

## **Results of the 24th General Conference on Weights and Measures (17–21 October 2011, Paris, France)**

The 24th CGPM was held on 17 - 21 October, 2011 in Paris. 43 of the 55 countries – signatories of the Metre Convention attended the Conference; besides, there were the representatives of Associate Members of CGPM, as well as representatives of OIML, ILAC, IAEA, UNECE, WHO, WMO and others.

Agenda included such significant issues like:

- Report of the President of International Committee of Weights and Measures (CIPM) Dr. B. Inglis on the activities in 2007 – 2011;
- Reports of all 10 Consultative Committees Presidents for the same period (length; mass and related quantities; time and frequency; electricity and magnetism; thermometry; photometry and radiometry; ionizing radiation; amount of substance: metrology in chemistry; acoustics, ultrasound and vibration; units);
- Presentation of International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) Prof. M. Kuehne of the BIPM Program of work for 2013-2016 and justification of the financial foundation of its implementation;
- Report of CIPM about the potential redefinition of some of the basic SI units;
- Discussion on the role, purposes and tasks, as well as on the long-term strategy and management of BIPM activities;
- Reports of the inter organizations, cooperating with the bodies of Metre Convention;
- Report of the BIPM Director prof. M. Kuehne on the realization of the CIPM MRA;
- Re-elections of the half of CIPM (9 members); and some others.

The appropriate resolutions were adopted on all the issues.

The discussion of financial issues was unprecedented; during the meeting of the Working Group on dotations about 10 countries had voted for “zero” budget of BIPM, even without taking the inflation in France in account. After the one and half days of debates the actual emerging budget of BIPM for 2012 was chosen as the “basic” level, with an annual addition of 1% and only for the period 2013-2015, i.e. for 3 years. That means, that 25th CGPM will take place in 2014 instead of 2015, so the Program should be changed to be finished in 2015, and the new Program of BIPM should be formed for 3 years starting in 2015.

During the meeting of the Working Group on dotations the BIPM Director appealed to the countries representatives with the request to support the priorities of BIPM. Resolution C on the financing of BIPM with the layout for every year was agreed by CGPM, 5 members abstained (Austria, Spain, Italy, Czech Republic, Slovakia).

Resolution A (on the redefinition of the units) has caused a lot of argument during the year and on the final stage the delegation of Japan made a constructive proposal, supported by Russia and Argentina, which was unanimously approved after the further discussion. The redefinition was postponed for the next 25th CGPM; the intention and further possibility to develop the definitions of a number of basic SI units, beginning with “kilo” were stated. All delegations were given the copies of the publication of the London Royal Society with the materials of the conference, held in February 2011 in London; it was devoted to the problems of redefinition of the basic units in the aspect of connection of the new definitions with the fundamental physical constants.