



## 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 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 35 EURAMET members out of 38 and JRC as Associate with observer in the General Assembly. In addition, the International Atomic Energy Agency, Kosovo, under the UNSC Resolution 1244/1999, and INPL, Israel nominated a permanent observer to TC-Q.

The QMS re-evaluation guideline, the QMS annual report guideline and the guide for on-site visits by peers have been revised in 2021, mainly making on-site visits by peers mandatory and taking into account the monitoring of the revised version of ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 17034. The revised documents were approved by BoD in September 2021.

In connection with the evaluation of annual reports the steering Committee Members in charge finalized the gap analysis and action plans which had to be submitted in the end of 2018 and were requested to be updated in connection with the Annual reports 2019, 2020 and 2021. The responsible evaluators provided feedback to the Institutes. The transition period for ISO/IEC 17025:2017 ended on 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2021 and all institutes finalized the transitioning in time.

## 2. Meetings

An extraordinary TC-Q meeting took place virtually on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021 on occasion of the initial presentation of JRC-Geel. The meeting was prepared by a EURAMET TC-Q steering committee meeting which took place on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021. EURAMET TC-Q provided confidence to the Quality Management System (QMS) of JRC Geel.

The 17<sup>th</sup> TC-Q meeting took place as a hybrid meeting in Lisbon from April 5 - 7, 2022.

The EURAMET TC-Q steering Committee reviewed 108 annual reports from 35 countries and 2 international organizations, including those whose QMS is to be re-evaluated during the meeting. Full confidence was given to 28 NMIs/DIs on the spot, minor additional information was requested from 77 NMIs/DIs and from three of the institutes major complementary information was requested. The annual report of the Slovenian institute MIRS/KI/D16 was not received prior to the meeting. Slovenian apologies were accepted and the institute was requested to provide an annual report to the TC-Q secretariat within two months. The TC-Q steering committee was requested to evaluate the situation until the end of June.

The outcome of the evaluation of Annual reports was presented to the EURAMET TC-Q plenary.

Further outcomes of the TC-Q plenary meeting were:

- QMS periodical re-evaluations:
  - Germany: PTB, BVL, BAM, UBA
  - Estonia: Metrosert
  - North Macedonia: BoM
  - Netherlands: VSL
  - United Kingdom: NPL, TUV NEL, LGC, NMGL

In all cases the presentations are expected to be made by the representatives of the NMIs/DIs. Only initial and re-evaluation presentations about Quality Management Systems fulfilling requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and ISO 17034 (if applicable) can be accepted.

The NMO from UK did not provide a re-evaluation report prior to the meeting. TC-Q accepted the apologies of NMO, UK not sending the report to TC-Q. TC-Q expects the re-evaluation report within 2 months to be sent to TC-Q secretariat.

TC-Q plenary decided to organize an extraordinary online TC-Q meeting in 3 Q. or 4 Q. 2022 to enable NMO to present the postponed Re-evaluation presentation and to decide on the re-evaluation of NMO and the evaluation of the missing annual report of MIRS/KI/D16.

IAEA reported, that following the JCRB recommendation for international organizations it will rotate to SIM. Consequently, IAEA did not provide a re-evaluation presentation to EURAMET TC-Q.

### 3. Projects

TC-Q projects are mainly focused on peer reviews. Currently 50 peer review projects are registered on the EURAMET website. The projects initiated since the EURAMET General Assembly 2021 are presented below:

Project No. 1535	On-site visits by peers of JRC-Geel in the fields of chemistry and ionizing radiation
Project No. 1540	On-site visits by peers - Remote peer reviews of METROSERT
Project No. 1544	On-site visits by peers - Remote peer reviews of NSAI NML and DMDM
Project No. 1546	Peer review of QMS of LNE-LCM/CNAM

### 5. Next Meeting

There is the intention to organize an extraordinary virtual TC-Q meeting in the second half of the year on occasion of the re-evaluation of NMO, UK. The next regular meeting is planned in the week from 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 and will be hosted by METAS in Switzerland.

## 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 2021.

Kai Stoll-Malke  
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