



# Eurachem

A Focus for Analytical Chemistry in Europe

## **Eurachem**

***a focus for analytical  
chemistry and quality related  
issues in Europe***



## Introduction

- Eurachem aims and membership
- Eurachem activities to date
- Recent and forthcoming activities
  - Guidance documents
  - Workshops

# What is Eurachem?

- A network of national and other organisations
- A focus on analytical quality
  - Validation
  - Uncertainty
  - Traceability
- Providing authoritative guidance documents
- Organising Workshops and training events
- Primary audience:
  - Laboratories accredited (ISO17025) for analytical measurement
  - Accreditation bodies and related organisations

Scope & rules - Memorandum of Understanding [www.eurachem.org](http://www.eurachem.org)



## Membership



Albania



Austria



Belgium



Bulgaria



Croatia



Cyprus



Czech Republic



Denmark



European Commission



Finland



France



Germany



Greece



Hungary



Iceland



Ireland



Italy



Lithuania



Luxemburg



Malta



The Netherlands



Norway



Poland



Portugal



Romania



Russian Federation



Slovak Republic



Slovenia



Spain



Sweden



Switzerland



Turkey



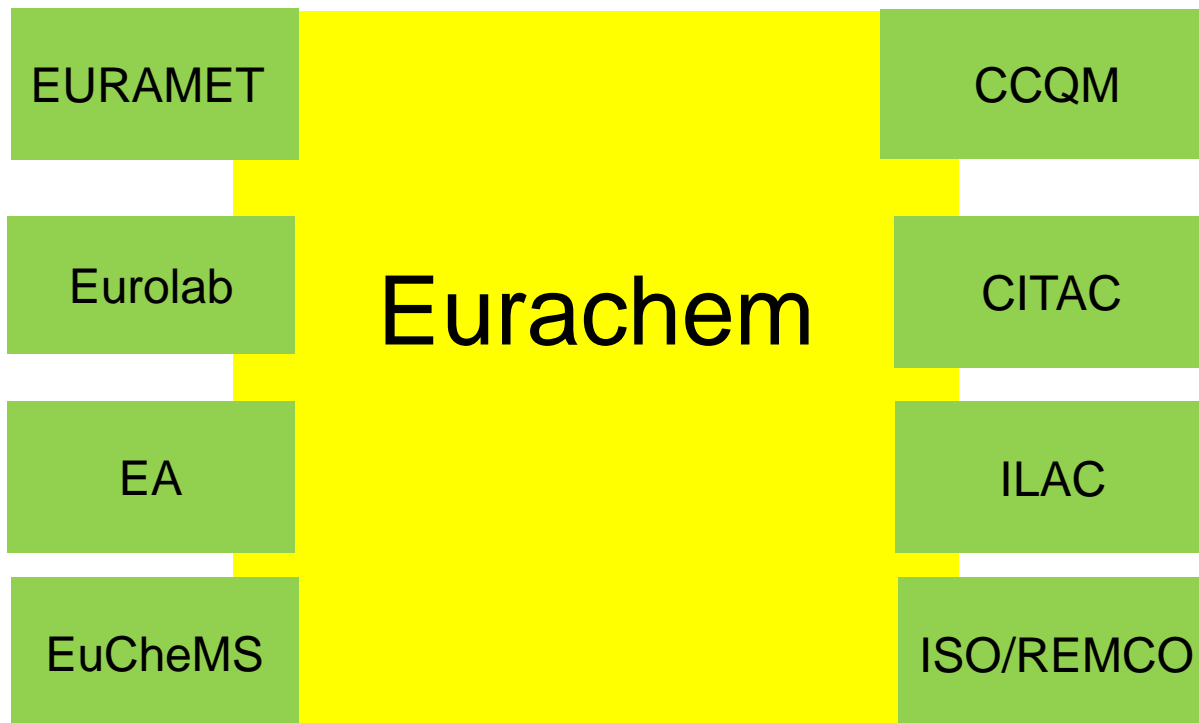
Ukraine



United Kingdom



## Cooperations



## Activities

- Workshops and Training
  - International workshops on analytical QA issues
  - Hosted by members
- Guidance documents
  - Prepared by working groups
  - Disseminated via web and Secretariat
  - Translation and publication by members permitted

# Workshops since year 2000

- Validation, Traceability and Measurement Uncertainty (2000)
- Education & Training (2004)
- Proficiency Testing (2000, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2011)
- Measurement Uncertainty (2000, 2002, 2008, 2011)
- Reference Materials (2000)
- Sampling (2001, 2008)
- Metrology and QA (2008, 2009, 2010)
- Decision making (2008, 2010)

...as well as QA and training events in conjunction with General Assembly meetings and in collaboration with other organisations



## Future Eurachem Workshops

- *Training Course: Internal Quality Control*
  - Berlin 9 October 2012
- *Challenges in Internal Quality Control*
  - Berlin 10-11 October 2012
- *Proficiency testing*
  - Berlin October 2014



# Guidance Documents

- The Fitness for Purpose of Analytical Methods – A Laboratory Guide to Method Validation and Related Topics (1998)
- Quality Assurance for R&D and Non-routine Analysis (1998)
- Selection, Use and Interpretation of Proficiency Testing (PT) Schemes by Laboratories (2000)
- Common Position Paper for the Use of Proficiency Testing as a Tool for Accreditation in Testing (2001)
- Accreditation for Microbiological Laboratories (2002)
- The Selection and use of Reference Materials (2002)
- Accreditation for Chemical Laboratories (2002)
- Traceability in Chemical Measurement (2003)

*All Guides are currently available free of charge from the Eurachem website and several translations are available at national Eurachem websites.*

# More recent Guidance Documents

- Use of uncertainty information in compliance assessment (2007)  
*The guide is applicable to decisions on compliance with regulatory or manufacturing limits where a decision is made on the basis of a measurement result accompanied by information on the uncertainty associated with the result*
- Measurement uncertainty arising from sampling (2007)  
*This Guide aims to describe various methods that can be used to estimate the uncertainties arising from the processes of sampling and the physical preparation of samples.*
- Terminology in Analytical Measurement: Introduction to VIM 3 (2011)  
*This Eurachem Guide discusses a selection of the concepts in VIM 3, focusing on those most likely to be encountered in analytical laboratories*
- Quantifying Uncertainty in Analytical Measurement (2012)  
*The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of this Eurachem guide*

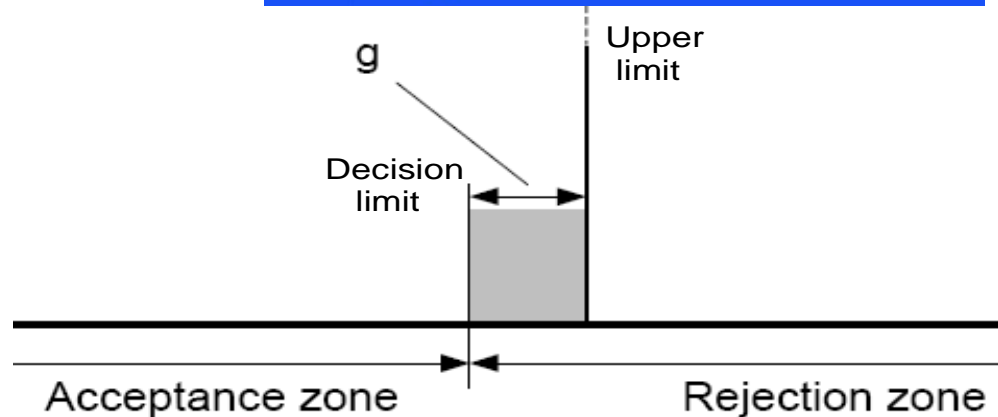
# Eurachem information leaflets

Leaflets are short briefing documents on a specific topic intended to inform a wide audience, including laboratory staff, managers and laboratory customers. Examples: traceability, proficiency testing, quality (uncertainty), compliance

Leaflet introducing the traceability guide



Leaflet introducing the compliance guide





## Current activities

- Qualitative analysis
  - Guide in preparation on assessing performance in qualitative analysis
- Validation – revision of the current guide

# Administration

- Change of Chairs (6-year cycle)
  - Chair: Bertil Magnusson (Sweden)
  - Vice chair: Wolfhard Wegscheider (Austria)
  - Past chair: Miloslav Suchanek (Czech republic)
- Secretariat
  - Eurolab/Eurachem Sweden 2012-2014
- Website
  - [www.eurachem.org](http://www.eurachem.org)

## Summary

- Continuing development of guidance
  - Latest new guide
    - Terminology in analytical measurement - A guide to VIM
- International workshops 2012
  - Challenges in Internal Quality Control
    - Berlin 10-11 October 2012



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## Welcome to Eurachem

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Welcome to Eurachem, 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. It provides a forum for the discussion of common problems and for developing an informed and considered approach to both technical and policy issues. It provides a focus for analytical chemistry and quality related issues in Europe.



Image courtesy of SP, Sweden

## Task Views

Check the Task Views to find all the Eurachem resources for particular topics:

- › [Measurement Uncertainty](#)
- › [Proficiency Testing](#)

## Recent News

[Call to participate in surveys on GUM and VIM](#)

## Forthcoming Events

- 9 Oct 2012 [Training Course: Internal Quality Control](#)
- 10 Oct 2012 [Key Challenges in Internal Quality Control](#)

[View all events >>](#)

## Quick Links

### Frequently requested

- › [Eurachem Guide](#)
- › [Eurachem Publications](#)
- › [The Fitness for Purpose of Analytical Methods: Laboratory Guidelines for Validation and Proficiency Testing Topics \(1998\)](#)
- › [Eurachem work](#)
- › [Terminology in Measurement: Information to VIM 3](#)

### Recent updates

- › [Third edition of "Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty" published](#)
- › [Quantifying Uncertainty in Analytical Measurements: 2nd Edition \(2008\)](#)
- › [Use of uncertainty information in calibration assessment. \(2008\)](#)