

Forum: Metrology – Trade Facilitator

25 October 2004, Berlin

Welcome

Prof. Manfred Kochsiek

Acting CIML President

Dr Hoffmann, dear colleagues,

It is my pleasure to invite you all to this Forum, Metrology – Trade Facilitator, which is being held in conjunction with the 12th International Conference on Legal Metrology. The aim is to provide a platform for developing countries to look for support and to come into contact with donor organisations and implementing agencies capable of offering support. The event will also stimulate the exchange of information among developing countries and will hopefully lead to actions for support in metrology.

In 1998, a similar seminar with the title *The role of metrology in economic and social development* which later on was classified by everybody, and especially by developing countries as very successful, has motivated us to bring together again international organisations of metrology and donor organisations.

What is needed and what is offered

I am happy to have gained high-ranking persons as speakers, chairpersons and also as participants. The poster exhibition can be visited for all week in the Eichen Saal, on the same level of the Conference Centre. Dr Seiler, from PTB, who is the Chairperson of the OIML's Permanent Working Group on Developing Countries has mainly prepared the Forum. He was supported by many colleagues and I especially wish to mention the colleagues from the OIML's office and to thank all those who prepared this Forum.

I especially want to welcome Dr Hoffmann as a representative of the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development for the opening address. Please Dr Hofmann, the floor is open for your address.