Annex H
(informative)
CCM - Working Group on Hardness

In 1999, at the 88th Session of the International Committee of Weights and Measures (CIPM), prof. Kozo Iizuka, President of the Consultative Committee for Mass and Related Quantities (CCM), stated “Although the definition of hardness scales is certainly conventional in the sense of the use of arbitrarily chosen formula, the testing method is defined by a combination of physical quantities expressed by SI units; the standard of hardness is established and maintained in most of NMIs and the traceability to the standard of NMIs is demanded in industry and elsewhere.” The subsequent discussions led to the realization that hardness standards should be included in the key comparison data-base (KCDB) for the Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA), and thus a full Working Group on Hardness (CCM-WGH) was established in the framework of the CCM [1].

The establishment of the CCM-WGH provided a technical-diplomatic framework in which hardness influence parameters can be examined, and improved international definitions of the hardness tests can be proposed and approved for NMI use to reduce the measurement differences at the highest national level. Due to the necessity of international agreement, the CCM-WGH has a close liaison with ISO TC164 / SC3 in order to assure proper dissemination of the hardness scales. The most significant improvement of the CCM-WGH definitions is that the parameters of the hardness test are defined with specific values, rather than ranges of acceptable limits as specified by this test method. As applicable, this test method has adopted the defined values of the CCM–WGH definitions as the ideal values to use.

The CCM-WGH definitions are published at http://www.bipm.org/???????? We need to finalize this info.