BULGARIA

1. Organizational Structure and Background

State policy in the field of measurements is defined by the **Council of Ministers** on the proposal of the **Minister of Economy** and Industry. Policy is implemented by the president of the **Bulgarian Institute of Metrology (BIM)** and the president of the **State Agency for Metrological and Technical Surveillance (SAMTS)** following their powers under the Law on measurements. Two national advisory bodies have also been established – the **National Council of Metrology (NCM)** to the Minister of Economy and Industry, and the **Scientific Council of Metrology (SCM)** to the President of BIM. The NCM reviews drafts of legislation, programs, and concepts for metrology development. The SCM reviews drafts within the long-term development program for the national measurement standards and the national system of certified reference materials.

Bulgaria joined the Meter Convention in 1910, and OIML - in 1956. BIM is a full member of the following regional metrology organizations: WELMEC e.V., EURAMET e.V., NoBoMet, and Eurachem.

BIM (https://www.bim.government.bg/) is the national metrology institute and national legal metrology authority. As such, BIM is responsible for:

- maintenance of the national measurement standards, traceability, and dissemination of measurement units;
- legal control of measuring instruments - type approval, initial and subsequent verifications, metrological expertise, conformity assessment of non-automatic weighing instruments and measuring instruments.

SAMTS (https://www.damtn.government.bg/) is responsible for:

- metrological supervision on measuring instruments placed on the market and measuring instruments in use subject to control under the Law on measurements authorization and surveillance of verification bodies;
- market surveillance on measuring instruments under MID and NAWID;
- control of prepackages and MCB;

Legal framework in the field of metrology:

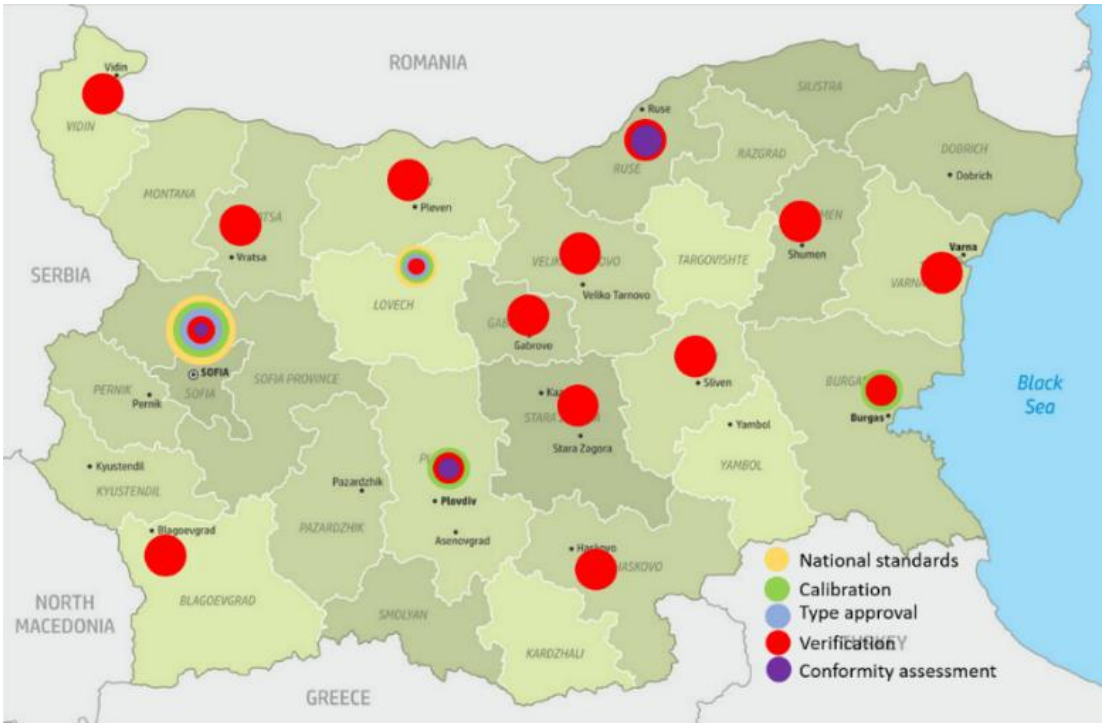
- Law on measurements and ordinances, which govern the application of the law - Ordinance on the units of measurements allowed for use in the Republic of Bulgaria, Ordinance on measuring instruments subject to control, Ordinance on the order and procedure for carrying out metrological supervision, Ordinance on the order for authorization of bodies for carrying out verification of measuring instruments, subject to metrological control, etc.;

- Law on the technical requirements of the products – covers conformity assessment activities for the implementation of EU New approach directives. On the basis of this act the individual directives are transposed to national legislation through Governmental Ordinances (Ordinance on the essential requirements and conformity

assessment of measuring instruments, Ordinance on the essential requirements and conformity assessment of non-automatic weighing instruments, etc.).

All normative documents in the field of metrology are published in Bulgarian on the official websites of BIM and SAMTS.

BIM organizational chart:



2. Equipment Subject to National Controls

To ensure the accuracy and reliability of measurements in health care and measurements related to public safety, environmental protection, state and municipal receivables and commercial payments, metrological control is carried out.

- **Type approval**

Activities connected with the national type approval procedure are performed only by BIM.
According to the current legislation, the results of the type approval procedure are certified by:

- entry of the type in the register of types of measuring instruments approved for use in the country;
- type approval certificate;
- type approval mark.

The national database of the approved types of measuring instruments can be found at following link:
https://e-bim.bim.government.bg/bg/Information/Information/DeviceTypeSearch

- **Initial and subsequent verification**

Initial and subsequent verifications of measuring instruments are carried out by BIM and private bodies authorized by the president of SAMTS (mainly for utility meters, brake testing equipment, evidential breath analysers, exhaust gas analysers, opacity meters, individual dosimeters used by the staff of the nuclear power plants).

The results of verification are certified only by verification marks.

3. Markings used for national type approval and verifications

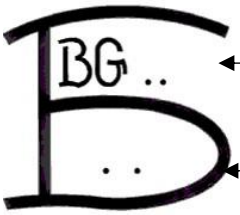
The view and form of verification marks are prescribed by the Ordinance on measuring instruments subject to control.

Type approval markings:

	The last two digits of the year of issue of the type approval certificate Number from the register of types of measuring instruments approved for use in the country
	Mark certifying that the measuring instrument is not subject to type approval

Markings for initial verification:

Part A:



Identification number of the body that performed the initial verification

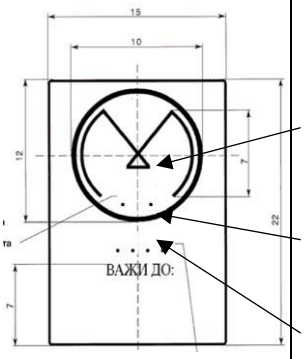
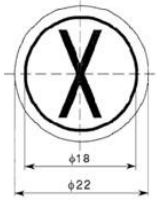
Individual number of the inspector/verificator

Part B:

The last two digits of the year when the initial verification was carried out

	Marking certifying that the measuring instrument is not subject to initial verification

Markings for subsequent verification:

	The last two digits of the year when the subsequent verification was carried out Individual number of inspector/verificator VALID until:		
	Marking showing that the measuring instrument does not comply with the legal requirements and is prohibited for use		