



EUROLAB Extraordinary General Assembly, 7th October, National Laboratory for Civil Engineering (LNEC), Lisbon, Portugal

The European Federation of National Associations of Measurement, Testing and Analytical Laboratories (EUROLAB) approved the extension of the Board with two additional members who will be elected at the next General Assembly in Denmark

The EUROLAB TCQA, National Members' Meeting and Extraordinary EUROLAB General Assembly 2014 took place in Lisbon, from 06 October till 08 October 2014 at the National Laboratory for Civil Engineering (LNEC), kindly hosted by RELACRE.

The EUROLAB Extraordinary General Assembly took place on 7th October and was well attended with around 40 delegates representing 18 different countries.

New Articles of Associations and Revised Internal Rules

During the Extraordinary GA, Dr Jeff Llewellyn, EUROLAB Vice - President, presented the new Articles of Associations, among which were the revised Articles 15.1 / 15.2: Board extension.

Dr Jeff Llewellyn underlined the added value of the Board extension, namely to get better representation of all EUROLAB members and to have more human resources. The EUROLAB members approved the new Articles of Associations.

The revised internal rules concerning the election of Committee Chairs and Secretaries, and the procedures for elections to the Board of Administrators have been accepted by the General Assembly. The main changes regarding the procedures for appointing the Chairman and Secretary of a TC are as follows:

3. The EUROLAB secretariat will give at least 4 weeks notice of the election of a Committee Chairman or Committee Secretary. Candidates should submit their CVs and a statement of their willingness to stand to the secretariat within two weeks. Candidates must have the written approval of their National Member if they are not the National member themselves. If there is more than one candidate the Committee will hold an election for the Chairman or Secretary at its next meeting. Only committee members may vote. The vote will be decided by a simple majority. If there is only one candidate that candidate will be appointed to the relevant post by the Board and no election will be necessary. The appointment of TC Chairman or Secretary will be confirmed by the General Assembly at its next meeting.

New Observer member:

EUROLAB is pleased to welcome HMD (the Croatian Metrology Society) as an observer member. HMD was a EUROLAB Associated Member from 2004 to 2013. The membership certificate was ceremonially signed during the General Assembly by EUROLAB President, Mr Jiří Sobola and Mrs Visnja Gasljevic, HMD.

The EUROLAB National Members' Meeting, which followed the EUROLAB General Assembly, gathered delegates from 18 countries to discuss current developments within the Federation and the laboratory area.

Mr Jiří Sobola, EUROLAB President, outlined the main activities and achievements in the last period with reference to the EUROLAB European cooperation and its participation in various technical committees and working groups. In addition a substantial part of the meeting was dedicated to the discussions on the EUROLAB political strategy for the next five years and the importance of establishing a proactive approach.

EUROLAB Technical Committee on Quality Assurance in Testing and Calibration (TCQA)

The TCQA meeting took place on Monday 6th October in Lisbon and was chaired by the TCQA Vice-Chair Mrs Irache Visiers Sanz (EUROLAB España).



There were various topics discussed during the TCQA meeting such as the accreditation issues, in particular, the revision of ILAC G17 on measurement uncertainty in testing; the draft EUROLAB Position Paper on Surveillance; reassessment, reissuance of test reports and the overlap of testing and inspection activities. In addition some standardisation-related subjects were on the agenda with main attention given to the revision of ISO / IEC 17025 and the presentation on the inquiry among the members regarding their Top 5 topics.

These Top 5 topics were:

- I. 5.10 Reporting results
- II. 5.4 Test and calibration methods and method validation
- III. 4.2 Management system
- IV. 4.1 Organization
- V. 5.9 Assuring the quality of tests and calibration reports

EUROLAB will get actively involved in the revision process from an early stage and send representatives to the respective working groups. Last but not least EUROLAB representatives reported on the activities of the working groups and committees they attend.

The successful meeting was followed by the Gala dinner in the historical city of Sintra and was kindly hosted by RELACRE.



Mr Jiří Sobola, EUROLAB President and Mrs Visnja Gasljevic, HMD

EUROLAB International Workshop

RELACRE, the host of the EUROLAB National Members' Meeting and Extraordinary EUROLAB General Assembly organised a well - attended workshop with high – level international and Portuguese panellists.

The workshop presented different views of several challenges and opportunities related to the globalization of laboratory activities. In addition, this was a good platform for sharing experiences and expectations of speakers as well as participants in relevant areas such as accreditation, quality management and competitiveness.

Presentations:

- **Jeff Llewellyn** (Vice President of EUROLAB aisbl and President of BMTA (EUROLAB UK)), *The challenges facing laboratories in a global economy – how EUROLAB can help*
- **Jan Deconinck** (PROSAFE Chairman), *A different point of view on testing: what do market surveillance authorities expect?*
- **Kurt Ziegler** (President of EUROLAB Germany), *The economic impacts of a well functioning Quality Infrastructure with regard to accreditation*
- **Peter Blinksbjerg** (Quality Manager FORCE Technology, EUROLAB Denmark), *Internal audits – Experiences of FORCE Technology*
- **Drewin Nieuwenhuis** (Secretary General CEOC International), *Trends and developments in the European Laboratory market*
- **Irache Visiers** (Quality Manager APPLUS, Vice President of TCQA-EUROLAB), *An approach to an enhanced competitiveness framework in the European*
- **Maurice G. Cox** (National Physical Laboratory Senior Fellow), *The importance of probability distributions in the revised GUM!*
- **José Luis Sánchez Álvarez-Campana** (President of EUROLAB Spain), *The Role of Laboratories in the Global Economy*
- **Ömer Güzel** (President of TURKLAB), *Future perspectives for the laboratory world*

