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## Fighting the COVID-19 pandemic together

### PTB responds to the COVID-19 pandemic

PTB's International Cooperation Department is working with many countries worldwide to strengthen their QI systems and to improve their metrological capabilities. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, new, pressing needs are arising in the partner countries and PTB is finding ways to meet them together with the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. On the one hand, information is being provided on the subjects of respiratory equipment, infrared thermometer calibration and testing protective materials. The website [www.covid19.ptb.de](http://www.covid19.ptb.de) was set up for this purpose.

On the other hand, concrete support has been and is being provided in the following cases:

#### **Testing capacities for community masks:**

Following a request from the Tunisian Ministry of Industry, PTB supported the procurement of testing equipment for community masks, provided technical advice and will realize training in the area of import control.

#### **Calibration of infrared thermometers:**

The use of infrared thermometers has risen. At the same time, governments expect metrology institutes to ensure that these instruments are accurate and that their measurements are traceable to the SI Units. PTB is advising several countries in Africa and Asia on this matter and is procuring black-body sources and cavity radiators for distribution.

#### **Covid-19 Testing Facilities**

The Ministry of Health of the Palestinian National Authority requested assistance for SARS-CoV-2 testing. Because PTB has already been cooperating with medical laboratories there for several years, it was possible to procure extensive analysis and diagnostics equipment as well as consumables.

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