

## Call 2009 - Submission of potential research topics for Article 169 based EMRP metrology research

With the overall goal of accelerating innovation and competitiveness, generating data and knowledge necessary to improve quality of life, and providing better tools for the scientific community - the European Metrology Research Programme (EMRP) aims, through European integration, to develop new measurement capabilities which have strategic impact for Europe.

The “Call for potential research topics” (PRT) is Stage 1 of a two-stage process that enables the EMRP under Article 169 to focus on specifically identified challenges and needs related to metrology research for Europe. This process provides a flexible and efficient approach both to targeting resources towards the most important and/or urgent needs in pursuit of EURAMET’s objectives and in assisting eventual project proposers by ensuring that their efforts are directed towards those challenges and needs.

Interested parties can submit their research related needs to EURAMET as topics they would like to see developed, provided they are within an area covered by the relevant Call. The measurement challenge, opportunity or problem must be presented in a brief but structured **topic description** as described below. Note that project proposals are submitted at Stage 2 of the call and must **not** to be made at this stage. The possibility to suggest ideas in this “Call for potential research topics” stage is open to all parties from any country worldwide, end users of the metrology system in Europe and other stakeholders beyond the metrology research community, who are encouraged to submit their relevant and in-scope ideas. The text of the topic description must be of suitable quality to enable the possibility of direct external publication of the text at Stage 2 of the call process.

The EMRP Committee (or a dedicated sub committee) will prioritise each **topic description** received by EURAMET that is within scope. Prioritisation will take account of the EMRP programme priorities, objectives, potential impact and available budget, and the EMRP Committee may choose to merge, split or amend submitted topics if it is appropriate to do so.

The highest priority topics will be published as part of a Stage 2 Dedicated Call for proposals for specific Joint Research Projects (JRPs). Each topic will be accompanied by a **supporting document**, based on the original **topic descriptions**, to enable eligible, interested parties to prepare and target their proposals in open competition.

Please note that by submitting the proposed potential research topic the submitter is acknowledging that any eventual supporting document is owned by and may be amended or combined by EURAMET, will not identify the original submitter, and will be made available to all. All eligible parties submitting in response to Stage 2 will be treated equally.

*Stage 2 will be the subject of a specific guidance note but the key elements of this later stage may be of interest to those proposing topics and are described below:*

- *Proposed JRPs will be subject to independent expert evaluation.*
- *The eventually selected and contracted JRPs will be delivered primarily by the publicly funded National Metrology Institutes and Designated Institutes (who are responsible for certain national standards and associated services that are not covered by the activities of the National Metrology Institutes) from the countries participating in the Article 169 based EMRP.*

- *External organisations are eligible to participate in the JRPs through unfunded participation as a JRP partner (where appropriate), and individual researchers or organisations are eligible to participate through a limited number of funded researcher excellence and mobility grants.*

## **General information:**

A submission in response to the Call for Potential Research Topics comprises two documents – an **administrative form** and a **topic description**. The two documents must be written/completed in English. Submissions to EURAMET are only accepted electronically via the Call website [www.emrponline.eu](http://www.emrponline.eu).

The **administrative form** is completed as an on-line web form.

The administrative information, other than the name of the submitter, organisation (if applicable) and short abstract, should not be repeated in the text of the **topic description** and the topic description itself must remain anonymous. Information on the individual and the organisation (if an organisation is identified on the administrative form) will be made available to the EMRP Committee.

A submitted **topic description** (Arial 11 or equivalent, typically 3 pages, maximum 6 pages) has to fulfil two requirements:

- (I) Provide information needed to decide on the merit and priority of the proposed topic (the decision of EURAMET whether or not to include the topic in the dedicated call for JRP proposals will be taken primarily on the basis of this information), particularly:
  1. Has a clearly specified and justified scientific or technological challenge / problem / opportunity been identified and of what scale?
  2. What is the likelihood of the European metrology research community effectively addressing the challenge / problem / opportunity, taking due account of the progress required beyond the current state of the art?
  3. How significant would the impact be for stakeholders if the proposed topic were successfully addressed?

And,

- (II) Provide a text, which, if the topic is published at Stage 2, will be suitable for direct distribution as an informative supporting document defining the objectives and scope for all those wishing to submit a proposal (Please note that inadequate quality of the text can also be cause for non-retention of the topic). Information regarding the name of the submitter and organisation (if applicable) will be removed prior to publication at Stage 2 to ensure that the document remains anonymous.

Each submission should identify a single topic only, though this may be quite broad and include connected elements. Any and each additional unrelated topic should be submitted as a separate submission.

Please note that where ideas have been discussed within a stakeholder group, multiple submissions of the same idea from that community will not increase the chance of the topic being included in Stage 2 of the Call, and are therefore discouraged. Support for the PRT by such a stakeholder group should be mentioned.

A template for the topic description in Word is available from the Call website [www.emrponline.eu](http://www.emrponline.eu) and must be used for all submissions. Submissions that do not follow the template or exceed the specified page length will be rejected.

### **Content of the administrative form:**

The following information must be entered on the on-line administrative form to enable submission of the PRT:

- Name of submitting person, organisation (if applicable) and contact details.
- Title of the PRT in English (maximum 150 characters including spaces).
- Identification as to whether the submitter is from an NMI<sup>1</sup> (National Metrology Institute), DI<sup>2</sup> (Designated Institute) or other type of organisation.
- Short abstract in English (maximum 750 characters including spaces).
- Classification of the PRT against relevant technology/fuel from a pre-defined list (see Table 1 below)
- Classification of the PRT against relevant process/impact from a pre-defined list (see Table 1 below)
- Declaration and details of any similar proposals/projects submitted to or funded by either EURAMET or the European Commission (excluding this current EMRP Call)
- Declaration that the submitter acknowledges that any eventual supporting document based on the topic description is owned by and may be amended or combined by EURAMET, will not identify the original submitter, and will be made available to all.

Please note that some of the information on the administrative form is required by the European Commission for statistical purposes, but will not affect whether or not the PRT is taken forward to Stage 2 of the Call.

<b>Table 1: Classifications</b>	
<b>Technology / Fuel</b>	<b>Process / Impact</b>
Wind	Generation
Solar	Conversion
Wave	Transmission/transport
Coal	Storage
Gas	Conservation/efficiency
Oil	Supply security
Liquefied gas	Greenhouse gas reduction
Nuclear	Other
Fuel cells	
Biofuels	
Biomass	
Geothermal	
Combined heat and power	
Other	

<sup>1</sup> National Metrology Institute internationally recognised and registered as such by the BIPM and EURAMET e.V.

<sup>2</sup> Specialist institutes responsible for certain national standards and associated services that are not covered by the activities of the National Metrology Institutes, but where the institute is formally registered with the BIPM and EURAMET e.V. as a designated institute under the CIPM Mutual Recognition Arrangement for those technical areas.

### ***Layout of the topic description:***

The name of the submitter and the organisation of submitter (if applicable) are requested for PRT Call administrative purposes only and will be removed at a later stage.

The layout for the **topic description** should comprise the following sections:

#### **Name of submitter**

The name of the submitting person in the form *Firstname Familyname*.

#### **Organisation of submitter (if applicable)**

The name of the organisation of the submitter (if applicable).

#### **Abstract**

Short abstract, maximum 750 characters including spaces. This abstract should also be entered into the online submission form and should provide a stand alone summary of the proposed research topic.

#### **Title**

For practical reasons, a self-explanatory title should be chosen and should be no more than 150 characters including spaces.

#### **Conformity with the Work programme**

The topic must be related to the EMRP Outline 2008 or other reference documents identified in the Call. The activity(ies) to which the proposed topic is linked should be clearly indicated and referenced.

#### **Keywords**

5 to 10 keywords linked to the proposed topic should be included. The keywords should reflect both the objectives and technical/scientific fields as appropriate.

#### **Summary of objectives and justification of need**

The need should be described briefly in no more than 10 lines. (The problem and not the solution should be described.) The reasons leading to this need should be explained.

#### **Background**

The current state-of-the-art leading to the need should be described. Claims for the need should be supported by quoted and referenced authoritative sources, for example European Directives, documentary standards bodies, published European or government policy, industrial bodies, key international organisations or relevant documents or studies. If the idea has the general support of a community, for example a stakeholder group or a EURAMET Technical Committee, then this should be stated.

#### **Scientific and technological objectives**

The objectives of the work should be stated wherever possible in quantitative terms. These should be very clear both to enable a proper and fair prioritisation of the “proposed topic” and to provide an appropriate basis for the evaluation of any eventual project proposals at Stage 2. Thus, vague statements, which could lead to either a misinterpretation of the requirements or to an inappropriate work plan, should be avoided.

### **Potential impact**

In order to enable EURAMET to assess priority topics, it is necessary to demonstrate that sufficient potential impact exists, scientifically, metrologically and in socio-economic terms (appropriate for the Call area). Reasons should be given as to why the activity will benefit from being carried out at the EURAMET level. The European added value of the envisaged activities should be identified including secondary effects such as economic or structural benefits, protection of the European citizen or market, protection of products and enterprises against defrauders, security or improvement of essential European infrastructure, an improved system of metrology etc. Knowledge should be demonstrated of the needs of end-users, and/or existing and potential markets by making reference to market analysis, studies, etc. If applicable, any potential benefits related to health, safety, the environment, employment and documentary standards should also be highlighted.

### **Time-scale (if applicable)**

For certain topics, it may only be meaningful to proceed if the solutions are available by a pre-defined date. If this is the case, the date and the reason for the timeframe should be indicated. Any requirements must be realistic and should take into account the period of time needed to complete the call, selection and negotiation procedures as well as the work.

### **Additional information (if applicable)**

For certain topics, there may be other requirements that must be met if the output is to be meaningful. If this is the case, the reason and requirement should be stated. It should be noted that unjustified restrictions will not be accepted. All documents needed to develop the proposed topic must be identified and available to all who may propose a Joint Research Project at Stage 2 of the Call.

Please note that the topic description *must not be a project proposal*, and no information on potential consortia and allocation of resources should be included in the topic description.

### ***Submission:***

The **administrative form** and **topic description** must be submitted together electronically to EURAMET via the [www.emrponline.eu](http://www.emrponline.eu) website. The administrative form is submitted as an online web form, whilst the topic description must be submitted as a single Word file uploaded onto the website following the instructions on the website.

The completed topic description should be saved as a Word document with this filename structure:  
PRTyear\_Calltopic\_Surname\_Firstname\_Versionnumber.doc

For example, version 1 of the PRT from John Smith addressing the Energy Call would be named  
"PRT2009\_Energy\_Smith\_John\_V1.doc"

In addition for anyone submitting more than one topic description, the file name should differentiate between different unrelated topics submitted by the same person.

For example,  
"PRT2009\_Energy\_Smith\_John2\_V1.doc"

**All PRTs must be received by the deadline of Sunday 28 June 2009, 23:59 CET.**

The helpline will not be manned on Saturday 27 June and Sunday 28 June so submitters are strongly recommended to submit by the end of Friday afternoon. If necessary submitted PRTs may be revised by submitting new versions up until the deadline, but please ensure that the version

number of the topic description is updated to indicate that the document is a new version, for example if John Smith resubmits one new version of his PRT then his resubmitted topic description would be version 2.

Ensure you receive an acknowledgment of receipt e-mail.

### ***Disclaimer:***

Submission of a Potential Research Topic does not bind the submitter nor EURAMET e.V. to further negotiations, and EURAMET e.V reserves the right to cancel all or part of the Call. The completion of the second-stage of the Call and funding of the subsequent Joint Research Projects is dependent on completion of the contractual processes between the European Commission and EURAMET e.V. The following three steps are necessary before the European Community can formally and financially participate in the EMRP:

1. Co-decision from the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament
2. Finalised Ex ante audit of EURAMET e.V. as the dedicated implementation structure
3. General Agreement and financing agreement concluded between the European Commission and EURAMET e.V.

EURAMET e.V. will make no payment and no reimbursement of expenses related to the preparation of any Potential Research Topics or the preparation of any subsequent Joint Research Projects.