



BULLETIN



UNION INTERNATIONALE DES LABORATOIRES INDÉPENDANTS

President: Ronald L. Harris (United States)

September/October 2002

ILAC 2002 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Over the past 25 years ILAC has held twenty plenary meetings from Amsterdam to Auckland and Tel Aviv to Turin. At every meeting and many additional working group or adhoc meetings there has been at least one representative from UILI. ILAC 2002 was convened in Berlin Germany and **David Stanger** represented UILI. Almost 100 delegates attended both General Assembly sessions including strong representation from UILI and the other Stakeholder Members.

Apart from the election of Mrs. Merih Malmqvist of SWEDAC as Chair of the Technical Accreditation Issues Committee (TAIC), the formation of Joint Development Support Committee with a seat on the Executive Committee and Tony Anderson as LC Chair, the remainder of the ILAC Executive Committee under the leadership of Mike Peet remains the same for a further two-year term.

The General Assembly endorsed the first ILAC Strategic and Business Plan and adopted the versions of the Articles of Association and Bylaws dated 23rd and 26th September 2002 respectively. The way is cleared for incorporation to be attained under the commercial laws of The Netherlands. The ILAC Arrangement was increased by new signatories from IPQ (Portugal) and BMWA (Austria). Five additional Associate Members were admitted from Canada, Ecuador, Kyrgyz Republic, Uzbekistan, Morocco and the USA. The endorsement of the Canadian Association for Environmental Laboratories (CAEAL) as a Stakeholder Member adds breadth and depth to the laboratory expertise within the ILAC Laboratory Committee.

Amongst the 62 Decisions adopted by the General Assembly, documents relating to Use of Reference Materials, Calibration Intervals, Minimum Requirements for Participation in Proficiency Testing Schemes and Use of PT as a Tool for Accreditation in Testing were adopted or approved for the formal 60 days voting period. All Decisions proposed by the Laboratory Committee were endorsed or adopted as appropriate.

Bitter divisions were displayed over the development of the ILAC logo and common

ILAC/IAF Marks, which over shadowed the consensus reached on this issue during the APC and JCCC meetings held in Berlin. It is hoped by UILI and all members of the Laboratory Committee that the services of the JCCC will be used for the benefit of all concerned with the image and integrity of accreditation and certification services in mind.

ILAC 2003 will be held in Bratislava, Slovakia during the week commencing the 15th September 2003. ILAC 2004 and ILAC 2004 are to take place in Cape Town, South Africa.

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED FOR ILAC LABORATORY COMMITTEE

The 13th ILAC laboratory Committee meeting held in Berlin, Germany on the 21st September was attend by thirteen of the sixteen ILAC Stakeholder Members including UILI. **David Stanger** represented UILI and at the end of the meeting completed his four years as LC Chairman. The ILAC Chair, ILAC Secretary plus the Chairs or representatives from all ILAC Committees attended the meeting and the many serious discussions. The LC 's report to ILAC 2002 was adopted by the ILAC General Assembly thus demonstrating support of LC's policy on CASCO WG 25 alignment of ISO/IEC 17025:1999 with ISO 9001:2000 and LC the position on an ILAC/IAF merger. The LC reaffirmed its support for a meaningful dialogue between ILAC and IAF through the ILAC/IAF Committee for Closer Cooperation (JCCC) with the Chair of ILAC reconfirming the invitation for David Stanger to represent the ILAC Stakeholder Members.

Mr. Tony Anderson, NCSL International was elected Chair of LC for a two-year term. Dr Maire Walsh, EURACHEM, was also elected for a similar term as Vice Chair. David Stanger, Maire Walsh and Tony Anderson will continue to represent the LC on the ILAC Accreditation Policy, Technical Accreditation Issues and Public Affairs Committees respectively.



UILI BOARD MEETING

The Governing Board met in Barcelona in late September in the offices of the Laboratorio **Dr. Oliver Rodes**, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. The Board presented to **Dr. Benito Oliver Rodes** a UILI resolution on this happy occasion and extending best wishes for continued success. The Board also extended greetings to **Jorge Oliver Rodes**, soon to assume the management of the distinguished laboratory. The meeting was hosted by the Asociacion Espanola de Laboratorios Independientes.

A great deal of the meeting concerned reports from Secretary-General David Stanger on ISO/CASCO and ILAC. See elsewhere in this newsletter for a brief report on the ILAC General Assembly and new officers. The other major item of discussion was the UILI Web site, which has been revised. The content is under development and your suggestions for its improvement are welcome. Please email **Joan Cassedy** at jcassedy@acil.org.

The next meeting of the Governing Board will be in March 2003 in Tokyo, Japan, hosted by the Japanese Environmental Measurement and Chemical Analysis Association.

NEWS FROM CCIL

Of special concern and interest to the E/A (Environmental/Analytical Division) Ontario members is the impending implementation of Ontario's new Safe Water Drinking Act. This act threatens to put the environmental testing industry at risk. Although MOE (Ministry of the Environment) has done some public consultation, the feeling was that the Act had already been drafted and would not change. Nonetheless presentations were submitted by several CCIL (Canadian Council of Independent Laboratories) members and by CCIL itself. It is hoped that we can influence the forthcoming Regulations that will determine how the Act is implemented.

It is CCIL's intention to work with the Lab Services Branch of the MOE to strengthen our relationship. It has been made very clear to MOE that CCIL is ready to endorse all the recommendations of the Walkerton Inquiry and is willing to work within those recommendations but believe that MOE has misinterpreted some parts of the report.

NATIONAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

Mark Dettweiler, CCIL's Program Manager made a presentation at the recent TAC (Transportation Association of Canada) conference that was relatively well received. Another presentation is to be made at the CTAA (Canadian Technical Asphalt Association) conference being held in November. At this time it appears that New Brunswick and British Columbia are the most likely to implement part or all of the Program.

UNCERTAINTY ISSUE

As a result of ISO 17025 and its endorsement by the Standards Council of Canada, on January 1, 2003, labs are required start reporting the uncertainty associated with test results.

Since the CAEAL (Canadian Association of Environmental/Analytical Laboratories) directives on this matter are unclear, a QA/QC committee under the leadership of Michael Ziebell of Caduceon Laboratories was formed with the mandate to recommend a protocol for estimating and reporting uncertainty.

All environmental division companies have been invited to participate on this and a teleconference meeting will be held on Tuesday October 22nd, 2002 at 1:30 EST to discuss this issue.

ACIL NEWS

During its 65th Annual Meeting in Chicago, ACIL launched a professional liability insurance program for ACIL members. The policy underwriter is Lloyd's of London and the program is designed to include all of ACIL's core testing disciplines—conformity assessment, civil engineering, environmental sciences and microbiology and analytical chemistry. This program is expected to help a large number of ACIL members as the insurance markets in the United States are very tight at this time.

The 66th Annual Meeting will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, October 11-14, 2003. All UILI members are welcome.

testing industry, the municipalities, the water works plants and the accrediting agency.

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