



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DES POIDS ET MESURES (BIPM)**  
**AND**  
**THE INTERNATIONAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION COOPERATION (ILAC)**

**1. Parties and Purpose**

The Parties

1.1

ILAC is the international organisation for accreditation bodies operating in accordance with ISO/IEC 17011 and involved in the accreditation of conformity assessment bodies. ILAC has established an international arrangement between member accreditation bodies based on peer evaluation and mutual acceptance. ILAC is the principal international co-operation for: recognising accredited calibration laboratories, testing laboratories, medical testing laboratories, inspection bodies, proficiency testing providers and reference material producers under the ILAC MRA.

1.2

The International Bureau of Weights and Measures (hereinafter the "BIPM") is an international organization through which States Parties to the Metre Convention act together on matters related to measurement science and measurement standards, the headquarter of which is located in Sèvres, France. The International Committee for Weights and Measures (hereinafter the "CIPM") is the supervisory organ of the BIPM. The CIPM operates under the authority of the General Conference on Weights and Measures (hereinafter the "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 Chair 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 BIPM accept the provisions of this MoU.

## **2. Areas of Cooperation**

The Parties agree to cooperate in recognition of 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.

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 development and maintenance 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 cooperations 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 Chair 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 five 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**

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Etty Feller  
Chair, ILAC



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Wynand Louw  
President, CIPM

Signed on: 15 November 2023