



2007-06-06

Dr Vikram Kumar  
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Dear Vikram,

During the meeting of the APMP Developing Economies committee held in New Delhi (IN) on 13-14 December 2006, your committee provided the Executive Secretary of the JCRB, Pedro Espina, with a list of proposals aimed at improving the current functions of the BIPM and JCRB. We thank you and the committee for the thoughtful suggestions.

We have carefully considered your suggestions and many are inline with work already anticipated and if they are approved, they shall be very easy to implement. Others are not possible at this time as they come in conflict with CIPM decisions. The remaining suggestions fall along the lines of those which we would like to consider for future implementation.

Enclosed you will find a document that provides short answers to each of the suggestions made by the APMP Developing Economies committee. We hope that you and your APMP colleagues find our responses satisfactory.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on any other matter that might concern you or the APMP Developing Economies committee.

Best regards,

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cc.  
Angela Samuels

## **BIPM responses to DEC Proposals to BIPM/JCRB**

1. Incorporate APMP inputs into *CIPM MRA Guide/“roadmap”*

*We shall be delighted to receive APMP input to the CIPM MRA Guide. The Guide (CIPM2006-04) is a comprehensive summary of all current CIPM MRA policy. It is our intention to send it for review to the RMOs (via their JCRB Representatives) to ensure that current policy has been correctly summarized.*

2. Incorporate APMP inputs into JCDCMAS presentation (and video?) covering whole MSTQ to be used by DEs in making case to govt decision-makers.

*We are trying to develop suitable material and would welcome any APMP drafts to be considered by the JCDCMAS.*

3. Encourage CC meetings in Asia Pacific, particularly DEs

*Currently, there is no provision for hosting CIPM Consultative Committee meetings outside of the BIPM. However, we will be glad to encourage RMOs and NMIs to invite Working Groups of the CIPM Consultative Committee to meetings in the regions from time to time. Such gatherings are probably best arranged for by current APMP metrologists who serve as members of Working Groups of the CIPM Consultative Committees and who could extend invitations to their colleagues for gatherings in their region.*

4. Develop inter-RMO/JCRB Case Studies for DEs re: benefits

*We welcome this suggestion and invite leadership from the APMP DEC in starting the process of development of such case studies; an effort to which we will be eager to contribute as we can.*

5. Initiate joint RMO activities for DENs

*We welcome this suggestion. Currently, we have a number of ideas which may be proposed to the CIPM and CGPM aimed at expanding the efforts of the BIPM aimed at supporting developing economies. Among them are:*

- *a draft Resolution to the next CGPM for a new NMI status within our membership structure which would be known as “Corresponding NMI of the BIPM”,*
- *workshops for expanding participation in the CIPM MRA by signatories,*
- *a possible workshop aimed at considering the question of whether there should be a role for the BIPM in the arena of technical cooperation programs, and*
- *the creation of an International Liaison post at the BIPM (within the program of work and budget proposed to the next CGPM). The post would be asked to promote the benefits of the Metre Convention as widely as possible.*

*If these proposals were to be realized, we would be glad to help coordinate, as appropriate and within our resources, some of the inter-RMO activities aimed at NMIs in the developing world. That having been said, even now, we welcome any inter-RMO collaboration aimed at strengthening metrology in any region of the world.*

6. Assist in approach to donors

*Currently this is not a function contained within the BIPM mandate and we need to be careful not to overstep that mandate. However, in those instances where interactions between donor and recipient economies (at least one of which is a Member State or an Associate of the CGPM) can be aided by our mandated function, we will be glad and eager to help cement such relationship.*

7. Include Agenda Item on “DE Issues” in Directors’ and CIPM meetings

*Traditionally, the Directors’ Meeting is a gathering aimed at one specific topic. Topics are most often selected on the basis of common interests among NMIs as expressed throughout the past year. But we agree that metrology in the developing world is a topic worth considering for a future meeting. Likewise, we will consider your suggestion for the addition of a developing economies item in the agenda for the CIPM annual meeting.*

8. Include coordination of activities with OIML PWGDC in CIPM-OIML meeting agendas – setup CIPM equivalent WG?

*We will be glad to add an agenda item on the coordination of activities between the OIML PWGDC and the BIPM during future BIPM/OIML meetings. In regards to your suggestion for a CIPM Working Group that is equivalent to the OIML PWGDC, we will closely look at developments in future CIPM meetings to see where they would like to carry this issue.*

9. Address reduction of assessment costs in CIPM-ILAC and RMO/RAB meeting agendas.

*This item has been discussed during the last RMO-RAB meeting and all parties concerned recommitted to try to minimize the cost of assessments for NMIs.*

10. Identify real benefits to DENs from MRA participation in different categories.

*Perhaps this point can be cover by some of the work done under the activities already discussed in item 4.*

11. Develop NMI/MSTQ Guide (through JCDCMAS?)

*Currently UNIDO has taken a leadership role in this area by commissioning a set of guides aimed at stakeholders in the developing economies which cover issues such as: metrology, accreditation, proficiency testing, and the implementation of quality management infrastructure in the food sector. The BIPM and ILAC have committed their resources to aid UNIDO produce documents that are inline with our respective Arrangements.*