



Bureau International des Poids & Mesures

Job vacancy

Deputy-Head of the Mass Section

Title: Physicien.

Location: BIPM, Sèvres (France).

The BIPM (International Bureau of Weights and Measures) is an intergovernmental organization whose mandate is to provide the basis for a coherent system of measurements throughout the world, traceable to the International System of Units (SI). It has an international staff of over 70 and an annual budget of about 10 million euros. Further information about the BIPM can be found on the BIPM's website: www.bipm.org.

The Mass Section is one of five scientific sections at the BIPM. Since 1889, the definition of the kilogram has relied on an artefact maintained at the BIPM. The kilogram definition may well change in the near future, based on an experimental link between a macroscopic mass and a fundamental constant, and the BIPM already has programmes underway to meet this challenge and satisfy the needs of its Member States and the wider metrology community.

Employment conditions: The BIPM offers salaries and terms of employment in accordance to its Staff Rules, which are comparable with those of other international organizations based in France and operates its own contributory pension scheme.

The closing date is 26 June 2008

Duties

Under the supervision of the Head of the Mass Section, the Deputy Head of the Mass Section shall perform the following duties:

- Managing the expected workload increase for the section and the transition due to the forthcoming retirement of the current Head of the Mass Section during 2010, so that the BIPM continues to satisfy the needs of its Member States and the wider metrology community;
- Collaborating closely with the BIPM watt balance project, aimed at realizing the new kilogram definition;
- Supervising calibrations of 1 kg standards, provided by the BIPM to the signatories of the Metre Convention;
- Conducting and managing relevant research;
- Providing executive support for consultative committees of the International Committee for Weights and Measures, in particular for the Consultative Committee for Mass and Related Quantities and the Consultative Committee for Thermometry;
- Representing and promoting the Mass Section and the BIPM at international and national meetings, through publications and before stakeholders. Help maintain continued contacts with the outside community and interact with other international organizations with similar objectives to those of the BIPM;
- Promoting the importance of metrology in general and the benefits from association with the BIPM;
- Assisting the Head of the Mass Section in formulating and implementing strategies for science at the BIPM and for other corporately-set policies;
- Assisting the Head of Section in the leadership and management of the Section, which currently includes five staff members, to facilitate a collegial, productive and safe working environment and in the management of the budget and work of the Mass Section;

- Assisting the Head of Section in overseeing the operation of the Quality System within the Section.

Qualifications

Applicants should have:

- A PhD or equivalent work experience, and a broad knowledge of the physical sciences;
- Experience in mass metrology at the 1 kg level;
- An international scientific reputation attained through relevant publications;
- Management experience;
- A fluent level of spoken and written English and, after a few months of work at the BIPM, fluency in French;
- Ability to work in a multicultural environment and to maintain good working relations inside and outside the organization.

Applications

The BIPM encourages applications from both women and men with relevant qualifications. A full *Curriculum Vitae* (C.V.) and covering letter should be sent by paper mail to the Director, BIPM, Pavillon de Breteuil, F-92312 Sèvres Cedex, France, **by 26 June 2008**. Applications should include the names of two referees who will be asked to comment upon the candidate's suitability for the post.