

ANNOUNCEMENT

WORKSHOP "GLOBAL TRACEABILITY IN LABORATORY MEDICINE"

JUNE 9-11, 2002 at BIPM, SEVRES (PARIS), France

Background

There is now an increasing need for a clearer and more open worldwide comparability and traceability of measurements in laboratory medicine. This has arisen as a consequence of rapid developments in science, in new technology, the implementation and improvements of quality systems, the need to reduce costs and as a result of new legislation, notably the forthcoming EU IVD Directive.

Organisers of the Workshop

The Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM), being the executive body of the intergovernmental organization of the Metre Convention, together with the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) have taken the initiative of bringing together a number of organizations and bodies concerned in the area of laboratory medicine with a view to establishing a permanent steering and co-ordinating committee for global traceability in laboratory medicine.

Aims of the Workshop and participation

Following meetings of a preliminary steering group, consisting of representatives of the BIPM, the IFCC, the NIST, the NPL, the NMi-VSL, the US IVD Industry (ADVAMED), the EU IVD Industry (EDMA), the US FDA and the IRMM of the EC, it has been decided to hold a workshop entitled "Traceability in Laboratory Medicine", that will take place at the BIPM from 9 to 11 June 2002.

The aim of this workshop is to reach agreement on the creation of a permanent steering committee, to be called the Joint Committee on Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM), and a future programme of actions.

In order to make this workshop effective, participation is by invitation only; a maximum of 80 persons can be accommodated, and we are inviting representation from international and regional organisations dealing with Laboratory Medicine and having an interest in establishing worldwide comparability and traceability in the field.

Outline of the programme

Sunday afternoon:

Introductory lectures on the genesis of the JCTLM by two of the main sponsors;
International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC);
Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM).

Monday morning and afternoon:

The following topics will be addressed: metrological traceability in laboratory medicine; standardization through reference materials; requirements of the physician; point of view of the regulators and industry; accreditation.

Speakers will include representatives of the global international organizations, namely the BIPM, IFCC, ILAC (International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation) and WHO (including the NIBSC), followed by other stakeholders such as IVD Industry, the European Commission, the FDA, Certified Reference Materials producers, EQA organisations, national metrology institutes etc.

Tuesday morning:

Discussions with all participants devoted to the firm development of the JCTLM e.g. Mission Statement, organisational structure/procedures, selection of priorities of topics urgently to be addressed and the establishment of working groups.

DATES: From Sunday June 9, 2002 at 16:00 until Tuesday June 11, 2002 at 15:00

(Note: the dates for this Workshop have been selected in relation to the plenary ISO TC 212 meeting, to be held June 5-8, 2002 in Stockholm, Sweden)

VENUE: Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM)
Pavillon de Breteuil
F-92312 SEVRES Cedex, France.

A map showing access to the BIPM is attached.

Contacts:

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For information about the BIPM see its website: www.bipm.org

Hotels: A list of local hotels is attached. Please note that you must make your own hotel reservations. It is recommended that reservations be made as soon as possible since hotel rooms at the last moment are very hard to find in Paris.

Symposium dinner: It is planned to hold a dinner for participants on the evening of Sunday 9 June. The cost will be 40 euros.

Proceedings: No formal printed proceedings will be published; however, sheets/PowerPoint presentations will be put on CD-Rom.