



Addendum 6.6

2012-07-12

6.6 Proposal for a special fund for developing countries

For many years the OIML has attempted to identify and redefine how it relates to developing countries. Special groups have been formed then disbanded, and a number of individuals have been invited to work on this issue.

During his presentation at the 46th CIML Meeting in 2011, Eberhard Seiler provided participants with some insight concerning the lack of noticeable progress that has been made. Some thoughtful comments were also made by participants in response.

Comments from Members indicate that developing countries have a need to move towards membership of the OIML. However, these developing countries ask what the OIML can do for them - can the OIML offer practical and concrete strategies? Developing countries have a need to reduce technical barriers to trade and increase exports and want to know what the OIML has to offer them. In response to questions regarding the Organization's ability to help them participate fully in world trading activities, the OIML needs to produce a tangible program for the establishment of legal metrology practice in developing countries.

The World Bank is now spending large sums of money to support the trade activities of developing countries. Unfortunately legal metrology is not recognized in that program. In its strategy, the OIML should assist and facilitate developing countries in obtaining access to funding organizations. A process should be in place to raise awareness, both in developing countries and in funding organizations, of the significant role that legal metrology plays in the world economy. This would allow the OIML to take a top down approach.

In addition, the RLMOs are currently organizing their efforts jointly. COOMET and WELMEC, with the participation of the BIML, will propose items for the BIML Work Program based on the results of an inquiry. A report on this will be presented and discussed during the Round Table meeting in 2012.

In the proposed Budget for 2013-2016 there is a provision of €35 000 per year to allow funding for the OIML to begin work in this area. Additional information and details on potential work items will be presented at the CIML Meeting.