided, and promotion of understanding could perhaps lead to convergence, harmonization, mutual recognition and equivalency.

Mrs. Liu wished to spend a little more time speaking about the area of conformity assessment procedures, the acceptance of results and the use of international standards, Guides and Recommendations. The hope for the future expressed in the draft report on the fourth Triennial Review, was to promote the exchange of experience; further contributions were expected from the OIML and its Members for the experience sharing process. At national level, coordination with trade officials was vital in order for this to come about, so that experience could be shared between Members and trade authorities and then brought to the TBT Committee. Of course, at international level, the OIML was expected to contribute its experience to the TBT Committee at both its regular and also any special meetings.

Mrs. Liu concluded by thanking her listeners.

Mr. Birch commented that developing countries had been discussed at various meetings during the current week, and a couple of issues had arisen. The need for non-discrimination had been mentioned, and in his experience, in the Pacific countries, obviously this was accepted; but many developing countries were losing their previous preferential access to markets, and this had been severely impacting on their trade and industry activities and was a major concern: how could most developing countries compete in an open market place? Related to this, the procedures which had been established for conformity assessment required a fairly sophisticated infrastructure in order to be carried out; this was beyond the capabilities of many of the least developed countries. It was a case of to what extent these requirements were in fact in themselves technical barriers to trade for those least developed countries.

Mrs. Liu agreed with this comment. In her presentation there was always the thought that for developing countries, and specifically a group of them which were on the verge of promoting their exports, it was very important for them to take a holistic approach rather than a firefighting approach to the whole matter of infrastructure and framework. Regulations must simply be met one by one but the basic infrastructure must be developed so that all requirements could be faced and quality products promoted. It was true that, especially for the least developed countries, the situation was different. It was very difficult for them to have such infrastructure in place; this was why technical assistance and capacity building was very important. The WTO hoped that other competent international or regional organizations or even bilateral donors would do that kind of work. Of course, for technical assistance to be possible, there was a need for coordination, and exchange of information between organizations on the subject of technical assistance. Also important was for the developing country itself to have a look at their country's situation, because, without the political will or the willingness of the developing country itself to ask for help, it was very difficult for others to help them. Technical assistance had to be demand driven, i.e. the developing country had to have the will to look into its existing situation and what was most needed at a specific stage of their development, and to work with the donors.

Mr. Šafarík-Pštrosz (Czech Republic) said that it was good to hear that the WTO appreciated the

work of the OIML; the OIML was glad to do its best. Nevertheless, in his view it was the philosophy and strategy of the OIML to be much more directly involved in the work of the WTO, especially in the framework of its TBT Committee. This perhaps meant much closer cooperation between the BIML and WTO TBT structures when organizing different events, seminars, etc. He thought that the OIML was really able to contribute to the work.

Mrs. Liu remembered that she had been in a TBT Committee in 1992, and at that point, the word "metrology" might as well have been from outer space. But now she was sure everyone in the WTO knew what was meant by the word.

ILAC

Mr. Peet, of ILAC, welcomed Members to South Africa. He said that he had for a lengthy period in the past been the ILAC liaison officer with the OIML. All those who had traveled from Europe to South Africa for the current Meeting would realize that for him to travel to Paris had not been very sensible, so an ILAC member resident in Paris had eventually replaced him.

In 1977, the Accreditation bodies had decided that it would be sensible to meet once a year in a conference and talk to each other. This had happened for many years; there had been all sorts of discussions about accreditation and documents concerning accreditation, proficiency testing and other such issues had been produced. Those documents had then been fed into the ISO/CASCO process and had become the foundation for documents like ISO Guides 43 and 25 (which Members would know had now become ISO/IEC 17025). In 1996 it had been decided to formalize, as a cooperation, so the "C" in ILAC had changed from "Conference" to "Cooperation". The Membership had decided that a focus was necessary, and that focus had become how to start accepting the results of what each ILAC Member did as being equivalent to others. Mr. Peet knew that the OIML was busy with a very similar activity.

44 Members had signed the Memorandum of Understanding in 1996 and that had led to some fairly frenetic activity, because after about 17 years of talking to each other, they had to get to the point of actually recognizing each other's work. They had to start talking to bodies like the BIPM and the OIML; they needed to know what issues were important as they started to recognize the technical competence of laboratories around the world.

That had led, in November 2000, after four years of intense activity, to 37 Members signing the ILAC Arrangement. Mr. Peet wanted to stress that a lot of people said they were ILAC Members. But an ILAC Member was a body that had been through a peer evaluation. When people claimed to be ILAC Members, it was necessary to make sure that they were indeed Members; there were several classes of Membership, but only an ILAC Member had been through the peer evaluation process.

As part of development, ILAC, which up to then had been a group of volunteers working together, had decided that it needed to become legally incorporated, and in 2003 had done so.

As of September 2006 there were 56 signatories to the ILAC Arrangement. All of these had now been independently peer reviewed by experts to make sure that they were fulfilling the requirements not only of ISO/IEC 17011 but also the supplementary requirements for ILAC Members. Those 56 signatories represented 45 economies.

ILAC was often asked how many laboratories that covered. To this sensible question the answer was that 26 000 laboratories and 5 000 inspection bodies worldwide were now covered by this arrangement and had been accredited by the 69 Full Members and Associates.

The global role of ILAC was seen as being to recognize competent testing calibration laboratories through their Arrangement; to develop and appropriately harmonize accreditation practice for laboratories and, increasingly, inspection bodies as well; to promote laboratory and accreditation inspection, not only as a trade facilitation tool but, as Members had heard from the previous speaker, also to look at infrastructure development. Both aspects were very important, and ILAC

was continually reminded that trade activity around accreditation was probably about 20 % of their work. A lot more work involved the credibility of drinking water and Members would be very pleased to know that the water in Cape Town had been tested by an accredited laboratory!

There were other infrastructures around accreditation, which were supportive of trade but certainly not focused on trade. A very important part of ILAC's work was to assist with the development of laboratory accreditation systems. It had been interesting to note that the South African Minister for Trade and Industry had said that it was time for developing countries to stop arguing about the requirements and start to prove that they could comply. This had definitely been the focus in Southern Africa: they were no longer trying to lobby to change requirements but actually showing people that they could comply with them.

Mr. Peet reminded participants of ILAC's goals:

- To strengthen and deepen the existing ILAC Arrangement;
- To promote the use of accredited laboratories in intergovernmental trade, and also, increasingly, in regulatory activity; and
- To promote the clear distinction between certification and accreditation.

There was still a lot of discussion about "My laboratory is certified to ISO 9000: what does that mean?" Mr. Peet had the answer but would not avail his listeners of it on the present occasion. It certainly was not a proof of competence. Another aim was to provide assistance to developing countries by providing pre-MRA support to new accreditation systems. If an accreditation body was to go through the extensive activity needed for this peer evaluation process, ILAC had realized that they had to do a lot of work prior to that. Mr. Peet wanted particularly to recognize the work of UNIDO, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, which was an aid agency which had helped with getting bodies to the point where they were ready to go through a peer evaluation.

Also very importantly, ILAC wished to increase their cooperation with stakeholders, laboratories, industry groups, standard writing bodies and governments. This was the international picture of ILAC. They were basically grouped around regions, because it was obviously far more cost effective for regions to take care of their own activities, and then for ILAC to provide a light umbrella and just evaluate the regions on top of that. Mr. Peet showed a map illustrating ILAC membership.

How was ILAC structured? Their General Assembly was the highest decision making body and had one representative from each category; they would be meeting in Cancún, Mexico, the following month. They met every year, and Members would know there was another international body that dealt with accreditation, the International Accreditation Forum; ILAC synchronized their meetings with that body, but they had very clear and different responsibilities.

All classes of membership were invited to contribute to their work, and this was where they saw their liaisons with the OIML, BIPM and others as extremely important and value adding.

Mr. Peet reminded the Meeting that only 56 Members had been through the peer evaluation process: 13 Associate Members, 20 Affiliates, 5 regional cooperation bodies, a national coordination body, and 21 stakeholders. Very importantly, they had opened up voting rights on all matters to all of the membership, with one very important distinction: to be a Member of the Arrangement, it was necessary for this to be agreed by all of the current Members. The reason for that was that at the end of the day the Full Members had to promote each other, so each had to take a decision on any new Members into that Arrangement, and whether the process had been rigorous enough and they could trust the results of that potential Member. So that was restricted only to the current Members.

Mr. Peet showed the organizational chart and pointed out the Advisory Committees. There was the Laboratory Committee where laboratory stakeholders met to combine their views and feed them into the process; provision had been made for other stakeholder committees, particularly for inspection, etc. These were not managed by ILAC, but managed themselves and contributed

their combined input into ILAC processes. There were also several Joint Committees for matters dealt with jointly with the IAF, such as developing countries and inspection activities, where it was sensible for the two organizations to work closely together. As was known, the fundamental purpose of any Agreement or Arrangement was that a laboratory accredited by one partner was accepted as having the equivalent competence to a laboratory accredited by all the other partners.

There existed regional Mutual Recognition Arrangements, all of which were recognized as being competently managed by ILAC. Currently two of the Regional Cooperation Body Members were thus recognized, so the European Accreditation Cooperation (EA) and the Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (APLAC)were both accepted by ILAC as being competent. This was very important, particularly for developing countries, such as his own region, because it was very expensive to go through this process. So it was much easier for people within a region to evaluate themselves and then have that process independently evaluated by ILAC, and this was the practice at the moment. There was thus a peer evaluation of a regional Arrangement before it was accepted as being part of the process of ILAC. Each ILAC region underwent a re-evaluation by ILAC every four years. EA had just been through a re-evaluation and there was one potential Member, the Inter-American Accreditation Cooperation (IAAC) which had just been through an initial evaluation, which had involved not only evaluating their office and management but also three of their Members for their compliance to the requirement. It was a lengthy process, but hopefully at the end of it there would be a more cost-effective solution.

This meant that any future signatories to the EA and APLAC Arrangements automatically became Members of the ILAC Arrangement, because they were now deemed competent to run their own Arrangement; as Mr. Peet had mentioned, IAAC was currently undergoing a similar evaluation.

Of the 56 Full Members, 26 were from Europe, 24 from the Asia Pacific region, three were from the IAAC (currently being evaluated) and three, including South Africa, were from unaffiliated bodies. These last three had to be evaluated by everyone else around the world because they were not in a region that was running a recognized Arrangement.

ILAC itself undertook the evaluations of regions where there were unaffiliated bodies, and those Accreditation bodies that were part of a developing region, but it then drew its peer evaluators from the established regions and also other unaffiliated bodies that had been recognized by ILAC. So it became a true peer evaluation. This was the primary objective and focus of ILAC work: to eliminate testing as a technical barrier to trade through recognizing competence between accreditation bodies. He showed the mark which Members of the Arrangement were now entitled to use and added that ILAC wanted actively to promote this mark: in future all Members of the ILAC Arrangement were entitled to use their own logo together with the ILAC one, which showed customers that this accreditation body had been through a very rigorous peer evaluation process.

Thirty-nine Members had signed the Licensing Agreement, because it was a license that had to be signed, and this in turn gave them the opportunity to sub-license that to their accredited facilities in combination with the accreditation body's own mark. Once licensed, the accreditation bodies were basically compelled to protect that logo, as they protected their own, and to make sure that it remained credible in the global market place.

ILAC had a Strategic and Business Plan, the fruit of about four years' work; it was available on the web site, and it was really there to focus the limited volunteer resources on activities that were vital for the total membership. In any organizations such as ILAC, and Mr. Peet was sure that it was the case also in the OIML, there was a lot of work but always very few people to do it. They had then asked themselves how to cope with all the work that General Assemblies seemed to generate since there were never many people around to undertake it. That became the aim of the Business Plan.

Another question continually being asked in ILAC was "what does ILAC provide for the yearly membership fee?" This was another of the focuses of the Business Plan. It now provided holistic and ongoing information about the technical work to all Members, who were encouraged to become involved and to bring their technical abilities and skills to bear on the different projects within ILAC.

Very important to ILAC were their international partnerships; they had an MoU with the CIPM, with the IAF and ISO, with UNIDO and the IEC, and he looked forward to ILAC and the OIML arranging a similar agreement, he hoped, in Cancún in the not too distant future. It was great to have these relationships but what were they there for? They must be there to achieve something. The two bodies must be doing something better together than they could achieve individually. For instance, with the BIPM they were actively involved at the moment in how to work together with their national Metrology Institutes and Accreditation bodies; they had a joint statement on that. They had a joint declaration with the OIML and the BIPM about the existing MRAs and how they could be used and promoted; they had a joint communiqué with ISO and the IAF about the alignment of ISO/IEC 17025:2005 with ISO/IEC 9001, and an agreement for closer cooperation with the IAF.

In closing, Mr. Peet thanked Members for their time and drew their attention to the existence of the ILAC web site, which had just been totally revamped. If they needed to get hold of the Secretariat in Australia, the e-mail address was also there.

Mr. Kildal asked why only 39 countries of the 56 ILAC Members had joined the Licensing Agreement to sign for the logo.

Mr. Peet replied that in some countries they were covered by the Madrid Protocol, which was a global licensing agreement to protect intellectual property. Some countries had had to go through an extensive national process to make sure the logo was protected there before they could apply to sign the license. There might be legal reasons: he was not sure. Mr. Peet suggested that Mr. Kildal could ask his own national representatives.

Mr. Birch commented that one of the issues which used to come up at ILAC Conferences in the 90s was the problem of lack of harmonization of government regulations and the problem of accreditation which might not be valid in the recipient country. A similar discussion had arisen earlier in the current week during conversation about international trade in pre-packaged goods and their acceptance. He wondered whether ILAC had any comments on how to achieve harmonization in this sphere.

Mr. Peet agreed that this was a very important question, which made exporting a very involved process, since accreditation had to be in the receiving rather than the exporting country. Many lay people and government employees did not understand these subtleties. ILAC had tried to get together regulators; those in the Asia Pacific Region, for example, had managed to have conferences with the American and Japanese regulators to try to promote the tool of accreditation. Work had to start with requirements which were different and without harmonization, anything that followed was certainly not going to achieve the desired effect. This was where bodies such as this one could set an example. ILAC had worked with IEC, where they had started to see the fruits of Members agreeing on an internationally harmonized standard; after this the accreditation processes were fairly simple. But if you started with different requirements, then accreditation could not remedy the situation.

Mr. Johnston then asked Mr. Magaña to say something about the VIM and the GUM.

Mr. Magaña said that the OIML had a particularly important liaison with the JCGM – the Joint Committee for Guides in Metrology, which principally published the *International vocabulary of basic and general terms in metrology* (VIM) and the *Guide for uncertainty in measurement* (GUM). These two publications featured in the list on the OIML web site but were not specifically OIML publications, they were JCGM publications. Also members of this Joint Committee were the Metre Convention and the standardization organizations. The VIM and the GUM were currently sold by ISO, but were not ISO standards. For this reason they had not been mentioned in the report on technical work. Members had no doubt recently received the latest draft of the revision of the VIM 3, and also, by e-mail a few days previously, the first GUM supplement; a second would shortly be circulated. Approving these was not the job of the CIML, so there was no need to adopt them formally. It was suggested that, instead, CIML Members should send any comments to the Bureau, which would then bring them to the attention of the Joint Committee. The CIML should

give a mandate, either to the Bureau or to a member of the Joint Committee or the Presidential Council, to approve the document in the JCGM after the comments had been taken into account. This would appear among the Resolutions to be voted upon the following day. It was important for these publications to appear soon, and if they had had to be formally discussed and approved, publication would have been held up for a whole year. As Mr. Wallard had said, these two publications would soon be available without charge on the BIPM web site.

Mr. Wallard added that he had already received the approval of the IFCC, the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine and of IUPAC to the VIM 3 version, so they eagerly awaited the approval of the other participants in the Joint Committee.

7 BIML activities

7.1 Organization of the Bureau

Mr. Magaña explained to Members that one of the Bureau's engineers had left about a year previously and a replacement, Samuel Just, whom Members had already met, had been appointed in his place. His profile was somewhat different from his predecessor's: he reinforced the Bureau's technical know-how; he was a specialist in type approval in the domain of flow meters, i.e. metering of liquids and gases. He also brought to the Bureau a considerable knowledge of software, since he had previously been co-secretary of TC 5/SC 2 *Software*, and, with the agreement of the French Member of the Committee, he would continue in this role. The Bureau thus marked the importance of his software work, which would help them greatly to make progress in this area.

There had been no major changes in the running of the Bureau. Members had received various circulars advising them whom to contact on each subject, so there was no need for him to enter into detail on this.

Regarding the activities of the Bureau since the previous CIML Meeting, Members had received a general report on these, explaining how the engineers' time was accounted for, and on the principal Bureau activities. Among the financial documents was an analysis of the accounting and cost of the different activities. Members might notice some discrepancies between the time spent on activities and the cost. This was because the accountancy data referred to the year 2005 and the reports referred to the time since the last CIML Meeting. Those activities undertaken in 2006 did not show up in the accounts.

The report showed that a more or less equal amount of time had been spent on:

- Preparation of the CIML and Presidential Council;
- Support for Technical Committees, which in 2005 had come out at the equivalent of one and a half employees, but which had risen in 2006;
- The Bulletin and other publications, the preparation of which was a relatively major task for Bureau staff, so this again represented the time of slightly more than one engineer;
- The preparation of Certificates;
- The MAA. The project leader, Régine Gaucher, spent most of her time on that, but, in addition, she also followed the progress of some of the technical work, and Samuel Just also spent some of his time on the MAA; and
- Maintaining the Bureau's IT installations, web site, development of interactive tools, etc., which represented the equivalent of another full time post.

7.2 Communication, web site

Mr. Pulham remarked on the large number of interesting conversations held with Members during the breaks; he had received the impression that there was a high level of enthusiasm for what the BIML as a team was doing, i.e. trying to increase electronic communication and reduce paper.

His presentation would be in three parts:

- Communication with Members via e-mails, the web site, leaflets and the Bulletin;
- The interactivity side of the web site, which had been developed as a priority since the Lyon Meeting (and which had been experienced by all Members when they had registered for the current Meeting). This also included updating information, electronic voting and, very recently, forums or discussion groups; and
- Joint work between the BIPM and the OIML.

Communication with Members via e-mails, the web site, leaflets and the Bulletin

Every time the OIML web site was updated, Members received an e-mail from the Bureau and the last 200 e-mails were published on the Members' page. Official circulars could also be accessed there, though the BIML was trying to reduce their number. If it was just a question of a Member's changed address, this was now announced by a simple e-mail, thus reducing administrative work, and giving the same result, i.e. communicating as much information as possible in the most efficient way. A number of Members had expressed their appreciation of this communication method, and it was mutually decided that one summary e-mail would be sent to Members each week, rather than each time new information was published on the site.

In Lyon a leaflet had been presented to Members; this was the OIML's first "glossy" leaflet, designed to help CIML Members promote metrology to decision makers. Mr. Pulham reported that since the Lyon Meeting hundreds of copies had been dispatched to Members. He expressed his and the BIML's pleasure at its success, and also that of the posters on the same theme, some ten sets of which had been sent off around the world. He thanked Members for their response and support for this new project.

Communication also involved the OIML Bulletin, which he reassured Members would still be printed on paper (the only remaining publication still printed); this was the OIML's formal communication vehicle and, as Members knew, it could also be downloaded from the web site.

There was always a call for papers on the inside back cover of the Bulletin. There was a real need for Members to support the Bureau by sending in papers for possible publication. Several countries did already regularly send papers, but the supply was slowly drying up: there were virtually none left awaiting publication. Whereas before it had been possible to pick and choose between articles, now material was definitely lacking. Mr. Pulham urged Members to consider submitting papers on any subject, technical or non-technical, reports of events held in their countries, or anything which they thought might be useful for other readers and fellow CIML Members. He also asked Members to relay this message throughout their National Institutes, as without such contributions there could clearly be no Bulletin.

Interactivity of the web site

Mr. Pulham commented that this was the area in which the most progress had been made in the course of the year. For the current CIML Meeting, almost 95 % of Members had registered via the web site, which constituted an all time record and the Bureau staff were very encouraged by this. The BIML realized that they might seem to be trying to force this technology upon Members, but,

on the other hand, the reaction was so favorable that they intended to carry on in the same way, similarly to many other international organizations.

He reminded Members that they could also now update their contact details directly on the web site in real time. Any piece of information (apart from the name of the CIML Member for a particular country) could now be updated in this way. It was of course still possible to send an e-mail to the Bureau, but the easiest way was directly via the web site.

One project discussed the previous year, but which there had not yet been time to implement, was personalizing access to the Members' page, in that the general login and password would disappear, and the only way to log on would be by personal country code and associated password. This would happen soon, and would also enable the Bureau to tailor the pages that each country or category of Membership could see, so that they could better orientate the information towards those it was destined for.

Online voting on draft OIML Publications had begun before Lyon. Recently, because the BIML did not want two parallel voting systems, postal and online, it had decided to publish which countries had voted and which had not. The amusing thing was that, the very next day, about 50 % of those countries that had not voted, cast their vote! The Bureau therefore concluded that this was a good system; people were seeing that their colleagues had voted, and they followed suit, with a snowball effect which was very positive for the efficiency of the system. By clicking "total votes by country", it was possible to see which countries had voted (and hence which had not). This system had also been well received by CIML Members, once it had been explained to them.

Mr. Pulham said that he would take the opportunity of giving a recap on what could actually be voted on – three categories were concerned:

- The first was what had previously been termed postal ballots or preliminary voting, which might now be called e-voting or *online preliminary voting*. When the BIML received the final draft from a Technical Committee, they read it through, tidied it up and at this point called it a Draft Recommendation (DR). The BIML then submitted the DR to CIML Members via the Members' page for them to vote on it, and also, very importantly, submit comments. Once the deadline was reached, the BIML put together all the comments and sent them back to the Secretariat ready for the final DR to be submitted to the next CIML Meeting for final voting. This was the first type of document put on the web site for voting.
- The second category was *CIML approval* of Documents and Test Report Formats. The same voting table was used for this; Mr. Pulham remarked that there had been one sole table on the site for the recent batch, but in the future it had been decided to split it into the two categories (*online preliminary voting* and *online CIML approval*). For online CIML approval, Documents could be approved without having to be submitted to the CIML during a Meeting: a simple 50 % majority was needed. Test Report Formats could also be approved online, with the same 50 % majority rule.
- The third category was *direct online CIML approval* of Recommendations in cases where the CIML had already formally decided that a Recommendation should be approved in this way. However, it was a risky strategy trying to get a Recommendation approved online, because no "no" votes were allowed and 80 % of the votes cast had to be in favor.

The BIML had also been developing interactive forums. Rather than just exchanging information on TC/SC activities by e-mail or fax, it had been decided to set up online forums so that this type of information could be widely shared, either in public or just within the TC or SC concerned. Some examples of what had been set up as pilot forums or discussion groups: certain Technical Committees and Subcommittees, the Technical Directives, the MAA, and the Presidential Council. As this was relatively recent there had not yet been a huge response, possibly because many people did not know that this facility existed but the ultimate objective would be that each active TC or SC should have its own password-protected forum and that the greater part of the technical work could be done online. It was hoped that this would save time and costs and accelerate the production of Publications; after all, the ultimate goal of the OIML was to produce Recommendations and to disseminate them as quickly and as widely as possible.

BIPM-OIML joint projects

The final subject on which Mr. Pulham wished to speak was joint BIPM-OIML projects. As Mr. Wallard had said during his presentation, both Organizations had for a number of years been looking for ways to work concretely together and there was general agreement that this was a good way to go forward. For one whole day during the summer, at the kind invitation of the BIPM, the majority of the BIML staff had visited the BIPM and had spent an excellent day with a number of senior members of BIPM staff. They had toured the laboratories, listened to detailed explanations of what the BIPM's work consisted of, and then BIML technical staff sat down in Mr. Wallard's office and discussed the specific tangible projects to work on together with key BIPM managers. There were three topics:

- A joint paper on the roles of the two Organizations, showing what each did and how they could work towards common objectives. The text of this was already written and had been approved by both; Mr. Pulham showed Members a glimpse of what it would look like, and it would be made available on both web sites, published on paper and distributed to Members;
- A joint web site portal: the domain name www.metrologyinfo.org had been reserved. This would be a common way to enter the two Organizations' sites and would not of course replace either of the existing sites, but would have links to both. It would contain, like the leaflet, explanations of what the two Organizations did, different types of metrology, and especially the benefits to be drawn from good metrology practice. It would be a resource center and would also contain links to other sites;
- The third joint project was a series of joint thematic projects - papers covering metrology in trade, in safety, in the environment, in the health field, and so on. A start had been made on copyrighting some of these and the staff involved would meet again soon to start finalizing the first of these. Cooperation was now going extremely well and producing tangible and concrete results. Both staffs were very pleased.

Mr. Kildal congratulated the Bureau on the system for online voting, which he thought was very good. The only thing he would like was to see the comments of others who had voted – these might sometimes be important.

Mr. Magaña replied that for the moment such comments were available only to the Bureau, but consideration could be given to putting them on the web site. This would not cause technical problems.

Mr. Pulham added that there had been several comments to the same effect and that it would definitely be considered.

Mr. Lee, New Zealand, thanked the BIML for its efforts in developing the online facilities; the e-mail notifications had been excellent. He supported the Bureau's decision to reduce the number of e-mails to maybe one per week, and also the proposal to limit official circulars to important matters, the rest being simply mentioned in one of the update e-mails.

Mr. Magaña and Mr. Pulham then proceeded to demonstrate, briefly due to time constraints and a slow internet connection, the forum of the Working Group on the *Directives for Technical Work*. There were public pages that anyone could access, but for other folders it was necessary to ask the Bureau for a login. This then gave access to further documents and to colleagues' comments, and gave the opportunity to add further comments. It was easy to use – Members were encouraged to log in and try it. CIML Members could use their own passwords and identities and other experts might obtain logins from the Bureau. Mr. Pulham concluded this topic with a reminder that consensus was that this was the way forward, and Members were encouraged to make full use of the online facilities now at their disposal.

7.3 Report on BIML activities for 2005-2006

The written report given to Members completed the details of Mr. Magaña's summary of BIML activities. It also contained a list of the principal meetings held since the last CIML Meeting, and who had represented the OIML at each of these. This was not the work of the Bureau alone: staff attended many meetings, but at others the representative had been the President, one of the Vice-Presidents or, when necessary, an appropriate expert (for example, in the joint seminar with the WTO in Uruguay, the OIML had been represented by Mr. Apel, whom most of those present would know, because a Spanish speaker had been needed). The list of meetings included those with regional organizations, liaison organizations, and certain major national seminars.

8 Technical activities

8.1 Approval of International Recommendations and Documents

Mr. Szilvássy informed Members that the period between the previous and the present CIML Meetings had been very fruitful:

- Eleven revised and new Draft Recommendations (seven of which were high priority projects and priority projects) were presented for Members' approval;
- A further 19 CDs were circulated in 2006, many of which were close to being finalized;
- Four Test Report Formats had already been approved by online approval;
- Two Amendments were also submitted for approval;
- Some DRs would also soon be available for approval; about 12 projects could be expected for approval the following year;
- Nine new or revised OIML Recommendations would now be applicable within the OIML Certificate System. For R 49 and R 51, it would be necessary to review the changes in the former and present Recommendations, and, if necessary, a so-called Certificate Transformation Requirement Document would be drawn up by the Subcommittee concerned.

Other very important projects, such as the first part of R 117 *Measuring systems for liquids other than water* and two long standing projects of TC 8/SC 7 *Measuring systems for gaseous fuel* and *Compressed gaseous fuel measuring systems*, were expected in final Committee Draft form before the end of the current year.

There were proposals to withdraw certain Recommendations that were no longer necessary; this was the case for R 74 *Electronic weighing instruments* where the result of the Subcommittee vote showed that of the 25 P-members, 18 had agreed to the withdrawal of this Recommendation. The reasoning for this could be found in the additional document on these proposals.

For two Recommendations, R 24 and R 66, the Subcommittee concerned was undecided: half were for and half against its withdrawal. The proposal was therefore that the BIML should proceed with a formal inquiry among CIML Members before the decision was taken; the President to decide on this.

The long-standing proposal to merge the two Subcommittees TC 3/SC 3 and SC 4 was a very positive one, in that if they united their efforts they could quickly finalize the ongoing project on *Measuring systems for liquids other than water* under the new SC name TC 3/SC 3 *Dynamic liquid volume and mass measurement*, under the Co-Secretariat of Germany and the USA. Details of the need for and advantages of this move could be seen in Annex 1 of Mr. Szilvássy's report.

There was one piece of preliminary information about the proposed merger of TC 8/SC 7 and SC 8: after the meeting of the two Subcommittee Secretariats and the Bureau in September 2005, it had been proposed to finalize the ongoing revision of *Gas meters* and *Measuring systems for*

gaseous fuels. As soon as the work was finalized there would be a proposal to merge these two Subcommittees and start revising these two Recommendations with a view to combining them in a single one, *Gas metering*. It was envisaged that the formal proposal would be submitted to the next CIML Meeting.

The outcome of the Working Group on Conformity to Type had just been heard: this meant that the establishment of a Subcommittee for this was delayed for the time being.

8.2 Examination of the situation of certain TCs/SCs

Mr. Szilvássy told Members that, based on the information received from Mr. Björkqvist, for the time being Sweden had not yet decided to take over the Secretariat for TC 12, but SP Sweden would continue and would finalize the revision of R 46.

For TC 18/SC 1 *Blood pressure instruments*, Austria had relinquished this Secretariat and a volunteer was sought to take it over.

Regarding TC 5/SC 2 *Software*, it had already been announced that the new Bureau staff member, Mr. Just, would like to continue his activities in this project and it was proposed to Members that the BIML hold the Co-Secretariat with Germany.

For the TC 5 Secretariat, Slovenia would soon notify the BIML of their new contact person for this TC.

The following projects were proposed for approval by the Meeting:

- Withdrawal of p6 of TC 3/SC 5, because this subject had been dealt with in other documents;
- Based on the result of the implementation of the MAA, it was proposed that the revision of B 3 *OIML Certificate System for Measuring Instruments*, and B 10-1 *MAA* and B 10-2 *Checklists* should be approved as new projects;
- Documents to be drawn up based on the ISO/IEC Standards 17021 and 9001: if these two projects were approved, it would be the task of the President and the Bureau to find the right TC or SC to draw them up;
- TC 7/SC 1 proposed that the project to revise R 92 be withdrawn;
- TC 16/SC 1 proposed the revision of ISO 3930 / OIML R 99, together with ISO TC22/SC5; work had already begun.

Mr. Szilvássy informed Members that there were some problems needing to be solved, though many had already been solved. For TC 15 and TC 15/SC 1, held by Russia, Mr. Issaev had confirmed that work would soon begin on revising D 22.

For TC 10 the USA was willing to relinquish this Secretariat if there was a volunteer to take it over, or at least to undertake the revision of R 23 *Tire Pressure gauges for motor vehicles*. In addition to what was included in the report, an inquiry on R 23 would be sent out immediately after the CIML Meeting.

Two problems had already been mentioned:

- The problem of inactivity or poor responsiveness on the part of P-members of several TCs and SCs, leading to an inability to progress. Not only the BIML had noticed this problem; feedback had also come from several TC and SC Secretariats;
- The problem of maintaining the BIML database of TCs and SCs up to date. Mr. Szilvássy reminded Members that it was the responsibility of Secretariats to check all their data on the web site and to provide feedback if something needed to be corrected or added. He therefore urged the Secretariats to keep the Bureau informed and to try to increase the contribution of P-members, in order that the technical work could be concluded in a correct and timely manner.

The last item (a BIML proposal) had already been mentioned: the CDs received from Secretariats were uploaded onto the web site. For the time being this information was only published on the Members' page, with access for Members and liaison organizations only. Taking into account the need for possible wider access to documents being developed, and for receipt of comments upon these, the Bureau now proposed that all the CDs received for circulation should be uploaded onto the public part of the web site. This would allow everyone, such as manufacturers and liaison organizations to see the drafts. There could be problems with this move, but if it was accepted it would give the Secretariats a higher responsibility to create high quality drafts and to use the forums which would soon become available to TCs and SCs for communication before the CDs were finalized and uploaded to the web site. This proposal was approved by the CIML.

8.2 a OIML Certificate System

Mr. Magaña reminded Members that when a Recommendation which was already in the Certificate System was revised, as was the case for R 76, it might happen that only Part 1 had been revised, but that the revision of the Test Procedures and Test Report Format was not yet ready and would be approved later. In that case, of course, the revised Part 1 would be published on the web site, because it was approved, but the old version would also remain on the web site. This was for two reasons: it might be referenced in some national or regional regulations; and it remained the reference for the Certificate System, because to include the revised R 76 in the Certificate System, a full revision of all three parts would be necessary. Also, when a revised Recommendation entered the Certificate System, there should be some allowance to issue Certificates based on the old version for a certain length of time, provided that applications for these Certificates had been lodged before the revised publication appeared. Decisions on this issue would be prepared for voting on the following day.

The Meeting then proceeded to approve all the Recommendations and Amendments submitted (see list in the Decisions document, annexed to these minutes).

8.3 MAA

Mrs. Gaucher gave some information about the implementation of the MAA since the previous CIML Meeting.

Peer assessment of Testing Laboratories had been conducted in November 2005. The Declaration of Mutual Confidence for R 49 on water meters had been launched in November 2005; the R 60 and R 76 Committee on Participation Review had held its second meeting in March 2006; and the R 60 and R 76 DoMC had been published on 29 September.

A Memorandum of Understanding had been drawn up between ILAC and the OIML. Mrs. Gaucher would not go into detail on this subject, since it had been presented the previous day by Mr. Magaña. Cooperation had already begun with IAF, which was responsible for cooperation between accreditation bodies in charge, in particular, of the accreditation of certification bodies.

The MAA logo had also been developed; this would be affixed to evaluation reports and OIML Certificates issued under the MAA. Members had probably seen this logo on the OIML web site.

Two Testing Laboratories had been peer assessed, one in Japan and the other in Switzerland. The other Testing Laboratories were accredited and, further to the examination of their most recent assessment reports, the CPR had decided to recognize their accreditation, which covered the scope of the DoMCs.

Mrs. Gaucher reminded Members briefly of the OIML MAA Document which had been drawn up to clarify the procedures for the implementation of MAA: OIML MAA-1 would be updated

together with revision of OIML B 10-1 and B 10-2. OIML MAA-2 would be withdrawn as soon as the Guide on the application of ISO/IEC 17025 to legal metrology, which was under development by OIML TC 3/SC 5, became available.

The R 60 and R 76 CPR had decided to merge the three other documents into one procedure related to assessment under the MAA and the aim was that such a procedure should become a joint document to be used by ILAC for its assessments in the field of legal metrology and by the OIML for conducting peer assessments.

Concerning the second CPR Meeting, Mrs. Gaucher wished to highlight the issue of the acceptance of test results from manufacturers. This had been raised again and the CPR had decided, as a first step, that tests by manufacturers would fall outside the scope of the DoMCs. Nevertheless, this issue would be considered again at the next CPR Meeting.

On the signing of the first two DoMCs, Mrs. Gaucher stated that the registration format had been modified to make the signature process easier; each Participant had signed an individual registration form, which was kept by the BIML, and a synthesis of these forms had been published on the MAA web site. She thanked Participants in these first two DoMCs for their support. Since she knew that experts and representatives in the CPR were present at the current Meeting, she also wished to take the opportunity to thank them for their cooperation and assistance. She hoped that in the near future additional countries would join the DoMCs.

Mrs. Gaucher then offered some clarification of MAA procedures following their signing. First she reminded Members that as soon as a DoMC was signed, Issuing Participants would issue OIML Certificates of Conformity under the MAA. She would try to develop a common terminology for communication on the MAA when the OIML Certificate System, OIML B 3, was revised.

She then went on to speak of "OIML Basic Certificates" issued outside the scope of the MAA and "OIML MAA Certificates" issued under the MAA. One question raised concerned applications for Certificates which had been made before the publication of the DoMCs. It had in fact been decided that for these applications it would be possible to complete the OIML Certificate as a Basic Certificate, outside the scope of the MAA. When recording an OIML Certificate in such a case, the BIML could request justification of the application date.

The MoU between ILAC and the OIML had already been discussed. Cooperation with IAF had begun and first contacts were planned for November 2006 with the CIML President and BIML Director.

Candidacies for participation in the R 49 DoMC had been received as a result of the BIML circular sent out in November 2005; seven countries had applied for participation, among which only one was a potential Issuing Participant. So even if the requirements of OIML B 10-1 were not fulfilled (since B 10-1 required at least two Issuing Participants from two different regions), the CIML President and the BIML Director had decided to launch the R 49 DoMC, which could be considered as still being a pilot operation.

The next steps on the implementation of the MAA and associated technical work would be:

- Concerning the maintenance of the R 60 and R 76 DoMCs, it would be necessary to take into account the revision of R 76-1 and R 76-2;
- Admission of new Participants would also have to be taken into account; intentions to participate had already been received by the BIML;
- Further discussion on the implementation would also be needed;
- A work program with ILAC was beginning; the purpose of this was to develop a joint ILAC-OIML expert list able to conduct accreditation assessments in the field of legal metrology and also peer assessment under the MAA, and also, as previously reported, a joint training program and joint assessment procedures;
- Concerning the work of OIML TC 3/SC 5, the second CD for the OIML Guide for the Application of ISO/IEC Guide 65 to legal metrology would be drawn up;

- The draft Guide for the Application of ISO/IEC 17025 should be circulated the following year for postal approval;
- In 2007 it was expected that the first working draft for the revision of OIML B 3 and OIML B 10-1 and B 10-2 would be produced;
- Despite the publication of the first two DoMCs, some issues still remained to be discussed; these included the role of tests performed by manufacturers in the issuing of evaluation reports under the MAA; reducing the number of additional requirements under the scope of the DoMCs; the cost of the MAA; and the possibility of using results of tests performed before publication of the DoMCs to issue an OIML Certificate under the MAA.

The first MAA Resolutions submitted to the CIML for approval concerned the cost of Peer Assessment:

> *The BIML shall initially bear the costs of peer assessments and subsequently invoice the peer assessed bodies with a lump sum equal to 1500 € per assessor-day.*

Mr. Magaña added that this lump sum included travel, accommodation and fees. Members were asked to comment and then vote on this Resolution. A German delegate asked for a breakdown of these costs.

Mr. Magaña replied that he had not prepared such an analysis; the sum arrived at was the actual cost of previous peer assessments. It was an average, since distances traveled could be long or short and expenses also varied according to the length of time spent. The bodies providing the experts had received fees of 600 € per day.

Mr. Magaña added that the current Resolution was to make costs more predictable for the peer assessed bodies.

Mr. Kildal stated that Norway did not have any specific views on costs; it was up to the BIML to calculate the rate. They were however concerned that the whole MAA program should show a financial balance. After that happened the economics could be done as necessary.

Mr. Magaña pointed out that it could be seen in his Financial Report that all the external costs for the MAA had been covered by the fees and were balanced. What had not yet balanced was the salary cost of one engineer at the Bureau: it had been agreed that this would be financed by a deficit in the first years of the MAA.

A Japanese delegate asked whether it was correct that for DoMCs based on R 76 and R 60, within two years every Issuing Authority would be assessed by the experts.

Mrs. Gaucher replied that Japan had been peer assessed in 2005. In two years there would be what was being called a Documentary Examination; this involved no peer assessment; all that was necessary was to provide certain documents for examination by the CPR. Reassessment would become necessary after four years.

The delegate said that he was not speaking of Japan but of other laboratories which had been accredited by an accreditation body but not necessarily by legal metrology experts. It was very important for them to have more confidence in the MAA. He thought the MAA was a major OIML achievement and should be promoted as much as possible.

Mrs. Gaucher replied that this was part of the OIML's cooperation with ILAC, to ensure that when accreditation included the scope of legal metrology, an appropriate expert was part of the team.

It was asked why it was necessary to establish cooperation with the IAF.

Mrs. Gaucher replied that this was not directly concerned with the MAA, but for more general cooperation for the application of ISO/IEC Guide 65.

The vote was then taken on this Resolution, which was accepted (with one negative vote).

Mrs. Gaucher said that the second Resolution concerned the transition period during which OIML Issuing Authorities which were not Issuing Participants in the DoMCs could still issue an OIML Certificate of Conformity outside the scope of the MAA. The wording was:

> *The end of the transitory period during which an OIML Issuing Authority which participates in the R 60 DoMC and/or the R 76 DoMC as a Utilizing Participant or which did not sign the R 60 DoMC and/or the R 76 DoMC will still be authorized to issue OIML Certificates of Conformity according to OIML B 3 outside the scope of the MAA, is provisionally fixed at 31 December 2008.*
>
> *This deadline will be reviewed by the CIML at its 43rd Meeting based on a BIML report on operation, experience and feedback from industry*

Mr. Magaña reminded the Meeting that when the MAA had been adopted it had been decided that when a DoMC was signed, non-participating Issuing Authorities after a certain time should either stop issuing or join Declarations of Mutual Confidence. This period was to be proposed by the CPR and submitted for CIML approval, so this was what was now happening – a period of two years had been proposed by the CPR; this might be further reviewed in two years' time.

Mrs. Van Spronssen, The Netherlands, said she would prefer a more definite promise that the period would definitely be reviewed in the light of experience. The MAA was still very young and it was not possible to know how it would work. She considered that it was dangerous to fix the date at 31 December 2008, as manufacturers must be able to see the benefits of the MAA, since they were going to have to pay for most of it, and were losing a system which at the moment was working well for the sake of some future benefit. Revision of the date should be certain rather than possible.

Mrs. Van Spronssen also stressed that hard work would have to be put into getting more Issuing Authorities to participate in DoMCs, so that it would be known what the true cost was, and also give more value to the new system, as well as lowering the cost to manufacturers.

Mr. Kildal said that Norway would vote against this proposal, as they considered that it was too early to set this date and, in respect of the users, the old system should not be taken away as long as they wanted to use it.

Mr. Magaña agreed that of course users' wishes must be respected. He reminded Members that manufacturers had expressed a wish to participate in discussions about the MAA, so a forum had been opened for their comments. In the course of the year not a single comment had been received. They still could comment if they wished.

Concerning the transitory period, they were applying the decision taken by the CPR two years previously. He agreed that the wording of the last paragraph could be changed to read "this deadline will be reviewed by the CIML at its 2008 Meeting based on a report from the Bureau on the Certificates issued and the participation of industry". During this two year period the Bureau would also try to obtain feedback from industry.

Mr. Schwartz, Germany, said he shared the views of Norway and The Netherlands and that he wondered if it was a good idea to fix a date at all in this Resolution at a time when no Certificates had yet been issued under the DoMCs. He appreciated the compromise proposal and the offer to seek feedback from users but he thought the next CIML Meeting would be quite soon enough to fix a date.

Mr. Magaña said the the reason for planning a deadline was that Issuing Participants in the DoMCs had undergone peer assessment or accreditation, at considerable cost, so if no deadline were given they would have spent all this money for nothing, because the MAA and DoMCs would not really start. If no date were fixed, it was likely that no manufacturers would apply for MAA Certificates, and this would present a problem. He preferred therefore to fix a date but to say this date would be reviewed by the CIML at its 43rd Meeting.

Mrs. Lagauterie agreed with Mr. Magaña; those bodies which had made an effort, at considerable cost, to join the MAA, must not be penalized. It had been understood from the outset that there would be a time limit and it was not fair to participants to withdraw that decision now. All decisions could obviously be reviewed at each CIML Meeting in the light of experience and on the basis of reports received. It was important to indicate strongly the benefits of participating in the system.

Mr. Magaña reiterated that the rules that had been in force when Participants had entered the scheme should not be altered after the event. He proposed that the modified Resolution (which he typed for Members to see and read) be put to the vote.

The Resolution was approved. Mr. Magaña pointed out that comments could be made at any time on the forum on the MAA web site.

Mr. Lagauterie said that since one of the rules was not being respected for water meters, the Committee should confirm the President's and Director's idea that this should be regarded as a pilot operation.

Mr. Magaña said that this would be included in the Resolutions to be voted.

Mrs. Van Spronssen wished to ask a question about the appointment of Issuing Authorities under the MAA. At the moment the appointment was either by the country or the CIML Member, but she believed that when a DoMC was established, that Issuing Authority would need to have the approval of the CPR before doing the work. This amounted to a conflict between appointing powers. She urged that this situation be clarified in the coming year.

Mr. Magaña agreed, adding that this matter had already been discussed the previous day, but that he did not think any hasty solution should be decided upon.

Mrs. Van Spronssen again raised the question of who was responsible for appointing an Issuing Authority; if a CIML Member did this, but it had to be approved by the CPR, there could be tensions between the two areas of responsibility. She asked for a solution to be found.

Mr. Magaña said that this issue had been raised when the idea of the MAA had first been discussed. The comment had been made that there would be a stage when the old system had stopped and Certificates could only be issued under the MAA; when a new Issuing Authority was appointed, how would it fit into the System? Two or three years previously, it had been decided that this matter would be looked into when such a case arose. Now was the time for this discussion; his suggestion was that the CIML should instruct TC 3/SC 5 to look at the issue in depth and to make a proposal to the next CIML Meeting. It was too complex a matter for discussion on the present occasion.

Mr. Vaucher, Switzerland, returned to the question of manufacturers' test results not being taken into account for the issue of OIML Certificates. This practice had been acceptable in Europe for non-automatic weighing instruments for almost 15 years, and their experience had been good. He strongly recommended that the CPR's decision be reconsidered, and that manufacturers' test results should be acceptable in order to avoid unnecessary multiple testing.

Mr. Magaña said this issue could be discussed in two groups. It was not clear whether it was possible in the Certificate System itself, in B 3; if it were to be discussed in a general way, this would also have to be done in TC 3/SC 5. It had already been discussed in the CPR Meeting and CPR participants had decided that manufacturers' results were not yet acceptable. This could perhaps be reconsidered if new information arose, but for the existing two DoMCs the participants had decided not to accept them. TC 3/SC 5 could be instructed to put this on the agenda when they met for the revision of B 3; it could not, however, be changed retrospectively for the two DoMCs already signed. It would also no doubt be discussed again in the CPR.

Mr. Kildal commented that to accept test results from a non-accredited manufacturer's laboratory was not in agreement with accreditation. He also asked who the current Issuing Authorities were.

Mrs. Gaucher added that the list of Participants was available in the DoMCs published on the

OIML web site. Mr. Magaña showed the list of signatories of the R 76 and R 60 DoMCs and of the associated Issuing Authorities and Testing Laboratories: there were currently six Issuing Participants for the R 60 DoMC and seven for the R 76 DoMC.

Mr. Lagauterie suggested that, while he agreed that TC 3/SC 5 should discuss the matter of manufacturers' test results, it should not arrive at a systematically negative conclusion; perhaps it could be given the task of studying under what conditions it might be permissible, and leave the decision to the CIML.

Mr. Magaña agreed that studying the situation need not lead to a simple yes or no answer. There were various possibilities for accreditation or auditing manufacturers' laboratories, all of which merited discussion. He believed that these questions had also been discussed by WELMEC and he thought it would be good to take up a position compatible with that organization.

8.4 Progress on the revision of the Directives for OIML Technical Work

Mr. Dunmill showed a list of the names of members of the Working Group on the project to revise the Directives. A first working draft had been published in August 2006, and the previous day Members had seen the new web Forum which was being used to manage the project. Comments on the subject had been due by 11 October, immediately before the current Meeting. Any Members who had not already sent comments were encouraged to do so as soon as possible. The comments already received had been broadly supportive of the work being done. A number of questions still remained, and this was only a working draft.

For those who were not familiar with this project, Mr. Dunmill explained that the objectives of the project were:

- To simplify the existing Directives, which were often not used because they were difficult to read; it was hoped that the simplified version might encourage more Members to use them for their publications, especially those who were not English speaking;
- Regarding the structure of OIML technical work, there had been some quite radical suggestions about changing the way this was managed in the TCs and SCs. This was partly because of changes in technology. Instruments being made now did not fit neatly into any of the present categories of Subcommittee, as the present structure had been developed in 1993 and had not been changed since then. Some Secretariats had far too many instruments under their control while others had only one. The Working Group wanted to spread this more evenly;
- To change the way people could comment on drafts. Currently only P-members or O-members of a Committee even saw the projects: they would like all Member States and Corresponding Members to have the opportunity to comment on drafts during their development, and they were looking at how this could be done in such a way as to obtain as wide an input as possible. The aim was that by the time a Draft Recommendation arrived at CIML level, it should not be a great surprise that it was being developed;
- They also wished to introduce a Final Draft stage, which would be a public, official kind of document, like the current CIML vote level; no significant changes to the document would be expected after that time. The draft could therefore be put into use at this point, as was the case in the ISO field there was an FDIS stage, which was a Final Draft International Standard, after which only editorial changes could be made; they would like to introduce the same idea into the production of OIML Recommendations;
- They also wished for decisions to be taken at the most efficient level; this was part of one of the points to be made later regarding speeding up the work. It should not be necessary to waste the time of a large gathering like the CIML to approve things which could be more efficiently approved at a lower level;
- Another aspect of speeding up the work was to use modern IT tools and electronic communication wherever possible in the development of drafts;

- Finally, a slightly difficult point was that the Working Group would like to change the voting rules which were used for approving publications. This was basically because of the problems encountered in approving publications by postal vote, as used to be the case, or, currently, electronically. The majority levels that were necessary caused considerable problems and it was difficult to get anything approved other than in the CIML Meeting. As had been shown the previous day, nothing had ever yet reached a high enough majority to be approved. They wanted to look at what percentages and majority were essential for electronic approval.

A number of comments had not yet been received so although the final date had officially passed, Mr. Dunmill hoped that further comments would be received as soon as possible and that the next draft of the revision could be ready in time for the next Presidential Council meeting early in 2007. Depending on the level of comments, work on the project would continue over the period 2007 and 2008. They expected to complete it in time for the 2008 Conference, because if the CIML voting rules were to be changed, this would have to be approved by the Conference.

Mr. Vaucher, Switzerland, said he applauded the Group's objective of increased collaboration and coordination with other Working Groups of Standards Organizations in order to harmonize requirements between groups.

Mr. Dunmill replied that in fact Mr. Just of the Bureau had been conducting an analysis of liaisons, particularly with ISO. Currently there was general liaison between ISO and the various OIML Committees and Subcommittees and Mr. Just had been looking at making this more direct and more specific. He would add it to the points to be considered in revising the draft.

Mr. Magaña added that they would make sure that liaison contacts reached the appropriate ISO or IEC Subcommittee directly and in this way update cooperation.

8.5 Report on the Working Group on "Conformity to Type"

Mr. Harvey informed Members that the Working Group meeting had been attended by representatives from 11 countries, as well as the BIML. It had been held on the previous Saturday, 14 October. A discussion paper had been distributed prior to the meeting. Issues discussed had been wide-ranging and included:

- The need for OIML coordination;
- Possible delivery mechanisms whether quality assurance, sampling or both;
- Possible linkages to existing programs, such as the MAA or the OIML Certificate System;
- Possible funding mechanisms;
- Possible roles of regional bodies in this activity; and
- The application of sanctions and possible need for a project to demonstrate the need for this.

There were a number of outcomes:

- The first was that the BIML would conduct an inquiry among CIML Members and Corresponding Members to ascertain the level of non-conformances that they had detected in the various economies, and at the same time to request information about the systems in place in the various economies to detect non-conformances.
- The second outcome was that the Working Group would develop a strategy paper to include the experiences of the Member economies and to describe options for achieving conformity to type.
- The third outcome was that the BIML would undertake a further inquiry among manufacturers through the OIML Certificate database to ascertain their views on a conformity to type program.
- The fourth outcome was that the Working Group recommended that a seminar be held on conformity to type in conjunction with the 2007 CIML Meeting in China. The seminar should

involve participation by manufacturers and would address the responses from both surveys and be informed by the strategy paper.

- The fifth outcome was that although it had initially been considered that the Working Group could be transformed into a TC/SC, on further consideration it was recommended that the Working Group be retained in its present form until the need for a TC/SC was demonstrated.

The timetable of activities would be: first the BIML inquiry among Members, feeding into the Presidential Council early the following year; if it were then found to be justified, there would be a further BIML inquiry among industry, in parallel with the development of a strategy paper by the Working Group; then the above two activities would feed into the seminar in conjunction with the 2007 CIML Meeting.

Mr. Birdseye felt that it should be added that a number of participants had asked that there should be overall coordination of the related activities. For instance, TC 3/SC 2 and the other SCs were examining D 16, D 19 and D 20. He felt that overall consideration should be given to the various questions all related to conformity assessment, conformity control, type assurance and so on, since all these things were inter-related. He knew that at least one TC was dealing with what Europeans tended to think of as market surveillance: this was really just a term for seeing how well the products conformed in practice to the requirements approved for them. In his opinion, the new draft prepared by TC 3/SC 2 was addressing the same issue. He believed that the Group which was at the same time looking at type approval and verification was addressing closely related issues, so he would like there to be responsibility in one of the groups which tried to coordinate the whole issue, including the one under discussion in this Working Group.

Mr. Magaña said that there had been discussions between himself and Mr. Ehrlich. It was planned that the Bureau would enter into discussion with the TC 3 Secretariat to review the distribution of work and composition of the Subcommittees within TC 3. They would then review all the existing publications of the different Subcommittees and come the following year to the Committee with a proposal for reorganizing the distribution of work among the different TC 3 Subcommittees.

9 Human resource matters

9.1 Approval of the Procedure for the election of the CIML President and Vice-Presidents

Mr. Johnston informed Members that he had expressed to Mr. Magaña his wish to change the voting method for the CIML President and Vice-Presidents; there had recently been cases where candidates had not received enough votes because of the high percentage required to win the election. Comments received from four countries had been incorporated in the draft procedure he was about to present. If this proposal was accepted by the CIML it would be posted on the web site, and in future no changes would be made to it without Members' approval, thus ensuring a consistent approach.

Mr. Magaña explained that in the past, the election of the CIML President and Vice-Presidents had depended upon two conditions being fulfilled: 80 % of Members must have voted and 80 % of the votes cast had to be in favor of the candidate. It had seemed to the Bureau and to the Presidential Council that this requirement was too demanding; this form of majority decision was imposed for decisions of the Committee, but in the case of the President and Vice-Presidents, what was happening was an election, and that this should be a different process. They had therefore felt entitled to interpret the Convention in such a way that the election should still have sufficient gravitas, yet pose fewer problems in its application. The suggestion currently being put before Members was a more flexible rule, as follows:

- The majority required for the election of a President or Vice-President should be at least half the CIML Members. For example, at the moment there were 59 Member States: 30 votes in

favor of a candidate would therefore constitute a majority and ensure the election of that candidate;

- As in the past, there would be several successive rounds of election, each time eliminating the candidate with least votes.

Mr. Lagauterie stated that if the majority were in favor of the proposal that an election was not a decision he would not oppose it, but he did feel some doubt on the subject, and intended to abstain.

Mr. Magaña replied that when it was a question of making a decision to approve a Recommendation, there were consequences for Members, because they were immediately required to implement this Recommendation whenever a national regulation was drawn up. However, the election of a President did not place any subsequent obligation upon Members. This was why it had been considered to be different in kind.

The motion was accepted, with no negative votes and four abstentions (France, Monaco, Czech Republic and Italy). Positive votes therefore represented more than 80 % of the 51 Members present or represented. 38 positive votes were needed and there had been 47. The new election procedure was therefore adopted, with immediate effect.

9.2 Election of the CIML Second Vice-President

Mr. Magaña explained the voting process. The two candidates, Mr. Harvey from Australia and Mr. Issaev from Russia made presentations, following which a roll was taken and voting papers were distributed, marked, returned and counted. Mr. Harvey of Australia was declared elected and congratulated. Mr. Johnston also thanked Mr. Issaev for his long service as CIML Second Vice-President.

9.3 Appointment of a new BIML Assistant Director

Mr. Johnston informed Members that eight candidates had applied for the position of BIML Assistant Director; four had been interviewed by a Selection Committee consisting of himself, Mr. Kochsiek, Mr. Magaña, Mr. Harvey and Mr. Carstens. He considered that the candidate being put forward was a very good one. He had heard that some Members wished to know how this individual had been selected, so he asked Mr. Magaña to explain the process in detail.

Mr. Magaña said that this was the first time an Assistant Director had been presented to the CIML in person, but that he felt this was important. When he himself had been a CIML Member he had regretted not seeing the candidates and he now wished to remedy this.

Mr. Lagauterie commented that what he was about to say was in no way to the detriment of Mr. Kool, whom he had long held to be a person of great worth, but Members had been told that there were several good candidates for the post; he would have liked in principle for more than one of these to be presented to the Meeting, so that Members might choose between them. His question was whether it was the President's intention to continue to present only one candidate to Members under similar circumstances.

Mr. Magaña explained that the Selection Committee had asked itself this question, but had concluded that since it was impossible for Members to hold intensive interviews with the candidates, the business of selecting one should be left to the Selection Committee, which had spent a considerable time interviewing each candidate in depth. The choice had indeed not been easy, but Members were not in as good a position as the Selection Committee to make the choice.

Mr. Lee, New Zealand, commented that in his view appointments such as this one should and could be made by the BIML Director and not require a Committee vote. He believed that the BIML was more than capable of selecting the right candidate.

Mr. Magaña replied that the need for the CIML to appoint the Assistant Director was part of the OIML Convention; the reasons were historical. In the past he had thought that choosing an Assistant Director should be the job of the Director, possibly with the aid of the President, but it stated in the Convention that the CIML had to make this appointment, so he saw no problem with it.

Mr. Faber commented that this matter had been discussed in the early years of his Presidency, and again when a new Director was being sought. At that time he had proposed that the CIML should make a distinction between political and executive jobs. For political jobs, i.e. President or Vice-President, two or more candidates should be presented to the Committee, because this choice was about the candidates' ideas. But the Committee at that time took the decision, on his proposal, that for executive jobs the choice of the best person for the job should be made by the Selection Committee: this was not political, it was executive. Having more than one candidate for Vice-President but a single candidate for Assistant Director was completely in line with the decision taken by the Committee at that time.

Several delegates agreed that the CIML should rely on the wisdom and correctness of the process and accept the recommendation of the Selection Committee.

The appointment of the candidate proposed by the Selection Committee, Mr. Willem Kool, as new BIML Assistant Director was confirmed by Members' votes, Mr. Kool having previously given a presentation and left the room during the voting process. He was congratulated on his return to the room.

9.4 Dispute related to the dismissal of a BIML Secretary

Mr. Magaña reminded Members that about a year and a half previously he had dismissed a secretary at the Bureau for a number of reasons. Some legal problems had subsequently arisen because the staff member concerned had taken the case to a French industrial tribunal. The BIML Staff Regulations said that any employment dispute should ultimately be taken to the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labor Organization (ILO). Mr. Magaña had explained to the French courts that this dispute did not fall within their area of competence, but unfortunately it had turned out that, for administrative reasons, the OIML was not at that time registered with the ILO. Mr. Magaña had speedily registered the OIML with the ILO, but the problem still remained of whether the present matter should be judged by a French court or by the ILO. This had gone to the French Court of Appeal, which had decided that since registration with the ILO had not at that time been in force, the French courts should hear the case, but that in any case, the French courts should base their judgment not on French law but on the BIML Staff Regulations. This was where the matter rested at the time of speaking. This decision of the Appeal Court seemed to Mr. Magaña to be a wise and balanced one and he saw no problem in going to a French court so long as the matter was judged in this way. The case was expected to come to court early in March 2007 and Mr. Magaña would report to the President and if necessary to the Committee on the outcome.

The President said that he was kept up to date on developments in this case, and that if the Committee needed to be informed he undertook to ensure that this was done.

10 Future meetings

10.1 42nd CIML Meeting (2007)

Mr. Han, China, speaking of plans for the 2007 Meeting in Shanghai, gave Members an information document containing a map and a brochure of Shanghai entitled "Open Shanghai". There was also a booklet about the hotel which had been selected for the occasion, and an official invitation from the Minister.

Mr. Han said that he had discussed the preliminary schedule for the Meeting with Mr. Magaña, and would speak of this. He also wished to speak of transport in Shanghai and about the tours which would be arranged for Members. He showed a slide of the proposed hotel and another of the preliminary schedule. There would be the usual general meetings and Working Group Meetings, and they would also like to host a seminar, though the topic was not yet finally decided. His own preference would be for a topic on Legal Metrology in developing countries. Another possible topic was software security, though he would like to hear Members' opinions on possible seminar topics. The organizers would keep in touch with Mr. Magaña to fix the topic.

Mr. Han showed pictures of the venue, the international airport and the subway, and of several places of interest in Shanghai which were of particular interest to visitors. He also showed Members a video.

On behalf of Members, Mr. Johnston thanked Mr. Han and the Chinese delegation for inviting them to Shanghai. He himself had visited that city the previous year and assured them that it was a fascinating city and that he was sure they would enjoy their time there.

10.2 13th Conference and 43rd CIML Meeting (2008)

Mr. Harvey, Australia, then invited members to the 2008 CIML Meeting and Conference and associated meetings in Sydney. Australia had not hosted a CIML Meeting since 1993, so it was time for Members to renew their acquaintance with that country, or perhaps in some cases visit it for the first time. It was hoped that Members would accept the invitation and take the opportunity to see some of the Australian tourist sites. Further information would be available at the meeting in China the following year.

11 Awards

In addition to the OIML Awards presented at the Moyo reception the previous evening to Mr. Manfred Kochsiek (who had been in the Presidential Council for 20 years and Vice-President for 14, two of these as Acting President) and to Mr. Eberhard Seiler, Mr. Johnston also presented Awards to Mr. Martin Birdseye and to Mr. Attila Szilvássy. He congratulated them all for their outstanding contribution to legal metrology and specifically to the activities of the OIML.

In recognition of his exceptional contribution, he also appointed Manfred Kochsiek CIML Honorary Member.

Lastly, a Letter of Appreciation was awarded to Mrs. Corinne Lagauterie for her active participation in work at European and OIML levels.

12 Other matters

Mr. Sahin, Turkey, invited Members to a joint Seminar with the EMLMF on the MID Directive, to be held in Istanbul in late May/early June 2007. He summarized the provisional program, which would last for 3 days and would include the implications of the MID as it would affect different bodies.

The formal Decisions and Resolutions of the CIML were then read out and voted on, after Mr. Magaña had explained the procedure to Members.

Mr. Johnston thanked Members for their time; he felt the Meeting had been a good one. He thanked Mr. Carstens and all his staff for their hospitality in Cape Town; he knew it was a difficult job and it had been done well. He thanked China for the invitation to host the following year's Meeting, and Mr. Harvey for agreeing to host the Meeting and Conference in 2008.

Mr. Johnston said that he planned to send an e-mail to all Members very shortly after the Meeting; he wanted their views on how the Meeting could be changed or improved. He thought this would be timely, as it had not been done for a long period. He would not be asking a lot of questions but merely seeking advice and guidance. Mr. Kochsiek had already made the suggestion that more time should be spent on technical matters. He urged Members to send their advice and suggestions. He ended the Meeting with reference to the prospect of seeing them all the following year in Shanghai. ■