

1. General aspects

At the last Euramet General Assembly, new Terms of Reference have been defined. Then it was necessary to start some actions as soon as possible. TC-IM meetings have taken place one in October 2010, in Berlin, one in April 2011, in Vienna. The purpose and main objectives of the first meeting were to do a brainstorming of the more “urgent” topics to treat within TC-IM, regarding the needs of all Euramet members, with the input of the BoD, in view to elaborate an action plan with volunteer persons responsible of each defined action (with deliverables). Then TC-IM should report on the on going actions to the EURAMET BoD. The second TC-IM was to implement the most priority actions.

2. Main issues

During the first meeting the following topics were identified as a first priority : CIPM MRA matters, EMRP, promotion of EURAMET and activities of the focus groups.

- ***CIPM-MRA / JCRB matters***

Considering the content of the CIPM MRA, its evolution from 1999 up to now, the increased number of laboratories involved and the workload of each RMO, some actions were proposed to improve what can be done within EURAMET from the CIPM MRA.

- It seemed interesting to get a clearest view on how is implemented the metrology infrastructure within each country to see it is necessary to have added criteria for DIs in the frame of EURAMET. At the same time a resolution has been proposed at the JCRB to create a “task group to discuss the need for criteria to be fulfilled by institutes which would act as DIs”. This follows the increased number of DIs in particular in new fields such as chemistry or biology. It was also an opportunity to share the view with other RMOs on this question.

A landscaping of EURAMET NMIs and DIs has been performed by a group within TC-IM, leaded by Wolfgang Schmid (Euramet secretariat) and Janko Drnovsek (Euramet Vice-Chair), and the result will be presented at the EURAMET General assembly of June 2011.

Considering the results of the landscaping, it has been suggested to elaborate “a guidance document” reflecting experience of NMIs and DIs regarding the implementation of the CIPM MRA. If the EURAMET general Assembly agrees TC-IM will draft such a document.

- The BIPM proposed an addendum to the CIPM MRA by end of 2010, in view to be discussed and adopted during the NMI Directors meeting of May 2011. It seemed important to share the view within EURAMET on the proposed modifications. During the meeting of April 2001 in Vienna, José Robles (Spain) presented the analysis of the proposed addendum and the comments received from EURAMET Contact persons. This permitted to all the TC-IM members to prepare comments and remarks to be sent to the BIPM.

- At the present time the BIPM KCDB is used mainly by NMIs and DIs, seems relatively complicated to use by “external users” like industries, accreditation bodies or laboratories, and also some lack of coherence exists in term of classification and presentation of CMCs in the KCDB. Another

point is the time spent by all RMOs (mainly Technical Committees) to analyse and review the CMCs.

During the first meeting, it has been proposed to analyse the review process of CMCs and to see what can be possibly simplified. A working group led by Lionel Andreas Marcus (Romania) started to analyse the CMC review process. The target will take into account also that in many cases, especially in the case of small NMIs, the CMCs included in the existing database are seen by the national governments as an indicator of the economic potential of the country.

Different suggestions are proposed about :

- * the length of revision process, to be reduced ;
- * duration of Inter-laboratory comparisons (possibility to carry some of these comparisons in parallel to be studied) ;
- * to amend the degree of details of information included into a CMC line, taking into account the varying interests and different levels of competence of those who are interrogating the KCDB ;
- * the possible introduction of “flexible CMCs”, with sufficient proof of competence and reliability in the measurements performed one by NMIs and DIs, and without giving the impression that some CMCs are discarded because not really useful.

It appears that improving CMCs’ classification is the first step which should be done carefully since different approaches and methods are used. The group agreed that this should be carried in collaboration with TC Chairpersons.

- Another point discussed was about comparisons. The rule should be known by all participants before entering into any ILCs and accepted. A guide where clear rules for comparisons are described, defined and accepted could be drafted. In particular when a partner failed in the participation of the comparisons (apart technical problems).

- Inter-RMO reviews seem to be a long process, with delays not respected. Statistics should be provided to better estimate the delay and see what can be improved.

- ***EMRP – interim report***

EMRP has been successfully launched, and this is recognised by the European Commission. EMRP is running and procedures are in place. Whatever promotion and dissemination of the works done and results of JRPs are under the responsibility of EMRP and EURAMET.

The EMRP Project Manager, Duncan Jarvis, informed that EURAMET will have to elaborate an interim report by June 2011, and that a mid-term evaluation of EMRP will be conducted by the European Commission.

Regarding the iMERA-Plus projects, the EMRP-PM and EMRP Chair proposed that, within TC-IM, the most “successful projects” can be identified in view to promote the EMRP. Mark Pliesma (The Netherlands) was in charge of the group for analysing results on the on-going iMERA-Plus projects.

More than identifying the successful projects, during the second TC-IM meeting it has been decided to draft a text (for the selected JRPs) to include in the EMRP interim report, as a promotion of the EMRP project results, one project per Targeted Programme (TP) .

Considering the results and the associate impact, the following projects have been chosen :

- TP1 / SI : “ N_A H / Avogadro and molar Planck constant”
- TP2 / Health : “Regenmed / Metrology on a cellular scale for regenerative medicine”
- TP3 / Length : “Long distance / Absolute long distance measurement in air”

- TP4 / Electricity & Magnetism : “Power & Energy / Next generation of power and energy measuring techniques”.

- **EURAMET promotion and dissemination**

- It appears essential to develop some actions to promote EURAMET activities (including EMRP). It has been agreed that specific EMRP pages have to be developed on the EURAMET website, to get more information online of on-going projects and general information. This website has been developed by the EURAMET Secretariat, and is online at the present time.

- The second actions was to establish a table of all the key events in metrology, and then to decide at the BoD where EURAMET has to be present and represented. The list has been elaborated, then been included in the EURAMET agenda, will be updated regularly and discussed at the BoD for sharing the representation of EURAMET, and promote it.

- José Robles (Spain) proposed to consider different ways of presentation. At the present time some electronic tools, including video and audio bulletin, can be put on the EURAMET website, more attractive than ‘pdf’ files. José Robles gave a presentation on promotion tools available on the CEM website. A working group leads by José Robles will work with the EURAMET Secretariat to start to work on such a tool.-

- A general presentation of EURAMET can be useful for all NMIs and DIs, to present to stakeholders, governments, visitors, etc. A presentation will be elaborated. It is also important that each NMI promotes EURAMET and EMRP on their own website.

3. Projects

TC-IM project status is as follows :

- 841 : “Implementing the European Research Area in Metrology : status “completed”
- 1001 : “Agreement of traceability in measurement fields” : status “on going”
- 1026 : “Metrology knowledge transfer in the European Metrology Research Programme” : status “on going”
- 1078 : “Development of methods for the evaluation of uncertainty in dynamic measurements” : “on going”
- 1086 : “Project management and supervision” : status “closed”
- 1148 : Follow up on the coordination of NANOMETrology in Europe, Co-Nanomet : status “on going project”, final report this year.

A new project is proposed :

“International Conference AMCTM 2011 – Advanced Mathematical and Computational Tools in Metrology and Testing” .

4. Meetings

The next TC-IM meeting will be hosted by INRIM in Torino (Italy), on the 23rd and 24th of February 2012.

5. Other issues

Arnold Leitner gave a report on the activities of the on the “Development of metrology infrastructure” and the on-going actions.

The only other active Focus Group is on the “mathematic and statistic tools for metrology”.

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