



1. Context

Triggered by the constantly increasing number of DIs in EURAMET member countries, in particular in the field of metrology in chemistry, in 02/2013 the EURAMET Technical Committee for Metrology in Chemistry (TC-MC) took the initiative to draft a discussion paper on the “Role of DIs within CIPM MRA”.

The objective of the paper is to summarise the role of DIs within the CIPM MRA, their duties and responsibilities, as well as their interactions within national metrology systems and their NMIs. It emphasises the importance and value of DIs, acting at the same metrological level and under the same strict requirements as NMIs. These activities are much broader in scope and conceptually different and more demanding than just calibration activities. The paper aims to facilitate the operations of DIs, designation processes at a national level, managing processes at the RMO (EURAMET) level and interactions with BIPM (and CIPM). The paper is based on existing EURAMET and BIPM documents, EURAMET questionnaires and is actually a compilation of current good practices and experiences of operation.

2. Review process

2.1. Internal

The paper was discussed and reviewed internally at various EURAMET fora, like Board of Directors, TC meetings, TC-Chair meeting and General Assembly.

2.2. JCRB

An agreed version (date 29-08-2013) was sent as input to the last 31st JCRB-Meeting (Beijing, 18 to 19 September 2013). RMOs were asked to send comments (action 31/2).

Feedback was received from AFRIMETS (full acceptance), APMP and SIM (minor comments).

The paper was discussed at the 32nd JCRB-Meeting (BIPM, 26 to 27 March 2014). The other RMOs welcomed the paper and supported the statements, in general. Furthermore they expressed their interest to develop a JCRB-paper based on the EURAMET paper.

It was agreed that EURAMET should first conclude the paper as a EURAMET position paper. In the next step EURAMET shall work with BIPM to prepare a version appropriate as JCRB-paper. Once this paper is agreed upon, each RMO should have the possibility to add an RMO-specific chapter (JCRB actions 32/7 & 32/8).

2.3. Review by EURAMET DIs

In December 2013 the paper was sent to all DIs in EURAMET asking for comments (in a free form, no questionnaire used).

33 out of 72 A-DIs replied, some of them giving quite detailed responses, in most cases supporting the paper and emphasising on the importance of specific statements in the paper. The results have been presented and briefly discussed at 7th TCC/BoD Meeting on 19/20 February 2014 in Prague.



In a general classification of the comments in 4 categories reveals:

Category	Total
A Full acceptance (no / minor comments, or emphasising on specific statements)	25
B Acceptance, in principle (specific comments / suggestions for changes)	6
C Conditional acceptance (major specific comments)	2
D Refusal	0
Total	33

3. Status

Taking into account the comments and suggestions received from the EURAMET DIs, from SIM and APMP, an updated version of the paper was prepared by Wolfgang Schmid, Michela Sega and Janko Drnovsek and presented to the 8th TCC/BoD Meeting on 2 June 2014 in Cavtat.

4. Next Steps

The following next steps are proposed:

Start now	Final internal review of updated version
16 June	Send paper to EURAMET Delegates (for review) and A-DIs (for information) TCCs to review paper
18 July	Receive feedback from TC-Chairs and Delegates (NMI and DI comments) A-DIs which have further comments should provide them via their Delegates.
31 July	Prepare updated version (final draft)
August	Send final draft to Delegates for approval
September	Publish as EURAMET Guide Send to JCRB and RMOs <i>Initiate JCRB Action 32/8: EURAMET to collaborate with the BIPM to produce a generalized version of the paper "Role of DIs within the CIPM MRA" for wider use by the other RMOs and for possible adoption by the JCRB.</i>