

**Joint Committee of the
Regional metrology Organizations and the BIPM**

Summary report of the 1st meeting, held at the BIPM on 21st February 1998.

Present: Dr Barry Inglis (APMP)
Dr Robert Spurny (COOMET)
Dr Kim Carneiro (EUROMET)
Dr Bruce Foulis (SADCMET)
Dr Hector Nava (SIM)
Dr Ismael Castelazo (SIM, NORAMET)
Dr Stephen Carpenter (SIM)
Prof. Giorgio Moscati (SIM, SURAMET)
Dr Mauricio Frota (SIM, SURAMET)
Dr Bill Blevin (CIPM)
Dr Robert Kaarls (CIPM)
Dr Terry Quinn (BIPM, Chairman)

The main points of business of the first meeting of the Joint Committee (see the Agenda attached) were:

- to establish the membership of the Committee,
- set out draft terms of reference for approval by the CIPM,
- define the responsibilities of the Committee in the draft MRA for national measurement standards and calibration certificates
- to discuss parts of the text of the MRA concerned with calibration certificates issued by national metrology institutes to be proposed to the meeting of directors taking place on 23rd February 1998.

Membership of the Joint Committee

The Committee agreed that the members of the Joint Committee shall be the Regional Metrology Organizations present at this first meeting plus any others properly constituted in the future and approved by the present membership. It was noted that the Regional Metrology Organizations at present existing in the Americas shall be represented by SIM.

The terms of reference of the Joint Committee

The following terms of reference were agreed by the Joint Committee:

The Joint Committee is charged with:

- a) coordinating the activities among the RMOs in establishing confidence for the recognition of calibration certificates, according to the terms of the mutual recognition agreement (MRA)
- b) making policy suggestions to the RMOs and to the CIPM on the operation of the MRA,
- c) reviewing the application by each RMO of the criteria of the MRA,
- d) entering into Appendix C the proposals of each RMO in respect of the calibration measurement capabilities of their member NMIs, this entry being provisional pending subsequent ratification by member NMIs of the RMOs, and reporting to the CIPM,
- e) arranging appropriate inter-regional supplementary comparisons,
- f) facilitating the exchange of experts as provided for in paragraph T.11.2(b) of the MRA,
- g) writing an annual report on the activities of the Joint Committee to the CIPM and to the signatories of the MRA.

These terms of reference were approved at the meeting of directors on 23rd February and will be put to the CIPM for approval in September 1998.

Responsibilities of the Joint Committee in the draft MRA

The responsibilities of the Joint Committee in the draft MRA were discussed and various small modifications to the text proposed by the Chairman were made. This was further discussed at the meeting of directors and subsequently; reference should be made to the current version of the MRA.

Text of the MRA concerning calibration certificates

The Joint Committee spent considerable time in discussing the draft text of the MRA concerning calibration certificates. The version approved by the Joint committee was further discussed and modified at the meeting of directors and subsequently in further correspondence with directors. Reference should be made to the latest version of the MRA.

Next meeting of the Joint Committee

The next meeting of the Joint Committee will take place in the Spring of 1999.

T. J. QUINN
Chairman, Joint Committee