

# EMAS

## The European Eco-Management and Audit Scheme and its revision

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EMAS

Performance, Cr dibilit , Transparence

# EMAS

- **First EMAS Regulation in 1993**
  - Novelty: voluntary tool
  - Alternative to traditional command-control legislation
  - For industrial sector
  
- **Second EMAS Regulation in 2001**
  - EMAS open to all private and public sector organisations



# EMAS - objectives

- **Main objective:**
  - help organisations improve their environmental performances
  
- **Provide tools to:**
  - assess, manage, improve environmental aspects
  - communicate credibly



# PILLARS OF EMAS



# REVISION PROCESS (contents)

after 5 years EMAS II

- EMAS leads to good environmental performance for individual organisation,

but

- uptake in EU (about 6000 sites) below its potential, because:
  - regulation not user-friendly
  - not sufficiently attractive for organisations
  - sometimes difficult for SME's (administrative/financial)



# PILLARS FOR REVISION

1. Reinforcement through strengthening rules on:
  - a) Legal compliance and
  - b) Reporting
2. Raise attractiveness for participating organisations
3. Increase user-friendliness

# STRENGTHENING RULES ON LEGAL COMPLIANCE

MS to ensure that:

- information and assistance is given (upon request)
- enforcement authorities reply to requests from organisations



# STRENGTHENING RULES ON REPORTING

- steering performance improvement by use of **core performance indicators (obligatory)**
- helping organisations by developing **reference documents for specific sectors (voluntary)**:
  - benchmarks and performance indicators
  - best environmental management practices



# RAISE ATTRACTIVENESS (i)

1. allow registration outside EU
2. corporate registration
3. cluster approach



# RAISE ATTRACTIVENESS (ii)

## 4. reducing burdens:

- reporting and validation:
  - environmental statement - every 3 years
  - environmental performance report - every year
  - derogations possible for small organisations (5 and 3 yrs)
- verification and validation of small organisations:
  - specific characteristics to be taken into account



# RAISE ATTRACTIVENESS (iii)

5. improve EMAS promotion, technical assistance:

- a) MS to define promotion plan
- b) encouraging organisations to implement EMS
- c) encouraging step-by-step approach

7. review rules for use of logo



# RAISE ATTRACTIVENESS (iv)

## 7. increase incentives at Member States and EU level:

- proportionate fees / no fees
- regulatory relief (EMAS registration = fulfilment of certain legal requirements)
- deregulation (other legal instruments to be modified - lower/ less burdens for EMAS organisations)

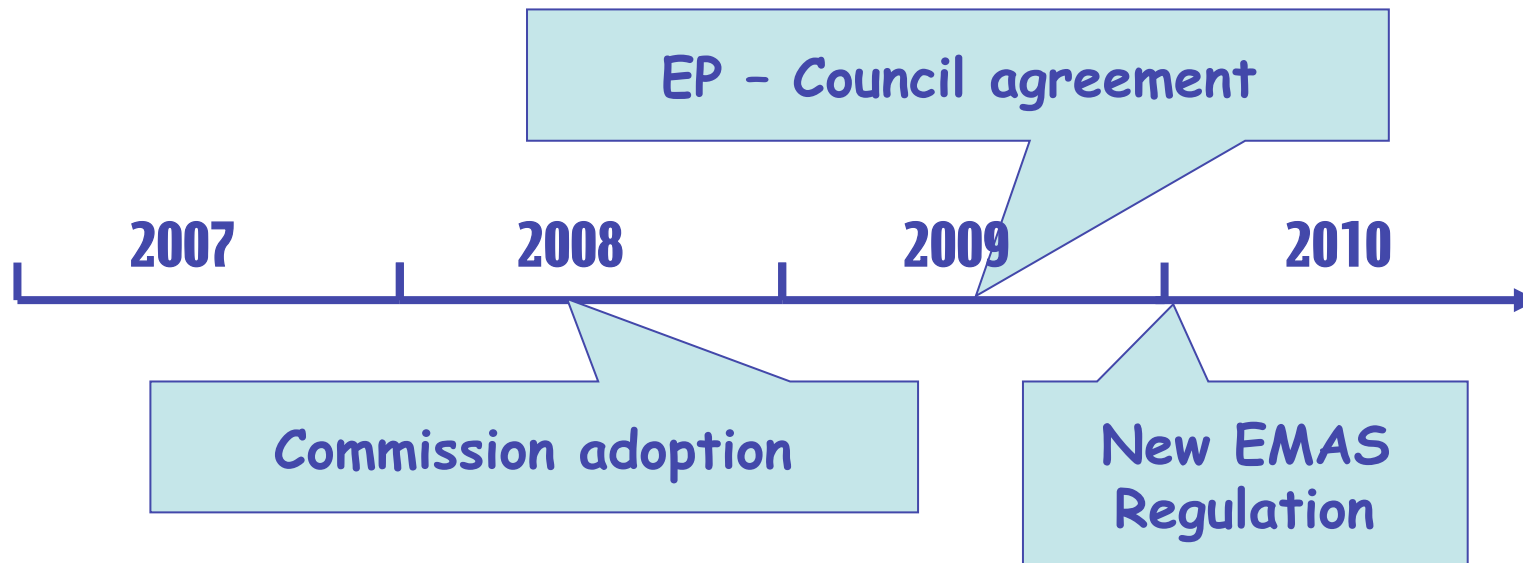


# INCREASE USER-FRIENDLYNESS

1. redraft existing Regulation
2. incorporate main elements of the existing non-binding EMAS guidelines in the Regulation, (legal certainty - clarity of requirements)
3. align harmonisation, verification, registration procedures



# REVISION PROCESS - planning (ii)



# Commission activities anticipating and preparing EMAS III (i)

## STUDY (1 yr): **sectoral reference documents:**

1. evaluation potential for improvement of organisations through implementation of environmental management systems
2. identification of priority sectors
3. grouping different sectors
4. elaborating on 3-5 groups of sectors and for these sectors:
  - identifying key issues to address, notably:
    - key environmental issues
    - techniques used to address these issues
    - environmental performance indicators
    - performance benchmarks



# Commission activities anticipating and preparing EMAS III (ii)

## STUDY (1 yr): 'step-up' to EMAS

- analysis of differences between regional, national or sector-specific environmental management systems and ISO14001 / EMAS
- guidelines on how to move from these systems to EMAS:
  - practical, step-by-step explanation
  - checklists on actions / requirements

### Of course:

- Consultation with relevant parties / stakeholders
- Building upon what MS have undertaken so far



# Commission activities

## anticipating and preparing EMAS III (iii)

### STUDY (1 yr): costs and benefits of EMAS registration

- **costs** and
- **benefits** as a result of:
  - direct savings and
  - other elements such as:
    - a better public image
    - reduced risk of non-compliance with environmental legislation
    - improved relations with environmental regulators and other stakeholders
    - favourable terms of lenders/insurers because of proper risk management



# Ongoing Commission activities

## EMAS Easy project

- 'full' EMAS
- tool to implement EMAS in a lean way
- especially for small and micro-organisations
- 'train the trainer' approach
- projects in all Member States

2009 = 4th year EMAS Easy project

