

WELMEC

Western European Legal Metrology Cooperation

Memorandum of Understanding

Bern, 8 June 1990

WELMEC

WESTERN EUROPEAN LEGAL METROLOGY COOPERATION

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

SECTION 1 - CONSTITUTION

- (A) The bodies on behalf of whom this Memorandum of Understanding has been signed declare their common intention to participate in the Western European Legal Metrology Cooperation, hereinafter called WELMEC.
- (B) A WELMEC Committee, consisting of one Delegate representing each of these bodies and observers from the Commission of the European Communities (CEC), the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Secretariat, EUROMET, the Western European Calibration Cooperation (WECC) and the Organisation Internationale de Metrologie Legale (OIML), ensures that the specific tasks are pursued in accordance with the objectives of WELMEC. Each Delegate, with the agreement of the Chairman, may be accompanied at Committee meetings by one or more observers. The Chairman may also invite observers from other organisations.
- (C) The WELMEC Committee shall meet at least once each year. The Committee shall decide its own rules of procedure. The Committee shall elect its Chairman from its delegates for a period of two years. The body of which the Chairman is a delegate will normally supply the Secretariat and may, if it so wishes, appoint an alternative Delegate to WELMEC Committee meetings.
- (D) A body on behalf of whom this Memorandum has been signed may invite other relevant bodies from its country to participate in the activities of WELMEC and shall monitor their participation.

SECTION 2 - OBJECTIVES AND TASKS

- (A) The objectives of WELMEC are:
 - (i) to develop and maintain mutual confidence between legal metrology services in Europe,
 - (ii) to achieve and maintain the equivalence and harmonisation of legal metrology activities taking into account the relevant guidelines,

- (iii) to identify any special features of legal metrology which need to be reflected in the European metrology, certification and testing framework,
- (iv) to organise the exchange of information for legal metrology applied at national and local level,
- (v) to identify, and promote the removal of, technical or administrative barriers to trade in the field of measuring instruments,
- (vi) to promote consistency of interpretation and application of normative documents and propose actions to facilitate implementation,
- (vii) to identify specific technical problems which might form the subject of collaborative projects,
- (viii) to maintain working links with all relevant bodies and promote the infrastructure relating to harmonisation of legal metrology,
- (ix) to debate trends and establish criteria for the scope of legal metrology and maintain channels for a continuous flow of knowledge.

(B) WELMEC shall perform such tasks as are decided by the WELMEC Committee. These tasks may include the following:

- (i) establish harmonised styles of certificates,
- (ii) organise interlaboratory test comparisons,
- (iii) establish expert working groups in specific fields of legal metrology,
- (iv) disseminate appropriate information.

SECTION 3 - RIGHTS

In order to achieve the objectives of WELMEC, each body on behalf of whom this memorandum has been signed shall have the following rights:

- (A) to request information on the operation of the other bodies,
- (B) to participate in expert working group meetings organised on behalf of WELMEC,

- (C) to participate in WELMEC interlaboratory test comparisons and if appropriate to organise such exercises,
- (D) to request reports and results of pattern evaluation, compliance assessment and verification relating to measuring instruments.

SECTION 4 - OBLIGATIONS

Each of the bodies on behalf of whom this Memorandum has been signed commits itself to the pursuance of the objectives and tasks of WELMEC. In particular the obligations of each of these bodies are:

- (A) to make available to other participants in WELMEC activities on reasonable request its current non-confidential working documents, details of new improvements introduced and its annual report,
- (B) to promote the acceptance of recognised styles of certificate,
- (C) to preserve the confidentiality of type approval reports and test results supplied by another body.

SECTION 5 - VALIDITY OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

- (A) This Memorandum of Understanding shall immediately come into operation. It shall remain open for signature on behalf of national legal metrology bodies of other states within the European Communities and the European Free Trade Association.
- (B) This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended at any time by arrangement between the bodies, subject to there being dissent by no more than one fourth of them.
- (C) If a body on behalf of whom this Memorandum has been signed, for any reason whatever, intends to terminate its participation in this Memorandum of Understanding, the body shall notify the Chairman of the WELMEC Committee of its intention not later than three months beforehand.
- (D) This Memorandum of Understanding is of an exclusively recommendatory nature. It does not create any binding legal effect on the bodies on behalf of whom this Memorandum has been signed.

BERN: 8 June 1990

SIGNED: 8 JUNE 1990

Bundesamt für Eich- und Vermessungswesen
Austria
Signatory: R. Galle



Inspection générale de la Métrologie
Belgium
Signatory: R. Eggermont for H. Voorhof



National Agency of Industry and Trade
Denmark
Signatory: P. C. Johansen



Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt
Federal Republic of Germany
Signatory: K. Brinkmann



Technical Inspection Centre
Finland
Signatory: E. Raitanen



Sous-direction de la Métrologie
France
Signatory: Ph. Bertran



Icelandic Office of Metrology
Iceland
Signatory: S. Axelson



Nederlands Meetinstituut/IJkwezen BV
Netherlands
Signatory: J. Basten



National Measurement Service
Norway
Signatory: K. Birkeland



Instituto Portugues da Qualidade
Portugal
Signatory: A. Cruz



Statens Provningsanstalt
Sweden
Signatory: R. Ohlson



Swiss Federal Office of Metrology
Switzerland
Signatory: O. Piller



National Weights and Measures Laboratory
United Kingdom
Signatory: S. Bennett



DATE OF SIGNATURE: JUNE 29, 1990

Metrology Dpt. / Ministry of Commerce
Greece
Signatory: A. Vlachos

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'A. Vlachos', written over the printed name.

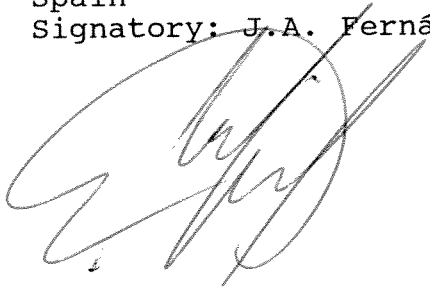
SIGNED: 2 JULY 1990

National Office of Weights & Measures
Ireland
Signatory: P. Farragher

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'P. Farragher', is written below the typed name.

SIGNED: 20 DECEMBER 1990

Centro Español de Metrología
Spain
Signatory: J.A. Fernández.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J.A. Fernández', written over a large, faint circular stamp or watermark.