

QSTF Report

2019 General Assembly

Santa Cruz, Bolivia

26 September 2019

SIM

SISTEMA
INTERAMERICANO
DE METROLOGÍA



SIM Quality System Task Force (QSTF)

Implementation of the CIPM MRA has delegated the responsibility to review the quality management systems (QMSs) to the Regional Metrology Organizations (RMOs).

SIM is responsible to review and to approve the QMS operated by its member National Metrology Institutes (NMIs) and their Designated Institutes (DIs) and to report on their acceptance to the Joint Committee of the RMOs and the BIPM (JCRB).

This responsibility has been assigned by SIM Council to the SIM Quality System Task Force (QSTF) [SIM-09].

QMS approval by SIM QSTF is required to support CMC claims, however since it is not limited to this purpose **any NMI in the SIM region may present a QMS related to their measurement services for QSTF approval.**

Responsibility and membership

The SIM bylaws state the responsibility and membership of the SIM QSTF:

- The SIM QSTF is responsible for reviewing and approving the quality management system(s) of any SIM member or associate upon request, even non-signatories of the MRA;
- A meeting of the QSTF to review the QMS of NMIs will be held at least once a year;
- The meeting will be open to all SIM members and observers from other RMOs, and will provide the opportunity for discussion and comments;
- SIM QSTF decisions will be made by the representatives of the SIM signatories to the CIPM MRA;
- The QSTF will assess whether or not the quality management system of each NMI conforms with the requirements of the CIPM MRA;
- The SIM QSTF approval is required prior to submission of CMC claims to the JCRB.

Members

Voting members and current representatives:

INTI, Argentina: Fernando Kornblit

IBMETRO, Bolivia: Juan Carlos Castillo

INMETRO, Brazil: Silvio dos Santos

NRC, Canada: Isabelle Amen

CARICOM: Saira Knox

INN, Chile: Roberto Morales

INM, Colombia: Milena Rodriguez

LACOMET, Costa Rica: Christopher Cortez

INEN, Ecuador: Maria Altamirano

BSJ, Jamaica: Sophia Lawrence

CENAM, Mexico: Ruben Lazos

CENAMEP, Panama: Javier Arias

INTN, Paraguay: Maria Lourdes Valenzuela

INACAL, Peru: Edwin Guillen

NIST, USA: Sally Bruce

LATU, Uruguay: Elizabeth Ferreira

Chair: Georgette Macdonald, NRC Canada

Secretary: Andrew Conn, NIST USA

2019 Meetings

LACOMET, Costa Rica – March

- 16 systems approved

IBMETRO, Bolivia – September

- 30 systems approved
- BIPM QMS presented

Next meetings:

Mid-term in April 2020 – INN, Chile

SIM Week, GA week – to be confirmed

Registered observers are always welcome

To make a presentation, contact QSTF Chair and/or Secretary



Highlights

- Transition of QMS to meet requirements of 17025:2017 and 17034:2016
- BIPM presentation - comments and recommendation to the CIPM
- Processes defined in QSTF documents link on the SIM website.
- Fernando presented the SIM QSTF process to the representatives from the other RMO quality system review committees.

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Interactions with the TC and MWG Chairs

Leveraging Expertise for Review Confidence

- Joint workshops/meetings continue to provide opportunities for direct communication on new requirements and changes
 - Quality Workshop on transition to revised ISO/IEC 17025 (September 2018)
 - Joint TC/QSTF Workshop on revisions to ISO/IEC 17025 and 17034, TC support for QSTF reviews, and the usefulness of “Train the Trainers” courses
- Advantages to having technical expert advice on QMS reviews
 - Guidance on the validity of technical relationships between comparisons and claims
- QSTF Chair and Secretary are reviewing steps to communicate the status of the QMS to the JCRB Executive Secretary, the TC Chair and the MWGs for CMC review

SIM QSTF

Ensuring efficient and effective review of the quality management systems of SIM NIMs to ensure conformance with the expectations of the CIPM MRA and to serve other quality management system approval needs of SIM NIMs.

Chair: Georgette Macdonald, NRC Canada, Georgette.Macdonald@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

Secretary: Andrew Conn, NIST USA, Andrew.Conn@nist.gov

<https://sim-metrologia.org/about-us/structure/quality-system-task-force-qstf/>