

# EUROMET Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

EUROMET was formally established by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by participating States in Madrid, Spain on the 23rd of September 1987 to become operative from the 1st of January 1988. The MoU was amended in August 1990, in September 1995, in May 1998, in May 2001 (Version: 5.0) and in July 2002 (Version 6.0). This Section reproduces the text of the Memorandum of Understanding, which has been in force since the 25th of July 2002 (Version: 6.0).

## EUROMET MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

### SECTION 1

- 1 The Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding declare their common intention to take part in EUROMET, a European collaboration in measurement standards.
- 2 EUROMET is open to membership of national metrology institutes of all States of the European Communities, of all States of the European Free Trade Association and to the Commission of the European Communities.

EUROMET is further open to national metrology institutes of other European States, subject to the agreement of the existing members.

- 3 A EUROMET COMMITTEE will be set up. It consists of one Delegate from each participating State, one Delegate from the Commission of the European Communities and, if it so wishes, one observer from the Secretariat of the European Free Trade Association. The EUROMET COMMITTEE ensures that the specific tasks are pursued in accordance with the objective and aims of EUROMET.

### SECTION 2

- 1 The objective of EUROMET

The participating metrology institutes intend to collaborate in EUROMET, with the objective of promoting the co-ordination of metrological activities and services with the purpose of achieving higher efficiency.

- 2 The aims of EUROMET are:

I) To develop a closer collaboration between Members in the work on measurement standards within the present decentralised metrological structure.

II) To optimise the utilisation of resources and services of Members and emphasise the deployment of these towards perceived metrological needs.

III) To improve measurement services and make them accessible to all Members.

IV) To ensure that national facilities developed in the context of EUROMET collaboration are accessible to all Members.

- 3 EUROMET has the following specific tasks:

I) Co-ordination of projects on measurement standards.

II) Co-ordination of major investments for metrological facilities.

III) Transfer of expertise in the field of primary or national standards between Members.

IV) Provision of a framework for collaboration among interested Members on specific projects.

V) Provision of information on resources and services.

VI) Co-operation with calibration services in Europe.

VII) Co-operation with legal metrology services in Europe.

- 4 The EUROMET COMMITTEE meets to review and discuss the aims and specific tasks of EUROMET. The COMMITTEE decides itself upon its rules of procedure. The COMMITTEE elects its chairman from the Delegates for a period of two years. The chairman normally provides the necessary secretarial assistance for the administration of the EUROMET COMMITTEE. In order to assist the EUROMET COMMITTEE in the execution of its work the COMMITTEE may elect from the Delegates an Executive Committee of a

total of eight members including the Chairman of EUROMET. The Chairman also chairs the Executive Committee. Members of the Executive Committee are elected for a period of two years.

- 5 Members retain their national autonomy.
- 6 The EUROMET COMMITTEE will have no funds of its own.

### SECTION 3

In order to achieve the objective and aims of EUROMET, Members will have especially the following rights:

- 1 All Members will have access to national standards of the other Members, on an equal footing basis.
- 2 All Members will have the right to propose to the EUROMET COMMITTEE that specific measurement standards and associated measurements services be set up, and that interested Members will carry out such projects on terms to be decided among them.
- 3 All Members may seek assistance, through consultancies, secondments, or other mechanisms, on specific measurement problems, on terms to be decided between the parties concerned.

### SECTION 4

Members commit themselves to the pursuance of the objective, aims and tasks of EUROMET. In particular they will carry out the following responsibilities:

- 1 When an area of metrological activity is under consideration in the EUROMET COMMITTEE, all Members will normally make available to the EUROMET COMMITTEE information on current and planned work in that area with the exception of any work carried out in confidence.
- 2 Members will do their best to provide an adequate service to all customers on an equal footing with their own national requests.
- 3 The attainment of the objective and aims of EUROMET requires participation by Members to the extent commensurate with resources and expertise at their disposal.
- 4 The Members will make every effort to ensure that necessary resources are made available under their internal procedures.

### SECTION 5

- 1 This Memorandum of Understanding will come into operation on 1 January 1988 upon signature by at least nine Signatories, but remain open for further participation within the defined membership.
- 2 This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended in writing at any time by arrangement between the Signatories, subject to no dissent.
- 3 If a Member, for any reason whatever, intends to terminate its participation, the Signatory will notify the Chairman of the EUROMET COMMITTEE of its intention as soon as possible, preferably not later than three months beforehand.
- 4 This Memorandum of Understanding is concluded for a preliminary term of three years. Unless within this three-year period or any subsequent three-year period, revision or termination is proposed to the EUROMET COMMITTEE by at least one third of the Signatories this Memorandum of Understanding will continue in effect for a further three-year period.

### SECTION 6

This Memorandum of Understanding is of an exclusively recommendatory nature. It will not create any binding legal effect in public international law.

## ANNEX

### CLARIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP

The Memorandum of Understanding refers to "Signatories", "Members" and "Delegates". Signatories, Delegates and Heads of Member organisations may or may not be the same person depending upon the circumstances appropriate to each State.

I) Signatory

A Signatory is an Institution in whose name the Memorandum of Understanding is signed.

II) Member

A Member is an organisation responsible for maintaining measurement standards on behalf of the Member State, with the exception of the Member from the Commission of the European Communities. For those States which have more than one such organisation, the Memorandum of Understanding is signed by the signatory on behalf of all, the names of the organisations being attached to the document; in this case all the organisations are members of EUROMET

III) Delegate

The Signatory appoints one Delegate to the EUROMET Committee. The Delegate may be supported at General Assemblies (EUROMET Committee meetings) by advisers and experts, but only the Delegate may vote.

