

EuCheMS-DAC Study Group / Task Force Annual Report for 2016-2017

Study Group / Task Force Name: Quality Assurance
Study Group / Task Force Members and Affiliations: Elin L.F. Gjengedal (Head; EG)), Liaison to Eurachem, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Norway Hendrik Emons (HE), JRC, EC Constantina P. Kapnissi-Christodoulou (CKC), University of Cyprus Ricardo Bettencourt da Silva (RBS), Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal
Objectives: Report on activities in metrology, quality assurance, accreditation and all areas related to quality issues of analytical chemistry. Liaison to other Divisions, working groups, working parties and governmental bodies. Accreditation of laboratories is common practice in industry and accreditation is introduced in order to sustain quality and reliability. Practices and procedures of quality assurance are considered also in science and the influence on quality of scientific results is evaluated and discussed. The aim of the Study Group 'Quality Assurance' is to follow the development of quality assurance and metrology in analytical chemistry and produce guidelines for assessing the quality of results, which ultimately can create a new basis for decision-making that may have an impact on the way research is carried out. Both statistics and metrology are currently considered for further developments and improvements as to meet contemporary demands for quality in analytical chemistry.
Activities and Outputs in 2016-2017 (e.g. reports, publications, seminars, meetings): <i>Meetings:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EG: Participated in the 13th Eurachem Method Validation Working Group, June 8 – 9, 2017 in Ulricehamn, Sweden</li><li>• HE: Participated in the Plenary Meetings of the Consultative Committee on Metrology in Chemistry and Biology (one of the CCs of the International Committee on Weights and Measures), in meetings of various ISO Committees (such as ISO REMCO) and other standardisation meetings</li><li>• CKC: Member Organising Committee for the Eurachem Workshop: Uncertainty in Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis. University Of Cyprus, Nicosia (Lefkosa), Cyprus, May 29 – 30, 2017</li><li>• RBS: Participation in the Eurachem Workshop: Uncertainty in Qualitative and Quantitative Analysis, Nicosia (Lefkosa), Cyprus, May 29 – 30, 2017.</li></ul> <i>Publications:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EG contributed to the European analytical column number 45</li><li>• Barwick, V., S.L.R. Ellison, E. Gjengedal, B. Magnusson, O. Molinier, M. Patriarca, L. Sibbesen, N. van Laethem &amp; I. Vercauteren 2017. Method Validation in Analytical Sciences: discussions on current practice and future challenges. <i>Accreditation and Quality Assurance (Submitted)</i>.</li><li>• ISO 17034:2016 'General requirements for the competence of reference material producers' published</li><li>• ISO/IEC 17025:2005 is in its final stage of revision and the new edition should be published still within 2017</li></ul> Update available from <a href="http://www.eurachem.org">www.eurachem.org</a> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• V. Barwick (Ed), Eurachem/CITAC Guide: Guide to Quality in Analytical Chemistry: An Aid to Accreditation (3<sup>rd</sup> ed. 2016).</li><li>• Information Leaflet developed by the Proficiency Testing Working Group: Proficiency testing - How much, and how often? (2017)</li><li>• Information Leaflet developed by the Measurement Uncertainty and Traceability Working Group: Treatment of an observed bias (2017)</li></ul>
Activities planned for 2017-2018: 1. Follow activities of Eurachem and contribute to meetings and publications, e.g. The Eurachem General Assembly and associated working group meetings 16 May – 18 May 2018 in Dublin, Ireland 2. Publish results of quality assurance in appropriate journals 3. Publish two pages technical notes (EuCheMS-DAC-QA) that present simple QA tools and concepts. Publication frequency: 1 or 2 per year.
Report submitted by: <i>Elin Gjengedal</i>
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