

EUROLAB General Assembly 2005

On March 18 the General Assembly (GA) of EUROLAB aisbl took place in Bilbao, Spain.

Key issues:

- Agreement that fees will be increased by 3%.
- Networks – Bent Larsen (Denmark) called for active participation in the first EUROLAB Network dealing with electrical calibration.
- Guy Jacques (chair of the joint technical committee JTC PTC between EUROLAB and CEOC) summarised a meeting with Jacques McMillan from DG Enterprise highlighting the current situation of Notified Bodies: there are too many Notified Bodies. The relation between New Approach and standards was discussed, a position against a “super H module” was taken (there is the tendency on EC level to assume conformity with different New Approach directives in the case that the manufacturers maintains a surveyed quality system as stated in module H).
Role of accreditation: is accreditation a monopole? EA's role within ILAC (different rules: no ILAC MRA's, competition between EU members on ILAC level possible as each country has a vote instead of one European vote).
Currently the New and Global Approaches are under review and JTC PTC is closely following the process. Next meeting of JTC PTC is in Brussels on April 11, 2005.
Contact: gjacques@aib-vincotte.be.
- Flexible accreditation is performed in a similar way in France, Germany and UK.
- Clinical laboratories are establishing their own accreditation and certification system. Currently related ISO standards are drafted.

A new Board of Administrators was elected:

President	Marc Mortureux	France
Vice-President	Bent Larsen	Denmark
Members	Guy Jacques	Belgium
	Richard Worswick	UK
	Manfred Hennecke	Germany

CROLAB (Croatia) and NCSLI (USA) presented their organisation.

The next GA will take place in Stockholm, Sweden, on March 30, 2006.

Hannelore Wessel (DGZfP)
March 30, 2005