

EURAMET TC-Quality

Chairman's Annual Report 2010-2011

Status of quality systems and review process

The sixth TC-Q meeting was held in Beograd (Republic of Serbia) on March 9-11, 2011. It was attended by 61 experts from 32 countries or international organisations together with invited observers: from EURAMET - Wolfgang Schmidt, from IAEA - Joanna Izewska, from COOMET - Pavlo Neyezhnikov, from BIPM - Bruno Coelho.

The TC-Q plenary was preceded by a meeting of the Steering Committee on March 9, 2011 at the same place. The Steering Committee, the plenary meeting, and the visit of the laboratories were hosted (in an excellent way) by the DMDM, Republic of Serbia.

The main outcomes of the meeting were:

- Approval of up-dated TC-Q documents – “QMS review procedure” and “Guide on on-site visits” with minor comments which have been taken on board in the final versions distributed just after the meeting.
- Initial QMS presentation from:
 - BVL, Germany: full confidence given;
 - MIKES-SYKE, Finland: confidence given but minor complementary information requested from MIKES-SYKE, all questions answered sufficiently;
 - IMBiH, Bosnia and Herzegovina: full confidence given;
 - MIRS/ZAG/SM 480, Slovenia: confidence given but minor complementary information requested, all questions answered sufficiently;
 - MIRS/UP-ZRS/LPOO, Slovenia: confidence given but major complementary information requested from MIRS/UP-ZRS/LPOO, all questions and actions completed sufficiently;
 - MIRS/NIB/FITO, Slovenia: confidence given but minor complementary information requested from MIRS/NIB/FITO, all questions answered sufficiently;
 - HMI/IRB-SSDL, Croatia; confidence given but minor complementary information requested from HMI/IRB-SSDL, all questions answered sufficiently;
- QMS periodical re-evaluation from:

- Danish Fundamental Metrology Ltd, DFM: NMI, full confidence given,
 - Brüel&Kjaer Sound & Vibration Measurement Ltd.-Danish Primary Laboratory for Acoustics,
 - BKSVDPLA: DI, full confidence given,
 - Danish Technological Institute, DTI: DI, full confidence given,
 - DELTA Danish Electronics, Light & Acoustics: DI, full confidence given,
 - FORCE Technology: DI, confidence given but minor complementary information requested,
 - Trescal Ltd: DI, confidence given but minor complementary information requested,
 - DTU Technical University of Denmark: DI, confidence given but minor complementary information requested
 - SP Technical Research Institute of Sweden, SP: NMI, confidence given but minor complementary information requested,
 - Swedish Radiation Safety Authority, SSM: DI, confidence given but minor complementary information requested,
 - Norwegian Metrology Service, JV: NMI, full confidence given,
 - Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority, NRPA: DI, full confidence given,
 - Slovak metrology institute, SMU: NMI, full confidence given.
- Review of 95 annual reports from 31 countries or organisations including those QS of which was re-evaluated during the meeting, full confidence given to 19 laboratories, minor complementary information requested from 67 laboratories and major complementary information requested from 9 laboratories; the complementary information had to be delivered within eight weeks after the meeting. All the pending actions regarding annual reports from the 2010 meeting were closed by 15th of May, 2011. ENSAM (France) decided not to continue as DI CIPM MRA member and their CMCs shall be erased.
 - Four EURAMET projects aimed at mutual on-site peer reviews are ongoing. Their main objective is the realisation of joint/cross audits of Quality management systems in the following laboratories:
 - EURAMET Project No. 1083 BEV (Austria), METAS (Switzerland) and PTB (Germany).
 - EURAMET Project No. 1123 CEM (Spain), INRIM (Italy), IPQ (Portugal).
 - EURAMET Project No. 1109 MIKES (Finland), CMI (Czech Republic), SMU (Slovakia), GUM (Poland).
 - EURAMET Project No. 1155 MIKES-Aalto (Finland), NRC (Canada)
 The corresponding presentations of these projects were given at 6th TC-Q plenary meeting.
 - New EURAMET TC-Q project was announced:
 - EURAMET project aimed at mutual on-site peer review in CMI/Czech Republic and NSAI NML, Ireland will be registered (on request from NSAI).
 - The EURAMET TC-Q approach to the policy for on-site visits by peers was during the year 2010 and in the meeting extensively discussed. At the 11th BoD in Prague (August 2010) it has been decided that on-site visits by peers will remain voluntary in

EURAMET with a strong recommendation to all the institutes to get involved. TC-Q (QMS review procedure, Guide on on-site visits) documents were finally approved at the 6th TC-Q meeting and will be fully implemented henceforth.

- Two invited lectures at TC-Q meeting: IAEA activities related to metrology presented by Dr. Joanna Izewska, IAEA and BIPM Quality management system presented by Mr. Bruno Coelho.

All the relevant documents, including the presentations, are available on the EURAMET TC-Q web site.

Changes in the Steering Committee: Martin Lievre (LNE, France) replaced Stanislav Musil (SMU, Slovensko), Isabel Godinho replaced her colleague in IPQ Portugal Noélia Duarte and Jürg Ramseyer of METAS Switzerland will be replaced by his colleague Daniel Dänzer.

From these documents, both the EURAMET Chair and the TC Chairs have the base information for any further action. In particular, TC Chairs are asked to use the Annual Reports as a source of information as to the current status of QMS implementation and to look after the status of coverage of relevant CMCs.

The new developments of EURAMET were presented by the current EURAMET Secretary. He also presented the results of DIs registration process and the outcomes from the survey among EURAMET delegates on Landscaping on National Metrology Infrastructure.

The laboratories or countries involved in the next QMS periodical re-evaluation are the following: United Kingdom, Germany, France, the Netherlands (Switzerland having been postponed to 2013); possible initial presentations: BoM, FYR Macedonia, DOM Albania.

The next plenary meeting will take place at GUM, Poland, in the first week of March 2012 (March 7th – 9th). The Steering Committee will meet at the same date and place. IMBiH, Bosnia and Herzegovina, proposed to host the meetings in 2013.