

OIML-CS**Update on the OIML Certification System (OIML-CS)**

PAUL DIXON, BIML

Introduction

Following the article on the new OIML Certification System (OIML-CS) in the April 2017 edition of the OIML Bulletin this article provides a report on the activities of the provisional Management Committee (prMC) on the implementation of the OIML-CS, including the outcomes of the second prMC meeting that was held on 13–14 June 2017.

The second prMC meeting was held as part of a series of events organized and hosted by the Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of P.R. China (AQSIQ), under the umbrella of the OIML Pilot Training Center (OPTC), relating to the OIML-CS during 13–16 June 2017 in Shanghai, P.R. China. An article on page 34 provides a report on an OIML-CS seminar and the article on page 37 provides a report on the final meeting of the Committee on Participation Review (CPR) under the OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA).

Activities since the first prMC meeting

A significant amount of activity has taken place to address the outcomes of the first prMC meeting that was held in February 2017. The first key decision that was taken by the prMC was the approval of the new OIML-CS logo which is shown in Figure 1 opposite. Approval of the logo was seen as a key step in establishing a recognizable brand for the OIML-CS and will be used on all materials associated with the OIML-CS.

The change to the OIML-CS structure – removing the Advisory Panel and incorporating a Review Committee as a sub-committee of the Management Committee – that was agreed at the first prMC meeting has been incorporated into the OIML-CS documentation.

The OIML-CS documentation has also been further improved and final versions of the Working Drafts of the revision of OIML B 18 and the Operational Documents (ODs) and Procedural Documents (PDs) were developed for approval at the second prMC meeting.

A “temporary” area on the OIML website has been established to provide information on the OIML-CS and work has started on developing the full OIML-CS website which will go live later this year. Further consideration was also given to the transitional arrangements under the OIML-CS, and proposals were developed regarding the revision of existing OIML Basic and MAA certificates from 1 January 2018 as well as the use of test data from those certificates for issuing OIML-CS certificates for consideration by the prMC at its second meeting.

Nominations for legal metrology experts to participate in accreditation and peer assessments have been received and the nominated experts have provided information on their experience and capabilities. The Review Committee established at the first prMC meeting will use the information provided to make a recommendation to the prMC on the suitability of the nominated experts.

Work has also taken place with ILAC regarding the revision of the existing Joint OIML-ILAC Assessment Procedure for test laboratories in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025, and a proposal has been made to IAF to develop a similar Joint Assessment Procedure to cover OIML Issuing Authorities under ISO/IEC 17065.

Second prMC meeting

The prMC held its second meeting on 13–14 June 2017 in Shanghai, P.R. China. Representatives from 13 OIML Member States (Australia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, P.R. China, South Africa, Switzerland, United Kingdom and United States) and one Organization in Liaison (CECIP) participated in the meeting. Representatives from Cambodia, Indonesia, Iran and the Philippines also attended as observers.



Figure 1 OIML-CS logo

The primary aims of the second prMC meeting were to

- a) agree the draft revision of OIML B 18 so that it could be submitted for approval at the 2017 CIML meeting,
- b) approve the Working Drafts of the ODs and PDs,
- c) finalize the transitional arrangements from the current OIML Basic Certificate System and OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA) to the new OIML-CS,
- d) agree on the scope of measuring instrument categories in the OIML-CS and the Scheme in which they will start, along with their transition from Scheme B to Scheme A,
- e) identify candidates for the positions of Management Committee (MC) Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson,
- f) develop further proposals for promotion and awareness-raising,
- g) finalize the membership of the Review Committee, and
- h) consider the Joint Assessment Procedures with IAF and ILAC for the assessment of the OIML Issuing Authorities and the Test Laboratories respectively, as well as finalizing the process for the approval of experts to participate in peer assessments and accreditation assessments.

Key outcomes from the second prMC meeting

At its meeting the prMC made a number of decisions and agreed on a set of actions to progress with the implementation of the OIML-CS so that it may become effective from 1 January 2018, replacing the current OIML Basic Certificate System and the OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA).

Some of the key outcomes from the meeting were the

- a) agreement of the draft revision of OIML B 18 for subsequent approval by the CIML in October 2017,
- b) approval of the Operational Documents (ODs) and Procedural Documents (PDs),
- c) agreement to finalize the necessary templates and forms based on the approved ODs and PDs to support the operation of the OIML-CS,
- d) agreement of detailed proposals for the transitional arrangements from the current Certificate Systems to the OIML-CS,
- e) agreement of the scope of measuring instrument categories in the OIML-CS, including in which

Scheme they will start, and the dates that they will transition from Scheme B to Scheme A,

- f) nomination of candidates for the positions of Management Committee Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, and
- g) undertaking of various promotion and awareness-raising activities relating to the OIML-CS, including a second seminar on the OIML-CS in conjunction with the CIML meeting in October 2017 (see below).

Next steps

The prMC report to the 52nd CIML Meeting in 2017 will make a series of recommendations and proposals to enable the OIML-CS to become effective on 1 January 2018.

The draft revision of OIML B 18 will be submitted to the CIML for approval in October 2017 and the ODs and PDs will be published on the OIML website. A number of Working Groups have been established to address the actions that were raised at the second prMC meeting.

The BIML will update the “temporary” OIML-CS pages on the OIML website to provide further information for key stakeholders, and will continue to work on the development of the full OIML-CS website.

Members of the prMC and BIML staff will identify further opportunities to promote and raise awareness of the OIML-CS amongst key stakeholders such as potential OIML Issuing Authorities, Utilizers and manufacturers. One such event is the seminar on the OIML-CS that will be held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia in conjunction with the CIML meeting in October 2017.

Further information is available at: <http://cartagena.oiml.org/seminar.html> ■



Participants in the second prMC Meeting held in Shanghai, P.R. China