

EUROLAB General Assembly 2016, TCQA meeting & International Seminar 19th - 21st April 2016, East Kilbride, Scotland

The European Federation of National Associations of Measurement, Testing and Analytical Laboratories (EUROLAB) held elections to the Board of Administrators, including the re-election of the President & two Board Members and the election of one new Vice-President, Treasurer & one new Board Member.



Participants of the EUROLAB General Assembly, 21st April, East Kilbride



EUROLAB Vice-President Kurt Ziegler, President Álvaro S. Ribeiro, Vice-President Jeff Llewellyn

The EUROLAB General Assembly and Annual Meetings 2016 took place in East Kilbride, Scotland, from 19th to 21st April 2016 and were kindly hosted by BMTA in conjunction with NEL.

The EUROLAB events started on Tuesday morning with the TCQA meeting, where, among others, the following topics were discussed:

- EUROLAB Galaxy and EUROLAB representatives in various working groups;
- TCQA documents: discussions on the ‘*Continuous improvement within QM systems*’ – a new Drafting Group has been created by the EUROLAB members from Turkey, Bulgaria and Croatia;
- Cookbooks proposals: ‘*Risk Based Approach*’, ‘*Traceability in measurement for medical laboratories*’, ‘*Decision rules*’. Working Groups have been created for drafting these proposed cookbooks;
- TCQA projects: ‘*Harmonisation of Assessors*’, led by TURKLAB. The aim of the project is to address the lack of harmonisation of assessors at the European level;
- Activities and developments in the TCQA Working Groups;
- TCQA actions in relation to accreditation and standardisation issues.



TCQA Meeting, 19th April, East Kilbride

The second day, Wednesday, 20th April, was dedicated to the EUROLAB – BMTA International Seminar hosted by NEL. The Seminar was well attended, with representatives from the EUROLAB members as well as attendees from the British laboratory sector. The Seminar was opened by the host, Jeff Llewellyn, EUROLAB Vice-President and followed by Álvaro Silva Ribeiro, EUROLAB President, who addressed the welcome and thank you remarks to the organisers and participants. The introduction was followed by speakers from various bodies, institutes and industry such as: The UK National Accreditation Body (UKAS); The Dutch Metrology Institute; Swedish Centre for Intercomparisons, SP and LGC Group. Among others, the speakers and participants discussed topics related to: the revision of ISO 17025 and the challenges faced by the national

accreditation bodies across Europe, ISO 15189 and its effect on medical laboratories, associated workshops currently being run jointly by UKAS and BMTA, inter-laboratory comparisons and proficiency testing. The Seminar concluded with a presentation of NEL, by Brian Millington, CEO, TUV-NEL Ltd, and was followed by a tour of NEL facilities.



EUROLAB – BMTA International Seminar, 20th April, East Kilbride



Tour of NEL facilities, 20th April, East Kilbride

The EUROLAB Board meeting took place on Thursday, 21st April and was followed by the EUROLAB General Assembly where various EUROLAB related issues were discussed, such as:

- Institutional representation and international cooperation;
- Policy updates on various on-going legislative developments;
- EUROLAB strategy, including the creation of EUROLAB Experts Advisory Groups and the draft of the EUROLAB Policy Paper;
- EUROLAB Organization & Galaxy – the EUROLAB Members agreed with the following proposals: Representatives in EA LC: Andreas Kinzel, EUROLAB-Deutschland and Ömer Güzel, TURKLAB Representative in EAAB: Irache Visiers, EUROLAB-Spain and substitute Alexander Šafařík-Pštroš, EUROLAB-CZ;
- Urs von Känel, EUROLAB-CH invited the EUROLAB Members to the National Members' Meeting 2016, which will take place from 27th to 29th September, in Lucerne, Switzerland.

The elections to the EUROLAB Board of Administrators took place during the General Assembly.

- Álvaro Silva Ribeiro, RELACRE, was re-elected for the position of EUROLAB President for 2-year term.

The EUROLAB Members also elected:

- Kurt Ziegler, EUROLAB-Deutschland, for the position of Vice-President
- Bernd Kroon, Fenelab, for the position of Treasurer

- **New Members of the Board of Administrators:**
Bernd Kroon, Fenelab

- **Re-elected members to the Board of Administrators:**
Álvaro Silva Ribeiro, RELACRE
Pascal Launey, LNE

- **TCQA Vice-Chairman:**
Ömer Güzel, TURKLAB was elected as the new Vice-Chairman of TCQA.



Members of the EUROLAB Board of Administrators

The EUROLAB General Assembly 2016 concluded with thank you remarks addressed by the President, Álvaro Silva Ribeiro, to BMTA for the organisation of the successful EUROLAB events in Scotland. The EUROLAB General Assembly 2017 will take place from 26th to 28th April 2017, in Bologna, Italy, and will be kindly hosted by ALPI.