



MEMORANDUM of UNDERSTANDING

between

The INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION (IEC) and
The INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LEGAL METROLOGY (OIML)

concerning

LIAISONS and COLLABORATION BETWEEN BOTH ORGANIZATIONS

The scope of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) covers the relationship between the OIML and the IEC in matters of relevant technical cooperation, conformity assessment, standards development and practices.

The **OIML** including its **Certification System (OIML-CS)** and the **IEC** including its **Conformity Assessment Systems (IECEE, IECEx, IECQ and IECRE)**:

- CONSIDERING that the OIML is an Intergovernmental Organization which was established to harmonize legal metrology regulations and methods of control, to solve, at the international level, technical and administrative issues as they relate to legal metrology concerning the manufacture, conformity assessment, use and control of measuring instruments and to facilitate the coordination of the efforts of its Member States in this field,
- CONSIDERING that the IEC is an International Standardization Organization which was established to promote the development of standardization and conformity assessment in the Electrotechnical Sector with a view to facilitating international exchange of goods and services and to developing cooperation in the spheres of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity,
- CONSIDERING that the OIML and the IEC are international standards-setting bodies as stipulated in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreement of the World Trade Organization,
- CONSIDERING that both Organizations are involved in certain related standards development (SD) activities which it would be desirable to coordinate where appropriate,
- CONSIDERING that both Organizations are involved in certain related global conformity assessment (CA) activities which it would be desirable to coordinate where appropriate,
- DESIRING to coordinate their efforts to attain their joint objectives and, to this end, to define the terms and conditions of their liaisons and collaboration,



HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Preliminary provisions

Article I

The OIML and the IEC will maintain mutual liaisons and collaboration through:

- the International Bureau of Legal Metrology (BIML) and the IEC Secretariat (IEC SEC), and/or
- the Secretariats of OIML Technical Committees and Subcommittees and IEC Technical Committees, Subcommittees and Systems Committees, and/or
- the relevant conformity assessment management structures of both Organizations.

Both Organizations will extend a standing invitation to the other to have a nominated representative attend their respective annual meetings, provide a report and give a presentation, if relevant and appropriate.

Article II

The OIML and the IEC will consult each other on any issues of joint interest and will provide each other with any information or documentation concerning matters of mutual interest, particularly concerning legal metrology related to standards development and conformity assessment.

Standards development (SD) activities

Article III

In accordance with the IEC's policy on liaison given in the ISO/IEC Directives, the OIML can make an effective contribution by participating in the metrology-related work of IEC Technical Committees or Subcommittees (category A-liaison).

In accordance with the IEC's policy on options for development of a project, as a Liaison with IEC Committees, the OIML may submit OIML Recommendations or Documents for consideration to be processed according to the ISO/IEC Directives.

Article IV

In accordance with OIML B 12 *Policy paper on liaisons between the OIML and other bodies* and OIML B 6 *Directives for OIML technical work*, the IEC can make an effective contribution by participating in the technical work of the OIML.

Article V

The IEC and the OIML may agree to jointly develop publications. Such development shall be in accordance with the procedures of the respective Organizations. The IEC and the OIML shall also coordinate the maintenance of such publications.

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Publications resulting from SD work

Article VI

An OIML Recommendation or Document that has been processed under IEC procedures, including the Fast-Track procedure, may be published by the IEC as an IEC International Standard or Guide under the IEC's normal sales, copyright and exploitation conditions. Such an IEC International Standard or Guide shall include appropriate indication of the equivalent OIML Recommendation or Document as its source.

Article VII

An IEC International Standard or Guide that has been processed under OIML procedures may be published by the OIML as a Recommendation or Document under the OIML's normal translation, copyright and distribution conditions. Such an OIML Recommendation or Document shall include appropriate indication of the equivalent IEC International Standard or Guide as its source.

Article VIII

In the case of jointly developed publications, both Organizations shall apply their own rules and procedures. Appropriate indication of the joint development shall be included in the publications.

Conformity Assessment (CA) activities

Article IX

Relevant IEC representatives may participate as liaisons in the OIML-CS Management Committee.

Relevant OIML representatives may participate as liaisons in the work of IEC CA activities whose work is of interest to them.

Article X

The IEC and the OIML may agree to explore opportunities to jointly develop and/or operate CA scheme(s) or system(s) that serve the needs of both Organizations and their respective members and stakeholders, in accordance with the statutes, rules and procedures of the respective Organizations.

In this respect the two Organizations shall endeavour to find and initiate situations for cooperation, such as pilot projects, that create synergies between their respective CA activities.



Article XI

In recognition of the intellectual property (IP) generated by the IEC and the OIML in the development and operation of their separate CA scheme(s) or system(s), the IEC and the OIML will respect each other's intellectual property (IP).

Neither Organization will reproduce, copy, plagiarize, publish or otherwise use documents or parts of documents describing rules, procedures, processes, requirements, concepts, titles, management structures, and so on, used by the other Organization to operate its CA scheme(s) or system(s), without the formal written permission from the Organization owning the IP according to their own rules and procedures.

In the case where use of one Organization's IP by the other is granted, conditions may apply requiring that credit for use of the IP be expressed in a particular form, or that a disclaimer statement(s) be expressed, or both.

Joint communications

Article XII

The OIML and the IEC may work together to prepare, release and jointly publicize external communications on matters of common interest.

External communications in the name of both Organizations shall be mutually agreed prior to their publication.

Implementation

Article XIII

The realization of this MoU will be monitored during the period of its implementation.

Article XIV

To facilitate the implementation and maintenance of this MoU, Liaison Officers will be appointed by each Organization.

The Liaison Officers will be responsible for drawing up a joint work programme and ensuring its acceptance for implementation by their respective Organization.

Liaison Officers shall be responsible for expressing their Organisation's interests in the other Organization and in communicating any meeting or event schedules, working or subgroups and any other information, in line with those interests, that would be of use to the Liaison Officer, in the best implementation of this MoU.

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Final provisions

Article XV

This MoU cancels and supersedes the prior MoU between the IEC and the OIML established in 2018.

Article XVI

This MoU does not make any legal or otherwise enforceable commitments on behalf of any of the parties.

Article XVII

This MoU is established for a period of five years from the date of last signature.

This MoU may be amended and/or renewed with the approval of both Organizations.

Each party may terminate this MoU by giving the other party at least six months' written notice.

Article XVIII

This MoU shall be signed by the duly authorized representatives of the OIML and the IEC and shall become effective from the date of the last signature.

This MoU may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original, but all of which together shall constitute one instrument notwithstanding that all parties are not signatories to the same counterparts.

The parties agree that this MoU may be electronically signed, and that any electronic signatures appearing on this MoU, are the same as handwritten signatures for the purposes of validity and admissibility.

Signed on: 14/11/2023

Dr. Bob Joseph Mathew
OIML President
International Organization of Legal
Metrology (OIML)

Signed on: 14/11/2023

Mr. Philippe Metzger
Secretary-General and CEO of the
International Electrotechnical
Commission (IEC)

This Agreement is signed in English.