



Criteria for designating a designated institute

0. Basic principles

As a national metrology institute, METAS provides internationally recognised measurement units with the requisite degree of accuracy and maintains the national measurement basis. The tasks associated with the provision of internationally recognised measurement units are defined in article 3 section 2 letters a-d of the federal act from 17 June 2011 for the Federal Institute of Metrology (EIMG). METAS can call in the services of entities under public or private law (designated institute) for carrying out individual tasks after consulting the Institute Council (article 4 of the ordinance of 21 November 2012 for the Federal Institute of Metrology). The designated institute are involved as per the following criteria, which were laid down by the Institute Council of METAS in its meeting on 19 November 2013.

1 Mandatory criteria

- 1.1 The designated institute (DI) must primarily realise the unit, for which it is designated.
- 1.2 The DI fulfils international requirements as per [CIPM MRA](#) and [EURAMET](#).
- 1.3 The realisation of the unit by DI is permanent.
- 1.4 The designation as DI does not lead to excessive "atomisation" of the metrological infrastructure of Switzerland.
- 1.5 The designation of a DI should not be associated with any risks for METAS.
- 1.6 METAS has the required resources in order to supervise the DI.
- 1.7 The DI is unique in its kind and adds value to METAS and metrology.

2 Criteria to be fulfilled as far as possible

- 2.1 The outsourcing or delegation of a field to a DI represents added value (e.g. better cost/benefit ratio).
- 2.2 The scope of activities of DI should be of particular interest to the Swiss economy.
- 2.3 The scope of activities of DI should be of particular interest to the national economy and society of Switzerland.
- 2.4 The DI does not receive any undue market advantage over fellow competitors after being designated.
- 2.5 Designation of DI in the relevant branch is not uncommon internationally.

3 Alternatives

- 3.1 Alternatives to designation of a DI were tested.

4 Remuneration

- 4.1 The costs incurred while working as a DI are, in principle, to be fully borne by DI. Only in exceptional cases does METAS offer remuneration.

5 Time limit

- 5.1 Designations are limited to a maximum of five years and thereafter evaluated again.