

Appendix to the Convocation for the 27th meeting of the CGPM

Special Procedure regulating the conduct of the 27th meeting of the CGPM (hereinafter the "Special Procedure"):

I. PURPOSE

1. The unprecedented travel restrictions put in place because of the continued COVID-19 pandemic mean that it is highly unlikely that all States Parties to the Metre Convention will be fully represented in person at the 27th meeting of the CGPM.
2. The purpose of this Special Procedure is to allow the 27th meeting of the CGPM to be held in November 2022 in a hybrid format, allowing both in-person and remote participation of representatives of States Parties and also representatives from Associate States and Economies of the CGPM and invited observers.
3. This Special Procedure is exceptional and does not amount to a modification of the provisions of the Metre Convention and Annexed Regulations.
4. Other International Organizations based in France have used a similar procedure allowing their governing bodies and general assemblies to function despite travel restrictions.

II. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

5. Every effort will be made to facilitate the full participation of the delegation for all States Parties. In addition to the opportunity to participate in the meeting in the Palais des Congrès (Versailles), a secure and user-friendly online platform will be provided that will also be visible to those participating in person.
6. The President of the 27th meeting of the CGPM will introduce the modalities for participating in the meeting at the beginning of each session and take any necessary measures to facilitate participation online from different time zones.
7. To ensure full participation, whether in person or remotely, the President will invite participants to request the floor. States Parties wishing to present their views on a specific agenda item may choose to contact the President or Secretary of the CGPM in advance of that agenda item to ensure that they will be called upon to speak.
8. During the meeting, contributions and statements from participants may be delivered in person or online and shall be limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes. Pre-recorded video statements, also limited to five (5) minutes, may be submitted in advance of the opening of the 27th meeting

and broadcast in lieu of a live intervention. These video statements and all other contributions made online shall form part of the official records of the meeting.

9. The BIPM staff shall provide the necessary administrative, technical and logistical assistance for the preparation and conduct of the 27th meeting in a hybrid format.

III. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS

10. In accordance with the established practice at CGPM meetings, the President of the CGPM will work with States Parties to establish a general consensus on resolutions and decisions. This procedure consists of reaching a general consensus characterized by the absence of sustained opposition to substantial issues, by a process that involves seeking to take into account the views of all States Parties and to reconcile any conflicting views.
11. At the conclusion of each discussion, the President shall therefore ask the Head of each delegation to indicate by raising a hand whether they are for, or against, the resolution or whether they abstain. Every effort should be made to build consensus and to adopt resolutions at the meeting using this procedure.
12. At some previous meetings, the CGPM has chosen to adopt particular resolutions through a roll-call vote of States Parties by asking each delegation to indicate their vote when called. Such a procedure shall be avoided because of the logistical difficulty of ensuring that the Head of every delegation is available when the roll call is held during a hybrid meeting.
13. During the introduction of each draft resolution, the President will indicate which of the above procedures he proposes to use at the conclusion of the discussion.

IV. SCOPE OF RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS TO BE ADOPTED

14. Taking particular account of the challenges presented in adopting resolutions and decisions by the procedures detailed above, the CIPM proposes that the 27th meeting of the CGPM addresses resolutions or decisions:
 - i. that are essential for the delivery of the BIPM Work Programme for 2024-2027, such as those concerning the annual dotation of the BIPM.
 - ii. that are time-sensitive and required to meet the changing needs and demands in different areas of metrology, and upon which a consensus can easily be reached.
15. The text of the Convocation of the 27th meeting of the CGPM therefore includes draft resolutions concerning the above-mentioned matters.
16. Other matters upon which a consensus has not been reached among the 63 Member States could be discussed and reported during the 27th meeting of the General Conference.

V. ELECTIONS

17. Pursuant to Article 7 of the Annexed Regulations, the CGPM conducts elections using a secret ballot. An on-site secret ballot will be organized, with the support of a third-party voting service, for the election of the members of the CIPM and of the Committee for the Election of the CIPM (CEC). All efforts shall be made to ensure these elections are carried out in-person and expeditiously using reliable and secure voting tools, as appropriate.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SPECIAL PROCEDURE

18. The decision to proceed according to the Special Procedure lies solely with States Parties. States Parties should therefore endorse and formally approve the Special Procedure described above at the opening session of the 27th meeting of the CGPM.

Note on the version published on 22 July 2022.

This version includes amendments to the text relating to the scope of discussions (Section IV) and the voting procedure (Section V) following comments submitted by Member States.