

Prot. DC2019SSV041

Milano, 21-02-2019

To all CBs with EMAS accreditation

To the associations of CABs

Re: Department of Certification and Inspection – Informative circular N° 06/2019 Regulation (EU) 2018/2026 of the Commission of Dec. 19, 2018 amending Annex IV to Reg. (EC) n. 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the voluntary participation by organizations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (EMAS)

Following publication of the Regulation in question, we inform you that, in 2019, during the on-site assessment, ACCREDIA will assess compliance with the new Regulation (EU) 2018/2026.

For this activity an extra half-day will be required for the on-site assessment.

We also inform you that the accreditation certificate will not be changed because Reg. 1221/2009 continues to be valid.

We also inform you that on Jan. 18, 2019, the following EU Decisions were published: (EU) 2019/61 relating to the Public Administrations sector, (EU) 2019/62 relating to automotive construction, (EU) 2019/63 relating to the production of electrical and electronic equipment. We remind you that the sector reference documents in question must be taken into consideration by the environmental assessors in their validation activities of the environmental declarations in compliance with article 46 of Reg. (EU) 1221/2009.

We attach, for your convenience, a guide for the transition plan with regard to the Regulation in question.

Please contact us for any clarifications.

Kind regards.

Dott. Emanuele Riva
Direttore Dipartimento
Certificazione e Ispezione



Recommendations for environmental verifiers:

As a part of the implementation of Annex IV of the EMAS Regulation, the ACCREDIA assessors shall evaluate the modifications made by the verifiers to their support instruments for the validation of environmental declarations concerning the following aspects:

General aspects of the environmental declaration

Indications for verifiers and others with regard to:

- verification of the list of sites;
- verification of the description of the governance structure;
- modalities and requirements for verification "factual information which is supplementary to the activities, products and services of the organization";
- rules and requirements for checking the modalities of additions to the environmental declaration;
- verification of the information published in the organization's websites.

Data and indicators

Indications for verifiers and other staff regarding:

- verification of the processing of specific indicators;
- which are the key indicators, modalities and requirements of the verification in cases of companies which do not use key indicators;
- verification of the implementation of the modifications to the key indicators (e.g. energy, biodiversity);
- the criteria for evaluation of the choices of companies in cases of changes to the type "B" parameters;
- the verification requirements in cases of "qualitative information".

Annex 1: Example of a compliance plan to Reg. (EU) 2018/2026.

ANNEX 1

Example of a compliance plan to Reg. (EU) 2018/2026

Each environmental verifier wishing to use this module shall complete it and make it available to the ACCREDIA assessors during the transition assessment.

It is possible to attach further documents if considered useful for a correct assessment.

| N° | Application | Space reserved for ACCREDIA |
|----|--|---|
| | How will client communications be managed with regard to the management of transition? Attach evidence. | Closed/open C <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> If "O" clarify: |
| | What modalities and timeframes will be used for the evaluation of training of staff involved in contract review activities and for staff responsible for the verification program? | Closed/open C <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> If "O" clarify: |
| | What modalities and timeframes will be used for the evaluation of training of verifiers? | Closed/open C <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> If "O" clarify: |
| | What modalities and timeframes will be used for the evaluation of training of decision makers? | Closed/open C <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> If "O" clarify: |
| | Which documents of your body will need to be modified and with what timeframes will they be distributed and made applicable? (To be made available for the ACCREDIA assessment team) | Closed/open C <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> If "O" clarify: |
| | Do you expect that additional time will be needed for transition activities if the transition coincides with a surveillance or renewal? | Closed/open C <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> If "O" clarify: |
| | The verification must focus mainly on how the modifications to Annex IV of the EMAS Reg. have been implemented (see above the recommendations for environmental verifiers). What evidence will you request to be collected by your verifiers to demonstrate that this requirement has been adequately audited? | Closed/open C <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> If "O" clarify: |
| | Further considerations which you wish to add so as to better explain how the transition will be managed. Remember to attach to tis plan the support evidence / documents. | Closed/open C <input type="checkbox"/> O <input type="checkbox"/> If "O" clarify: |