


Highlights from activities of EURAMET TC-Q 2011

Pavel Klenovsky, TC-Q Chair
CMI, Czech Republic

5th EURAMET GA
Sarajevo, BiH, 6 to 9 June 2011

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New TC-Q documents

- **QMS review procedure + Guide on peer review visits inclusive a template of a report (a task from BoD)**
- **crucial point: should on-site visits by peers in self-declared institutes be mandatory or not ?**
- **BoD decision, August 2010: a non-mandatory system of on-site visits adopted, on-site visits strongly recommended (especially for institutes from new EU Member States !)**

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New TC-Q documents

- on the other hand, institutes submitting their CMCs for the first time **will have to go** through an on-site visit by peers
- both documents have been extensively discussed in TC-Q and finally approved at the last TC-Q meeting (March 2011)
- a new project launched: simplification of template for **annual reports** – ideally to be finished in autumn 2011

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The case of LATMB Latvia

- LATMB CMCs in M,L and EM in the greyed-out zone
- to reinstate them a peer review visit was made by Andreas Odin of PTB Germany in 6/2010
- after the findings had been settled BIPM was asked to reinstate them
- everything finalized in 9/2010

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External auditing - survey

- **EURAMET challenged by the other RMOs for not making any on-site external auditing in self-declared institutes**
- **the options are:**
 - **accreditation (by an ILAC MRA signatory)**
 - **on-site visit by peers (inclusive an internal audit with external auditors)**
 - **an audit made by the corresponding NMI (applicable only to A-DIs)**

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External auditing - survey

- **a survey of the situation was made in 5/2010 separately for NMIs and A-DIs**
- **only institutes with registered or submitted CMCs have been taken into account**
- **considerable information on these issues is „hidden“ in annual reports**
- **after an evaluation of the survey TC Chair initiated consultations with corresponding contact persons about what can be done to rectify the situation**

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External auditing – results: NMIs

- **there were only 4 NMIs with approved or submitted CMCs without any coverage by either accreditation or participation in voluntary peer review visits:**
NSAI NML Ireland, JV Norway, SMD Belgium, ENEA-INMRI Italy and DMDM Serbia

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External auditing – results: NMIs

NSAI NML Ireland:

- **the situation discussed with CMI**
- **a new on-site visit by peers will be registered: CMI Czech Republic will assess the QMS itself and the fields of pressure and acoustics in NML in summer 2011**

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External auditing – results: NMIs

JV Norway:

- in 2010 JV invited foreign experts to review two technical area of our laboratories:
 - mass, reviewed by Dr. Lars Nielsen, DFM, Denmark, on Nov 15 2011
 - humidity, reviewed by Mr. Anders Bonde Kentved, Delta, Denmark, on Oct 14 2010
- earlier flow and length were reviewed by foreign experts, as reported in annual reports

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External auditing – results: NMIs

JV Norway:

- further reviews are planned for 2011

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External auditing – results: NMIs

SMD Belgium:

- since 28 of July 2010 the approved CMC's are covered by an RvA accreditation - accreditation number K146
- since 01/02/2011 the RvA accreditation K146 was transferred to BELAC (Belgian accreditation organisation) under accreditation no. BELAC 425-CAL (this transfer is due to the EC 765/2008 regulation regarding Cross Frontier Policy in accreditation)

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External auditing – results: NMIs

DMDM Serbia:

- **DMDM is currently involved in the process of accreditation of two labs:**
 - laboratory for dimensional measurements
 - laboratory for testing of electricity meters
- there are two accreditation bodies involved, Hellenic Accreditation System - ESYD (EA MLA signatory) and Accreditation Body of Serbia- ATS

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External auditing – results: NMIs

DMDM Serbia:

- it is a joint accreditation, at the moment finalized
- there is a plan to extend accreditation to cover additional fields

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External auditing – results: NMIs

ENEA-INMRI Italy:


- a communication with Director P. De Felice
- agreed that an on-site peer review visit will be made by the end of 2011 within the peer review group of Spain, Portugal and Italy (TC-Q project no. 1123)

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External auditing – conclusion: NMIs

The conclusion:
All the EURAMET NMIs are covered (or are being covered) by either accreditation by an ILAC MRA signatory or by on-site visits by peers !

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External auditing – results: DIs

- **TC-Q Secretary together with EURAMET Secretary made in 4/2010 an extensive survey of DIs to clean up incomplete paperwork concerning them and**
- **to review the requirements for them and how they are fulfilled**
- **discussions are under way at both the JCRB and EURAMET levels how to limit the number of DIs**

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External auditing – results: DIs


Out of the 68 A-DIs which were registered in October 2009 (the situation as of 8/2010):


- **- 58 A-DIs provided the information (in general in a quite complete form);**
- **- 3 A-DIs decided to terminate their Associate status;**
- **- 7 A-DIs formerly did not reply but up to now they provided the required information**

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External auditing – results: DIs


LNE-SYRTE, LNE-INM: are regularly peer-reviewed in a 5-year period (next ones by the end of 2012)


LNE-ENSAM: greyed-out CMCs, no annual report so far delivered → even the French delegare inclined to withdraw their CMCs completely, TC-Q Chair has asked the Chairman to take it up with BIPM

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External auditing – results: DIs

NILU Norway: no CMCs, only 1 calibration per annum



PMOD-WRC Switzerland: audited in the framework of WMO (but problems)

All the other A-DIs are either accredited, peer reviewed or audited by their respective NMI !

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Acceptance criteria - DIs

QMS reviews in RMOs are the last in the chain → no major changes in membership can realistically be expected


Problems as seen by TC-Q:


- **specifications of service categories in the testing area as made by BIPM contain „gaps“ (specifications like „Other“)**
- **the specification of service categories should ideally be made narrower (around primary methods with clear-cut traceability ?), to avoid matrix materials**

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Cooperation with „technical“ TCs

- **technical TC Chairs have been explicitly asked to make available to TC-Q any information about underperformance of any institute in intercomparisons or about any info raising concern relevant to their QS life**
- **this will subsequently be used by TC-Q to make decisions about possible on-site visit by peers (required by TC-Q)**
- **strategy: an attempt to persuade CEC DG EI to suport KCs/SCs in EURAMET**

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JCRB/BIPM

ILAC-BIPM communication on accreditation of NMIs: technical experts will have to possess necessary qualification to make assessments

- **What will be the status of this document within ILAC ?**
- **we have to be careful not to necessarily involve in this system all the calibrations made by NMIs, e.g. those secondary ones**
- **TC-Q does not intend to make any more special requirements**

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JCRB/BIPM


CIPM MRA Addendum in 2 steps:

- 1. up-date, editorial changes, approval of the procedure for amendments**
- 2. changes in the process of CMC approval ?**

At the next JCRB meeting it should be on the agenda: first thoughts on future changes

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JCRB/ILAC

- **ILAC document P 10 on traceability: CIPM MRA signatories recognized as providers or metrological traceability in the accreditation system**
- **EA has raised the issue concerning recognition of calibrations made by accredited calibration laboratories for traceability purposes within CIPM MRA – a mirror reflection of what is written on the issue in P 10 applicable within CIPM MRA**

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ILAC/EA

- **alignment of accreditation scopes in ILAC (EA) and between ILAC and CIPM MRA**
- **EA wg ILC: DG EI is ready to financially support a launch of special EA ILCs to underpin the MRA**

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VIM 3

New definition of calibration:


- **to be made in 2 steps (?)**
- **a calibration certificate nowhere mentioned**
- **uses phrases like „verification of calibration“**
- **quite prone to various hostile interpretations**

VIM is becoming too complicated, moving away from practical life of metrologists

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Thank you for your attention!