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 2018-2019 (e.g. reports, publications, seminars, meetings): We contribute to activities in Eurchem, a network of organisations in Europe having the objective of establishing a system for the international traceability of chemical measurements and the promotion of good quality practices is developing and disseminating (free of charge via www.eurchem.org) information on quality assurance etc. Eurchem recently published a Guide: "Traceability in Chemical Measurement", 2nd edition (2019) as well as new Information Leaflets (available in different languages): "ISO/IEC 17025:2017 - A New Accreditation Standard" (2018) as well as "Setting target measurement uncertainty" (2018).

Meetings:
CONFMET 2018 – Conferência Nacional da SPMET – Em constante evolução o Sistema Internacional de Unidades, Caparica, Portugal, 28-29 Nov. 2018. (RBS)
Workshop - Validation of targeted and non-targeted methods of analysis, Tartu, Estonia, 20-21 May 2019. (RBS)
34th CITAC Members' Meeting and Workshop, Paris, France, 13 April 2019. (RBS)
IUPAC/CITAC Workshop on Quality of Test Results for Conformity Assessment of a Chemical Composition. What is Good and What is Bad? Tel Aviv. 21 Jan. 2019. (RBS)
ISranalytica 2019, Tel Aviv. 22-23 Jan. 2019. (RBS)

Publications:


Activities planned for 2019-2020:
1) Follow activities of Eurchem and contribute to meetings and publications, e.g. The Eurchem General Assembly and associated working group meetings; 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.

Report submitted by: Elin Gjengedal

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