

Chairman's 2014 Report

APLMF Working Group on Mutual Recognition Arrangements (MRAs)



Chairman: Charles D. Ehrlich
NIST, U.S.A. CIML Member



APLMF WG on MRAs 2013-2014 Work Items

Working Group on Mutual Recognition Arrangements seeks to:

1. Continue supporting the OIML work on implementation of the MAA (Mutual Acceptance Arrangement) and not develop a regional MAA;
2. Closely follow the work of the newly-formed OIML ad-hoc working group that is reviewing the structure of the OIML Committees on Participation Review (CPRs), the rules and procedures governing the operation of the OIML MAA, and the role of MAA Utilizing Participants -- with a view to increasing the efficiency of the operation of the MAA, and, if necessary, amending the OIML MAA documents.
3. WG Chair, with assistance of BIML, provide an OIML MAA implementation update report for APLMF Circular.



APLMF WG on MRAs

2013-2014 Work Items

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APLMF WG on MRAs

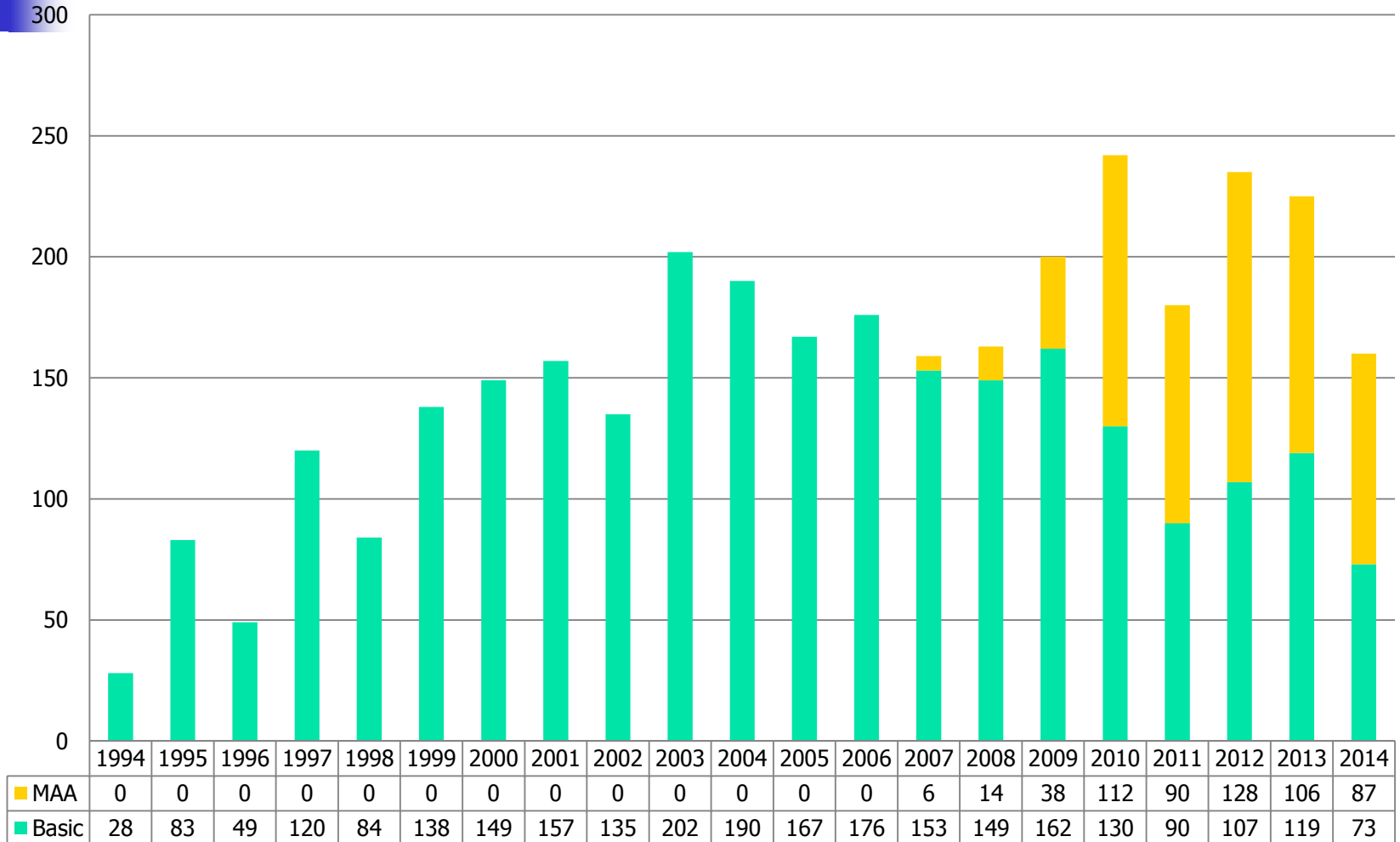
2013-2014 Work Item 1

- There has been no direct request or inquiry from an APLMF Member Economy to look into a regional Mutual Recognition Arrangement.
- The ongoing work in implementing the OIML MAA has been the focus of the APLMF WG activity, while keeping in mind ways that all interested APLMF Member Economies might participate.
- MAA discussions and report at last week's CIML meeting in Auckland.

APLMF WG on MRAs

2013-2014 Work Item 1-a

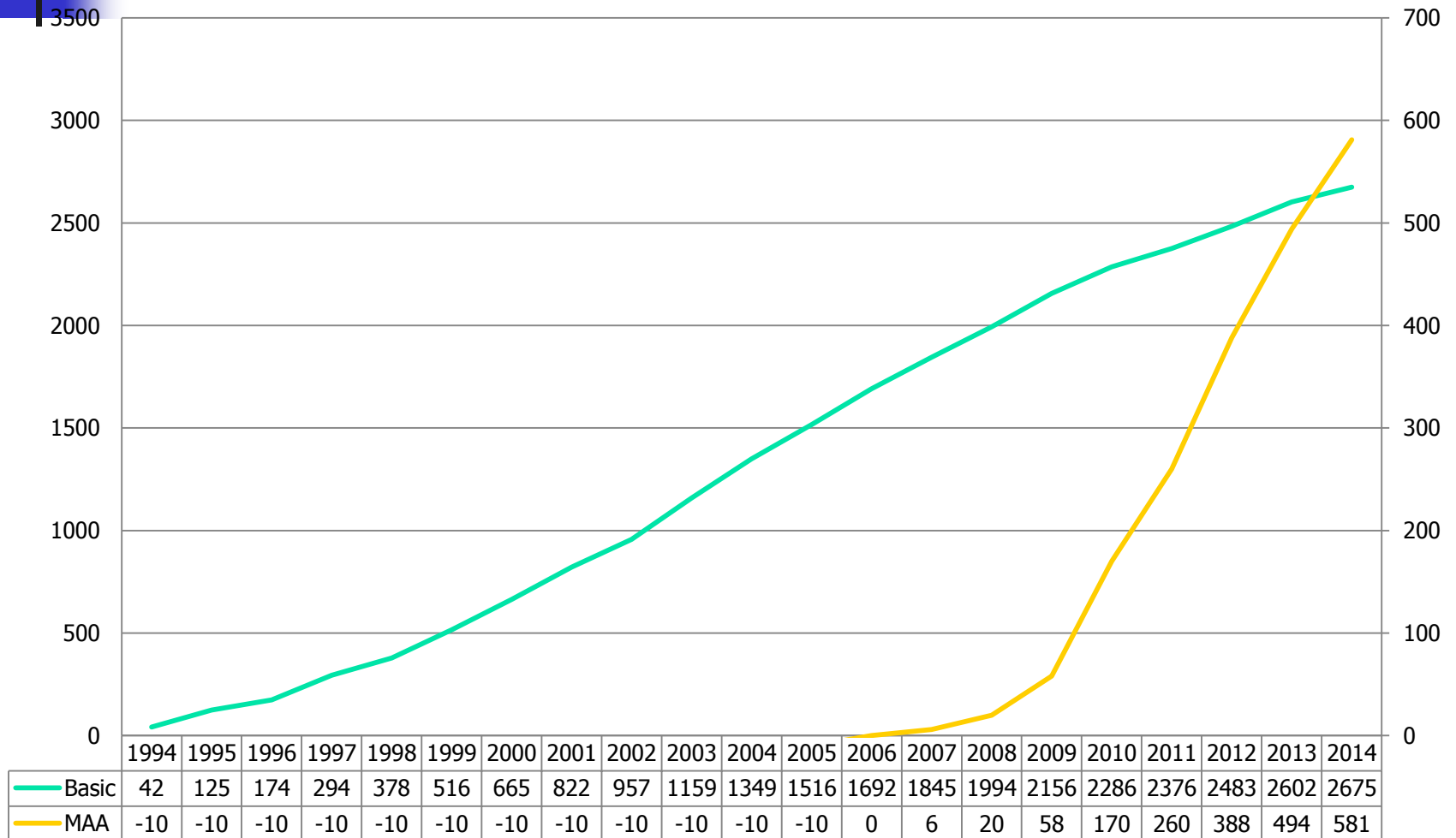
OIML Certificates - October 2014



APLMF WG on MRAs

2013-2014 Work Item 1-b

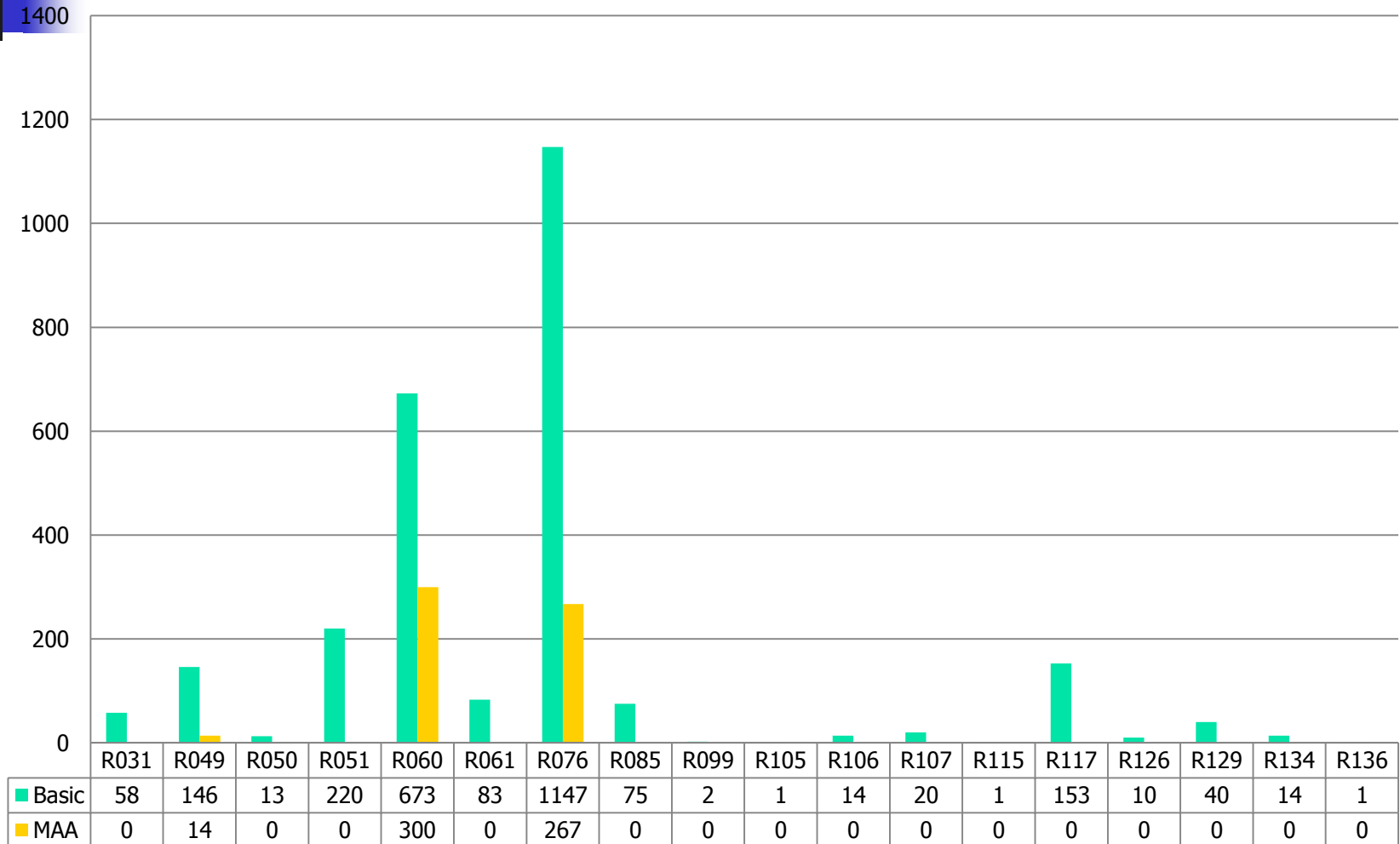
OIML Certificates - October 2014



APLMF WG on MRAs

2013-2014 Work Item 1-c

OIML Certificates - October 2014





APLMF WG on MRAs 2013-2014 Work Items

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APLMF WG on MRAs

2013-2014 Work Item 2

As review, **three MAA Resolutions** were approved at the 2013 CIML meeting in Vietnam:

1. Resolution no. 2013/15 on “**raising awareness of the MAA system**”;
2. Resolution no. 2013/16 on “**reviewing the CPR structure, rules and procedures**”;
3. Resolution no. 2013/17 on “**steps towards one single certification system for OIML type evaluations**”.



APLMF WG on MRAs

2013-2014 Work Item 2

A [Questionnaire](#) covering several aspects of the MAA was developed by the Chairman (Prof. Roman Schwartz) of the Ad-Hoc Working Group (AHWG) on the MAA, and circulated internationally on 18 December, 2013, with comments due back 21 Feb., 2014.

There were [21 responses](#) containing good and useful proposals.

The BIML compiled, summarized and distributed the responses to the AHWG(MAA) on 13 March, 2014, as input for the [AHWG\(MAA\) meeting](#) at NIST/Gaithersburg 20-21 March, 2014.



APLMF WG on MRAs

2013-2014 Work Item 2

A key outcome of the AHWG(MAA) meeting was that **three Task Groups (TGs) were established:**

TG1: Develop a “functional specification” for the OIML MAA Home Page, and for the OIML MAA Leaflet(s);

TG2: Develop proposals to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the MAA System and CPR operation;

TG3: Define the conditions under which potential new Issuing Participants may get in the MAA System (when a DoMC exists) when the Basic System is terminated.



APLMF WG on MRAs

2013-2014 Work Item 2

Status/progress of the three Task Groups (TGs) as of 1 October, 2014 [later updated with discussions and decisions at CIML meeting in Auckland last week]:

TG1.1 [MAA website and MAA leaflet]: "A couple of concrete proposals have been submitted to the BIML; More time needed."

TG1.2 [Reasons for non-acceptance]: "No concrete proposal for an "evaluation of the MAA" yet."

TG2 [Review of CPR]: "No progress report received yet."

TG3 [Single OIML Certificate System]: "More time needed."

TG 1.1 "MAA website and MAA leaflet"

Tasks:

- To develop, based on the respective responses to the questionnaire, a "functional specification" for the OIML web site pages pertaining to the OIML certification systems,
- To develop, based on the respective responses to the questionnaire, ideas for update / improvement of the OIML leaflet(s),

Objectives:

- to make the MAA more visible and attractive on the OIML home page,
- to better explain the benefits of the MAA and of MAA certificates (being "qualified certificates"), and
- to enable better promotion of the MAA by updated / improved leaflet(s)

Members:


DE (chair), UK, CECIP, IN, BIML

Results so far / Current status (as of 1 October 2014):

- A couple of concrete proposals have been submitted to the BIML
- More time needed

TG 1.1 "MAA website and MAA leaflet"

Results achieved so far / Current status (update from CIML Meeting discussions last week in Auckland):

- 
- A couple of concrete proposals, both for the website and the leaflet, have been developed by the chairperson, Dorothea Knopf
 - These proposals will have to be submitted to and discussed by the TG 1.1 members
 - In the meantime, the BIML has changed the OIML website:

TG 1.1 "MAA website and MAA leaflet"

New OIML web site:

OIML Organisation Internationale de Métrologie Légale
International Organization of Legal Metrology

ABOUT PUBLICATIONS STRUCTURE CERTIFICATES EVENTS TECHNICAL WORK

Legal metrology and trade

What is legal metrology?
Legal metrology is the application of legal requirements to measurements and measuring instruments...
[More info](#)

Publications and Bulletin
The OIML develops model regulations, standards and related documents...
[More info](#)

CIML
The International Committee of Legal Metrology is the functional decision-making body of the Organization...
[More info](#)

Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA)
The OIML MAA is a tool to increase the level of mutual confidence...
[More info](#)

TG 1.1 "MAA website and MAA leaflet"

Home → Certificates → OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement

CERTIFICATES

Basic Certificate System
OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement

- Documentation
- Signed DOMCs

Registered Certificates
Issuing Authorities
Categories by Issuing Authority

OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (OIML MAA)



An arrangement for issuing, registering and using OIML MAA Certificates of Conformity

Introduction

Implemented in January 2005, the OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement ("OIML MAA") is a tool to increase the level of mutual confidence provided by the OIML Basic Certificate System. Its purpose is to establish a worldwide multilateral arrangement which offers a wider scope than bilateral or regional arrangements.

Within the OIML MAA, confidence in test and examination results is reinforced by a formal and mandatory peer evaluation process.

Benefits

All stakeholders may benefit from the OIML MAA:

- For national legal metrology authorities, where national type evaluations and approvals are required the OIML MAA provides formal evidence to accept and utilize OIML MAA Type Evaluation Reports validated by an OIML MAA Certificate of Conformity.
- For countries in which no test facilities are available, the OIML MAA offers a viable solution.
- For manufacturers, the OIML MAA provides a tool to avoid duplication of type approval tests in different countries.

TG 1.2 "Reasons for non-acceptance"

Tasks:

- To develop, based on respective responses to the questionnaire, proposals how CIML Members, RLMOs and manufacturers associations can be surveyed on their experience and knowledge about the reasons for non-acceptance of OIML certificates.

Members:

DE (chair), UK, NL, IN, ZM

Results so far / Current status (as of 1 October 2014):

- No concrete proposal for an "evaluation of the MAA" yet
- Direct feedback from the CIML?
- Direct feedback from the RLMO round table?
- BIML letter to CIML members, RLMOs, CECIP, CECOD, ...?

TG 1.2 "Reasons for non-acceptance"

Tasks:

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Members:

DE (chair), UK, NL, IN, ZM

Results so far / Current status (update from CIML Meeting discussions last week in Auckland):

- BIML letter ?
- Feedback from RLMO's?, CECIP? CECOD?
- Feedback from **CIML members** is of key importance

→ **First step: see Resolution addressing CIML members**

TG 2 "CPR Review"

Task:

To consider the respective responses to the questionnaire, especially:

- proposals to improve the effectiveness and the efficiency of the system,
- whether (or not) to have another layer of decision within the CPR,
- means to increase efficiency, e.g. more forms and templates,
- increased use of technical means (electronic voting, etc),
- to improve the preparation of CPR meetings,
- to develop a proposal concerning the chairing of CPR meetings,
- to expand the category of "associates" to include issuing authorities from OIML Member States that do not wish to actively participate in the CPR,
- to consider necessary amendments of both B 10 and MAA 01.

Members:

UK (chair), US, JP, DE, FR, NL, CH, BIML

Results so far / Current status (as of 1 October 2014):

- TG 2 had its first meeting still in Gaithersburg
- No progress report received yet

TG 2 "CPR Review"

Results so far / Current status (update from CIML Meeting discussions last week in Auckland):

- TG 2 had its first (informal) meeting on 21 March 2014 in Gaithersburg
- Concrete ideas and substantial proposals have been circulated by Paul Dixon on 22 Oct. 2014 for consideration by TG 2 members before 15 December 2014

→ Short presentation and discussion of the options and proposals

TG 3 "Single system"

Tasks:

- To investigate options how a single system may be organized, and how the transition could take place, considering the resp. responses to the questionnaire,
- to review/analyze (for R 60 and R 76 at the moment)
 - (a) past CIML decisions on the termination of the Basic system,
 - (b) the number of Basic certificates still being issued (including revisions),
 - (c) the implications of a CIML decision to terminate the Basic System for a category for which a DoMC exists,
- to define the conditions / options under which potential new Issuing Participants may get in the MAA system.

Members:

DE (chair), BIML, US, IN, UK, NL, CECIP

Results so far / Current status (as of 1 October 2014):

- The BIML has provided a list of all relevant CIML decisions
- CECIP responded: 8 conditions should be fulfilled before a date is fixed for the termination of the Basic system for R 60 and R 76
- More time needed

TG 3 "Single system"

Results so far / Current status (update from CIML Meeting discussions last week in Auckland):

- The BIML has provided a list of all relevant CIML decisions: there is a clear expectation of the CIML to have finally one single system
- CECIP responded: certain conditions to be fulfilled before terminating the Basic system for R 60 and R 76
- First ideas will be circulated to and discussed by TG3.

Resolution no. 2014/18 [Agenda item 8.5]

- The Committee,
- Notes the report given by the ad-hoc working group (AHWG) chair and CIML First Vice-President, Dr. Roman Schwartz,
- Considers the review of the MAA as a high priority project, and therefore
- Encourages the AHWG, including its task groups, to undertake every effort to present concrete proposals to the next CIML meeting,
- Instructs the BIML to provide the necessary support for the AHWG, including its task groups, in order to implement CIML Resolutions nos. 2013/15, 2013/16 and 2013/17,
- Requests CIML Members to inform the BIML about their experience and knowledge as to whether or not OIML certificates (Basic or MAA) and OIML Test Reports are accepted in their countries as the basis for national or regional type approval, and the reasons in cases where they are either not accepted, or not completely accepted.

Informal AHWG meeting, 5 Nov. 2014

Information about the current status / progress of the 4 TG's

Next steps and timeline:

- In support of the CIML Resolution the BIML will circulate a short (!) questionnaire to CIML members a.s.a.p.
- TG's will discuss / comment the proposals by 15 December 2014
- TG chairs will summarize and provide final proposals by 31 January 2015
- A meeting of the TG chairs and other TG members is planned for just prior to the Presidential Council meeting in March 2015
- The outcome of that meeting and further steps will be discussed at the Presidential Council meeting in March 2015



APLMF WG on MRAs

2013-2014 Work Items

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3. WG Chair, with assistance of BIML, provide an OIML MAA implementation update report for APLMF Circular.



APLMF WG on MRAs

2013-2014 Work Item 3

WG Chair, with assistance of BIML, to provide OIML MAA implementation update report for APLMF Circular.

No MAA Update Article prepared this year:

-No APLMF Circular any more?

-MAA/CPR implementation issues (Ad Hoc Task Group on MAA established) ...

APLMF WG on MRAs



Proposed Work Program for next year (2014 – 2015):



APLMF WG on MRAs 2014-2015 Work Items

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APLMF WG on MRAs



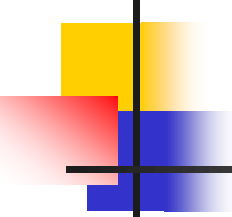
QUESTIONS?

OTHER IDEAS?

APLMF WG on MRAs



THANK YOU!



APLMF WG on MRAs

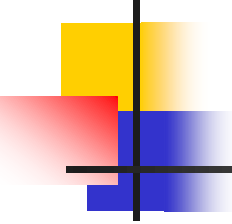
2012-2013 Work Item 1

■ **Resolution no. 15**

[Agenda item 9.5]

- The Committee,
- Noting the oral report by its first Vice-President on the outcome of the seminar to review the operation of the OIML Mutual Acceptance Arrangement (MAA);
- Considering that there appears to be a high level of confidence in those areas where Declarations of Mutual Confidence (DoMCs) are in place;
- Considering the conclusion of the MAA seminar that there is a need to raise awareness of the MAA system among those not currently using it, in particular among potential Utilizing Participants;
- Urges its Members, the participants in the MAA and the BIML to actively promote the MAA among legal metrology authorities and measuring instrument manufacturers worldwide;

- Encourages its Members to draw to the attention of trade negotiators within their administrations the opportunities which OIML Recommendations and the MAA structures offer as means of reducing barriers to trade and the possibility they provide to enhance both bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations;
- Instructs the BIML in its capacity as co-secretariat of the MAA Committees on Participation Review (CPR) to set up an ad-hoc working group consisting of interested CIML and/or CPR members and representatives of manufacturers' associations to consider how this awareness can be raised, and to provide secretarial support to this working group;
- Requests its first Vice-President to chair this ad-hoc working group and to report on its activities to the 49th CIML Meeting.



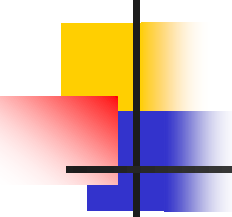
APLMF WG on MRAs

2012-2013 Work Item 1

■ **Resolution no. 16**

[Agenda item 9.5]

- The Committee,
- Recalling its Resolution no. 15;
- Considering that the MAA's Committees on Participation Review (CPR) decide on their own rules and procedures within the framework set by OIML Publication B 10 *Framework for a Mutual Acceptance Arrangement on OIML type evaluations* and that TC 3/SC 5 is responsible for that Basic Publication;
- Considering the conclusion of the MAA seminar that there is a need to review the structure and the operation of the CPRs;
- Urges the ad hoc group created by its Resolution no. 15 to review with the CPRs their structure, rules and procedures governing the operation of the MAA, and the role of Utilizing Participants, with a view to increasing the efficiency of the operation of the MAA, and, if necessary, to amending their internal (MAA-) documents accordingly and to suggesting to TC 3/SC 5 appropriate amendments to OIML Publication B 10.



APLMF WG on MRAs

2012-2013 Work Item 1

■ **Resolution no. 17**

[Agenda item 9.5]

- The Committee,
- Recalling its decision on the implementation of the MAA in its 39th meeting (2004) under agenda item 6.3;
- Recalling Resolution no. MAA 2006-2 of its 41st meeting concerning a transitory period ending 31 December 2008 in which both MAA certificates and Basic certificates may be issued;
- Recalling Resolution no. 20 of its 43rd meeting (2008), extending the transitory period until such time that the Committee takes an express decision (separate for each category of instruments) to end it, effectively maintaining the Basic Certificate System in parallel to the MAA;
- Recalling its Resolution no. 15;
- Considering that for almost nine years now there exist *de facto* two OIML conformity assessment systems for OIML type evaluations: the OIML Basic Certificate System and the MAA, whereas the MAA was conceived to replace the Basic Certificate System;
- Resolves that steps should be taken to ensure that, in future, there will be only one single certification system for OIML type evaluations, based on the principles of the MAA, and that, as a first step, the options for how such a single system may be organized, how the transition could take place and by what time schedule, should be investigated, taking into account the experiences of similar, well established certification systems;
- Urges the ad hoc group created in its Resolution no. 15 to investigate such options and to make appropriate recommendations.