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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

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ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LEGAL METROLOGY (OIML) RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE WTO TBT COMMITTEE

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE OIML

This document contains information provided by the OIML at the TBT Committee meeting of 6-7 March 2019 under Agenda Item 5 (Observers).

The following recent activities of the OIML are of particular interest to the TBT Committee:

1 ACTIVITIES FOR COUNTRIES AND ECONOMIES WITH EMERGING METROLOGY SYSTEMS (CEEMS)

1. Since 2016, the OIML has run a number of training courses on various aspects of legal metrology. Several of these were funded and logistically supported by P.R. China under their initiative to establish an "OIML Pilot Training Centre". More recently, other funding and organisational models have been explored, and courses have been run in Kenya and in Cuba with funding from the OIML and the PTB (the German national metrology institute). The OIML is now formalising this process by establishing a framework document for OIML Training Centres, with the intention of expanding the programme for such training under various donor funding models.

2. The OIML's activities in favour of CEEMS are overseen by an Advisory Group, which has established a workplan to ensure that the needs and concerns of these countries are prioritised throughout the Organisation's work. A secondee from P.R. China is currently working on the development and implementation of this workplan at the Organisation's headquarters.

2 TECHNICAL WORK TRAINING

3. Over the last two years, the OIML has conducted a total of nine training courses for secretariats and conveners of the OIML's technical work. Two more courses to be held in 2019, in Canada and in Europe, will complete the initial phase of this training, and a long-term plan will now be established to provide ongoing training to ensure that all secretariats and conveners are kept up to date. The intention of this training is to improve efficiency in the development of OIML Recommendations, and to ensure that this work complies with the *Directives for OIML Technical Work*. Since OIML Recommendations are models for technical legislation on regulated measuring instruments, their technical relevance needs to be maintained by keeping them up-to-date as efficiently as possible. Their relevance then ensures a high degree of consumer protection as well as a level playing field and the removal of technical barriers in domestic and international trade.

3 OIML CERTIFICATION SYSTEM (OIML-CS)

4. The new *OIML Certification System (OIML-CS)* came into operation on 1 January 2018, replacing two previous systems. The OIML-CS further helps in reducing technical barriers to trade in the area of measuring instruments by enabling manufacturers to obtain OIML test reports and certificates for their instruments. These can then be used to obtain national type approval, without further testing, in countries signatory to the System.

4 NEW CIML FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT AND BIML DIRECTOR

5. The 54th CIML Meeting in October 2018 appointed a new CIML First Vice President from the United States of America, and a new Director of the Organisation's headquarters, the Bureau International de Métrologie Légale, from Australia.

6. For further information, please contact Ian Dunmill, BIML Assistant Director (ian.dunmill@oiml.org).
