

CIPM SC-G activities

RoPs of the CGPM

Philippe RICHARD

24th Meeting of Member State Representatives

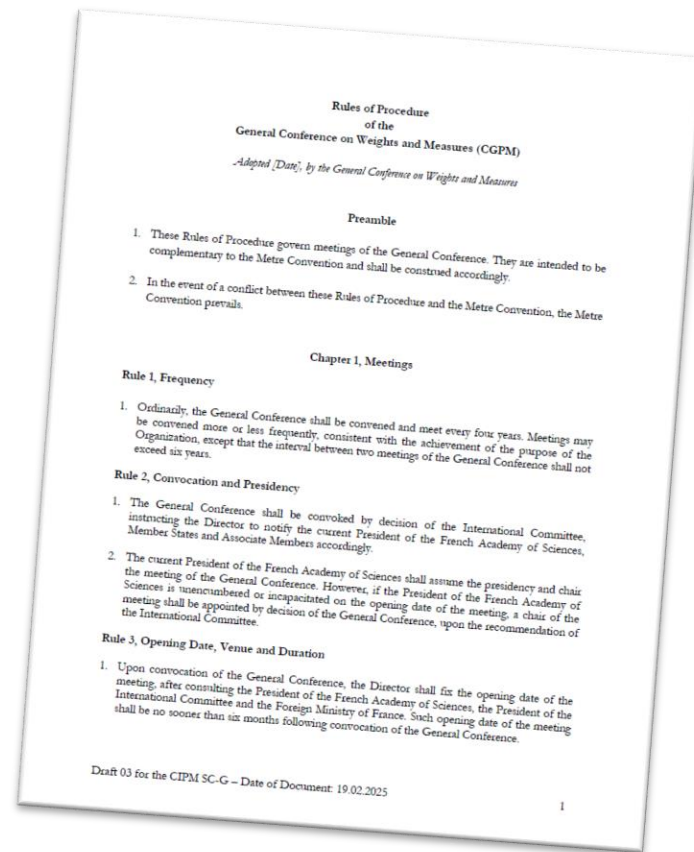
17 October 2025

Bureau
♦ **I**nternational des
♦ **P**oids et
♦ **M**esures



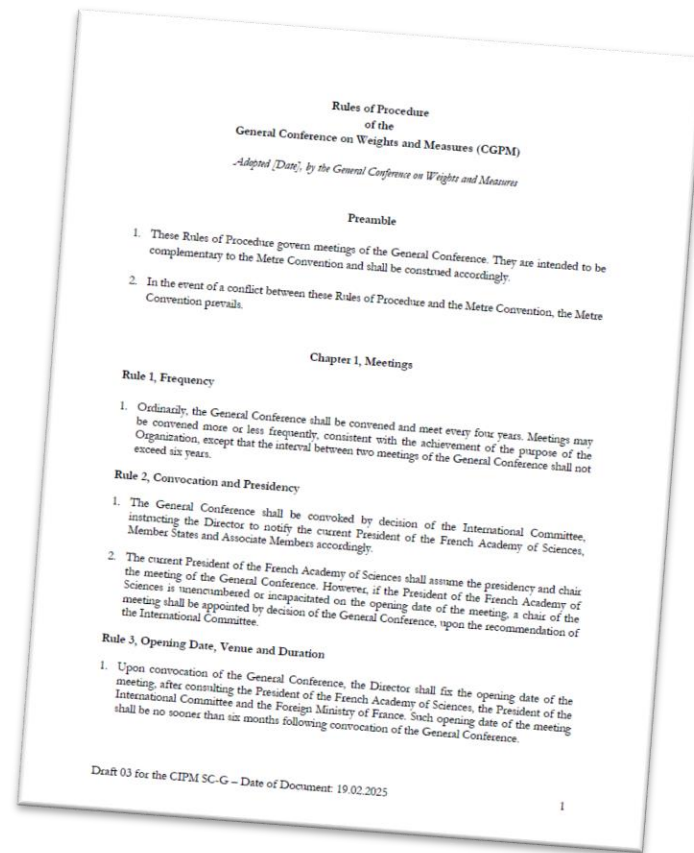
Content

- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ The steps taken since June
- ◆ Consultation results
 - Facts and figures
 - Four main topics
 - Additional explanations
- ◆ The next steps
- ◆ CGPM Resolution and Decisions



Content

- ◆ **Introduction**
- ◆ The steps taken since June
- ◆ Consultation results
 - Facts and figures
 - Four main topics
 - Additional explanations
- ◆ The next steps
- ◆ CGPM Resolution and Decisions



Introduction, the CGPM mandate

- ◆ The 27th CGPM (2022) gave the CIPM the mandate to modernize the governance of the organization and during this process to consult widely with the Member States.
- ◆ The CIPM created the CIPM Sub-Committee on Governance (CIPM SC-G) to prepare the relevant draft documents and decisions (By-Laws, Rules of Procedure of the CGPM and explanatory documents).
- ◆ After the 2024 consultation, the By-Laws project has been suspended. The work continued with the RoPs of the CGPM.

Rules of Procedure of the General Conference of Weights and Measures

The **Rules of Procedure** of the CGPM (RoPs) is an internal governance instrument and non binding document describing the organization and smooth running of the conference

- ◆ Meetings
- ◆ Agenda and Documents
- ◆ Attendance and Credentials
- ◆ Chairing and Secretariat
- ◆ Languages and Records
- ◆ Proceedings, Quorum and Voting
- ◆ Renewal of the International Committee
- ◆ Amendment and Entry into Effect



Member States
consultation
(draft 05 dated
20.06.2025)

Compendium of main rules and practices applicable to the BIPM

The **Compendium** is the main explanatory internal governance instrument and non binding document summarizing CGPM decisions.

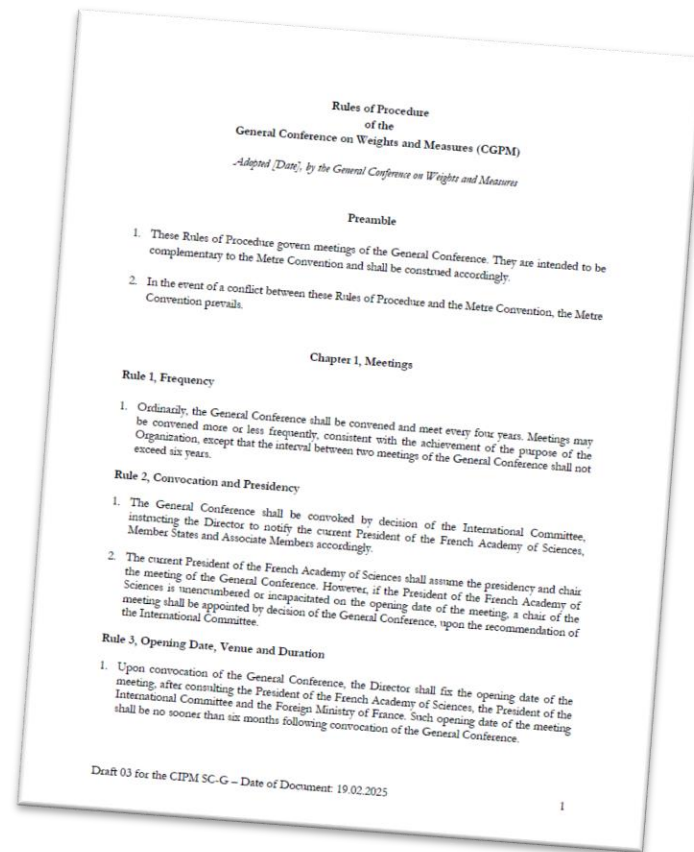
- ◆ The BIPM, a world-wide scientific intergovernmental organization
 - The BIPM, an intergovernmental organization
 - Participation
 - Acts of the BIPM
- ◆ Organs of the BIPM
 - CGPM
 - CIPM
 - The scientific and administrative organ, referred to, in practice, as BIPM HQ

*Edition October
2018 available*



Content

- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ **The steps taken since June**
- ◆ Consultation results
 - Facts and figures
 - Four main topics
 - Additional explanations
- ◆ The next steps
- ◆ CGPM Resolution and Decisions



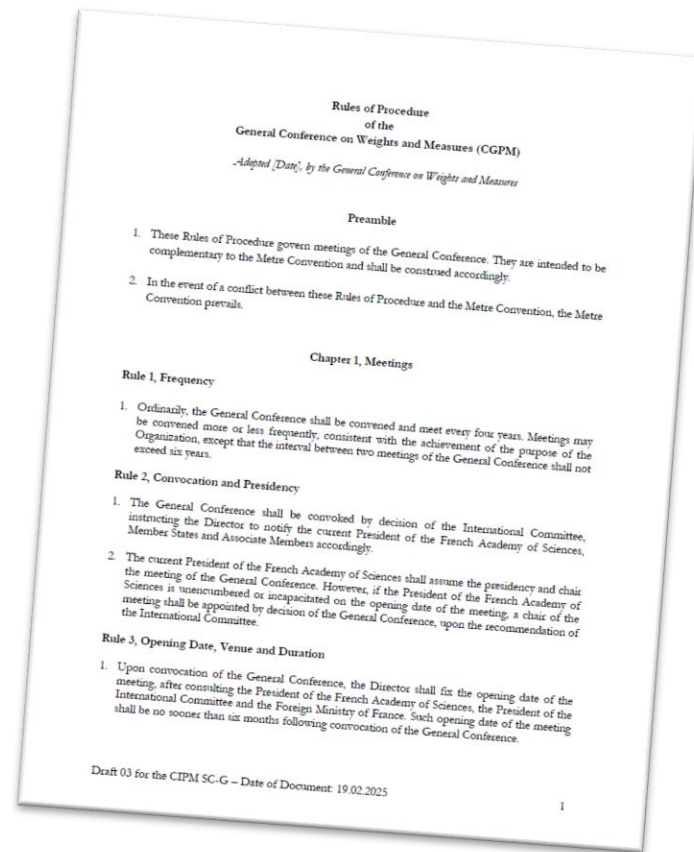
Steps taken since June 2025



- ◆ The Representatives of Member States were consulted on the *RoPs of the CGPM* (draft 05 dated 20.06.2025).
- ◆ The NMI Directors were in copy.
- ◆ The BIPM Director and the BIPM Legal Advisor were also consulted.
- ◆ The consultation took place between 23 June and 12 September 2025.
- ◆ The detailed consultation report was submitted to the CIPM on 8 October 2025 and discussed on 14 October 2025.

Content

- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ The steps taken since June
- ◆ **Consultation results**
 - Facts and figures
 - Four main topics
 - Additional explanations
- ◆ The next steps
- ◆ CGPM Resolution and Decisions



Consultation results: Facts and Figures



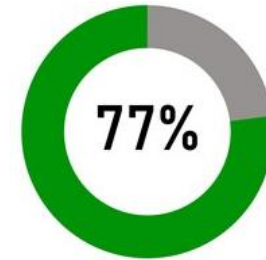
- ◆ The **hard work** carried out by the CIPM SC-G and the CIPM as well as the **high quality of the draft RoPs of the CGPM** is widely **acknowledged**
- ◆ Consultation response rate: **20 %** (13/64 Member States)
- ◆ **100 % in favour**
 - 31 % of responses in favour without comments
 - 69 % of responses in favour with inputs for amendments
- ◆ Important and useful additional input from the BIPM Legal advisor



Consultation results: Inputs for amendments

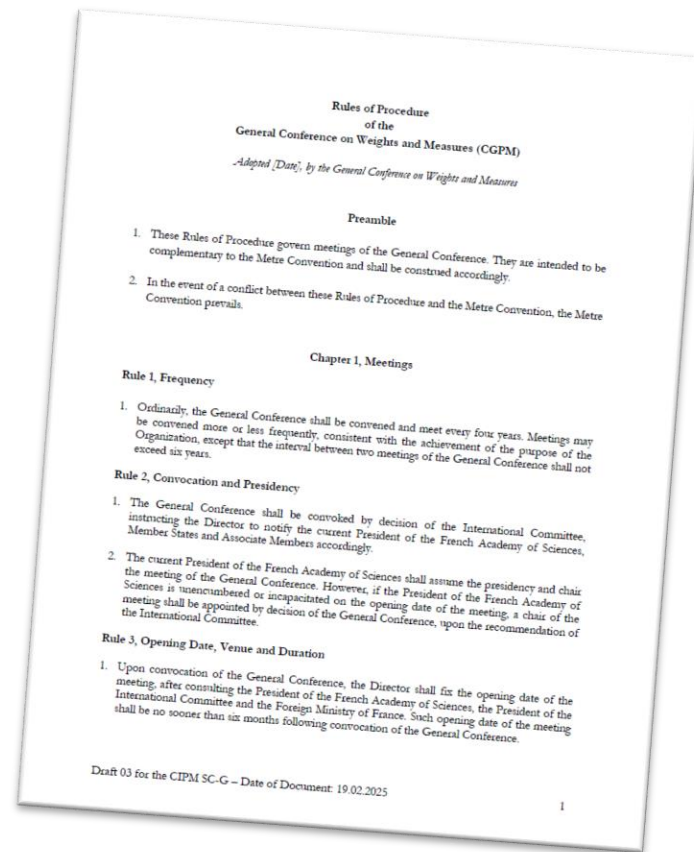


- ◆ 80 single input received from Member States.
- ◆ Detailed analysis performed by the CIPM SC-G Secretariat:
- ◆ **77 % input accepted**
 - 50 inputs to be included in the next draft RoP
 - 12 inputs to be included in the Commentary
- ◆ 16 % to be further clarified/discussed or not accepted (13 inputs)
- ◆ 7 % comments with no change request (6 inputs)



Content

- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ The steps taken since June
- ◆ **Consultation results**
 - Facts and figures
 - **Four main topics**
 - Additional explanations
- ◆ The next steps
- ◆ CGPM Resolution and Decisions





1. **Treaty-level language and simplification**



The language should be adjusted to make it even clearer that the RoPs are not legally binding. The formulation of some rules has to be simplified to improve clarity.

2. **Quorum, decisions and voting**



Better explain the difference and add more information in the Commentary to avoid misunderstandings.



3. **Participation in-person / remote**



Clarify when the remote participation is possible.

Align these RoPs with the Special Procedure for the 28th CGPM (2026)

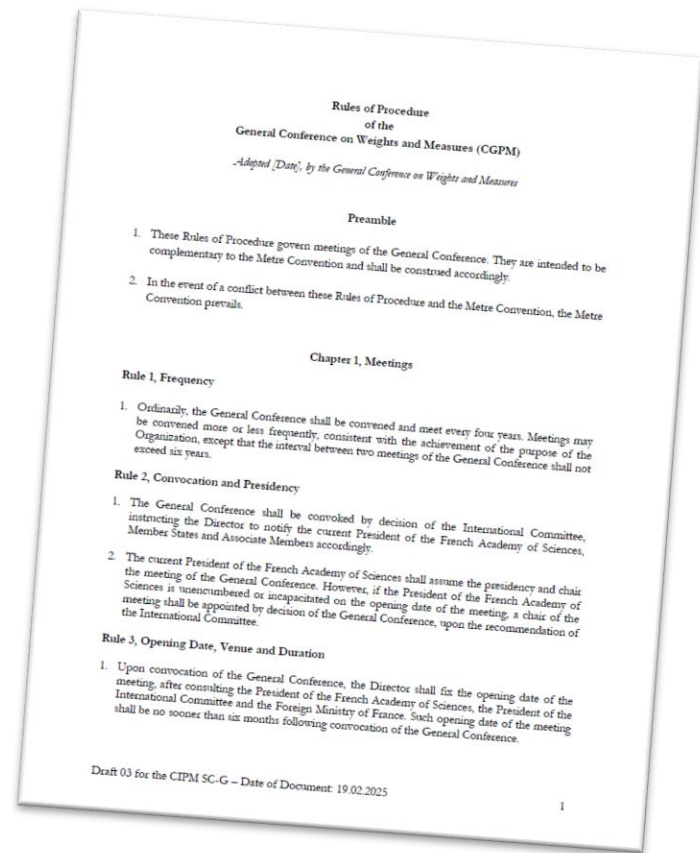
4. **Standing Commission (name and role)**



More background on the Standing Commission and the difference to the CEC has to be given. The name and the Commentary have to be clarified. The entry into effect (this rule only) immediately or later has to be decided.

Content

- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ The steps taken since June
- ◆ **Consultation results**
 - Facts and figures
 - Four main topics
 - **Additional explanations**
- ◆ The next steps
- ◆ CGPM Resolution and Decisions



1. Treaty-level language and simplification

Proposed modifications

- ◆ Introduction, add: *These Rules of Procedure govern meetings of the General Conference and are not intended to be legally binding.*
- ◆ Preamble -> *Introduction*
- ◆ Shall -> *will*
- ◆ Entry into Force -> *entry into effect*
- ◆ Other simplification (ex. Rule 16.2, revised formulation)

2. Quorum, decisions and voting (1/2)



Explanations

- ◆ Rule 14: Quorum

The General Conference may validly deliberate when a majority of Members States (with valid credentials) are present.

Rule 14 is not about decision making or voting.

- ◆ Rule 17: Decisions

Rule 17.1 concerns the unanimous decision about the dotation (at least consensus with the absence of no votes).

Rule 17.2 concerns the other decisions approved by voting (see Rule 18). Rule 17 is not about voting.

2. Quorum, decisions and voting (2/2)



Explanations

- ◆ Rule 18: Voting

Rule 18.5 defines the voting process and the decision by a majority of the Member States voting.

3. Participation in-person / remote (1/2)



Information

- ◆ If approved, the RoPs will enter into effect the day after the end of the General Conference.
- ◆ For that reason we still need a **Special Procedure** for remote participation at the 28th CGPM (2026) like in 2022.
- ◆ The Special Procedure for the 28th CGPM (2026) and the RoPs must be fully aligned (see Rules 4.2 and 14).

4. Standing Commission, CEC or Election Commission



Explanations and discussion on:

- 4.1 Recent history of the renewal of the CIPM and compatibility with the Meter Convention
- 4.2 Role of the CIPM and of the Standing Commission
- 4.3 Provisional election of CIPM members
- 4.4 Provisional election of Commission members
- 4.5 Standing Commission, Entry into effect
- 4.6 Name of the «Election» Commission

4.1 Recent history of the renewal of the CIPM



Explanations 1/2

- ◆ The 25th General Conference (2014) approved the Resolution 2 *On the election of the International Committee*.
- ◆ As a consequence, in 2014, 100 % of the International Committee was renewed.
- ◆ This election was prepared by an Ad hoc election committee elected at the 24th General Conference.
- ◆ The 25th General Conference (2014) elected the first *Committee for the election of the CIPM* (CEC) to be active for the preparation of the 2018 election of the International Committee.

4.1 Recent history of the renewal of the CIPM



Explanations 2/2

- ◆ In 2018 and 2022, 100 % the International Committee was renewed according to the Resolution 2 (2014).
- ◆ In 2026, the same procedure will apply because the RoPs will enter into effect the day after the 28th General Conference (2026).
- ◆ According to the International Labour Organization Administrative Tribunal (ILOAT) Judgment No. 4580 (1.2.2023), the post-2014 CIPM election process is «indisputably irregular» or in other words incompatible with the Metre Convention.
- ◆ Thus, the draft RoPs propose a return to the pre-2014 election method, clarifying the procedure to make it completely transparent.

4.2 Role of the CIPM



Explanations 1/2

- ◆ The CIPM has always actively managed its own election, with the support of the CEC (since 2014). Because of potential conflicts of interest, this is not good governance practice.
- ◆ The CIPM analysed the applications and proposed a recommended list to the CEC.
- ◆ The CIPM President and the CIPM Secretary are members of the present CEC.

4.2 Role of the CIPM and of the Standing Commission



Explanations 2/2

- ◆ In the draft RoPs, the CIPM is no more managing its own election.
- ◆ The CIPM President and the CIPM Secretary are not members of the Standing Commission.
- ◆ If applicable, the Standing Commission is responsible to organize a drawing by lot of incumbent CIPM members seeking re-election.
- ◆ The Standing Commission is responsible to collect and evaluate all applications according to predefined criteria and to propose a list of qualified candidates.

4.3 Provisional election of CIPM members



Explanations 1/2

- ◆ In case of CIPM vacancies between General Conferences, the CIPM proceeds to a provisional election. This process is following the Metre Convention.
- ◆ In such a case, since 2014, the CEC is consulted.
- ◆ The CEC has not consulted the Representatives of the Member States in case of a CIPM provisional election.

4.3 Provisional election of CIPM members



Explanations 2/2

- ◆ In case of a CIPM provisional election in future, the Standing Commission will also be consulted.
- ◆ The Standing Commission doesn't have to consult the Representatives of the Member States in case of a CIPM provisional election.
- ◆ An extended responsibility for the Standing Commission is not desired by some Representatives of the Member States consulted on the draft RoPs.

4.5 Standing Commission, Entry into effect



Explanations

- ◆ The present CEC elected in 2022 will manage the 2026 CIPM election according to the 2014 election procedure.
- ◆ The 28th CGPM (2026) will reelect a CEC. The CEC will manage the 2030 CIPM election according to the RoP of the CGPM. The CEC will have to revise its internal procedure and the CIPM election procedure to align them with the RoPs.
- ◆ According to the present draft RoPs, the proposed Standing Commission will only be elected at the 29th CGPM (2030) and be ready to fulfill its role according to the RoPs at the 30th CGPM (2034) -> to be discussed on 22 October 2025.

4.6 Name of the «Election» Commission

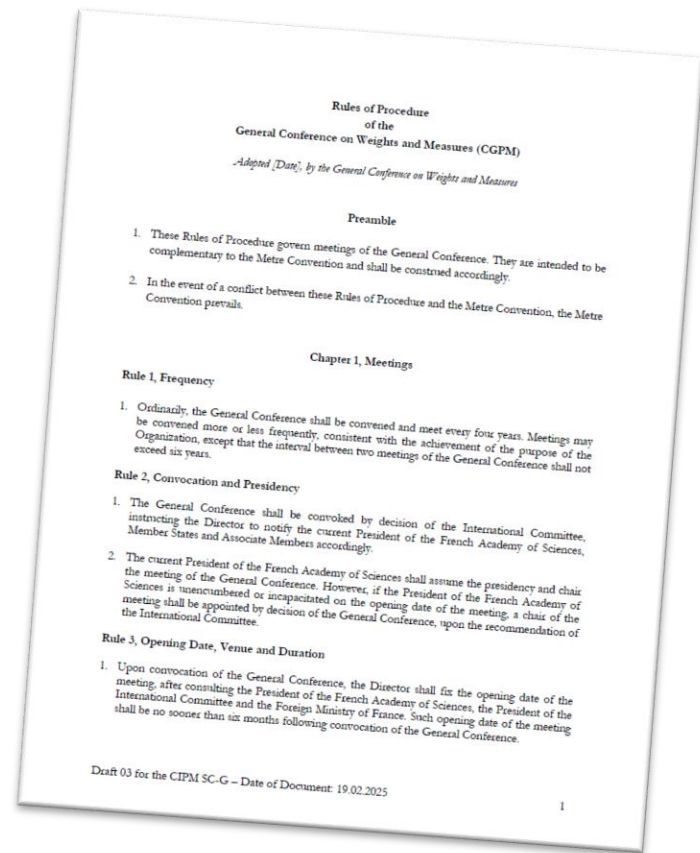


Explanations

- ◆ The proposed Standing Commission differs fundamentally from the CEC for the following reasons:
 - CIPM election mode according to the Metre Convention (see 4.1)
 - Fully independant of the CIPM (see 4.2)
 - No provisional election of Commission members (see 4.4)
- ◆ These elements are the main motivation to rename the CEC. This avoids the confusion of the roles (old an «new» CEC).
- ◆ The new name could be simply Election Commission.

Content

- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ The steps taken since June
- ◆ Consultation results
 - Facts and figures
 - Four main topics
 - Additional explanations
- ◆ The next steps
- ◆ CGPM Resolution and Decisions



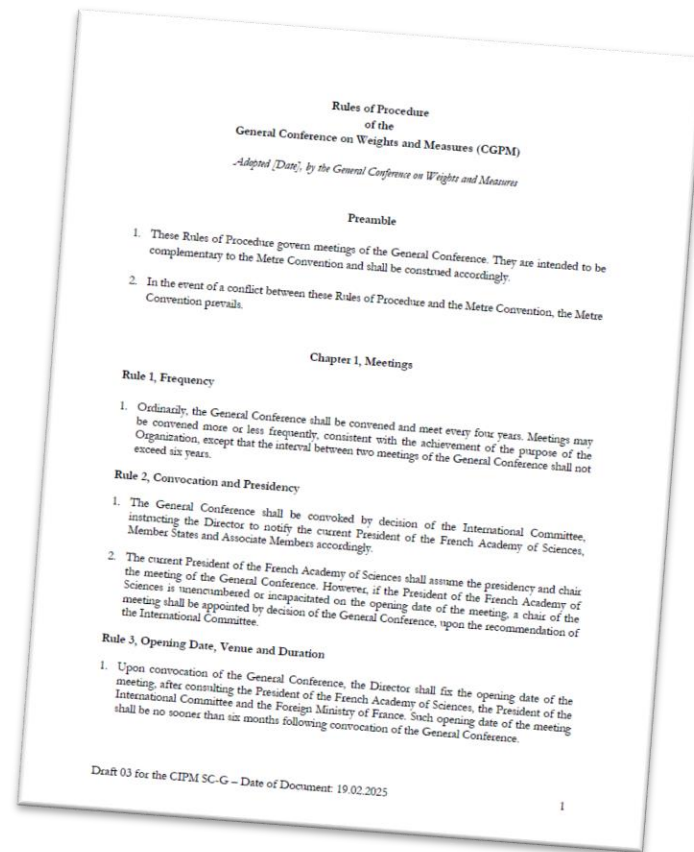
The next steps



- ◆ **22 October 2025:** Online exchange with the Representatives of Member States (please register).
- ◆ **November 2025:** The CIPM SC-G Secretariat will prepare the final draft RoP CGPM and Commentary based on the Member States consultation report and on the discussions on 22 October 2025.
- ◆ **December 2025:** The CIPM will receive the final draft RoP CGPM, the Commentary, a draft Resolution and other decisions.
- ◆ **January 2026:** Publication of the final documents with the CGPM convocation
- ◆ **January – September 2026:** Four consultation rounds with the Member States (March, June, September and October).

Content

- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ The steps taken since June
- ◆ Consultation results
 - Facts and figures
 - Four main topics
 - Additional explanations
- ◆ The next steps
- ◆ CGPM Resolution and Decisions



Draft Resolution ***On the RoPs of the CGPM*** at the 28th CGPM in 2026

- ◆ Acknowledge the importance of the ***Compendium of main rules and practices applicable to the BIPM*** as internal governance instrument
Ask the BIPM HQ to update the Compendium after each CGPM
- ◆ Takes note of the following **governance documents**:
 - RoPs of the CIPM (to be updated according to the RoP CGPM)
 - CoC of the CIPM (to be updated according to the RoP CGPM)
 - RoPs of the CIPM for the selection of the Director of the BIPM
 - Regulation governing the competences of the Director (Delegation of Authority) included in the contract of the Director Designate.

- ◆ **Adoption of the RoPs of the CGPM**
- ◆ The RoPs of the CGPM will enter into force after the 28th CGPM,
 - As a consequence, the CIPM election in 2026 will be similar to the 2014 ... 2022 election,
 - The CIPM election process and criteria will be updated for the 2030 CIPM election according to the RoPs of the CGPM.

If RoPs Rule 5 enters into force immediately

- ◆ Elects **Election Commission** (to replace the CEC) for the 2030 CIPM election.
- ◆ Revoke documents/decisions that have become obsolete like 25th CGPM, Resolution 2.

Take the appropriate three separate decisions on the naming convention, structure and precedence of governing instruments (according to the 27th CGPM mandate to the CIPM):

1. Naming convention

The Metre Convention (and Annexed Regulations) is the constituent instrument of an international organization of universal and scientific character, known as the International Bureau of Weights and Measures, with the acronym BIPM, which may henceforce be referred to as the Organization with its Headquarters in Sèvres.

2. Structure

In accordance with the Metre Convention (and Annexed Regulations), the Organization is constituted by the:

- a. General Conference on Weights and Measures (with the acronym, CGPM);*
- b. International Committee of Weights and Measures (with the acronym, CIPM);*
- c. Director (referred to as, Director of the BIPM); and*
- d. the staff.*

3. Precedence of Governance Instruments

In the governance of the Organization, the following order of precedence will be observed:

- a. the Metre Convention (and Annexed Regulations);*
- b. rules of procedure of the General Conference;*
- c. other decisions of the General Conference;*
- d. rules of procedure of the International Committee;*
- e. regulations adopted by the International Committee;*
- f. other decisions of the International Committee; and*
- g. instructions and directives issued by or on behalf of the Director.*

Summary

- ◆ The CIPM SC-G and the CIPM made **significant progress** with the modernization of the governance of the Organization.
- ◆ Draft **Rules of Procedure** of the CGPM received a **broad support** from the Member States.
- ◆ Some open issues will be discussed at the **online meeting on 22 October 2025**.
- ◆ A **final draft** RoPs of the CGPM and a set of CGPM decisions will be ready at the end of 2025 and **published in January 2026**.
- ◆ **4 further consultation rounds** will follow in 2026.

Thank you

Philippe RICHARD,

for the CIPM and the CIPM Sub-Committee on
Governance

Please contact me directly for questions or inputs
Philippe.Richard@metas.ch

Bureau
♦ **I**nternational des
♦ **P**oids et
♦ **M**esures



www.bipm.org