



Institute for Reference
Materials and Measurements

Scientific Forum for the Community Reference Laboratories of the European Union

Geel, Belgium

9-10 February 2010

The mission of JRC-IRMM is to promote a common and reliable European measurement system in support of EU policies.

Organisation

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Robust science for policy making

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Joint Research Centre is to provide customer-driven scientific and technical support for the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of European Union policies. As a service of the European Commission, the Joint Research Centre functions as a reference centre of science and technology for the Union. Close to the policy-making process, it serves the common interest of the Member States, while being independent of special interests, whether private or national.



Scientific Forum for the Community Reference Laboratories of the European Union

Background

Between 2004 and 2006 the European Commission's Directorate-General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO) appointed 40 Community reference laboratories (CRL). These CRLs, together with the national reference laboratories, lead the harmonisation efforts across the EU for analytical methodology within a given field. The CRLs cover three main areas: feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules. While each topic is specific, CRLs do face a number of common issues.

Scope

The scientific forum is being arranged by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre to identify and address topics of common interest, including new challenges. It will give the leaders of CRLs the opportunity to share experiences and exchange views, with each other as well as with representatives of the Commission. The expected outcome will be to identify which approaches are used, which general problems the CRLs face in the scientific part of their work, as well as priorities for the future. Particular emphasis will be placed on the organisation of proficiency tests, with examples from different types of CRLs.

Confirmed speakers include P. Gowik (CRL for residues of veterinary medicines); V. Baeten (CRL for animal proteins in feedingstuffs); A. Fernandez-Alba (CRL for pesticides in fruits and vegetables); F. Aarestrup (CRL for antimicrobial resistance) and K. Mooijman (CRL for salmonella).

The forum's structure will consist of presentations as well as group discussions. The official language of the forum will be English. A summary report will be distributed to the participants after the forum.

The scientific forum will be held in conjunction with a brief administrative session organised by DG SANCO on 10 February 2010.

Forum Structure

9 February 2010

12:00 – 14:00	Registration and lunch
14:00 – 15:30	1 st Session
15:30 - 15:45	Coffee break
15:45 –17:30	2 nd Session
19:00	Dinner

10 February 2010

08:30 – 10:00	3 rd Session
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee break
10:30 –12:00	4 th Session
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 -15:00	Discussion and Conclusion
15:00 – 15:30	Update from DG SANCO

To make the best use of the time during the scientific forum, a questionnaire will be sent out to the participants, to be returned before the event.

The detailed agenda providing the exact titles of the presentations will be sent out in advance of the scientific forum.

When and Where

Joint Research Centre
Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements
Retieseweg 111
B-2440 Geel – Belgium

9-10 February 2010

Registration

Invitations will be sent out during the autumn of 2009. Registration will be via JRC Event Registration (open 27 November 2009 - <https://jrc-meeting-registration.jrc.ec.europa.eu>)

There is no participation fee.

Accommodation and travel

It has been arranged with DG SANCO that travel (economy class flight or equivalent), hotel costs and meals may be claimed within the individual CRLs' mission budget. The JRC-IRMM will reserve a number of hotel rooms.

IRMM will arrange transfer between the airport, the institute, and the hotel.

Further details are given on the IRMM web site.

<http://irmm.jrc.ec.europa.eu>