

Information about 38th and 39th JCRB meetings

38th meeting of Joint Committee of the Regional Metrology Organizations and the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (JCRB) was held on 13–14 September 2017 in Bern, Switzerland. Delegations from five Regional Metrology Organizations (RMOs) – EURAMET, SIM, COOMET, APMP, AFRIMETS and also representatives of Regional Organization with the interim status – GULFMET took part in the meeting.

The agenda of the meeting included:

- BIPM report about the activity after the 37th JCRB, including information about World Metrology Day – 2017, status of Members and CGPM Associated Members, updating the status of QMS BIPM, updated information on the BIPM Program on Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer (CB&KT);
- the CIPM report, including information from ad hoc CIPM Working Group on realization of recommendations on the CIPM MRA review;
- recommendations of Working Group on the CIPM MRA review, resulting from RACI analysis;
- a short workshop-discussion on the use of the best practices while formulating CMCs;
- updating documents within CIPM MRA;
- the development status of the Database of key comparisons BIPM – KCDB 2.0;
- key issues of RMOs reports for JCRB, including the status of Quality Management Systems of RMOs;
- the report of KCDB administrator;
- the status of submitting and review of CMCs.

During the short workshop on the use of the best practices while formulating RMOs CMCs and Consultative Committees were proposed to implement the further approach, based on risk evaluation, for the CMCs review and also for the statement development on the appropriate status of CMCs reviews and the intraregional review with regard to the aims of international acceptance.

Taking into account the needs of the National Metrology Institutes (NMI) and Designated Institutes (DI) at all levels, as means towards implementation of recommendations of the CIPM MRA review, the JCRB encouraged Consultative Committees and BIPM to continue to explore means to allow NMIs and DIs to publish CMCs in the KCDB for only their smallest uncertainty capabilities that are then used to support related services covered by their approved Quality System. There are requested proposals as how to show the link between these capabilities and the “representative” CMCs. RMOs and CCs are encouraged to the further implementation of the approach for CMC review, based on risk evaluation.

At the next JCRB meeting it is planned to consider the following:

- possible modifications of Quality Systems (RMOS);
- documentation of the link between “representative” CMCs and supporting capabilities (services);
- restricting terms of the use of the CIPM MRA logo for supporting services.

The JCRB asked a Working Group consisting of Alan Steele (Chair), Toshiyuki Takatsuji, Andy Henson, Beat Jeckelmann, Wynand Louw, Mohammed Al Mulla, Pavel Neyezhnikov and Willie May to engage with the CIPM and subsequently develop some questions and draft text to initiate discussion at a one-day working session to develop both the strategy, and consequent actions at the extended JCRB Meeting in March 2018.

The JCRB requested also the CIPM to invite representation from the JCRB to take part in the meetings of the CC Presidents in order to encourage communication between the JCRB and the CCs.

According to the results of discussions during the meeting the following Actions and Resolutions were taken:

Action 38/1 (Strategy and action plan): Following the lessons learned during the work using the RACI analysis tool, the JCRB proposes to progress towards the development of a strategy and action plan. The JCRB requests a working group consisting of Alan Steele (Chair), Toshiyuki Takatsuji, Andy Henson, Beat Jeckelmann, Wynand Louw, Mohammed Al Mulla, Pavel Neyezhmakov and Willie May to engage with the CIPM and subsequently develop some questions and draft text to initiate discussion at a one-day working session to develop both the strategy, and consequent actions at the extended JCRB Meeting in March 2018.

Action 38/2 (Improving communication: JCRB and CC Presidents): The JCRB requests the CIPM to invite representation from the JCRB to take part in meetings of the CC Presidents in order to encourage communication between the JCRB and the CCs.

Resolution 38/1 (Risk-based CMC Review and Representative CMCs): RMOs and CCs are encouraged to further implement a risk-based approach to review of CMCs and to develop statements for the levels of CMCs for which an intra-RMO review may be sufficient for the purposes of international acceptance.

Taking note of the needs of NMIs and DIs at all levels, as means towards implementation of recommendation 3b of the CIPM MRA review, the JCRB encourages Consultative Committees and the BIPM to continue to explore means to allow NMIs and DIs to publish CMCs in the KCDB for only their smallest uncertainty capabilities that are then used to support related services covered by their approved Quality System. Proposals are requested as to how to show the link between these capabilities and the “representative” CMCs. RMOs are encouraged to propose additions to the Quality System review process to effect a fit-for-purpose review of these capabilities.

Resolution 38/2: The 39th meeting of the JCRB will take place on March 14, 15 and 16, 2018 at Sevres, France. The meeting will start in the morning of March 14, 2018 and will last three days with the end of last day at 16.00.

Resolution 38/3: The 40th meeting of the JCRB will take place on March 2019. The exact days for the Meeting will be determined later.

39th meeting of Joint Committee of the Regional Metrology Organizations and the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (JCRB) was held on 14–16 March 2018 in BIPM, Paris, France. Delegations from five Regional Metrology Organizations (RMOs) – EURAMET, SIM, COOMET, APMP, AFRIMETS and also representatives of Regional Organization with the interim status – GULFMET took part in the meeting.

The agenda of the meeting included:

- BIPM report about the activity after the 38th JCRB, including information about World Metrology Day – 2018, status of Members and CGPM Associated Members, updating the status of QMS BIPM, updated information on the BIPM Program on Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer (CB&KT);
- the CIPM report, including information from ad hoc CIPM Working Group on realization of recommendations on the CIPM MRA review;
- risk-based CMC Review and Representative CMCs;
- working session: role of the RMO’s QS working groups in the transition of the NMIs QS to the revised version of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and ISO 17034:2016;
- updating documents within CIPM MRA;
- the development status of the Database of key comparisons BIPM – KCDB 2.0;

- key issues of RMOs reports for JCRB, including the status of Quality Management Systems of RMOs;
- the report of KCDB administrator;
- the status of submitting and review of CMCs.

According to the results of discussions during the meeting the Actions and Resolutions were taken, among which:

Action 1: Each RMO will send the name of a person responsible for capacity building activities in their region to C Kuanbayev at BIPM together with a short description of the RMO's vision for capacity building activities both at the regional and the JCRB levels (by 30th April 2018). BIPM will circulate a summary of the responses to the JCRB.

Action 2: Each RMO will complete two sheets (doc 39/05.2) summarising progress with addressing the recommendations from the review of the implementation of the CIPM MRA.

Resolution 1: The JCRB welcomes the efforts made by BIPM in realising the Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer (CBKT) programme and encourages its further implementation. Furthermore, the JCRB supports the proposal to include those CBKT activities that directly support the effective and efficient operation of the CIPM MRA as core activities within the next BIPM work programme, and encourages the BIPM and the RMOs to develop a framework approach for the delivery of capacity building activities.

Resolution 3: The JCRB, noting the publication of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and ISO 17034:2016, and their importance to the CIPM MRA, decides that the RMOs shall ensure that all NMIs and DIs declaring CMCs within the CIPM MRA shall have demonstrated the conformance of their quality management systems to the above standards (in so much as they are applicable to the CMCs of the NMI or DI), no later than three years after the publication date of the standards.

Resolution 4: The JCRB recommends that the CIPM MRA Guidance documents be updated to reflect the transition period agreed by the JCRB for the adoption of ISO/IEC 17025 and ISO 17034.