The BIPM and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) cooperate to use the “Partnership of international organisations for effective international rulemaking” (IO Partnership) for effective dissemination of information on the importance of the quality infrastructure and particularly metrology as a key component in the wide-ranging activities of the IO Partnership. The OECD established the IO Partnership as a voluntary platform of IOs, academics and OECD Regulatory Policy Committee delegates, to exchange good practices and promote greater quality, effectiveness, and impact in international rulemaking.

The BIPM cooperates with the OECD within the IO Partnership to promote the value of a sound approach to metrology and the contribution of the national metrology infrastructures.

The OECD study ‘The Case of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures’ was published within the IO Partnership on 6 February 2020. (see page 13)

The BIPM has also contributed to the analytical work within the IO Partnership which resulted in the publication of the brochure ‘The Contribution of International Organisations to a Rule-Based International System: Key Results from the partnership of international organisations for effective rulemaking’ in April 2019.

The BIPM will continue contributing to the next-phase (2019-2021) work of the IO Partnership by involvement in the work of its working groups for implementation and evaluation of international instruments as well as in the capacity of the co-focal point for its working group for coordination among international organizations.

The theme for World Metrology Day 2019 was “The International System of Units: Fundamentally better”. This theme was chosen to coincide with the launch of the revised SI on 20 May 2019. The 2019 World Metrology Day poster was translated into more than 15 languages and 43 countries shared information about their national celebratory events.

The BIPM and the World Trade Organization (WTO) cooperate to ensure effective dissemination of information on the importance of the quality infrastructure and particularly metrology as one of its key components among trade regulators and international / intergovernmental organizations that hold ad hoc observer status at the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO TBT Committee). BIPM staff attended and delivered reports to the WTO TBT Committee in 2019. In November 2019 Mr Henson, Director of the International Liaison and Communication Department delivered a presentation at the thematic session of the WTO TBT Committee dedicated to NQI and attended the ‘Metrology session’ of the four-day TBT Advanced Short Course, as an expert speaker on the role of scientific and legal metrology (together with the OIML) as one of the QI key pillars. The BIPM also liaises with the WTO through the International Network on Quality Infrastructure (INetQI).

The BIPM and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) cooperate to ensure effective dissemination of information on the importance of the quality infrastructure and particularly metrology in the scientific and wider context. The BIPM and UNESCO have reinvigorated their relationship dating back to 1949 and they are re-establishing a new programme of joint activities. A number of ideas for collaboration were explored in 2019, and will be progressed in 2020. The BIPM also attended the sessions of the UNESCO Executive Board and General Conference in 2019.

The BIPM and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) have formalized their long-standing cooperation through the signature on 17 October 2019 of a Memorandum of Understanding.

The BIPM-IFCC-ILAC Declaration of Cooperation establishing the Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM) was revised in 2019, to facilitate expansion of the JCTLM Executive Committee to include additional organizations in its membership from further branches of laboratory medicine, and was re-signed in December 2019. The International Council for Standardization in Haematology (ICSH) was welcomed as a new Executive Committee Member, effective December 2019. This important collaboration brings expertise in clinical laboratory haematology to the JCTLM and provides the opportunity to align the standardization and harmonization of haematology laboratory methods with the reference measurement system of the JCTLM, further enhancing the aim of ‘accurate results for patient care’.

Meeting attendance at the BIPM in 2019

*Includes CIPM WGs, SCs, bipartite and quadripartite meetings
During 2019, CBKT activities continued to expand. In total, 17 NMI staff received sponsorship to take part in Capacity-Building placements in 2019. A further 27 participated in workshops held at the BIPM and 125 took part in workshops held jointly by the BIPM in the regions.

Optimizing the CIPM MRA - the KCDB 2.0
4-8 November 2019 at the BIPM
The one-week course, organized by the BIPM and sponsored by NIST, was attended by 27 CIPM MRA experts. It was designed to equip RMO TC/WG Chairs and TC/WG members (who actually coordinate the review and act as reviewers) with the necessary knowledge to use the ‘optimized’ CIPM MRA and the KCDB 2.0.

Metrology for Safe Food and Feed - Organic Analysis and Standards
4-6 November 2019 in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia)
Thirty participants from six members of the GULFMET RMO took part in the three day workshop, which was organized as part of the BIPM ‘Metrology for Safe Food and Feed Programme’ Capacity Building and Knowledge Transfer project. The workshop was sponsored by the GCC Standardization Organization (GSO).

BIPM - TÜBİTAK UME project placements completed with great success
The joint BIPM-TÜBİTAK UME initiative “TÜBİTAK UME project placements” has proven to be a great success. The BIPM collaborated with TÜBİTAK UME, the NMI of Turkey, to support young metrologists from 14 countries to gain in-depth knowledge and experience on a subject of scientific interest.

Over two cycles, organized in 2018 and 2019, the BIPM and TÜBİTAK UME initiative sponsored 20 participants from AFRIMETS, APMP, COOMET and GULFMET. All participants were from NMIs that have recently become a signatory to the CIPM MRA, or were inexperienced in the CIPM MRA processes. The placements, of between 1 and 3 months, hosted in the TÜBİTAK UME laboratories, allowed participants to focus on specific metrological projects, to learn the theory and to test it in practical situations in order to maximize the transfer of knowledge. In addition, participants were able to gain a better understanding of the international aspects of metrology during the seminars organized under the joint initiative and delivered by BIPM and TÜBİTAK UME staff. The TÜBİTAK UME project has been extended to 2020 and 2021 following the success of the 2018 and 2019 cycles.

Other CBKT activities in 2019
- Important transitions in the CIPM MRA infrastructure.
  29-30 November in Sydney (Australia)
- EURAMET-BIPM Training Course “Organisation and Piloting of Intercomparisons in Ionizing Radiation”.
  9-11 October in Teddington (UK)
- Varenna Metrology School
  Organized jointly with the Italian Physical Society
  4-12 July in Varenna (Italy)
- BIPM-GULFMET “CMCs and QMS Review” Workshop.
  23 April in Muscat (Sultanate of Oman)
- BIPM-COOMET “CIPM MRA review outcomes” Workshop.
  2 April in Dresden (Germany)