

**REPORT OF THE APLMF  
WORKING GROUP ON UTILITY METERS  
HELD ON 7 SEPTEMBER 1999 AT NUSA DUA, BALI, INDONESIA**

The Working Group met in Nusa Dua on 7 September 1999 and was chaired by Mr John Birch (Australia) and delegates from the following economies attended:

Australia, Canada, People's Republic of China, Hong Kong China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russia, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, United States of America and Vietnam.

Mr Birch reviewed progress on the Utility Working Group. The main activity had been in supporting the development through OIML of International Recommendations for Water and Electricity Meters. In this regard, Mr Athane and the BIML had been very supportive of the APLMF Program.

Over the past eighteen months an OIML Recommendation on Water Meters had been developed and will be considered by the CIML in October.

The CIML Meeting in Seoul last year had also re-established the Technical Committee on Electricity Meters and the Technical Committee on Statistical Sampling which is important for the reverification of utility meters. Germany provides the secretariat for both of these Technical Committees.

The situation in Australia illustrates the changing relationship between legal metrology and utility metering. Historically, utility metering had been the responsibility of the utilities who had established their own metrological requirements. With the commodification of water and the application of competition principles to electricity and gas metering, utilities have been privatised and generation and distribution separated. To maintain confidence in this system and minimise disputation and transaction costs, metrological requirements for pattern approval and verification have been incorporated into the National Measurement Act administered by the National Standards Commission .

With the finalisation of International Recommendations for Utility Meters the Working Group will survey the acceptance of the recommendations in the region and the extent of regional harmonisation. An intercomparison on the testing of these meters will then be considered. This would support the incorporation of these meters into Mutual Acceptance Agreement