

## **Guideline for the registration of organisations from third countries ("EMAS Global Registration Guideline")**

### **I. Introduction**

With Article 11 para. 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009 on the voluntary participation by organisations in a Community eco-management and audit scheme (subsequently called EMAS Regulation) Member States have been offered the possibility to register also organisations from outside the Community/ from third countries and to license environmental verifiers for an activity in third countries.

Austria makes use of this option. The fundamental provisions for the registration of organisations from third countries and for the licensing of environmental verifiers for an activity in third countries are regulated in Articles 11, 22 and 27 of the EMAS Regulation. The Commission Decision of 7 December 2011 concerning a guide on EU corporate registration, third country registration and global registration is applicable as well.

On the basis of the above-quoted provisions the Austrian competent authority can register organisations from third countries in the Austrian EMAS register.

II Registration of organisations from third countries, additional practical indications, which are to be taken into consideration on the part of the Austrian competent authority.

As far as the request of the competent authority before the first registration according to Article 13 c) EMAS Regulation is concerned the Federal Environment Agency has to check whether a respective cooperation with the local authorities - for example Ministries of Environment - is possible, so that they can act as information interface to the local implementing authorities of the third country and inform, in the case of a relevant violation of the applicable provisions of environmental law, the competent authority in our country about this matter.

According to Article 5 para. 3 of the EMAS Regulation the application for registration has to be filed in the official language of the Member State in which the organisation applies for registration. Alternatively applications in English are accepted as well.