



Report on the MAA implementation during 2006-2007

Revision 2

1 PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION

The DoMCs are still in an early phase, the first two having been signed in September 2006. Due to the time needed to carry out type evaluations, the first Certificates issued under the MAA were only recently received and registered by the Bureau.

1.1 R 60 and R 76 DoMCs

The R 60 DoMC now has five Issuing Participants plus eleven Utilizing Participants, and the R 76 DoMC has seven Issuing Participants plus eight Utilizing Participants. As at the end of May 2007, three OIML MAA Certificates had been issued under the R 76 DoMC.

The R 60/R 76 CPR held its third meeting on 6-7 June 2007 in Tsukuba, Japan. In particular, the candidacies received from potential new Issuing Participants, and changes in the participation status of certain countries in the R 60 and R 76 DoMCs, were examined during the meeting. Considering the timescale necessary for the formal acceptance of new Participants by the existing Participants, it is expected that the R 60 and R 76 DoMCs will be revised to include the new Participants by the end of 2007. These changes will result in the following:

- seven Issuing Participants plus eleven Utilizing Participants in the R 60 DoMC;
- ten Issuing Participants plus nine Utilizing Participants in the R 76 DoMC.

1.2 R 49 DoMC

To give consideration to the candidacies received for participation, the provisional R 49 CPR was established and held its first meeting on 24-25 May 2007 in Brøndby, Denmark. Three Issuing Participants and five Utilizing Participants applied.

The R 49 DoMC should be close to signature by the end of 2007.

1.3 MoU between ILAC and the OIML (also see the report on liaisons)

An MoU was signed in November 2006 between ILAC and the OIML to develop their cooperation, in particular in the evaluation of testing laboratories involved in the field of legal metrology testing.

This MoU led to the drawing up of a joint ILAC/OIML Working Program for 2007-2008 which mainly focused on cooperation in assessments by sharing lead assessors from National Accreditation Bodies and technical and metrological experts validated by the CPRs as indicated above.

This cooperation also includes joint training actions which should be implemented by the beginning of 2008.

2 COSTS

2.1 Costs for the BIML

The analytical accounts related to the MAA for 2006 show the following figures:

Account	Nature	Debit	Credit	Balance
701400	MAA Certificates registration		0 €	
701450	Application fees		1 530 €	
623100	MAA logo	663 €		
625000	Travel	6 544 €		
625100	Accommodation	8 010 €		
625200	Receptions	763 €		
Total MAA external		15 975 €	1 530 €	-14 450 €
Direct BIML staff costs (0.6 staff members)		57 018 €		

For information, partial allocation of the general BIML overheads (in proportion with the above direct costs)			
Administration, Systems, Secretariat	22 690 €		
General BIML operating costs	36 330 €		

2.2 Costs for Participants

The costs for Participants are the following:

- for CPR Members (designated by the CIML Member), cost of the CPR meetings (travel and accommodation);
- for Issuing Participants, entry fee of 1 560 € (2007 value) plus the cost of peer assessment (1 500 € per assessor-day) if they are not accredited or if their accreditation does not cover the full scope of the DoMC.

2.3 Costs for manufacturers

The costs for manufacturers in 2007 are the following:

- registration fee of 520 € instead of 156 € ("Basic" Certificate) for each Certificate covered by a DoMC.

3 PERSPECTIVES

3.1 Benefits for manufacturers

It is still too early to evaluate the degree of acceptance of MAA Certificates and the benefits of the MAA for manufacturers. The Bureau will follow the use and acceptance of MAA Certificates and will report back to the CIML in 2008.

3.2 Costs

Over the initial short term period the number of OIML MAA Certificates will not be sufficient to finance the MAA implementation as initially expected. It is suggested that the staff of the Bureau be fixed in the next budget at 11 permanent persons (instead of 10 persons plus one temporary staff member dedicated to the MAA), and that the MAA costs and income be considered as normal costs and income of the Bureau, considered globally in the budget.

To answer concerns raised about the difference in registration fees between OIML “Basic” Certificates and OIML MAA Certificates, it is suggested to fix the same registration fee in the next budget. This registration fee would be fixed at an intermediate level between the two present fees, so that the MAA costs will decrease and at the same time, Basic certificates would contribute to balancing the MAA implementation costs.

3.3 Test results from manufacturers and continuing to issue Basic Certificates

This issue was extensively discussed at the third R 60/R 76 CPR meeting. Nevertheless, it is not only related to the MAA but to the OIML Certificate System in general. Currently, it is not generally indicated in all OIML Evaluation and/or Test Reports whether test results come from the manufacturer, or whether they were performed by the testing laboratory using the manufacturer’s test facilities.

Several countries and manufacturers wish to continue to issue Certificates based on manufacturers’ test results. It should be envisaged to keep the OIML Basic Certificate System in parallel to the DoMCs, so as to cover such cases and also to allow newly appointed Issuing Authorities to issue Certificates before entering into DoMCs.

This will be considered by TC 3/SC 5 in the revision of OIML B 3 and B 10.

3.4 Maintenance of the R 60 and R 76 DoMCs

The next step to be implemented for the R 60 and R 76 DoMCs is the intermediate documentary assessment, which is part of the maintenance of the DoMCs and which shall be completed by 29 September 2008. This intermediate assessment will include:

- the examination of an internal audit report for peer assessed laboratories;
- the examination of the most recent accreditation assessment report for accredited laboratories.

In addition, the peer assessment of a new potential Issuing Participant requested by the R 76 CPR should be conducted in 2008.

3.5 Revision of the R 76 DoMC

The R 76 DoMC will be revised to introduce in its scope the revision of R 76-1 and R 76-2.

3.6 Future organization of the CPRs

The MAA is currently being implemented for three categories of instruments:

R 60	Load cells
R 76	Non-automatic weighing instruments
R 49	Water meters

The next categories to be considered are the following:

R 117/118	Fuel dispensers
R 51	Automatic catchweighing instruments
R 137	Gas meters
R xxx	Gas conversion devices
R 75	Heat meters
R 50	Continuous totalizing automatic weighing instruments
R 107	Discontinuous totalizing automatic weighing instruments
R 117/xxx	Calculators for liquid measuring assemblies
R 117/xxx	Measuring assemblies on road tankers
R 81	Cryogenic liquids
R 117/xxx	LPG meters
R 58	Sound level meters
R 46	Electricity meters

In order to reduce the number of CPR meetings, one possibility would be to set up a general CPR independent from the DoMCs. Such a CPR would operate with sub-groups (one per DoMC or group of DoMCs) which would be responsible for the technical issues (examination of the application files, of the accreditation assessment and peer assessment reports, validation of technical experts). These sub-groups would report to the general CPR.

Another possibility would be to have all CPR Members meet together at the same time to discuss matters of general interest to all CPRs. Afterwards, the individual CPRs would meet to discuss matters specific to their DoMC.

Such a proposal will be examined by OIML TC 3/SC 5 when revising OIML B 10-1.