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**Science for breakfast:  
Nobel Prize Winner supports new European Metrology Programme**

Representatives from key European institutions such as the European Parliament, the European Commission and EU member countries met to learn about the future of European metrology research. Dr Christian Ehler, Member of the European Parliament, hosted the breakfast meeting to support EURAMET (European Association of National Metrology Institutes) in its goal to establish a new research programme for European metrology. "Research in metrology is not only a crucial factor for the quality of European production. It supports further development in areas such as health, security and energy."

Speakers of the meeting included Nobel Prize Winner Prof Dr Klaus von Klitzing, who outlined why the proposed European Metrology Programme for Innovation and Research (EMPIR) is essential for Europe's future. Klitzing, Head of Department at the Max-Planck-Institute for Solid State Research, gave an inspiring speech, "All over the world countries invest a lot of money in metrology. The new programme EMPIR stands for the way modern science works. It ensures international cooperation, excellent science and transfer of technology."

André H. Boer, Director at Krohne Netherlands is convinced that the results of the new research programme will have a positive impact on European industry. "We often take the achievements of metrology for granted. But without metrology, a company like Krohne could not exist. Industry needs metrology." It is not only industry that will benefit from EMPIR as Elena Santiago Cid, Director General of CEN and CENELEC states: "Metrology is really essential for quality in standardisation. We are determined to increase the cooperation between our organisations and to bring the research and standardisation communities closer together." Robert-Jan Smits, Director-General of the Directorate-General for Research & Innovation has clear objectives for the programme: "With EMPIR we will ensure competitiveness and well-being of the European citizens. This will be achieved through 'capacity building', a fast uptake of the results in industry and standardisation processes and the contribution to face the grand societal challenges."

So far the current EURAMET programme - the European Metrology Research Programme - created almost 100 projects and led to closer cooperation between metrology and industry. If approved, EMPIR will be delivered by EURAMET members and partners with substantial financial support from Europe's forthcoming initiative Horizon 2020. For EMPIR to be implemented it needs a European Commission proposal to be passed by the European Parliament and Council of the European Union. The breakfast meeting supports these next steps on the way to EMPIR.

"EURAMET appreciates the true spirit of collaboration, not only in the research projects but as well between the European Union and the metrology community", emphasises Dr Kamal Hossain, EURAMET Chairperson. "We are grateful for this outstanding opportunity to demonstrate the variety and importance of metrology. We would like to thank all supporters and speakers and Dr Ehler for organising this event."



MEP Christian Ehler, Jörn Stenger, EURAMET Vice-Chairperson (EMRP), Director-General Robert-Jan Smits, DG for Research & Innovation, Nobel Prize Winner in Physics Klaus von Klitzing, EURAMET Chairperson Kamal Hossain, Elena Santiago Cid, Director General CEN-CENELEC and André H. Boer, Director Krohne Netherlands