

WELMEC

European Cooperation in Legal Metrology

Contribution Guidelines

Introduction:

In the Procedures for WELMEC activities it is stated that the secretariat may be reimbursed for services by the secretariat and that WELMEC will partly cover the costs of the Committee meetings. In the Financial guidelines on travel expenses there is a provision to indicate the situations when travelers are entitled to reimbursement of their travel expenses.

All this activities are being paid out of the yearly contribution Members and Associated Members pay. According to the WELMEC unwritten rule the contribution is based on the principle of the OIML classes. But it turns out that the OIML key is not one-to-one applicable for the WELMEC Cooperation.

Principle of the OIML Key contribution

In article XXVI of the OIML Convention is laid down how the annual contribution is divided over the Member States. <http://www.oiml.org/publications/B/B001-e68.pdf>

OIML uses a division based on population. To determine the respective shares of the Member States, the Member States are divided into four categories, according to the total population of the home country and territories represented:

- Class 1: population of 10 million inhabitants or less;
- Class 2: population between 10 million exclusive and 40 million inclusive;
- Class 3: population between 40 million exclusive and 100 million inclusive;
- Class 4: population of over 100 million.

The population figures are rounded off to the lower million. For example: A population of 10.6 million is rounded down to 10 million. Therefore Class = 1.

Depending on the class the contributions are proportional to 1, 2, 4 and 8 times the annual base contributory share.

Corresponding members will pay 10% of the annual base contributory share for Member States.

Situation of WELMEC

At the moment the division of the WELMEC contribution over the Member States is not formally laid down. The basis of the contribution share is unclear and brings unnecessary uncertainties. In 2012 WELMEC had to correct the number of shares of several countries according to a change in its population. As already stated in the introduction the OIML-key is a good starting point but has been adjusted at some points. The practice is that WELMEC uses the OIML-key where possible but with the following deviations:

- Not all WELMEC (Associate) Members are also a member of OIML so WELMEC has to decide the class which is applicable for that Member.
- WELMEC uses a subdivision under 10 Million inhabitants
 - Sub 1: population of 0.5 million inhabitants or less;
 - Sub 2: population between 0.5 million exclusive and 1 million inclusive;Therefore the round down formula cannot be used over the whole range. (Class 2 would never exist)

The calculation of the contribution is based on the population. Populations do change so the key has to be reviewed every year. OIML uses the World Bank database to determine the population.

The number of shares per country.

In order to determine the respective shares of the Member states, the latter are divided into the six following categories, according to the total population of the home country:

- Class 1: population of 0,5 million inhabitants or less;
- Class 2: population between 0,5 million exclusive and 1 million inclusive;
- Class 3: population between 1 million inclusive and 10 million inclusive;
- Class 4: population between 10 million exclusive and 40 million inclusive;
- Class 5: population between 40 million exclusive and 100 million inclusive;
- Class 6: population of over 100 million.

In order to determine the population the database of the European Commission "Eurostat" will be used. It contains accurate figures per country. Figures are provided by the competent National Statistical Institutes.

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/tgm/refreshTableAction.do?tab=table&plugin=1&pcode=tps00001&language=en>

The secretariat will check the population in the second half of any year in combination with the class allocated to the member states. If there is going to be a change in the country contribution, applicable for the coming year, member states are informed of this fact in the fourth quarter of the running year.

Rules:

- The population figures are based on the population statistics as published by Eurostat .
- The population figures are rounded off to the nearest lower value.
- Depending on the class, contributions are proportional to 0.25, 0.5, 1, 2, 4 and 8 times of the base contribution.
- Member State contributions are set according to each individual country's population.
- The share for Associate Members is 50% of the share for Members.
- The height of the base contribution is yearly determined by the Committee.

Table:

Class	Population (x * 10 ⁶)					Key Members	Key Associate members
1	0		x	≤	0.5	0.25	0.125
2	0.5	<	x	≤	1	0.5	0.25
3	1	<	x	≤	10	1	0.5
4	10	<	x	≤	40	2	1
5	40	<	x	≤	100	4	2
6	100	<	x			8	4