Cro
r updat

infrastructure was established to develop and maintain the

weighing pure substances but accurately determining the purity of many important analytes is by no means a trivial task and can be the source of significant measurement errors. This was one reason for developing a metrological infrastructure to demonstrate their consistency and global traceability. Other reasons to establish such an infrastructure have also become apparent. The increase in global trade across national borders has made it increasingly important for different countries to show that their measurements agree with those of their trading partners. Issues such as climate change have brought about the recognition that environmental monitoring data need to be consistent on a global scale and over long periods of time.

In 1993 the task of establishing a global infrastructure for chemical measurements was given to a new Consultative Committee for Metrology in Chemistry (CCQM) which first met in 1995. Given the scale of the task, the CCQM subsequently established working groups for each of the main chemical, and

chemical and biological metrology a reality. This is achieved