Summary report

Fifty-sixth meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology

Online
18, 19 and 22 October 2021

Bureau International de Métrologie Légale (BIML)
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The Fifty-sixth meeting of the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CIML) was held on 18, 19 and 22 October 2021 as an online meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There were over 160 participants, from OIML Member States, OIML Corresponding Members, and organisations in liaison.

The CIML President, Dr Roman Schwartz, reported on the major activities that had taken place during the year, including the preparations for the 56th CIML Meeting and 16th International Conference on Legal Metrology (16th Conference), the preparation of the budget for the next financial period, and closer cooperation with other international organisations. Finally, he presented his vision for the OIML, together with the BIPM, to jointly support the worldwide digital transformation process with regard to key metrological processes.

The BIML Director, Mr Anthony Donnellan, reported on the various activities and achievements of the BIML and its staff, particularly the continued efforts to improve the effectiveness of OIML technical work and activities in favour of Countries and Economies with Emerging Metrology Systems (CEEMS), the OIML Certification System (OIML-CS), World Metrology Day in close cooperation with the BIPM, and work with other liaison organisations. He emphasised the initiatives introduced by the BIML to minimise the impact of the pandemic and to ensure business continuity, and he outlined the budget planning process for the next financial period. Finally, he also presented the efforts that are ongoing to encourage new economies to join the Organisation, which currently has 125 Members.

Following on from 2020, when the CIML meeting resolutions were voted on in the weeks following the meeting, this year a system was implemented by the BIML to enable the CIML and Conference to approve Resolutions at the end of each meeting session.

The accounts for 2020 were presented and were approved by the CIML. Mr Donnellan reported that the Organisation continues to be in a strong financial position. The budget for the period 2022–2025 was examined and approved by the CIML and submitted to the 16th Conference, which also endorsed the future-focused budget.

The BIML reported on its activities with organisations in liaison. In addition, a summary of the detailed discussions held during the Regional Legal Metrology Organisations (RLMO) Round Table held on 30 September was presented by its current chairperson, Dr Charles Ehrlich. Other organisations in liaison (BIPM, CECIP, COOMET, EURAMET, IAF, ICUMSA, IEC, SIM and UNIDO) also submitted written reports on their activities.

The BIML gave a report on the progress of the technical work of the Organisation, and lists of high-priority projects and publications were approved by the CIML.
The following publications were approved by the CIML:
- Revision of R 126 Evidential breath analysers; and
- Update of R 60 Metrological regulation for load cells.

The following new projects were approved by the CIML:
- New Recommendation Contact clinical thermometers;
- New Recommendation Non-contact clinical thermometers;
- New Recommendation Requirements for the evaluation of NIBP simulators used for the testing of automated non-invasive sphygmomanometers;
- New Guide and Recommendation Electric vehicle charging stations;
- New Guide Guidelines for the evaluation of automated sphygmomanometers using oscillometric signal generators able to generate real-life oscillometric signals;
- Revision of OIML R 49:2013 Water meters for cold potable water and hot water;
- Revision of OIML R 148:2020 Non-invasive non-automated sphygmomanometers;
- Revision of OIML R 149:2020 Non-invasive automated sphygmomanometers;
- Revision of OIML B 12:2004 Policy paper on liaisons between the OIML and other bodies; and
- Update of OIML V 1:2013 International vocabulary of terms in legal metrology (VIML).

The CIML President spoke about communications with OIML stakeholders. He notably mentioned the OIML Bulletin and the ongoing need for more contributions from Members in the form of articles. The concept of “Mentors” to manage specific topics or themes, launched in 2020, has been very successful: the July 2021 Bulletin featured the topic “Digital transformation” and the theme for the October edition was “Legal metrology for health”.

Mr Ian Dunmill, BIML Assistant Director, gave an update on the activities of the CEEMS Advisory Group (CEEMS AG) on behalf of its Chairperson, Mr Peter Mason. The report stressed that, although no new training activities had been possible, the development of a new publication Application of online technology to capacity building and other CEEMS activities had advanced well and should be completed in the coming year. Work on updating and expanding the OIML’s online training platform was also progressing, and a new initiative of regular one-hour webinars had been started, archives of which would be made available on the OIML website.

The OIML-CS Management Committee Chairperson, Mr Mannie Panesar, reported on the activities of the OIML-CS, including the online MC meeting held in March 2021. He reported that despite the impact of the pandemic, the OIML-CS continues to function well and the number of OIML certificates issued in 2021 is expected to increase significantly when compared with 2020. The CIML approved the MC proposal to allow OIML Issuing Authorities to use ISO/IEC 17020 (with additional requirements) as an alternative to ISO/IEC 17065 to demonstrate competence.

An OIML medal was awarded to Dr Stephan Mieke for his contribution to the work of the OIML. Letters of Appreciation were presented to Mrs Laetitia Delette, Mrs Regina Klüß, Mr Peter Eekhout, Mr Ken Butcher, and Mr Chris Pulham for their contribution to the work of the OIML.

The 2021 OIML CEEMS Award was awarded to Mr Sophors Em, Cambodia, for his outstanding contributions to the work of the OIML.

It is planned to hold the 57th CIML Meeting in Suzhou, P.R. China, in October 2022.

The 56th CIML Meeting Resolutions, documents, and presentations can be found on the OIML website at https://www.oiml.org/en/structure/ciml/sites.