

COOMET PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear colleagues!

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to the 36th COOMET Committee meeting, which is held for the first time in Uzbekistan in the anniversary year for republic metrologists. It is a great honor and responsibility for me to continue the work of our organization as Acting President. Unfortunately, not all representatives of the countries were able to come to Tashkent, but the hybrid format of the meeting allowed us to ensure a quorum for the meeting.

Despite the fact that in 2023 the number of COOMET members has decreased, we continue to work on fulfilling our tasks maintaining stable relations between our member organizations.

Countries of different regions cooperate in COOMET and unfortunately this imposes some limitations on simultaneous participation of representatives of all COOMET members in online meetings due to the difference in time zones. Therefore, I sincerely welcome all members of COOMET countries, invited guests from BIPM, OIML, EASC, AFRIMET, SIM at today's meeting.

I would also like to note that a large number of NMI directors are present at our meeting this year, which emphasizes the importance of our RMO activity for COOMET member-countries.

I am sure that due to our joint work, support and professionalism we will be able to reach new heights and overcome all the challenges we face. We have many important and interesting tasks ahead of us, and I look forward to fruitful cooperation with all of you.

As you know, at the 35th COOMET Committee meeting the COOMET Secretariat was transferred from Belarus to Kazakhstan. Two online meetings of the Presidential Council were held, where we continued the discussion of the issues related to the activity of our organization.

Almost all the structural bodies organized the meetings in autumn last year. The meetings of TC 1.6, TC 1.7, TC 1.12, TC 2 and TC 4 were held in hybrid format in the cities of Saint Petersburg, Ekaterinburg and Tashkent, the rest of the meetings were held online using Zoom platform provided by COOMET Secretariat.

Detailed information on COOMET activities in all main directions and thematic areas of cooperation for 2023 is contained in the Annual Report on COOMET activities and will be presented by the Secretariat under item 4 of the agenda.

I will summarize the main results of COOMET activities for the period of time passed since the 35th COOMET Committee meeting, and also note the main points and decisions proposed to be taken by the COOMET Committee:

1) Development of cooperation with countries with developing metrology systems (CEEMS)

As you know in previous years active work was started on following direction:

- 4 countries, which are referred to CEEMS (Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) have been identified;
- COOMET Task Group on CEEMS support was established, the task of which is to form the Program of activities on rendering assistance to CEEMS and its implementation;
- questionnaire survey of CEEMS countries to identify needs and survey of other COOMET member-countries to identify opportunities for providing assistance to CEEMS were conducted.

The first meeting of the Task Group (TG-CEEMS) was held in August 2023, where the draft Program of Activities for CEEMS assistance was discussed.

At today's meeting the above mentioned Program was submitted to the Committee for approval, also a new candidate from KazStandard for the position of the Chairperson of TF-CEEMS (Gulaikhan Suleubayeva) was presented.

2) Participation in the activities of the Metric Convention is undoubtedly a priority task of metrologists of any country.

Members of the Metric Convention are 8 COOMET countries, associated members of GCMW - 5 countries.

Unfortunately, Cuba still has not renewed the status of associate member of GCMW. I express my concern and at the same time hope that Cuban metrologists will be able to solve this problem and return to participation in GCMW and CIPM MRA.

I would like to express a wish to the representatives of COOMET member-countries, which are not signatories of CIPM MRA at present (these are Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan) to work out this issue more actively at the level of their Governments.

I urge the NMIs of the countries-participants of the Metric Convention to activate works on joining the activities of the Consultative Committees according to the rules and procedures established by them.

3) Traditionally a large amount of work both in NMIs/NIs of COOMET countries and directly in COOMET structural bodies was carried out on the implementation of Agreements on mutual recognition of CIPM MRA.

Signatories of CIPM MRA are NMIs/NIs of 13 COOMET member-countries, out of them only Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, Uzbekistan (in total eight NMIs/NIs instead of 13 earlier) participate in its realization through COOMET.

All aspects of the Agreement implementation (preparation of CMC data, carrying out comparisons of national measurement standards, as well as creation and evaluation of quality systems of NMI/NIS) are currently priority tasks and an important part of COOMET activity.

For the year 2023 115 CMC lines of the member-countries submitting CMCs through COOMET were published.

JCMS together with TC 1.2 - TC 1.11 and COOMET Secretariat carries out constant monitoring of the status of works on comparisons registered in KCDB and lasting more than 5 years and promotes their completion.

This year the structural bodies of TC 1.6 and TC 1.4 proposed to merge TC 1.4 "Flow Measurement" to TC 1.6 "Mass and related quantities" as SC 1.6.6 " Flow Measurement", this proposal is related to the purpose of harmonization with the structure of BIPM by type of measurements.

COOMET representatives represented by the Secretariat, technical specialists maintain permanent contacts with BIPM, JCRB, BIPM Consultative Committees, OIML, regional metrology organizations.

The representatives of JCMS as a part of COOMET delegation in September 2023 took part in the 47th JCRB meeting in the discussion on the key issues of MRA implementation.

TC 3.1 and Quality Forum in 2023 organized external audits of quality management systems of those COOMET NMIs/NIs, which have expired COOMET Certificates of QMS recognition.

During the reporting period the external audits in hybrid format were conducted by AzMI (Azerbaijan) and UzNIM (Uzbekistan) for compliance with ISO/IEC 17025 standard. UzNIM underwent the recognition procedure for the first time. Inspection of QMS of AzMI (Azerbaijan) took

place in February 2023, inspection of UzNIM (Uzbekistan) took place in March 2023. The results of inspections are positive.

In October 2023 the COOMET Certificate of Recognition of the QMS of NI Cuba expired. COOMET expects the decision of colleagues on renewal of the status of associate member of GCMW and is ready to perform external checks of the QMS of the Institute of Cuba as soon as possible.

I have to inform that in the middle of 2023 Nino Mikanadze resigned from the duties of the Chairperson of the COOMET Quality Forum due to the transition to a new place of work.

Taking into account the importance of the Forum activity for the realization of the CIPM MRA Agreement in COOMET member-countries, undoubtedly, this important direction of activity should definitely be continued and developed, therefore, I urge the Committee members to nominate a candidate for the position of the Chairperson of the Quality Forum.

4) The situation in COOMET with the fulfillment of Strategic Objective F "Conducting research in the field of metrology" is difficult.

In spite of the fact that the works on realization of the mentioned Strategic Objective have been suspended due to the lack of financial resources of COOMET, I hope that we will be able to resume and intensify the works by joint efforts and new approaches.

5) The topic of digitalization of metrological activities is one of the main trends of our time and the object of attention of all international and regional organizations.

Within the framework of TG-DigTr the development of COOMET recommendations to the objects of digitalization is carried out. I hope that this year the development of COOMET requirements for digital certificates of calibration/verification of SIs, which could be implemented in the participating countries, will be completed (naturally taking into account the developments and recommendations of the OIML Digitalization Task Group (DTG) and the Task Group on the SI CIPM Digital Platform (CIPM-TG-DIG)).

In 2024 it is planned to hold a COOMET thematic workshop on digitalization, where we will already be able to discuss the first results of the Roadmap implementation.

6) COOMET activity in the field of legal metrology is traditionally directed to the implementation of projects of TC 2 Work Program "Legal Metrology" (for more details - see the Annual Report of TC 2).

Last year within the framework of TC 2 a seminar on "Issues of metrological support of measurements with the use of smart meters" was held in hybrid format.

Also an important task of TC 2 is the translation of OIML publications. These materials can be further used for the development of COOMET recommendations and/or implemented in the practice of COOMET countries by issuing national normative legal acts or national standards.

7) COOMET activity in the field of information and training as usual is carried out within two "branches": through the activity of COOMET Secretariat and TC 4 "Information and Training". The detailed report on the activities of the Secretariat is given in the Annual Report on COOMET activities. I will only mention the following:

- The structural bodies and the Secretariat continue to check the scientific and technical level and update practically all COOMET publications in accordance with the approved plan, as well as to develop new publications - the results of the works completed in 2023-2024 are submitted to the Committee for approval.

- The Presidential Council approved the final version of the Terms of Reference for the creation of a new unified COOMET web-resource. Today the representatives of WG-Web will tell about the progress of works in this direction. It is also important to note that until the unified resource is put into operation the website www.coomet.org and portal www.coomet.net continue to function in full.

- the work on the list of documents on metrology of international metrology organizations requiring translations into Russian continues.

- on the COOMET portal there were created pages where available translations of documents of international and regional metrology organizations are placed (and it is planned to place them in future). COOMET secretariat has coordinated and received confirmation from BIMP and BIPM on the possibility to place translations of OIML publications (taking into account the rules and procedures set out in OIML B11:2007) and documents of CIPM, BIPM, CIPM CC, published on www.bipm.org in open access, respectively, on COOMET information resources.

With regard to learning and knowledge transfer, it is useful to highlight the following points:

- as a follow-up to the signed Practical Agreement between BIPM and COOMET on cooperation in the implementation of capacity building and knowledge transfer activities using the BIPM e-learning platform, since June 2022 the COOMET page, where COOMET courses are posted, has been launched on the BIPM e-learning platform (<https://e-learning.bipm.org/>).

To date, 4 courses have been posted by the COOMET team. In 2023 the Chair of TC 1.1 A.G. Chumovkina and COOMET Secretariat prepared the training course "Evaluation of the results of comparisons of national measurement standards. Rules, approaches and experience of COOMET".

I urge all COOMET SOC's to actively participate in filling the COOMET web-page with useful and actual training content. This fact, in my opinion, will contribute to the increase of COOMET cooperation efficiency.

In September 2023 for the first time on the platform of BIPM a forum for secretariats of regional metrology organizations "BIPM/RMO forum: "Support for Secretariats of Regional Metrology Organizations" was held. The Forum gave an opportunity to secretariats to discuss topical issues on work with metrological institutes and to exchange experience in secretariat management.

In 2023 TC 4 jointly with the Secretariat held 10 training events, the webinar "Estimation of Uncertainty in Calibration" organized by TC 1.1 attracted great interest.

It is also necessary to note the coordinating role of TC 4 in organizing the participation of specialists of NMI/NI of COOMET countries in the events initiated within the framework of the BIPM Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer (CBKT) Programme. In 2023 COOMET representatives participated in 5 technical exchanges on KCDB 2.0; specialists from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan participated in training projects of TÜBİTAK ÜME.

8) COOMET sets for itself the task to strengthen communication with international and regional metrology organizations.

In 2023-2024 COOMET official representatives traditionally participated in the activities of JCRB, Round Table of Regional Organizations for Legal Metrology and a number of regional metrology organizations (more details are given in the Annual Report on COOMET activities).

COOMET, as one of the six RMOs, actively participates in the BIPM initiative "Young Metrologists' vision 2050+".

9) I consider that we should pay more attention to the promotion of COOMET activities and popularization of COOMET significance at the national and international levels. COOMET Secretariat performs (it is a news feed on information resources, creation of YouTube-channel,

maintenance of Facebook page, preparation of articles in magazines, awarding the honorary title "Honored Metrologist of COOMET", etc.), but they are obviously insufficient.

We hope that these tasks will be effectively fulfilled when the issues related to the institutional status and financing of COOMET activities are solved. At present we count only on internal reserves.

The International Scientific and Technical Conference organized by UzNIM, which will be attended by a significant part of the Committee meeting participants on June 6, also contributes to the above-mentioned goal. I sincerely congratulate all metrologists of Uzbekistan on the 100th anniversary of metrology of the country!

I would like to thank all the specialists of the participating countries who participated in the online meetings of TC and task forces.

We will stick to the outlined course aimed at strengthening cooperation between our countries, development of metrological activities and improvement of our joint projects.

Thank you for your attention!

Lazizbek Saidoripov,

Acting President of COOMET