- **MRAs between accreditation bodies**
  Mr. John Gilmour, Consultant, National Association of Testing Authorities of Australia (NATA)
- **Bilateral, regional and international agreements**
  Mr. Shaharul Sadri Alwi, Assistant Director, Department of Standards (DSM, Malaysia)
- **OIML International Recognition Schemes for Legal Measuring Instruments**
  Mr. Ian Dunmill, Assistant Director, Bureau International de Métrologie Légale (BIML)

12:00 Lunch

13:30 ***SESSION 3, Facilitating access of developing countries to MRAs***

Session chair: *Mr. Fabio Tobón*, Executive Director (ICONTEC), Colombia

Presentations

- **Need for special guidance documents**
  Mr. Gene Hutchinson, Chairman, ISO Committee on developing country matters (DEVCO)
- **Pre-peer evaluation**
  Dr. Octavio Maizza-Neto, Director, Office of Director-General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- **Other means of assistance (training/seminars)**
  - Overview of DEVPRO:
    Dr. Anwar El-Tawil, Secretary, DEVCO
  - Experience of regional training:
    Mr. Reinaldo Balbino Figueiredo, Chairman, Interamerican Accreditation Cooperation, and Director, Instituto Nacional de Metrologia, Normalizaçao e Qualidade Industrial (INMETRO, Brazil)

14:45 Coffee break

15:15 ***SESSION 4, Panel discussion***

Panel moderator: *Mr. Paolo Morelli,* Director, Ente Nazionale Italiano di Unificazione (UNI, Italy)

Review of Session 2 and further questions and discussions

Review of Session 3 and further questions and discussions

Panel members:

Mr. Gene Hutchinson (DEVCO Chairman)
Mr. John Donaldson (CASCO Chairman)
Mr. Mario Wittner
Mr. Reinaldo Balbino Figueiredo
Dr. Takashi Ohtsubo (Chair of Session 2)
Mr. Fabio Tobón (Chair of Session 3)

16:30 **Conclusion and Summary**
Workshop moderator: *Mr. Fabio Tobón*

17:00 **Close of the Workshop**

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CASCO/DEVCO WORKSHOP

FINAL PROGRAMME

Facilitating Recognition of Conformity Assessment Activities in the 21st Century

Facilitating recognition of conformity assessment activities in the 21st century

Milan Marriott Hotel
Milan, Italy

Tuesday, 26 September 2000

Recognition of conformity assessment results is becoming increasingly essential to national economies and their participation in world trade.

Conformity assessment of a product or service produces results which determine its marketability. Sometimes a supplier may not be able to sell a product or service, not because it fails to meet the requirements of a certain standard, but because the results of a conformity assessment process, such as testing, are not accepted by the prospective buyer or by regulatory authorities in the target market. Building confidence in conformity assessment activities in the market, therefore, is a key factor to facilitate access to markets.

This workshop is intended to deepen participants' knowledge of the factors which promote or impede recognition of conformity assessment activities, either within or across borders, to explore various ways to achieve international acceptance of products, and to identify the assistance necessary to realizing this goal.

Attendance is open to all parties interested in conformity assessment and its recognition, including – but not limited to – representatives from developing countries, accreditation bodies, conformity assessment bodies, industry, government, and academic circles.

The workshop, organized jointly by ISO's Policy Development Committee on conformity assessment (CASCO), and its Committee on developing country matters (DEVCO), will open with keynote speeches giving a broad perspective on conformity assessment and trade, its role in the WTO/TBT Agreement, and the role of ISO/IEC Guides and International Standards in conformity assessment practices.

The speakers, coming from a wide variety of regions and backgrounds, will describe specific types of mutual recognition agreements and recognition schemes. They will also explore the need for guidance documentation, the use of "pre-peer evaluation", and training as tools to promote recognition. Finally, a panel discussion, followed by a question-and-answer session, will address some specific issues arising from the day's presentations.

It is hoped that the workshop will allow participants to come away with a broad perspective on the impact of conformity assessment activities in the global economy, usefulness of recognition of conformity assessment activities to promote trade, the existence of various ways to achieve it, and the need to facilitate its implementation.

Among the specific questions that will be addressed are:

- What measures are available for achieving recognition of conformity assessment activities?
- What measures are useful, and under what conditions?
- What training and other means of assistance are available?
- What further guidance and assistance would be necessary?
- What can be done for further cooperation to facilitate recognition of conformity assessment activities?

This joint workshop with the participation of two ISO policy committees will look at the importance of conformity assessment to trade. In the process, the "grey areas" that need further study or documents will be pinpointed, and the exchange and panel discussions will help take the issues forward.

PROGRAMME

09:00 **Opening of the Workshop**
Welcome
Dr. Lawrence D. Eicher, ISO Secretary-General

Introduction
Workshop moderator: *Mr. Fabio Tobón*, Executive Director (ICONTEC), Colombia

09:30 ***SESSION 1, Keynote speeches***

- **Importance of conformity assessment for trade**
  Mr. Evangelos Vardakas, Director, Directorate General, Enterprise G, European Commission (EC)
- **Conformity assessment in the WTO TBT agreement**
  Mrs. Vivien Liu, Secretary, TBT Committee, World Trade Organization (WTO)
- **CASCO and acceptance of conformity assessment results**
  Mr. John Donaldson, Chairman, ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO)

10:15 Coffee break

10:45 ***SESSION 2, Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs)***

Session chair: *Dr. Takashi Ohtsubo,* Chairman, International Accreditation Forum (IAF)

Presentations

- **MRAs between certification bodies**
  Mr. Mario Wittner, Deputy Director, Instituto Argentino de Normalización (IRAM, Argentina)