



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)
BETWEEN
THE COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DES POIDS ET MESURES (CIPM)
AND
THE INTERNATIONAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION COOPERATION (ILAC)

1. Parties and Purpose

The Parties

- 1.1 The International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (hereafter ILAC) is an international cooperation of laboratory and inspection accreditation bodies which administers a global mutual recognition arrangement among laboratory accreditation bodies, having as their objective the formal recognition of competent laboratories, for specified scopes.
- 1.2 The *Comité International des Poids et Mesures* (hereafter the CIPM) is the supervisory organ of the *Bureau International des Poids et Mesures* (hereafter the BIPM), an intergovernmental organization established by the Metre Convention. The CIPM operates under the authority of the *Conférence Générale des Poids et Mesures* (CGPM), plenary organ of the BIPM, and has established in 1999 an arrangement for the mutual recognition of national measurement standards and of calibration and measurement certificates issued by national metrology institutes (CIPM MRA).

The Purpose

- 1.3 The Chairman of ILAC and the President of the CIPM, on behalf of their respective organizations and in accordance with the constitution and relevant rules of both organizations, agree upon the following MoU to inform and support future cooperation of their activities. ILAC and the CIPM accept the provisions of this MoU.

2. Areas of Cooperation

The Parties, recognising the need to strengthen the links between accreditation and metrology and to coordinate their actions in respect of their tasks related to national and international measurement infrastructure, have agreed to cooperate.

The Parties:

- 2.1 agree that appropriate cross references will be made to their Mutual Recognition Arrangements and will promote cooperation at the regional level;
- 2.2 agree to ensure the timely exchange of information on matters of common interest;
- 2.3 will strive to harmonize future policy on matters of common interest;
- 2.4 will cooperate to provide, from their respective communities, cross representation on international assessments;
- 2.5 will ensure mutual representation on working groups, engaged in the wording of selected documents;
- 2.6 agree to meet at least on an annual basis;
- 2.7 agree to invite representatives as observers to each other's general assemblies, namely the CGPM and the ILAC General Assembly;
- 2.8 will encourage their members and regional co-operations to explore cost effective arrangements for the respective bodies' use of each other's services to extend the national and international measurement systems into the broader community of users.

3. Implementation

- 3.1 This MoU shall come into force on the date of signature by the Chairman of ILAC and the President of CIPM and will remain in force until terminated in accordance with the provisions defined below.
- 3.2 This MoU will be reviewed by the Parties every three years.

4. Amendments

- 4.1 This MoU may be amended at any time by a written agreement between the Parties.

5. Termination

- 5.1 This MoU may be terminated by either Party upon six months written notice of such intention.

6. Signature

R. Robertson

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Peter Unger
Chairman, ILAC

B. Inglis

Barry Inglis
President, CIPM

Signed on: 7 March 2012