

13th EURAMET GA – Plenary Session
Plenary Session
Minutes

Final version
Borås, Sweden, 22 – 23 May 2019



Time	Wednesday 22 May	9h00 – 18h00
	Thursday 23 May	9h00 – 13h00
Place	Borås Congress Center, Borås, Sweden	
Participants	EURAMET Delegates Representatives of EURAMET Associates and Liaison Organisations Research Council Members TC-Chairs, Task Group and Working Group Convenors Staff of EURAMET Secretariat (for support)	
Invited guests	Bill Phillips, NIST (USA), Nobel Laureate Sean O'Reagain, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission Further guests	

Minutes:

Keeper:	Wolfgang Schmid EURAMET Member Service Manager
Approved	By participants of the plenary session, as on 1 July 2019
Distribution	Delegates and Alternates of EURAMET Members Representatives from EURAMET Associates Representatives from Liaison Organisations TC-Chairs EMN-Chairs BOD-WG Convenors Research Council Invited Guests to the GA EURAMET Secretariat
Note	Documents to which reference is made in these minutes and PowerPoint presentations given during the meeting are available on the EURAMET website under "General Assembly" (direct link: http://www.euramet.org/about-euramet/general-assembly/) These minutes will not give summaries of the presentations at the meeting.

G13.01 Welcome address

Claes Winzell welcomed the participants of the 13th EURAMET General Assembly (GA) to Borås on behalf of the host RISE.

G13.02 Opening and adoption of the agenda

Chairperson Hans Arne Frøystein opened the Plenary Session of the 13th EURAMET GA. The agenda was adopted without changes.

G13.03 Report from the Working Session Delegates Only

The working session for Delegates only took place the afternoon before the plenary session. Hans Arne Frøystein gave a short feedback and presented the most important results:

- INM-Moldova was accepted as full member in EURAMET.
- The Designated Institute IH-LQPM (Portugal) was accepted as Associates (A-DI). Designation area is Chemistry & Biology: sea water, sediments.
- Maria Luisa Rastello (INRIM, Italy) was re-elected as EURAMET Vice-Chairperson (GA) for a second term.
- Robert Edelmaier (BEV, Austria) was re-elected for a further term in the BoD; Isabel Godinho (IPQ, Portugal) and Beat Jeckelmann (METAS, Switzerland) were elected as new BoD members.
- The following persons were re-elected as TC Chairs for the period 06/2019 to 06/2021:
TC-AUV Stephen Robinson (NPL, UK)
TC-PR Stefan Kück (PTB, Germany)
TC-TF Peter Whibberley (NPL, UK)
- Jacco de Pooter (VSL, Netherlands) was elected as next TC-IR Chair, to start in 06/2020.
- The GA approved the “Strategy for a future collaboration between EURAMET and WELMEC”.
- The GA welcomed the initiatives for EURAMET to intensify working on digitalisation, in particular the GA supported the proposals:
 - that the TC-IM identifies experts for a working group; WELMEC experts should be involved,
 - to use the possibility of secondments for supporting the TC-IM projects on digitalisation,
 - that the BoD takes the challenge to define a strategy.
- The GA appointed the following members for the GA working group on EMNs: current mentors Hans Arne Frøystein, Beat Jeckelmann, Jörn Stenger, Maguelonne Chambon, Maria Luisa Rastello, plus two further delegates Martti Heinonen and JT Janssen. Beat Jeckelmann was appointed as convenor of the GA working group on EMNs.

- The GA welcomed the initiative of TC-IM to analyse available information about EMNs and take necessary actions within TC-IM to foster intra-EURAMET interactions and identify relevant opportunities for members.
- The GA took note of the progress made towards a next European metrology programme and encouraged the BoD to continue working along the presented concepts.
- The EURAMET GA 2020 will take place in Vienna, Austria in the week from 25 to 28 May.

G13.04 EURAMET activities

The meeting continued with a series of presentations on strategic and members' support activities of EURAMET. The content of the presentations can be consulted in the PP-slides and further documents which are available on the EURAMET website.

G13.04.01 General Secretary's overview

Presentation by Duncan Jarvis, General Secretary

G13.04.02 Strategic activities of EURAMET

Presentation by Hans Arne Frøystein, EURAMET Chairperson

G13.04.03 Joint research activities: EMRP & EMPIR

Presentation by Erkki Ikonen, Vice-Chairperson (EMPIR)

G13.04.04 Member services and update on organisation

Presentation by Wolfgang Schmid, Member Service Manager

G13.04.05 Capacity Building

Presentation by Tanasko Tasić, Capacity Building Officer

G13.04.06 Members' satisfaction survey

Presentation by Enver Sadikoğlu, EURAMET Quality Manager

Hans Arne thanked all people for their contributions to the work of EURAMET: Delegates, EMPIR-representatives, TC Chairs, Board of Directors, Research Council and staff of the Secretariat.

G13.05 Metrology Infrastructure in Sweden

Jan Johansson from the host RISE gave an overview on the metrology infrastructure in Sweden. Details can be found in his PP-slides.

G13.06 The future of time: prospects for a redefinition of the SI second

Nobel Laureate Bill Phillips from NIST (USA) gave a presentation on the evolution of the SI-unit "second", and the current research activities towards a future redefinition. A lively discussion followed.

G13.07 CIPM MRA related matters & EURAMET horizontal TCs

Several presentations related to the Mutual Recognition Arrangement of the CIPM (CIPM MRA) followed, including presentations from horizontal TCs of EURAMET. PP-slides can be consulted among the meeting documents.

G13.07.01 Report from BIPM and CIPM

Presentation by Andy Henson, BIPM

G13.07.02 TC-Q

Presentation by Kai Stoll-Malke, TC-Q Chair.

G13.07.03 TC-IM

Presentation by Miruna Dobre, TC-IM Chair

G13.07.04 Overview on activities of EURAMET TCs

Presentation by Wolfgang Schmid, Member Service Manager.

G13.08 Highlights from TCs – part 1

In the sessions G13.08 and G13.11, the EURAMET TC-Chairs gave presentations on some specific highlights of current activities of their TC. PP-slides and annual reports of the TCs can be consulted among the meeting documents.

G13.08.01 TC-PR

Presentation by Stefan Kück, TC-PR Chair

G13.08.02 TC-MC

Presentation by Hanspeter Andres, TC-MC Chair

G13.08.03 TC-IR

Presentation by Ulrike Ankerhold, TC-IR Chair

G13.08.04 TC- AUV

Presentation by Stephen Robinson, TC-AUV Chair

G13.08.05 TC-L

Presentation by Harald Bosse, TC-L Chair

G13.08.06 TC-T

Presentation by Dolores del Campo, TC-T Chair

G13.09 Important developments amongst Liaison Organisations

Representatives from Liaison Organisations of EURAMET gave presentations on important developments. PP-slides can be consulted among the meeting documents.

G13.09.01 WELMEC

Presentation by Gregor Dudle, Chairperson of WELMEC

G13.09.02 COOMET

Presentation by Pavel Neyezhnikov, COOMET Vice-President

G13.09.03 SIM

Presentation by Georgette Macdonald, Chair of Quality Task Force of SIM

G13.09.04 APMP

Presentation by Toshiyuki Takatsuji, APMP Chair

G13.09.05 CEN/CENELEC

Presentation by Ashok Ganesh, Director Innovation

G13.09.06 Eurachem

Presentation by Sophie Vaslin-Reimann, incoming TC-MC Chair, and representative in Eurachem

G13.09.07 EUROLAB

Presentation by Alvaro Ribeiro, President of EUROLAB

G13.09.08 NCSLi

Presentation by Lonnie Spires

G13.10 European Metrology Networks

G13.10.01 Status and first achievements

Duncan Jarvis gave an overview on the status of establishment of the first 6 European Metrology Networks (EMN) which were approved by the GA last year: Mathmet, Quantum Technologies, Laboratory Medicine, Smart Electrical grids, Energy Gases, and Climate and Observation. Further EMNs are in preparation or consideration, but there were no new EMNs approved this year. The BoD had reviewed the existing EMNs. Good progress was observed, but also several barriers for their development could be identified and were shown in Duncan's presentation. Duncan concluded his presentation listing the workshops planned for this year. He emphasised on a workshop for NMI directors on EMN progress and programme commitment on 10 December in Berlin.

In continuation, Thomas Damitz, a new Secretariat staff member ("Networks Officer"), presented some initial results of a currently running survey on medical device regulation and post market surveillance. There is a significant number of EURAMET members which could have interest on an EMN about the Medical Device Regulation.

G13.10.02 EMN mapping

Maguelonne Chambon and Jörn Stenger had initiated an EMN mapping, analysing which of the “Horizon Europe” and “Horizon 2020” categories are addressed by existing or proposed EMNs. EMNs were sorted along these categories, plus an additional category for “NMI backbone EMNs”. A good coverage of the Commission’s categories is observed. One gap on “clean energy, photovoltaic and wind” was identified. In the following discussion, this was considered as a relevant area which should also be covered by an EMN.

In the discussion the question was debated how many EMNs could be expected and how many could be sustained by the EURAMET members on a long term. It was argued that in a first phase the successful implementation and operation of the existing EMNs must be ensured. Based on that experience a perspective for additional EMNs can be developed.

Furthermore, EURAMET members were encouraged that they should select a few EMNs where they can actively contribute, rather than trying to cover all areas.

All three presentations can be found among the meeting documents.

G13.11 Highlights from TCs – part 2

G13.11.01 TC-TF

Presentation by Peter Whibberley, TC-TF Chair

G13.11.02 TC-EM

Presentation by Luca Callegaro, TC-EM Chair

G13.11.03 TC-M

Presentation by Isabel Spohr, TC-M Chair

G13.11.04 TC-F

Presentation jointly given by Petra Milota, TC-F Chair and Isabelle Care, incoming TC-F Chair

G13.12 EURAMET Communication

Communication Officer Anne Trumpfheller gave an overview on the most important communication activities in the last year. Anne’s presentation focussed on the activities of high priority, which were those related to EMNs and the redefinition of the SI. For details, see the PP-slides which are among the meeting documents.

G13.13 Expectations from DG Research & Innovation to EURAMET

Seán O'Reagain, Deputy Head of Unit "Advanced Manufacturing Systems and Biotechnologies" of DG Research & Innovation gave an overview on the state of play of European partnerships under Horizon Europe. His PP-slides can be found among the meeting documents.

Among the proposals for institutionalised partnerships based on Article 185 / 187, the EURAMET initiative is listed in partnership area 3 on "European leadership in Metrology including an integrated Metrology system". Seán explained that this is still not the final list, as some countries believe that there are too many areas existing. Seán showed the milestones in preparation, adoption and launch of Article 185 / 187 initiatives: Consultation of Member States, public consultation and impact assessment will be concluded within 2019; the adoption of the Commission proposals is scheduled for the first quarter of 2020. The accepted initiatives should launch in early 2021.

On the question for his main advice what EURAMET delegates and BoD should do, Seán recommended to continue working with the representatives in the Council of Ministers, keep the technical work groups informed and demonstrate how metrology is supporting the goals of Horizon Europe as an important element in all areas.

G13.14 Important developments amongst EURAMET Members & Associates

There was no presentation given.

G13.15 Dialogue with the BoD

Hans Arne was opening the dialogue with the BoD. He expressed his expectation that such a session helps to open the relationship from delegates and other people to the BoD. He invited the participants to ask also critical questions.

Duncan Jarvis was moderating the session. From part of the BoD Hans Arne Frøystein, Maguelonne Chambon, Erkki Ikonen, Beat Jeckelmann, Isabel Godinho, Jörn Stenger and Robert Edelmaier were represented.

The first question from Marc Pieksma was addressing the EMN-discussion. He asked how we can ensure that EMNs will be successful and sustainable. Beat emphasised on the importance to make first the running EMNs a success; he expects that the workshop with NMI directors in December 2019 can contribute convincing them to provide the required support from the NMIs. Jörn stated that ENMs are not sustainable by definition. Inherent stability needs to be achieved; all participating NMIs must have a strong interest. The EMNs must survive by themselves, not via pushing from the top. Erkki emphasised that it is the NMIs who must make the EMNs a success; EURAMET has to provide the appropriate frame. Isabel and Robert recalled on the importance that all EURAMET members, also the small NMIs are participating, identifying at least one EMN which is of high importance for them. Hans Arne recalled the presentation on EMN-mapping (G13.10.02). It is important to understand the future challenges and go ahead in these directions, in order to ensure the support of the European Commission.

Jean-Remy Flitz drew the attention to the role of the TCs in supporting the EMNs. Road mapping of the TCs should be the chamber for brainstorming regarding EMNs. Maguelonne confirmed that the BoD is very much convinced on the importance of the TCs; a close connection between EMNs and TCs must be ensured.

Miruna Dobre asked if EURAMET has the right impact studies ready for the areas requested by the Commission. Duncan pointed out that we have many impact studies on the website, that keeping track becomes already difficult. Jörn added that we need to make them more visible. Beat concluded that this is very much related with the purpose to create the EMNs, to explain impact properly at the stakeholder level. Hans Arne confirmed that a lot of information is available, but we have to discuss with the Commission the examples which we should use.

Jan Petersen asked if it is better to have a smaller number of EMNs and ensure that they are successful, rather than increasing the number too much? Hans Arne confirmed this statement. Jörn added that the idea of the monitoring was to give a flavour what we are covering and to avoid that we miss something which is key for the next programme. He is aware that the resources of NMIs are limited and must be taken into consideration for further establishment of new EMNs.

Sophie Vaslin-Reimann was concerned that the recommendation that NMIs should focus on specific EMNs might increase the difference between smaller and larger NMIs. Hans Arne pointed out that for a non-research focussed NMI it might be easier to join an EMN than a Joint Research Programme (JRP), as the EMNs have a wider spectrum of activities. In addition, the lesser research focussed NMIs can more easily establish National Commitment for JRPs through EMN work. Jörn complemented emphasising on the different possible roles in an EMN, which should give good opportunities for all NMIs, some of them doing research and others dissemination. Beat did not share Sophie's concern: for him it is natural that small NMIs can join less activities, and this will not change due to the EMNs. Robert however believed that the gap between small and big NMIs might increase and emphasised on the important role of capacity building to enable small NMIs having a better participation.

Andy Henson recalled that in the preparation of EMRP (the first co-funded research programme), it was crucial to get the support from the European Parliament (EP). For that purpose, parliamentarians (MEP) were invited to visit the NMIs. He recommended doing the same for the new programme. Jörn supported this proposal. The process should be initiated after the EP elections; the ITRE-Committee should be approached. Duncan informed that the Secretariat can provide details of MEPs that we have been in contact with through our activities in the parliament.

One participant asked how the "lower parts of the traceability chain" (i.e. the calibration laboratories) can be brought better into the metrology community. Jörn responded that the member NMIs have these contacts. He believes that getting these laboratories better involved we can improve our impact.

Jan Petersen asked for the next priorities in EURAMET after Horizon Europe and EMNs. Beat considered that collaboration with Liaison Organisations, in particular with WELMEC should have high priority. Maguelonne mentioned the importance of a good progress in capacity building. Robert saw the most important challenge in making the EURAMET fit for the future by improving the internal organisation. He mentioned as one example which serves for this purpose the workshop with EMN-Chairs and TC-Chairs.

Emma Woolliams asked whether the BoD would consider a formal gender policy, similar to that described by CEN-CENELEC in their presentation. Hans Arne confirmed that there are equal

opportunities to all, without discrimination. Maguelonne recalled that the Vice-Chairperson (GA) is a woman.¹

Stefan Kück asked for the relations to other RMOs and how EURAMET is perceived by them. Hans Arne recalled the good collaboration among all RMOs and EURAMET's special relationship to COOMET. Hans Arne emphasised on EURAMET's close involvement in and active support to BIPM's Capacity Building & Knowledge Transfer (CBKT) programme. Furthermore, he pointed out that many NMIs beyond Europe were included in EMPIR projects. Jörn added that the global cooperation is not an issue for EURAMET, it is well developed and thus an asset with which we can demonstrate that we have impact on international level. Andy Henson invited EURAMET to have a stronger engagement in the INetQI, the "International Network on Quality Infrastructure".

G13.16 AOB

No further matters were discussed.

Hans Arne thanked the participants of the GA and all speakers. He expressed his thank to the Secretariat for the preparation; special thanks went to Jan Johansson, Stina Hallhagen and Anna Axelsson from the host RISE for the excellent preparation and support during the GA week.

Hans Arne closed the meeting.

¹ Note from the keeper of the minutes:

Currently, among the 3 Chairpersons there is one woman, among the 6 elected BoD-members there are 2 women, among the 12 TC Chairs there are 5 women, and among the 6 EMN-Chairs there are 2 women.

ANNEX: List of Participants

Name	Institute	Country represented	Function
Andres, Hanspeter	METAS	Switzerland	TC-MC Chair
Ankerhold, Ulrike	PTB	Germany	TC-IR Chair
Arrhén, Fredrik	RISE	Sweden	Incoming TC-M Chair
Arrhenius, Karine	RISE	Sweden	Guest
Auerbach, Dagmar	EURAMET		Programme Manager
Axelsson, Tryggvi	NEST	Iceland	Alternate
Baldan, Annarita	VSL	Netherlands	EMN Chair
Bender, Jutta	EURAMET		Secretariat
Bosse, Harald	PTB	Germany	TC-L Chair
Butas, Dusan	SMU	Slovakia	Alternate
Callegaro, Luca	INRIM	Italy	TC-EM Chair
Calpini, Bertrand	WMO		Research Council
Care, Isabelle	LNE-CETIAT	France	Incoming TC-F Chair
Ceapa, Serghei	INM	Republic of Moldova	Alternate
Cetintas, Mustafa	UME	Turkey	Delegate
Chambon, Maguelonne	LNE	France	Delegate, BoD member
Damitz, Thomas	EURAMET		Networks Officer
Degiovanni, Ivo Pietro	INRIM	Italy	Acting EMN Chair
del Campo, Dolores	CEM	Spain	Delegate, TC-T Chair
Dobre, Miruna	SMD	Belgium	Alternate, TC-IM Chair
Dolfi, Daniel			Research Council
Domini, Eveline	LNE	France	Guest
Dudle, Gregor	WELMEC		Research Council, Representative
Džemic, Zijad	IMBiH	Bosnia-Herzegovina	Delegate
Edelmaier, Robert	BEV	Austria	Delegate
Eggert, Claudia	BAM	Germany	DI Representative
Ferki, Fejza	KMA	Kosovo * (*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.)	Representative
Filtz, Jean-Remy	LNE	France	Representative
Fleming, David	NSAI NML	Ireland	EMPIR Representative
Foulon, Henri	LNE-LADG	France	DI Representative
Franzon, Joakim	RISE	Sweden	Guest
Frøystein, Hans Arne	JV	Norway	Chairperson
Ganesh, Ashok	CEN-CENELEC		Research Council
Godinho, Maria Isabel	IPQ	Portugal	Delegate
Grasserbauer, Manfred			Research Council
Grenon, Thomas	LNE	France	Guest
Gunn, Robert	NPL	United Kingdom	EMPIR Deputy
Habibi, Stilian	DPM	Albania	Alternate
Hansson, Renée	SWEDAC	Sweden	Guest
Häkamsson, Evert	Vinnova PR		Guest
Hässlind, Fredrik	RISE	Sweden	Guest
Hedekvist, Per Olof	RISE	Sweden	Guest
Heinonen, Martti	MIKES	Finland	Delegate
Henson, Andy	BIPM		Research Council
Hetherington, Paul	NSAI NML	Ireland	Delegate
Hilenko, Oleksandr	ME	Ukraine	Representative

Name	Institute	Country represented	Function
Ikonen, Erkki	MIKES	Finland	EMPIR Chair
Ilchev, Paun	BIM	Bulgaria	Delegate
Imkamp, Dietrich			Research Council
Janssen, JT	NPL	United Kingdom	Delegate
Jarvis, Duncan	EURAMET		General Secretary
Jeckelmann, Beat	METAS	Switzerland	Delegate, BoD member
Johansson, Jan	RISE	Sweden	Alternate
Kadok, Philippe	ILNAS	Luxembourg	Delegate
Klavins, Gints	LATMB	Latvia	Delegate
Klenovský, Pavel	CMI	Czech Republic	Delegate, BoD member
Kopac, Samo	MIRS	Slovenia	Delegate
Kowal, Aleksandra	INTiBS	Poland	DI Representative
Kübarsepp, Toomas	Metrosert	Estonia	Delegate
Kück, Stefan	PTB	Germany	TC-PR Chair
Lapuh, Rado	MIRS	Slovenia	EMPIR Deputy Chair
Macdonald, Georgette	SIM		Representative
Mikiel, Marcin	GUM	Poland	Alternate
Melenciuc, Anatolie	INM	Moldova	Delegate
Milota, Petra	BEV	Austria	TC Chair
Morazzani, Valérie	LNE	France	Alternate
Mustafai, Merita	BoM	North Macedonia	Delegate
Nagyné-Szilágyi, Zsafia	BFKH	Hungary	Delegate
Naujalis, Evaldas	FTMC	Lithuania	Delegate
Nedialkov, Sasho	BIM	Bulgaria	Alternate
Neyezhnikov, Pavel	COOMET		Representative
Novosel, Brankica	DZM	Croatia	Delegate
O'Reagain, Sean	EC		Guest
Panesar, Mannie	NMO	United Kingdom	DI Representative
Petak, Tomas	SMU	Slovakia	EMPIR Deputy
Petersen, Jan C.	DFM	Denmark	Delegate
Phillips, Bill	NIST	USA	Guest
Pieksma, Marc	VSL	Netherlands	Alternate
Popa, George-Florian	INM	Romania	Alternate
Prieto, Emilio	CEM	Spain	Incoming TC-L Chair
Pritchard, Caroline	LGC	United Kingdom	Guest
Rama, Petrit	DPM	Albania	Delegate
Redgrave, Fiona	EURAMET MSU		
Rethmeier, Jan	EURAMET		
Ribeiro, Álvaro Silva	EUROLAB aisbl		Research Council, Representative
Robinson, Stephen	NPL	United Kingdom	TC-AUV Chair
Sadikoglu, Enver	UME	Turkey	Quality Manager
Samuelsen, Geir	JV	Norway	Alternate
Schmid, Wolfgang	EURAMET		Member Service Manager
Shurdhani, Agron	KMA	Kosovo * (* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.)	Guest
Spies, Lonnie	NCSLi		Representative
Spohr, Isabel	IPQ	Portugal	TC-M Chair
Stenger, Jörn	PTB	Germany	Delegate, BoD member
Stoll-Malke, Kai	PTB	Germany	TC-Q Chair

Name	Institute	Country represented	Function
Stosch, Rainer	PTB	Germany	Acting EMN Chair
Tafel, Barbara	EURAMET		Legal Advisor
Takatsuji, Toshiyuki	APMP		Representative
Tasic, Tanasko	EURAMET		Capacity Building Officer
Trumpfheller, Anne	EURAMET		Communications Officer
Vaslin-Reimann, Sophie	LNE	France	Incoming TC-MC Chair
Voipio, Ville			Research Council
von Klitzing, Klaus			Research Council
Vukoslavovic, Goran	MBM	Montenegro	Alternate
Winzell, Claes	RISE	Sweden	Guest
Welsch, Jane	EURAMET		Financial Officer
Whibberley, Peter	NPL	United Kingdom	TC-TF Chair
Woolliams, Emma	NPL	United Kingdom	Acting EMN Chair
Zeier, Markus	METAS	Switzerland	Incoming TC-EM Chair
Zelan, Martin	RISE	Sweden	Guest