

1. General Aspects

The EURAMET Technical Committee for Quality (TC-Q) is EURAMET's operational structure to share and develop knowledge on ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 17034 (ISO Guide 34) and on their implementation in National Metrology Institutes (NMI) and associated Designated Institutes (A-DI). TC-Q is responsible for reviewing and providing formal acknowledgement of the Quality Management Systems (QMS) of EURAMET Members and Associates in the framework of the Mutual Recognition Arrangement of the CIPM (CIPM MRA).

Currently TC-Q has 36 contact persons from 36 EURAMET members out of 37. In addition, the International Atomic Energy Agency, and Kosovo, under the UNSC Resolution 1244/1999, have nominated permanent observers to the TC-Q.

The Annual report template and guideline was amended in Summer 2018 in order to enable the monitoring of progress in implementing the revised version of ISO/IEC 17025. In addition, a template for the submission of a gap analysis and an action plan to implement the revised version of ISO/IEC 17025 and of ISO 17034 (if applicable) was developed, as well as a short guidance document.

In connection with the evaluation of annual reports the steering Committee Members in charge evaluated the gap analysis and action plans which had to be submitted in the end of 2018 and provided feedback to the NMI's DIs .

2. Meetings

The 14th TC-Q meeting was held in Ljubljana (Slovenia) on April 17 - 18, 2019. It was attended by 72 experts from 35 countries and international organisations together with invited observers from EURAMET (Wolfgang Schmid), European Accreditation (Trevor Thompson). The TC-Q plenary meeting was preceded by a meeting of the Steering Committee on April 16, 2018. The Steering Committee and the plenary meetings was hosted by the Metrology Institute of the Republic of Slovenia (MIRS).

The main outcomes of the meeting were:

- QMS Initial Presentations:
 - Moldova INM, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
 - Albania, DPM, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
 - Bosnia and Herzegovina: LABSAGAS, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
 - Croatia : DHMZ-SOUL, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;

QMS periodical re-evaluations:

- Turkey: UME, full confidence given,
- Turkey: TAEK, full confidence given;
- Finland: MIKES, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Finland: Aalto, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;

- Finland: MIKES-FMI, full confidence given;
- Finland: MIKES-SYKE, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Finland: FGI-GG, full confidence given;
- Finland: STUK; full confidence given;
- Greece: EIM, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Greece: EXHM/GSCL-EIM, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Greece: IRCL/GAEC-EIM, full confidence given;
- Hungary: BFKH, minor clarifications requested;
- Ireland: NSAI NML; confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Slovenia: MIRS, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Slovenia: MIRS/SIQ/Metrology, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Slovenia: MIRS/UL-FE/LMK, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Slovenia: MIRS/UM-FS/LTM, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Slovenia: MIRS/IJS/F-2, O2 minor clarifications requested,
- Slovenia: MIRS/KI/L05, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Slovenia: MIRS/IMT/LMT, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Slovenia: MIRS/NIB/FITO, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Slovenia: MIRS/UP-ZRS/LPOO, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Slovenia: MIRS/ZAG/SM 480 MIR minor clarifications requested; re-evaluation postponed due to absence of representative
- Italy: INRIM, full confidence given,
- Italy: ENEA, confidence given under the pre-requisite that all CMC's will be greyed out as proposed by ENEA, major clarification requested
- Belgium: SMD, confidence given, minor clarifications requested;
- Poland: GUM, INTiBS, POLATOM, re-evaluation postponed

In all cases the presentations were made by the representatives of the NMIs/DIs. Only initial presentations about Quality Management Systems fulfilling requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and ISO 17034 (if applicable) were accepted.

The Albanian 7 CMCs of DPM are currently greyed out, because DPM did not submit a re-evaluation Quality Management System Report and failed to make a re-evaluation presentation as requested by EURAMET in accordance with the [“Quality Management System review procedure” \(G-TCQ-PRC-001\)](#) during the EURAMET TC-Q meeting in 2018. After the successful initial evaluation of its QMS and a successful onsite visit by Peers, the pre-requisites for a re-instatement of the Albanian CMCs are fulfilled.

The TC-Q Chair informed BIPM accordingly on 7th Mai 2019.

- The review of 104 annual reports from 32 countries and 1 international organisation, including those whose QMSs were re-evaluated during the meeting, were made. Full confidence was given to 22 NMIs/DIs on the spot, minor additional information was requested from 79 NMIs/DIs and major complementary information was requested from

FSB (Croatia), UBA (Germany), Latvia (LTMB). The additional information has to be delivered and all required actions have to be completed by June 13, 2019.

3. Projects

TC-Q projects are mainly focused on peer reviews. Currently 39 peer review projects are registered on the EURAMET website. The projects initiated since the last EURAMET General Assembly are presented below:

Project No. 1430	LCOE (Spain), INRIM (Italy)
Project No. 1420	NSAI NML (Ireland), MIRS/UL-FE/LMK (Slovenia)
Project No. 1458	STUK (Finland), DSA (Norway)
Project No. 1430	LCOE (Spain), INRIM (Italy)
Project No. 1458	UME (Turkey), DPM (Albania), INRIM (Italy)

4. CMCs

TC-Q is not involved in the CMC submission and review process. However, TC-Q is monitoring the status of greyed-out CMCs. A summary of greyed-out CMCs belonging to EURAMET NMIs and DIs with the dates when the CMCs were greyed-out is as follows:

- Slovakia (SMU): 6 CMCs in acoustics (January 13, 2016) and 2 CMCs in length (April 4, 2016)
- Portugal (IPQ): 1 CMC in length (January 22, 2016)
- IRMM (JRC): 2 CMCs in chemistry, Category 6 (June 28, 2016)
- Latvia (LATMB): 30 CMCs in electricity (September 12, 2016)
- Germany: 12 CMCs in chemistry, Category 13 (June 30, 2017), 3 CMCs in ionizing radiation (dosimetry) (November 27, 2018)
- Italy (INRIM): 15 CMCs in electricity (December 9, 2015), 29 CMCs in mass (viscosity / Category 6) (March 24, 2016), 2 CMCs in metrology in chemistry (Category 7) (October 13, 2016), 1 CMC in density (November 10, 2016), 1 CMC in length (DimL) (December 21, 2016), 1 CMC in metrology in chemistry (Category 4) (April 19, 2017), 1 CMC in mass (pressure / Category 3) (November 14, 2017)
- Albania (DPM): 7 CMCs in mass (mass / Category 1) (May 3, 2018)
- Spain: 2 CMCs in ionizing radiation (dosimetry) (November 27, 2018)
- Sweden: 2 CMCs in electricity (December 12, 2018)
- Italy: 4 CMCs in electricity (December 10, 2018)
- Denmark, 1 CMC in thermometry (December 20, 2018)

In total, there are 123 greyed-out CMC entries from EURAMET NMIs and DIs. Greyed-out CMCs from Latvia and Albania resulted from the follow up of actions due to problems reported to the TC-Q by LATMB in 2016 and by DPM in 2018. ENEA (Italy) is expected to grey out all its CMCs shortly.

FTMC (Lithuania) informed about changes in the Lithuanian Metrology System. VMC is no longer a designated Institute. TC-Q confirmed that the CMC's in mass and length transferred in the same laboratory environment and with the same staff to FTMC are covered by the QMS of FTMC and can be transferred in the KCDB as well. The CMCs in pressure transferred from VMC to LEI will be greyed out.

Furthermore, DZM Croatia informed about changes in the Croatian Metrology System. HMI does no longer exist as a legal entity and DZM took over responsibility as an NMI. TC-Q confirmed that the CMC's of the Croatian designated institutes are not affected by this change.

5. Next Meeting

The next TC-Q plenary meeting will take place in Bern, Switzerland on April 22-24, 2020. The Steering Committee will meet the day before the plenary meeting on April 21, 2020. The meetings will be hosted by the Metrology Institute of Switzerland (METAS). The following NMIs and DIs are scheduled to make presentations during the meeting:

- Poland – GUM, INTiBS, POLATOM
- Belgium - SCK-CEN/LNK
- Bulgaria - BIM-NCM
- Croatia – DZM, FSB- LMPD, FSB-LIMS, FSB-LPM, FSB-FER-PEL, IRB-SSDL
- Czech Republic – CMI, IPE, CHMI, VUGTK,
- Estonia: UT IC
- Latvia: LATMB,
- Romania: INM, IFIN-HH
- Serbia: DMDM, VINS

6. Issues

More than 20 EURAMET institutes having CMCs published in the BIPM KCDB have not issued a single calibration certificate with the CIPM MRA logo in 2018.

The TC-Q steering committee had an intensive discussion on the necessity of introducing mandatory onsite visits by peers. The majority of steering committee members recommended mandatory onsite visits by peers. This was discussed in BoD and a corresponding decision is under preparation.

The guideline for initial presentation, the guideline for re-evaluation presentation and the Quality Management System Review Procedure have to be adapted to the revised ISO/IEC 17025 and to ISO 17034.

7. Capacity Building: Activities of the last year and future needs

In cooperation with the BoD Working Group on Capacity Building Webinars on the transitioning to ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and ISO 17034 (if applicable) and training for TC-Q contact persons (including reporting requirements) are under preparation.

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