

April - June 2014

Foreword

Dear EUROLAB Members,

Please find below the second EUROLAB Newsbriefing for this year informing you about EUROLAB achievements so far and plans for the rest of 2014.



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In April, the EUROLAB General Assembly approved key changes in the EUROLAB Statutes which allow for more open membership whilst still focussing on European issues. More changes are being prepared for an extraordinary GA which will take place along with the National Members meeting in Lisbon on 07/10/2014.

Technical committees were busy using available electronic means to discuss and prepare EUROLAB positions on the reissuance of test reports, expressing opinions and interpretations in test reports, frequency of surveillance and reassessment by accreditation bodies, the role of testing in inspections, inconsistencies between the newly issued Blue Guide and EA document 2/17 on accreditation for notification, the role of proficiency testing and interlaboratory comparisons, and the use of accredited reference materials. Last but not least we would like to know your experiences on how accreditation bodies implement the ILAC P10 document on calibration traceability (use of accredited calibration services including handling internal calibrations in laboratory) and if it creates any additional burdens for your laboratory.

Although EUROLAB did not support revision of ISO 17025 it is apparently going to happen. EUROLAB responded to the ILAC call for nominations for convenor of the ISO CASCO WG which will handle the revision of ISO 17025. Although our candidate was not selected by the ILAC Executive, we put forward a EUROLAB candidate for the position of ILAC representative in the ISO CASCO WG. Apart from that EUROLAB will have its representative in this WG as it corresponds with EUROLAB liaison membership in ISO CASCO. Our objective is to be involved in this revision at the highest possible level as ISO 17025 is first a standard for laboratories on how they should operate and secondly a technical specification for accreditation bodies.

This time we have a unique opportunity to influence the content of ISO 17025 which is the standard of key importance for us laboratory people. Therefore I would like to urge you to collect all your experiences, find new ideas and streamline your thoughts on how to improve this standard and our work in the future. You are being asked via a questionnaire and there will be more questions coming so please invest your time for your future. EUROLAB will do its best.

Similarly, there is an issue about the revision of ISO 17011 (Operation of accreditation bodies). You may feel that this standard is not of as much interest to us but please be aware that it sets the way how accreditation bodies behave and how they operate. EUROLAB again did not support this revision as the current version is sufficient. However there is still room for harmonisation among accreditation bodies and changes may result in new requirements and more costs for all involved, but we will see how the situation develops after the ISO CASCO vote.

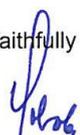
You received the EUROLAB Annual Report for 2013. Please use it at your national level, distribute it to your members, to relevant authorities and get more support for the future.

There are also new topics in front of us, mainly new accreditation areas like accreditation of laboratories involved in bio farming, clinical laboratories, forensic laboratories, antidoping laboratories, etc. We would like to know your problems in these areas to act on your behalf and prepare relevant assistance.

I am looking forward to learning from you as much as possible in order to serve you better.

Yours faithfully
Jiri Sobola
President EUROLAB

Yours faithfully


Jiří Sobola
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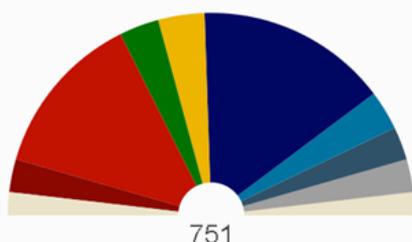
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Results of the 2014 European elections

		EPP Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)	221  29.43 %
		S&D Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament	189  25.17 %
		ALDE Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe	59  7.86 %
		Greens/EFA The Greens/European Free Alliance	52  6.92 %
		ECR European Conservatives and Reformists	46  6.13 %
		GUE/NGL European United Left/Nordic Green Left	45  5.99 %
		NI Non-attached Members – Members not belonging to any political group	41  5.46 %
		EFD Europe of freedom and democracy Group	38  5.06 %
		Others Newly elected Members not allied to any of the political groups set up in the outgoing Parliament	60  7.99 %



The European elections are over and many of the newly elected MEPs (Members of European Parliament) are now coming together to form or join transnational political groups in the European Parliament on the basis of their political affinities. Political groups enjoy certain advantages, but to be recognised as a group, they need to meet some requirements.

The official political groups forming the European Parliament should be created by late June in time for the first plenary session on 1 July.

To be recognised as a group, it must consist of at least **25 MEPs** and have **members representing at least one-quarter of member states** (today at least seven). Once a political group has been set up, the European Parliament president must be informed about its name, composition and leadership.

Each group takes care of its own internal organisation by appointing a chair or co-chairs, a bureau, and it is also provided with a secretariat.

Political groups play an important role in setting the European Parliament's agenda, choosing the European Parliament president, vice-presidents, committee chairs and rapporteurs, and in the allocation of speaking time for debates. Also, groups enjoy additional support.

Some MEPs do not belong to any political group and are known as non-attached.

In the outgoing European Parliament, there are seven political groups, representing more than 100 different parties from 28 member states.

Source: European Parliament Official Press release.

Eurolab General Assembly 2014 Highlights

eurolab aisbl
European Federation of National Associations of
Measurement, Testing and Analytical Laboratories



POLLAB
Klub Polskich
Laboratoriów
Badawczych



The European Federation of National Associations of Measurement, Testing and Analytical Laboratories (EUROLAB) elected new Board members and approved new Articles of Association.

The EUROLAB members have elected Mr Pascal Launey, EUROLAB France, who has joined the Board as a new member, running for a term of two years. Mr Álvaro Silva Ribeiro, RELACRE, and Mr Peter Blinksbjerg, EUROLAB Denmark, defended successfully their position in the Board by their re-election. Mr Ruud Zantman, FENELAB, has been elected as the new Treasurer following the retirement of Jan Basten.

Around 40 delegates representing 18 different countries attended the EUROLAB General Assembly in Warsaw on 1st April 2014, kindly hosted by POLLAB. The Board members and Treasurer were officially announced after the confidential ballot which took place during the meeting. The first meeting of the newly established Board will take place in June in Brussels.

The new Board members are:

Mr **Pascal Launey** (EUROLAB France), Quality Manager at LNE

Mr **Ruud Zantman** (FENELAB), Managing Director Environmental Continental at ALcontrol Laboratories

The re-elected Board members are:

Mr **Álvaro Silva Ribeiro** (RELACRE), Head of Quality Metrological Division at LNEC

Mr **Peter Blinksbjerg** (EUROLAB Denmark), Quality Manager (Global) at FORCE Technology



Mr Pascal Launey



Mr Ruud Zantman



Mr Álvaro Silva Ribeiro



Mr Peter Blinksbjerg

Board members who are continuing are Mr Jiří Sobola, (EUROLAB CZ) as President; Dr Jeff Llewellyn (EUROLAB UK) as Vice-President; Prof Ewa Bulska (POLLAB) and Mr José Luis Sanchez (EUROLAB España). Mr Ömer Guzel (TURKLAB) was co-opted to the Board to represent Associate members.

New Articles of Association

Dr Jeff Llewellyn, EUROLAB Vice-President, presented the new Articles of Associations which, among others, revise Article 5 - membership categories. Dr Jeff Llewellyn underlined the positive impact of this provision to attract a wider variety of members who wish to be represented by EUROLAB.

New Associated Member

EUROLAB has been pleased to welcome a new associated member LEBLAB (The Lebanese Laboratories Association) represented by Dr Bassam Frenn.



Mr Joseph Matta, LEBLAB and Mr Jiří Sobola, EUROLAB President

Memorandum of Understanding & Service Agreement with CEOC International

The long-term fruitful collaboration between EUROLAB and CEOC International has been reconfirmed by renewing the Memorandum of Understanding and Service Agreement, signed by Mr Jiří Sobola, EUROLAB President and Mr Simo Hassi, CEOC International President.



Mr Simo Hassi, CEOC International President and Mr Jiří Sobola, EUROLAB President

National Members' News



The association of Accredited and Notified Bodies (AAAO), member of EUROLAB-CZ, held its 15-th General Assembly in April 2014 and signed on this occasion an Action Plan of Cooperation with the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic with the objective to support participation of accredited laboratories in assessment of research and innovation results.



During this year's **Annual Meeting EUROLAB-D** had to elect a new chairman since the previous chairman Professor Manfred Hennecke did not stand for re-election because of his retirement. Therefore for the next two years Professor Kurt Ziegler was elected. He is a retired civil servant who was in his previous professional career among others the president of a public materials testing institute and until 2009 the CEO of DAP, one of the previous German accreditation bodies, which is now part of the German National Accreditation Body. Besides the chairmanship of EUROLAB-D Kurt Ziegler is still active as a professor at the university, as chairman of three German standardisation committees and as expert in publicly funded projects supporting developing countries in establishing their modern quality infrastructures.

Since 9 May 2014, a new website is available under www.eurolab-d.de. The English version of this website is still missing.

On behalf of EURACHEM and in co-operation with CITAC and EQALM, EUROLAB-D will organise the 8th International Workshop on Proficiency Testing in Analytical Chemistry, Microbiology and Laboratory Medicine on 6 – 9 October 2014. This workshop is organised regularly every three years in different countries. The last one took place in Istanbul. This year the venue is the andel's Hotel in Berlin which is capable to handle more than 200 participants.



Previous EUROLAB-D chairman
Professor Manfred Hennecke



EUROLAB-D chairman
Prof. Dr. Kurt Ziegler



EUROLAB France has started an action plan for preparing the revision of ISO/IEC 17025 in two directions :

- the federation of industry (electrical and mechanics in priority)
- the French Ministry of Industry

EUROLAB France has prepared a document on the revision of the ISO/IEC 17025 standard. EUROLAB France considers that federations of industries must be alert to the fact that the framework requires to remain appropriate to their needs and not to become too "conceptual". For the competitiveness of the industry it is important that this standard remains as targeted on key issues. Eurolab France will alert its federation to ensure that EA, the European co-operation of accreditation bodies, opens an efficient work to create a common reference framework for laboratory accreditation.

EUROLAB France will organise a technical day in October focused on the major non conformity during the accreditation audits.



National
Measurement
Office

UK National Measurement Office and President of the OIML



Peter Mason, Chief Executive of the UK National Measurement Office and President of the OIML retired at the end of April 2014.

Commenting on his decision to stand down, Peter Mason said: "After a career of over 40 years in the Department of Trade and Industry and its successor Departments, I believe this is the right time to change my work/life balance. The last seven years in Teddington have been the most fulfilling in my career and it is very satisfying to be able to hand over an Agency whose international standing both in the world of legal metrology and the wider field of technical regulation and enforcement is so strong. I have also been very pleased to contribute to the new arrangements for the ownership and operation of the National Physical Laboratory; having postponed my intended retirement to see that project through its critical stages, it is very encouraging to see how close we now are to implementing our ideas on a new style of partnership for the Laboratory."

Richard Sanders, NMO's Deputy Chief Executive, took over as Acting Chief Executive and Accounting Officer with effect from 1 May.

As NMO's departmental sponsor, The Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) has decided not to recruit a permanent Chief Executive until the future shape of the agency becomes clearer once the future ownership of NPL has been finalised. In the meantime it is "business as usual" and there will be no changes in the current portfolio and delivery of NMO services including the normal pursuit of new business opportunities.

Peter Mason is not, however, leaving the world of legal metrology altogether – he will continue to act as the UK's representative on the International Committee of Legal Metrology (CML) and complete his term as the Committee's President, which runs to October 2017. In order to facilitate this, he will be returning to NMO at the beginning of June in the role of Director, International, on a part time basis. Commenting on this arrangement, Peter Mason says: "I am really excited to have this opportunity to continue making a contribution to the worldwide legal metrology community, drawing on the strong reputation and expertise which the UK has in this field."

eurolab Danmark



ILAC is planning to submit a New Work Item Proposal (NWIP) to ISO CASCO suggesting an early revision of ISO / IEC 17025. The TCQA members and the EUROLAB Board of Administrators came to the conclusion that, even though a (early) revision is not desirable, it is to be assumed that ISO CASCO will accept the NWIP. EUROLAB has thus decided to already start preparing for this revision. EUROLAB has mail out a questionnaire to all its members that will have to send their 5 most important ISO / IEC 17025 items which will represent the main focus of EUROLAB regarding the ISO / IEC 17025 revision.

In this sense EurolabDenmark has taken the next steps, by sending out to their members the translated questionnaire regarding their top 5 ISO / IEC 17025 items. In addition, Lorens Sibbesen, Secretary of EurolabDenmark has evaluated the results and presented them on June 12th, during an information day for all accredited laboratories in Denmark. EurolabDenmark will encourage the non-Eurolab-member-laboratories to fill in the questionnaire in due time before June 30th.

In September – EurolabDenmark will arrange a workshop on this topic, where they might present the result of the full EUROLAB inquiry – and any other progress/steps taken in the process of the revision of 17025.



EXOVA became a public company in April this year. It has recently set up a new fire testing laboratory in Doha, Qatar. It is expanding its aerospace fatigue, fracture and mechanical testing facility in Mississauga, Ontario-Canada. Exova Metech, the calibration and metrology division of Exova, the global testing, calibration and advisory services provider, has acquired the specialist calibration business of Raufoss Offshore in Norway.

Further details and news can be found on the EXOVA website www.exova.com

Accreditation

- EA has published several documents on the accreditation of verifiers according to EN ISO 14065 and Commission Regulation (EU) No 600/2012. The documents can be downloaded at <http://www.european-accreditation.org/new-publications>
- The following documents have been published on the IAF website : IAF/ILAC A1:02/2014 IAF/ILAC Multi-lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Requirements and Procedures for Evaluation of a Regional Group ; IAF/ILAC A2:02/2014 IAF/ILAC Multi-Lateral Mutual Recognition Arrangements (Arrangements): Requirements and Procedures for Evaluation of a Single Accreditation Body; IAF MD6:2014 Application of ISO 14065: 2013 (Issue 2) .
- IAF and ILAC have published several new documents on their websites: **A factsheet: Specifying accreditation in Regulation; ILAC and IAF handbook for new and applicant members; The route to signing the ILAC or IAF Arrangements** which has been reviewed and updated.
- EA has re-published the document EA-1/06 “EA Multilateral agreement criteria for signing policy and procedures for development” due to an editorial modification.
- EA has circulated the new revision of EA-1/22 EA Procedure and Criteria for the Evaluation of Conformity Assessment Schemes by EA Members for comments. The Executive Committee endorsed the HHC recommendation to go for a fast-track, i.e. 30 days, comment period.
- A document by Ignacio Pina, EA HHC Chair, regarding EA 2/17 EA Guidance on Accreditation for Notification Purposes has been circulated.
- The ILAC Inspection Committee (IC) has submitted the following document titled: ILAC PXX:XX/201X “Application of ISO/IEC 17020:2012 for the Accreditation of Inspection Bodies” to ILAC Full Members and Associates for a 30-day voting period.
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- ILAC has launched a call for candidates for a possible ISO CASCO working group on the revision of ISO / IEC 17025.
- During the Joint meeting of the ILAC and IAF Executive Committees (JEC) in Frankfurt the revised harmonisation documents of the activities within IAF, ILAC and the Regions, reflecting the input provided by members during the first round of comments, were reviewed and discussed. A second round of documents has been circulated for further input.
- The IAF Technical Committee (TC) has submitted the new IAF Informative Document titled: **IAF MD XX:201X IAF Informative Document for the Transition of Food Safety Management System Accreditation to ISO/TS 22003:2013 from ISO/TS 22003:2007** to all IAF Voting Members for a 30-day voting period in accordance with the IAF Rules. The Draft IAF Informative Document provides guidance for Accreditation Bodies and Certification Bodies involved in food safety management system accreditation to manage the transition between ISO/TS 22003:2007 to the new standard ISO/TS 22003:2013.
- The document IAF MD13:2014 **Knowledge Requirements for Accreditation Body Personnel for Information Security Management Systems (ISO/IEC 27001)** has been published on the IAF website (iaf.nu), under Publications, Mandatory Documents.
- The IAF Technical Committee (Task Force on Indicators of Certification Body Performance) has submitted a new IAF draft Mandatory Document titled “**IAF MDX:201X for the Collection of Data to Provide Indicators of Management System Conformity Assessment Bodies' Performance**” (Issue 1) to all IAF members for a 30-day voting period in accordance with the IAF Rules.
- The ILAC Accreditation Committee (AIC) has submitted the document titled: **ILAC P9:2014 Draft - “ILAC Policy for Participation in Proficiency Testing Activities”** to ILAC Full Members and Associates for a 30-day voting period. This document has previously been circulated to the Membership for a 60-day comment period during November – December 2013.
- **EA CC Members' questions submitted** before the last EA CC meeting, together with the answers prepared during the PREP (preparatory) meeting on the day before the actual meeting have been circulated for comments.
- **IAF MLA has been extended to include Global G.A.P.** Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) product certification scheme.
- IAF has submitted the document: **a PAC Summary Report on the Re-Evaluation of PAC in the scopes of Management Systems and Product to all MLA Committee signatories for voting.**
- The ILAC Marketing and Communications Committee (MCC) has submitted the document titled: “**ILAC-R4:Draft May 2014 - Use of the ILAC Logo and Tagline**”, to all ILAC members for a 60 day comment period.
- The revised document EA-1/17 **Supplement 1 Criteria for membership** has been approved by the EA members and is now available for download on the EA website.
- **IAF/ILAC Chair has informed members about the relocation of the IAF/ILAC Annual meeting.** Due to political reasons, the meeting will take place in Vancouver, Canada.

Standardisation

- The ballot for CASCO PAS Procedure has been opened. In line with the **CASCO Plenary Resolution 13/2009**, CASCO has agreed that the PAS documents will be converted into the CASCO internal procedures at the conclusion of their life cycle, and notes that the PAS documents and common structure will be incorporated into an existing CASCO document only when it is to be revised. The maintenance process for this procedure has been approved by the CPC at its 21st meeting in April 2014. It was agreed that the PAS procedure will be reviewed and maintained up-to-date by the CPC. The following changes have been made: - The PASs have been converted into an internal CASCO procedure with no substantial changes made to the wording; The clause on "Disclosure" has been removed as it was not used in any standard to date.
- **ISO/TC 135 approved the secretariat interpretation of the systematic review on ISO/TS 18173 General terms and**

definitions.

- The resolutions from the last ISO CASCO CPC meeting regarding the **revision of ISO / IEC 17011** has been circulated. The ISO CASCO CPC has strongly recommended a revision of the standard and consequently ISO CASCO has launched a ballot among its members, asking them whether they, too, are in favour of a revision.
- **The REPORT OF THE 21st CPC MEETING (Chairman's Policy and Coordination Group)** which was held on 10th April 2014 (9:00 p.m.-5 p.m.) in Geneva,

Switzerland has been circulated among the members.

The Committee Draft (CD) ballot on ISO/IEC TR 17026, Conformity assessment — Example of a product certification scheme started on 7th June 2014.

The ballot for the Draft Technical Standard ISO/ IEC 17021 Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems – Part 6: Competence requirements for auditing and certification of business continuity management systems was opened.

Business News

Food Testing:

- **Food safety question growing in global importance. The question of food safety is becoming more and more important everywhere in the world, according to Biotecon Diagnostics.** <http://www.foodqualitynews.com/Innovation/Food-safety-question-growing-in-global-importance>
- **Consumers may begin to seek out labels making no claims as a result of clean labels 'over-reaching', according to Organic Monitor.** <http://www.foodnavigator.com/Market-Trends/Searching-for-a-label-free-from-free-from-claims>
- **Food testing boosts Eurofins Q1 results.** Food testing remained strong with further expansion of market share in new and existing markets, according to Eurofins. <http://www.foodqualitynews.com/Industry-news/Food-testing-boosts-Eurofins-Q1-results>
- **DTS Food Laboratories offers comprehensive analytical services to the food and allied industries, supported by our extensive accreditations and expertise.** DTS can also offer wider assurance services through our strategic partners to support our vision of being your trusted partners in quality. http://www.foodprocessing-technology.com/downloads/whitepapers/quality_control/dts-food-laboratories-food-testing-wp/
- **Intertek has opened three food testing laboratories this year, including a 24/7 facility in Derby.** Intertek senior vice president Chetan Parmar says the reason Intertek has opened three new food testing facilities in the UK, Germany and the Philippines respectively, is to service the company's "growing global client network". <http://processengineering.theengineer.co.uk/home/qa/qc/intertek-expands-food-testing-capability/1018502.article>
- **Time-Domain NMR (Nuclear magnetic resonance) Technology Provides Fast, Accurate Results.** Rapid, accurate analysis is essential in the food industry where time is critical. The new HYBRID Trac combines a 2nd generation, patent-pending Time-Domain NMR system with proven microwave moisture analysis. Results are more accurate than NIR and are not affected by changes in color, texture, additives, or granularity. The system can be used for a wide variety of food samples from powdered to liquid. <http://www.foodqualitynews.com/smartlead/view/921558/4/TD-NMR-Technology-Provides-Fast-Accurate-Results>

Other news

- **BULLAB has organised its annual meeting, 91 members were present at the event.** During the meeting a new executive council has been elected. Dr. George Todorov has been re-elected as president of BULLAB. According to EA Bulgarian accreditation service rules BULLAB has signed an official agreement for mutual activities and understanding about the main goals of BULLAB. The main focus has been on staff training and education of our members. BULLAB will prepare and present a new law for national accreditation that will be presented to the Members of Parliament in the Economic Parliamentary Law Commission.
- **DEKRA is expanding its capacities in the field of product testing.** The organisation has held a ceremony to mark the opening of a new, state-of-the-art laboratory in Arnhem, the Netherlands. With these testing facilities, which are among the most modern in Europe, DEKRA will be able to meet customer needs for the testing and certification of a wide range of products and components even better than before.
- **DNV GL has conducted a risk assessment "hazard identification study (HAZID)" on a series of three methanol-fuelled tankers for owner Mitsui O.S.K. Lines and shipyard Minami Nippon Shipbuilding in Japan.** As these are the vessels with a flex fuelled low speed diesel engine using methanol and/or heavy fuel oil, DNV GL was asked to participate in the project for its expertise in the low flash point fuel including methanol and LNG.
- **DNV GL hosts Sustania100 launch event which reveals latest study on 100 leading sustainability innovations deployed in global markets.** As a founding partner behind Sustania100, DNV GL sees the study guide as an important tool for investors, decision makers and consumers as it provides insights to the most promising solutions at the forefront of sustainable transformation.
- **Eurofins Scientific (EUFLPA) has announced that it has signed an agreement to acquire Calscience Environmental Laboratories, Inc. (Calscience) in the US.** The transaction is expected to close no later than the 31 (st) of May.
- **Eurofins Scientific has announced that it signed a definitive agreement to acquire ViraCor-IBT from majority owner Ampersand Capital and other shareholders for approximately \$255 million.** ViraCor-IBT is an esoteric reference laboratory providing biologic and large molecular biomarker support, along with

molecular testing to hospitals, physicians and biotech/ pharmaceutical companies. The company is located at 1001 Technology Drive in Lee's Summit and has a satellite lab in Los Angeles.

- **Eurofins Scientific (EUFLPA) has announced that it has signed an agreement to acquire Calscience Environmental Laboratories, Inc. (Calscience) in the US.** The transaction is expected to close no later than the 31 (st) of May.
- **Intertek has acquired a petroleum testing laboratory in El Salvador (Central America).** The lab acquisition provides a testing solution to local and regional businesses in and around El Salvador. Intertek has purchased the laboratory, which is located inside the Acajutla RASA terminal.
- **Intertek has announced the expansion of its immunochemistry facility in San Diego with a move to a larger center.** The move to the new facility which spans 46,000 square feet of laboratories, offices and sample storage at Wateridge Summit, San Diego is scheduled for completion in September 2014.
- **Intertek has announced a comprehensive facility for characterising structural and quality parameters of single-walled carbon nanotubes (SWNTs).** Carbon nanotubes are very thin tubes of elemental carbon with exceptional mechanical, optical and electrical properties that have the potential to significantly improve the performance of a wide range of materials by altering their fundamental properties.
- **Intertek announced the opening of a new laboratory in Elmendorf, Texas** to address the company's significant market opportunity in the emerging Eagle Ford Shale market and to support the industry's rapidly growing customer base in this region.
- **Intertek has announced the launch of the first-ever mobile textile testing lab.** Intertek developed the lab on wheels to help manufacturers meet ever-increasing customer demand for high-quality apparel products, while delivering the convenience of on-site testing. The mobile lab was launched on May 7, 2014, at Akruiti Corporate Park, Kanjurmarg (West), Mumbai.
- **LGC has launched stability testing services, adding to the company's long-established drug development services provided by its Fordham, UK site.** The new service enables continuous recording and monitoring of essential data on the impact of environmental factors, such as temperature and humidity, on the quality of a pharmaceutical product. <http://www.avakado.eu/dev/node/3050>
- **SGS Life Science Services has announced that it has acquired a Cobas 6000 Analyzer System, Chemistry Module, for use at its Poitiers, France, laboratory,** further underlining its commitment to supporting the development of new biological products. This platform allows the determination of a large number of biological parameters (biomarkers) and metabolites, in as little as two minutes, with precision, and reliability, using very small sample volumes.
- **Six SGS laboratories in Shanghai, Shenzhen, Hong Kong, Shah Alam, Istanbul and Bradford (UK) have been accredited by the Indonesian Ministry of Industry to sample and test toys to Indonesian National Standards prior to export to Indonesia.**
- **STFC and NPL collaboration on advanced materials research** - The Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) and the UK's National Physical Laboratory (NPL) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work

with the Oxfordshire based ISIS facility, the UK's pulsed neutron and muon source, to both increase collaboration between the two organisations and jointly develop innovative capabilities to enhance our understanding of advanced materials particularly multi-ferroics, and how they perform under different conditions. http://www.labmate-online.com/news/news-and-views/5/stfc/stfc_and_npl_collaboration_on_advanced_materials_research/29318/#sthash.AqWTlqly.dpuf

The National Physical Laboratory's (NPL) inspection facility in Huddersfield is expanding the range of services on offer to local manufacturing businesses, following a hugely successful first year. The laboratory allows companies to access world-leading measurement expertise in areas central to innovation, safety and efficiency in manufacturing. The service has proven so successful that a wide range of new state-of-the-art equipment has been acquired to expand capabilities and help meet the rising demand. <http://www.pandct.com/media/shownews.asp?ID=40583>

Trescal, the international specialist in calibration services, announces today that it has acquired Instrument Calibration Services and Test Equipment Repair Corporation, two companies that provide calibration and repair services for a wide variety of measurement and test equipment. <http://www.callabmag.com/?p=4335>

TÜV Rheinland has teamed up with one of the UK's environmental testing laboratories, TRaC Global, to conduct sand abrasion testing on full size photovoltaic (PV) modules.

TÜV SÜD has certified a solar park operated by Green Vision Seven SRL at the Romanian town of Ucea de Sus. The new photovoltaic power station is among the largest in Romania, with a nominal power rating of 55 MWp.

The market for laboratory information management systems will grow to nearly a \$1.5 billion market in 2015. The healthcare market research firm said growth would be spurred on by the desire of clinical diagnostic laboratories to handle larger amounts of data from molecular testing and sequencing. <http://www.itbriefing.net/index.php?name=News&file=article&sid=552495>

New System for Determining the CO2 Reactivity of Petroleum Coke in Accordance with ISO 12981-1. The low weight of aluminium is often used to reduce the energy costs of manufactured products over their lifetime. This makes the production of aluminium increasingly important for the future. ISO 12981-1 is a method to determine (by loss in mass) the reactivity of calcined petroleum coke, used in the manufacture of anodes for the production of aluminium, to carbon dioxide. Carbolite has designed a special furnace for this application. http://www.labmate-online.com/news/laboratory-products/3/carbolite/new_system_for_determining_the_co2reactivity_of_petroleum_coke_in_accordance_with_iso_12981-1/29958/#sthash.7ChuYXDN.dpuf

\$255 million offered for Lee's Summit company Viracor-IBT Laboratories. Viracor-IBT Laboratories Inc., a Lee's Summit company that does immunology, infectious disease and allergy testing, has received a \$255 million purchase offer from Eurofins Scientific, a publicly traded European company. The Lee's Summit business, together with a satellite facility in California, is primarily owned by Amper-sand Capital, a private equity firm that focuses on the health care sector. <http://www.kansascity.com/2014/05/12/5018426/255-million-offered-for-lees-summit.html#storylink=cpy>

Business Results

Headquarters in Barcelona, Spain



- **Revenues of €1.6 billion**
- Operating profit of €200 million
- Number of employees 19,000

You can find more information in the following [document](#)

Headquarters in Queensland, Australia



- **Revenues of €1.02 billion* (\$1.5 billion)**
- Profit increased by 7% to €162,2 million* (\$237.9 million)
- Consolidated net profit after tax of €155 million* (\$227.3 million)

You can find more information in the following [document](#)

Headquarters in Luxembourg, Luxembourg



- **Revenues of €1.23 billion**
- Adjusted Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA) of €219 million
- More than 10 acquisitions with total annualized revenues of ca. €120 million completed in 2013
- Number of employees over 15,000

You can find more information in the following [document](#)

Headquarters in Stuttgart, Germany



- **Revenues of €2.3 billion**
- Adjusted Earnings Before Interest and Taxes (EBIT) at €162.7 million
- Strategic acquisitions strengthen international presence
- Number of employees grows to approximately 32,600

You can find more information in the following [document](#)

Headquarters in Munich, Germany



- **Revenues of €1.94 billion**
- Adjusted EBIT in the period rose to €171 million
- Number of employees 20,000 and creation of over 1,400 new jobs in 2013

You can find more information in the following [document](#)

Headquarters in Hanover, Germany



- **Revenues of €1.06 billion**
- Turnover achieved outside Germany maintained at 25%
- EBIT at €43.7 million
- Investment in the operative business continues at a high level
- Number of employees 9,925

You can find more information in the following [document](#)

Headquarters in Cologne, Germany



- **Revenues of €1.6 billion**
- EBIT up to €117.1 million
- Number of employees 17,947 which rose by 729 (4.2%) in 2013

You can find more information in the following [document](#)

Headquarters in Høvik, Norway



- combined revenues of € 1873 Million (NOK 15 234 million)
- Group pro forma revenues €2417 million (NOK 19 653)
- Number of employees 16107

You can find more information in the following [document](#)

Policy news

Chemicals

- **ECHA has launched the leaflet “Chemical Safety and Your Business” in 23 EU languages.** Recent surveys and checks by inspectors show that many small companies using chemicals are still unaware of REACH and CLP or may think that the EU’s chemical law does not apply to their business. The leaflet "Chemical Safety and Your Business" can help such companies to discover what this is about and to make a start. <http://echa.europa.eu/support/small-and-medium-sized-enterprises-smes.jsessionid=F0623C73E93A394374521D1CD2E1DDE4.live1>
- **Promoting safer alternatives for biocidal products .** The Biocidal Products Regulation includes specific exclusion criteria for active substances that are harmful for human health and/or the environment. The basic principle is that active substances that fulfil any of the criteria cannot be approved, except if specific conditions are met. http://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/entry/2_14_promoting-safer-alternatives-for-biocidal-products
- **Chromium-free leather is good for business, consumers and the environment** A restriction of chromium VI in leather articles will apply from 1 May 2015. From that date, goods or articles containing leather parts that come into contact with the skin, cannot be placed on the EU market if they contain hexavalent chromium in concentrations of 3 mg/kg by weight or more. http://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/entry/2_14_chromium-free-leather-is-good-for-business-consumers-and-the-environment
- **ECHA's has announced that "The European Commission amended the list of chemicals subject to an export notification (Annex I) under the PIC Regulation on 21 February 2014. The amendment applies from 1 May 2014."** This announcement was unintentionally misleading. http://www.echa.europa.eu/view-article/-/journal_content/title/corrigendum-to-echas-news-item-concerning-the-entering-into-force-of-an-amendment-of-annex-i-to-pic-regulation
- **Substitution – safer chemicals, benefits for business. One of the main objectives of the European chemicals legislation is to protect human health and the environment both for present and future generations.** Replacing harmful chemicals with safer alternatives plays an important role in achieving this aim. To that end, ECHA, the European Commission and the Member States are working hard to get all the relevant SVHCs on to the Candidate List by 2020. However, substitution does not start and end with SVHCs. The whole system of REACH, CLP and the Biocidal Products Regulation is built towards replacing dangerous chemicals with safer ones. http://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/entry/2_14_editorial.jsessionid=42DC15AD1DD0D5E673374E26421C9409.live2
- **Funding opportunities for SMEs.** European Union programmes have already provided funding and will continue to support innovation such as the substitution of hazardous chemicals under the new multiannual financial framework of the EU (2014-2020). http://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/entry/2_14_funding-opportunities-for-smes
- **ECHA's scientific committees give green-light on a specific use of dibutyl phthalate (DBP).** ECHA's scientific committees for Risk Assessment and Socio-economic Analysis have adopted opinions on an application for authorisation from Sasol-Huntsman GmbH & Co. The European Commission will make the final decision on the application, based on ECHA's opinions. <http://echa.europa.eu/addressing-chemicals-of-concern/authorisation/applications-for-authorisation-previous-consultations/-/substance/4815/search/+term>
- **Chemical safety report/Exposure scenario activities outlined for 2014-15**
- **The second implementation plan for the CSR/ES (REACH Chemical safety report/Exposure scenario) roadmap has settled out the priority actions for 2014-2015** and the activities foreseen and lead organisations to achieve the Roadmap's objectives. The main activities include improving the quality of information at the top of the supply chain and support to formulators who have immediate obligations under REACH. <http://echa.europa.eu/csr-es-roadmap>
- **The Biocidal Products Regulation includes specific exclusion criteria for active substances that are harmful for human health and/or the environment.** The basic principle is that active substances that fulfil any of the criteria cannot be approved, except if specific conditions are met. http://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/home/-/newsletter/entry/2_14_promoting-safer-alternatives-for-biocidal-products
- **To help raise awareness about the safe use of chemicals in our daily lives, ECHA launched its revamped 'Chemicals in our life' web pages** for the World Consumer Rights' Day on 15 March. The pages tell consumers how chemicals can be used safely at home and in the work place. http://newsletter.echa.europa.eu/en/home/-/newsletter/entry/2_14_chemicals-in-our-life_check-echas-website

Consumer Protection

- **Consumer safety comes first!** ANEC has welcomed the decision of the European Parliament to improve consumer safety and product compliance in the Internal Market by approving the new Consumer Product Safety Regulation (CPSR) and Market Surveillance Regulation (MSR). <http://www.anec.eu/attachments/ANEC-PR-2014-PRL-009.pdf>
- **Digital must be at the heart of consumer rights. “The digital age simply has to be at the heart of everything the consumer movement is about,” the Director General of CI, Amanda Long, has asserted.** In her keynote address to the [International Conference on Consumer Protection in the Digital Age](#), Ms Long explained that, as the trajectory of the 21st Century begins to take shape, no other single issue has higher potential, greater challenges, or wider implica-

tions for consumer justice and protection. <http://www.consumersinternational.org/news-and-media/news/2014/04/digital-issues-at-the-heart-of-consumer-movement/>

- **The European Ombudsman, Emily O'Reilly, has written to the European Medicines Agency (EMA), expressing concern about a significant change of clinical trial data transparency policy.** EMA plans to limit access to clinical trial data by imposing strict confidentiality requirements, according to documents the Ombudsman has seen. Trial data will only be accessed using an EMA interface and cannot be saved or printed. Wide restrictions will also be imposed on the use of the data.
- **The European Commission and its non-food Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks, SCENIHR, published the final opinion on "Nanosilver: safety, health and environmental effects and role in antimicrobial resistance".** The aim of this opinion is to assess whether the use of nanosilver, in particular in medical care and in consumer pro-

ducts, could result in additional risks compared to more traditional uses of silver and whether the use of nanosilver to control bacterial growth could result in resistance of micro-organisms. http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_consumer/dyna/enews/enews.cfm?al_id=1494

Sale of Counterfeit Goods over the Internet. This Dialogue brings together a representative group of leading right holders and internet platforms in a joint effort to reduce the sale of counterfeits via e-commerce platforms. A number of fruitful meetings were held in 2009 and 2010 with a view to reaching an overall agreement in the form of a [Me-morandum of understanding \(MoU\)](http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/ipenforcement/stakeholders/index_en.htm#counterfeit). The MoU sets out a series of joint principles including effective measures to prevent offers of counterfeit goods from being listed on internet platforms. http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/ipenforcement/stakeholders/index_en.htm#counterfeit

Environment

- **Warwick Analytical Service has launched new web pages describing the suite of ISO 17025 accredited laboratory analytical services the company can offer for analysis of solid, liquid and airborne environmental samples from their well-equipped facilities at the University of Warwick Science Park, Coventry, UK.** http://www.envirotech-online.com/news/environmental-laboratory/7/exeter_analytical_uk_ltd/environmental_laboratory_analytical_services/29939/#sthash.ZdH9UOV1.dpuf

Food

- **EFSA pesticides report shows more than half of crops contain 'no measurable' residues.** An EU wide report on pesticides in food has found that more than 53% of the samples tested had no measurable trace of pesticide residues, while 1.1% of those tested were found to be above the legal limits for pesticide levels. <http://www.foodnavigator.com/Science-Nutrition/EFSA-pesticides-report-shows-more-than-half-of-crops-contain-no-measurable-residues>
- **Food safety needs continued emphasis in Horizon 2020 - SAFE.** Priority topics to ensure the emphasis on food safety in Horizon 2020 work programmes have been laid out by The European Association for Food Safety, The SAFE consortium. <http://www.foodnavigator.com/Market-Trends/Improving-food-safety-Priority-topics-in-the-EU>
- **Free from 'free-from':** Are consumers getting clean label lethargy? Consumers may begin to seek out labels making no claims as a result of clean labels 'over-reaching', according to Organic Monitor. <http://www.foodnavigator.com/Market-Trends/Searching-for-a-label-free-from-free-from-claims>
- **Tests show up to 5% of EU beef products contain horsemeat.** Up to 5% of European Union products labelled as beef contain horsemeat, according to results published by the European Commission on 16th April. <http://www.euractiv.com/health/eu-tests-show-5-horsemeat-beef-p-news-519161>
- **Cases of GMO contamination rise.** Food imports contaminated by genetically modified organisms (GMOs) represent a risk to the international food and feed trade. Eleven cases of contaminated rice, maize, linen and papaya have been recorded in France. <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/agriculture-food/fao-study-cases-gmo-contamination-rise-301013>
- **The EU's food safety early warning network cemented its vital role in keeping dangerous food products off the shelves in 2013,** and aims to lead the fight against fraud. The horsemeat scandal which rocked Europe early in 2013 underscored the importance of the network – information acquired on meat adulterated with horsemeat was hailed as pivotal in bolstering investigations and tracing the source of the fraud. The scandal nevertheless brought to light how difficult it is to trace food fraud in an age of complex global supply chains. The current early warning system already receives crucial clues for tracing back products from follow-up notifications on reported cases. http://ec.europa.eu/news/environment/140613_en.htm

Medical Devices

- **Restoring confidence in medical devices. Action Plan after the PIP scandal tightened control in Europe.** The Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs (EPSCO) Council has discussed the joint actions taken by the European Commission and the Member States to restore confidence following the scandal of defective breast implants produced by the French Poly Implant Prothèse (PIP) company. These measures were included in the Joint Plan for Immediate Actions under the existing Medical Devices legislation (the so-called PIP Joint Action Plan) agreed in 2012 (See IP/12/119). http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release-IP-14-699_en.htm

Public Consultations and Call for Tenders

- ECHA has opened a public consultation on alternatives to hexabromocyclododecane (HBCDD). Deadline: 9 July 2014
- CLH consultation launched on the pesticide chlorsulfuron. ECHA has started a 45-day public commenting period on the harmonised classification and labelling (CLH) proposals for the pesticide chlorsulfuron. Deadline for submitting comments is the 4 July 2014
- ECHA has added a new intention for harmonised classification and labelling to the Registry of Intentions. The new substance is: transfluthrin (EC 405-060-5)
- Consultation on the draft sixth Annex XIV recommendation. ECHA has an obligation to regularly recommend substances from the Candidate List to the Authorisation List (Annex XIV of the REACH Regulation) and is currently working on the sixth Annex XIV recommendation. The public consultation on the draft sixth Annex XIV recommendation will commence on the 1 of September and continue until the 30 November 2014.
- ECHA has started a 45-day public commenting period on the harmonised classification and labelling (CLH) proposals for linalool. The deadline for submitting comments is 8 August 2014.

Personal Developments

- ⇒ Bernhard Url has been appointed as the new chief of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) after its management board confirmed the acting-chief as its next executive director.
- ⇒ Sarah Harris has been appointed by Intertek as Laboratory Director of Intertek's Immunochemistry Centre of Excellence in San Diego, USA.
- ⇒ Örjan Brinkman, chairman of the Swedish Consumers' Association, has been elected as president of the European Consumers' Organisation (BEUC).

EUROLAB Special Briefings



EUROLAB Special Briefing No 3 on the *European Parliament vote on its first reading of the draft legislation on medical devices*. Stricter monitoring and certification procedures to ensure full compliance and traceability of medical devices such as breast or hip implants were agreed by the European Parliament



EUROLAB Special Briefing No 4 on the *European Parliament vote in favour of the Product Safety and Market Surveillance Package report*. The European Parliament plans to tighten up product safety requirements and market surveillance rules so as to strengthen consumer protection in the EU.



EUROLAB Special Briefing No 5 on the *World Day for Safety and Health at Work - 28th April*. "Safety and health in the use of chemicals at work" was the theme for the 2014 World Day for Safety and Health at Work.

Reports

Jiří Sobola attended the EA General Assembly which took place in Prague on 27 and 28 May 2014

Chairman's report

- IAF/ILAC documents should be influenced. EA must be systematically involved. 40% of ILAC and IAF members are from EA. This force was not used effectively. Regions should cooperate more and EA is ready to cooperate with Americas
- EA discussed with IAF content of MLA. MLA should relate strictly to relevant standard which will allow ISO to issue a database of accredited certificates for ISO 9000, ISO 22000, etc.
- If ARAC members seek recognition in EA region, it is possible but only under condition that EA was involved in peer evaluation of the relevant accreditation body
- Ratification of ballots - Electronic ballot must be endorsed by GA – it was done.

The report of EA Quality Manager was presented.

- Andreas Steinhorst (from DAKKs Germany) was nominated as EA Secretary General.

National ABs and resources

- EC Internal market product group was established to monitor national legislations.
- The differences between the tables in Blue Guide and EA 2/17 were discussed

MAC report

- Extension of MLA on accreditation of verifiers for EU ETS (ISO 14065+AVR).

The following committees presented their reports: HHC, Certification Committee (CC), EA Laboratory Committee, EA Inspection Committee

The main topics covered were:

- Surveillance and reassessment
- Benchmarking
- Sampling as stand alone activity
- Sector schemes
- EA 2/17
- Reissuing test reports
- WG ILC for testing and calibration was established.
- Opinions and interpretations

NEXT Meetings:

- Next meetings 19-20/11 Hague,
- 25-26 /11/2015 Budapest, spring 2016 London, Autumn 2016 Boras (Sweden)
- 20/10/2015 ILAC GA in Milano

For further details please see full report which is available in the National Members Area of the website.

Alvaro Silva Robeiro attended the 8th EURAMET General Assembly (GA) Week which took place in Cavtat-Dubrovnik (Croatia) from 2 to 5 June 2014

There were different types of topics discussed:

- EURAMET Communication Officer presented the new EURAMET Corporate Design, including a new logo of EURAMET and a new graphic portfolio; W. Schmid presented an overview of Secretariat support to EURAMET activities
- J. Stenger (V. Chair) presented the topics related to EMRP and EMPIR (during the GA, the several TC Chairs presented the situation of the EMRP projects in the final process and evaluation and the work done in new projects presented or approved under the H2020 EMPIR Calls – notes related to EMPIR and 2014-15 call found in Annex 2)
- The Strategic Objective (Plan) was presented by the EURAMET Chair, K. Hossain. Regarding this topic the main ideas are concerned with the promotion of the public image of EURAMET, a sustainable development, a major focus in the relation with EU, with the Policy Makers and with the Stakeholders
- 2 new members of the BoA were elected (M. Chambon, France; Pavel Klenovsky, Czech Rep.).

The next GA will be held in Krakow, 1-5 June 2015.

Manfred Golze attended the Eurachem General Assembly (GA) in Lisbon on 22 and 23 May 2014

GA Elections:

- Vice-chair Wolfhard Wegscheider, Austria, took over the chairmanship from Bertil Magnusson, Sweden
- David Milde, Czech Republic, was elected as new vice-chair
- The secretariat will be provided by Alessandra Meixner, Austria, who will also act as treasurer
- The former secretary Joakim Engman, Sweden, was elected as new member of the Executive Committee.

The following presentations were made:

- Hendrik Emons, IRMM, *Potential Challenges in Setting Measurement Quality Requirements from Regulatory Needs*

National ABs and resources

- Paolo Bianco, the chairman of the EA Laboratory Committee (EA LC) reported that the Task Force Group on the accreditation of proficiency test (PT) providers against ISO/IEC 17043 and of reference material producers (RMP) against ISO Guide 34 saw a need for an additional guidance document only in the latter case
- Ricardo Bettencourt da Silva presented a draft guide on *Setting and Use of Target Uncertainty in Chemical Measurements*
- Bertil Magnusson presented a draft *leaflet on the question in which cases bias should be corrected for*. He also presented a *template for Eurachem Guides which should provide guidance for the editors of future guides*.

The following Eurachem Guides are currently under revision:

- *Quality Assurance for Research and Development and Non-routine Analysis*, by a Task Force Group (including CITAC) established by the Executive Committee,
- *The Fitness for Purpose of Analytical Methods: A Laboratory Guide to Method Validation and Related Topics*; a draft was presented by the respective WG and a new version will be distributed for comments in the middle of July 2014,
- *Guide to Quality in Analytical Chemistry: An Aid to Accreditation*, revision is performed by the Education and Training (E&T) WG,
- *Traceability in Chemical Measurement*, revision will be performed by the MU&T WG.

A revision of the Guide on the *Selection and Use of Reference Materials* was postponed until the publication of ISO Guide 33 on *Uses of Certified Reference Materials* which is currently under revision by ISO REMCO. Hendrik Emons, the chairman of ISO REMCO, informed the GA that ISO Guide 33 will be ready within one year while ISO Guide 80 on In-house Reference Materials was presently in press.

Some Eurachem policies and procedures were updated, i.e.

- Appointment of Officers and Executive Committee Members,
- Website Policy

Furthermore the GA was informed about:

- the Eurachem reading list which had been developed by the E&T WG and is available from the Eurachem website (www.eurachem.org)
- a leaflet on terminology which will be drafted by the E&T WG
- a PowerPoint presentation of Eurachem, also available from the members' area of the website
- the discussion within the MU&T WG on the use of the term \bar{O}_n for the estimation of the standard deviation of a mean value
- the new EURAMET research and development program EMPIR (European Metrology Program for Innovation and Research), for which the first calls have already been launched
- recent developments of EUROLAB by Ewa Bulska and Manfred Golze
- up-coming workshops, i.e.
 - ⇒ NMKL / Eurachem Workshop on Measurement Uncertainty for chemical food and feed analysis, Copenhagen, 29 – 30 September 2014
 - ⇒ Eurachem 8th Workshop on Proficiency Testing in Analytical Chemistry, Microbiology and Laboratory Medicine, in cooperation with CITAC and EQALM, Berlin, 6 – 9 October 2014
 - ⇒ ISRANALYTICA, CITAC, Eurachem International Workshop on Human Errors and Quality of Chemical Analytical Results, Tel-Aviv, 13 January 2015.

Wilfried Hinrichs attended the EA CC (Certification Committee) & IC (Inspection Committee) meetings which took place on 26-27 March 2014 in Oslo.

Certification Committee:

The main task of the Oslo meeting was a strategic discussion on the future of the CC. This was done on the background of newly defined strategic positions both of ILAC and IAF.

First results are:

- The Committee shall mainly remain a discussion forum and, if possible, a decision making instrument.
- Harmonisation aspects including technical issues and marketing points of view shall become more important for the committee.
- More contact and influence shall be sought to/on international WG
- Participation at AIF meetings shall be intensified with prepared key topics from EACC but expressly without the aim to become a kind of mirror group of ILAC or AIF.

Inspection Committee:

The main discussions were on the differences between testing and inspection. The focus was on sampling. The majority of the IC members was against sampling as a stand-alone activity. The subject was not further discussed because the committee wanted to wait for a result from HHC (a working group was installed and has started working).

There were other discussions on approaches on type approval/examination/testing (according to ISO/IEC 17065, 17020, 17025) as well as on prototype testing or inspection and the possibility to issue approvals on the basis of 17065.

Next CC/IC meetings:

- ⇒ 30th September – 3rd October 2014 in Athens
- ⇒ 3rd – 6th March 2015 (Switzerland – tbc)

Jiří Sobola attended the ILAC AIC, ILAC LC and ILAC WG PT meetings held in Oslo from 07 to 10 April 2014.

- MOU was established with International federation of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine (IFCC).
- P9 is very open document and difficult to understand. New guide should be closer to ISO 17025 and ISO 15189. WG will not provide specific guidance for specific fields. It will concentrate on the way how uncertainty should be reported. People from medical sector are welcome to join WG.
- **ILAC/IAF liaison with OIML.** MOU between ILAC and OIML will be revised by end of the year. The issue is accreditation of mutual recognition of load cells, non-automatic weighing instruments and water meters. Special accreditation for those is needed. Document was finished and it will go for comments to whole ILAC. There was one comment suggesting stopping this work. Author is surprised why current duality should continue for this very narrow field of several products. OIML suggests that experts performing accreditation and OIML assessment should be shared. Majority of countries prefer accreditation way, only two countries are using OIML peer assessment. **Comments** should be submitted before **ILAC GA**.

Revision of ISO 17 025

- Eurolab, apart from its own activities which are warmly welcome, may distribute the same survey as AIC to compare opinions of Abs and laboratories. In case those opinions are quite close to each other it will be advantageous position for both ILAC and Eurolab. It was agreed that ABs should approach national standardisation bodies together with national associations of laboratories (stakeholders). ILAC LC is expecting results of Eurolab survey in Bangkok

Cooperation with other organisations

- REMCO: Copy of Guide 33 will be distributed during the week.
- EPTIS: biggest interest for PT providers is from China; questions grow 25% every year. Strategic plan: comments of Eurolab were presented.

ILAC Strategy document

- Final version of strategy will be discussed in Frankfurt. Voting will take place at the next GA. Last version of strategy will be distributed after Frankfurt meeting. There will be LC position but individual ILAC members (**Eurolab**) can submit their own comments directly to ILAC.
- **Eurolab should prepare comments, submit them to ILAC LC** and at the same time Eurolab can submit its own comments directly to ILAC GA and discuss it there. ILAC LC is not ready to accept Eurolab comments as its own.

PT WG: Eurolab suggested that frequency of surveillances should be decided by ABs case by case in relation to stability of laboratory. This was not taken on board as there is no problem round the world with frequency of surveillances. Eurolab should provide some paper in this regard to make it clearer.

Upcoming EUROLAB Events

- **EUROLAB Board meeting**, 30 June - 1st July, Brussels, Belgium
- **National Members Meetings/Extraordinary General Assembly, Lisbon, Portugal**
 - ⇒ 6th October – TCQA
 - ⇒ 7th October – BoA, NMMs (+Extraordinary General Assembly)
 - ⇒ 8th October – Eurolab Seminar
- **EUROLAB Board meeting**, 4th November, Brussels, Belgium
- **EUROLAB - CEOC - IFIA Safety Seminar**, 5th November, Brussels, Belgium
- **JTC PTC meeting**, 6th November, Brussels, Belgium
- **JTC PTC meeting**, 13th-14th March 2015, Milano, Italy



PORTUGAL

International Events

- **21st PAC Plenary meetings** in Guadalajara, Mexico, 23 - 27 June, 2014
- **EA LC meeting** in London, 10- 11 September 2014
- **EA HHC meeting** in Brussels, 16-17 September 2014
- **ISO CASCO General Assembly** in Geneva, 24 - 26 September 2014
- **NMKL / Eurachem Workshop on Measurement Uncertainty for chemical food and feed analysis** in Copenhagen, 29 – 30 September 2014
- **ISO TC 135 Plenary** in Prague 5th to 11th October 2014
- **Eurachem 8th Workshop on Proficiency Testing in Analytical Chemistry, Microbiology and Laboratory Medicine**, in co-operation with CITAC and EQALM in Berlin, 6 – 9 October 2014
- **Joint IAF - ILAC Annual Meetings** in Vancouver, Canada , 08-17 October 2014.
- **EAAB-CAB College meeting** in Brussels, 21 October 2014.
- **EAAB meeting** in Brussels, 22 October 2014
- **EUROPEAN CHEMICALS AGENCY (ECHA): Topical Scientific Workshop – Regulatory Challenges in Risk Assessment of Nanomaterials** in Helsinki, 23-24 October 2014
- **The Topical Scientific Workshop on Nanomaterials**, Brussels, 23-24 October 2014
- **EA General Assembly** in Den Haag, 19-20 November 2014
- **ISRANALYTICA, CITAC, Eurachem International Workshop on Human Errors and Quality of Chemical Analytical Results** in Tel-Aviv, 13 January 2015
- **EA LC meeting** in Athens, 18 - 19 March 2015
- **EA General Assembly** in Keakow, 1-5 June 2015
- **EA Certification Committee** in Athens 30 September – 3 October 2014
- **EA Certification Committee** in Switzerland – (tbc), 3rd – 6th March 2015