

To all recognized verification bodies operating in the ETS field

In copy: Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Tutela del Territorio e del Mare (Ministry of the Environment)

Our ref.: DC2013UTZ015

Milano, 27/02/2013

**Object: ETS accreditation**

By virtue of the agreement signed in November, 2011, the Ministry of the Environment entrusted ACCREDIA with the responsibility of accrediting verification bodies (VBs) for the ETS scheme. A number of meetings and contacts with the Ministry resulted in the agreement of the following modalities for the recognition of accreditation.

Under EU Regulation 600/2012 (AVR), which came into force on Jan. 1, 2013, all ETS audit declarations issued in 2014 will be carried out by an accredited VB.

Due to the fact that a large number of applications for accreditation is expected, it is necessary to proceed with a well-organized national program, leading from the current situation of recognition to that of accreditation, guaranteeing ACCREDIA's commitment to the European multilateral agreement.

In order to conduct the accreditation activities within the necessary timeframe in accordance with the above factors and with the ACCREDIA Regulation RG-15, the following requirements need to be met:

- all VBs intending to issue audit declarations in 2014 shall present an application for accreditation (with documents in conformity with the AVR) by Sept. 1, 2013;
- all VBs shall, by Nov. 15, 2013, present a program of verification activities for 2014, in accordance with article 76 of the AVR (see also the document "AVR Key guidance note No. II.10").

The application for accreditation - DA-07 - shall be accompanied by any requested documents. VBs which possess recognition issued by the relevant national authority will have to indicate the accreditation sectors in which they are already recognized and those in which they have operated in the last three years.

VBs which do not possess such recognition shall indicate the sectors, given in Annex 1 of the AVR, in which they intend to operate.

For VBs already accredited against UNI EN ISO 14064-1 (voluntary GHG) the application for accreditation will be treated, from an economic point of view, as if it were an extension of the existing accreditation, applying the best possible treatment contained in the pricelist. Also in these cases, a document examination, an on-site audit and a witness audit will be performed.

Audit activities (on-site and witness audits) regarding the process may involve the Ministry's personnel together with ACCREDIA's personnel. The Ministry's personnel participation will be described in the accreditation offer and will not result in an increase in audit costs with the exception of transfer expenses.

### **Accreditation for verification activities of emissions related to 2012**

It is possible to present an application for accreditation also with regard to emissions in 2012 by presenting the application module DA-07, together with the documents necessary for the AVR and with the program of audit activities for March, 2013. In order to obtain accreditation it is necessary to evaluate the proper implementation of the AVR in witness audit activities also in this phase of verification of emissions activities.

To facilitate the transfer to the requirements described in the AVR, a meeting will be organized in April (the exact date will be published on ACCREDIA's website) on Regulations EU 600/2012 and 601/2012, held by ACCREDIA and Ministry staff. All VBs intending to operate under accreditation in 2014 are warmly invited. A Working Group is due to be set up in the near future with regard to this scheme.

With best regards

dr. Filippo TRIFILETTI  
GENERAL DIRECTOR

