ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

2011 Figures for 2010

European Economic and Social Committee
Committee of the Regions
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Foreword

The European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions are two consultative bodies of the European Union. In their consultative work, the Committees have long been committed to sustainable development and fighting climate change. However, are we actually putting our recommendations into practice inside our own offices?

To ensure that the Committees act as environmentally as possible, since 2008 we have been engaged in setting up an EMAS-compliant environmental management system.

We already achieved an initial success with the award of the Brussels Eco-Dynamic Enterprise Label in 2009, for which we obtained the maximum three stars.

The Committees can now be proud of having become EMAS-registered, thanks to the support of all staff, the EMAS Steering Committee and, in particular, their presidents and secretaries-general, who guarantee that environmental factors are taken into account when working out the strategies, organisation and management for each Committee.

Why did the two Committees decide to launch the EMAS project jointly? They occupy and manage several buildings together in Brussels besides sharing joint translation and logistics services (infrastructure, security, IT, catering and printing). It therefore makes sense for them to establish a joint system of environmental management.

This environmental system in the Committees and their environmental performance are the subject of this environmental statement, the aim of which is to inform the public of the Committees’ efforts to continuously improve their environmental performance.

Cornelis BENTVELSEN
Chairman of the EMAS steering committee and logistics director
1. **Presentation of the European Economic and Social Committee**

The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) is a consultative body set up by the Rome Treaties in 1957. It ensures representation of European citizens belonging to business organisations, trade unions, professional associations and civic groups, which together make up organised civil society. The Committee is therefore well placed to act as an intermediary between organised civil society and the European institutions, in particular the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament and the European Commission.

The 344 EESC members, who are appointed by national governments represented in the Council, come from very different backgrounds. They are split into three groups: “Employers”, “Employees”, and “Various Interests”. As well as belonging to a group, members also belong to two subject-based “sections” (economy, agriculture, social affairs, etc.). They bring the Committee a wide range of experience. Living in their respective countries and working in various economic, social or civic sectors, they are in day-to-day contact with their fellow European citizens. They are therefore in a position to understand their wishes and concerns. A general secretariat with around 800 staff helps the members carry out their duties.

The EESC draws up opinions for the European institutions with the general interest in mind, by trying to reach consensus on the basis of an amalgamation of initial positions which are often different, and at times contradictory. It is mandatory for the EESC to be consulted on those issues stipulated in the Treaties and in all cases where the institutions deem it appropriate. It can also be consulted on an exploratory basis by one of the other institutions, or can itself take the initiative to issue opinions. The EESC thus enables representatives of organised civil society to participate in EU policy and decision-making.

This process, and the continual quest for compromise, bring together representatives of public and private-sector employers’ organisations (Group I), employees (Group II), but also - and this is the distinguishing feature of the EESC - other sections of organised civil society (farmers, the professions, consumers, environmentalists, associations combating exclusion and poverty, young people, families, the elderly, women, people with disabilities, etc).

2. **Presentation of the Committee of the Regions**

Established in 1994, the Committee of the Regions (CoR) is the EU’s political assembly of regional and local representatives. Its mission is to involve regional and local authorities and the communities they represent in the EU’s decision-making process and to inform them about EU policies.

The Committee of the Regions comprises 344 members from the 27 Member States and an equal number of alternates. All of them are nominated by the Member States and appointed for five years by the Council of the EU.

The CoR was established for two main reasons. Firstly, over 70% of EU legislation is implemented by local and regional authorities, and it therefore makes sense to involve their representatives in the process of drawing up new EU laws. Secondly, involvement of local levels in EU decision-making is a way of giving such decisions greater legitimacy and bringing Europe closer to its citizens.

Under the European Treaties, the European Commission, the Council and the European Parliament are required to consult the CoR on any proposal of relevance to regions and towns or cities. The CoR can also publish opinions on its own initiative, which enables it to put issues on the EU agenda.

It can appeal to the EU Court of Justice if its rights are infringed, or it believes that an EU law violates the subsidiarity principle or fails to respect regional or local powers.
3. Environmental policy

Environmental policy of the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions

In view of the EU’s commitment to the environment, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and the Committee of the Regions (CoR) have undertaken to implement an environmental management system complying with the requirements of the European EMAS regulation.

The environmental management system has the support of the EMAS steering committee and in particular the Secretaries-General, as guarantors that their strategic, organisational and management activity will take environmental aspects into account.

Environmental commitment must translate into specific measures backed by the requisite human, material and financial resources.

In general, the environmental management system must enable the following:
- compliance with environmental legislation applicable to the premises covered by the system;
- prevention of pollution;
- ongoing improvement to the environmental impact of the EESC’s and CoR’s activities.

More specifically, our environmental management system must enable us to meet the following commitments:
- reducing our gas and electricity consumption;
- encouraging reasonable and responsible use of paper in order to reduce consumption, if possible;
- integrating environmental criteria in as many public procurement procedures as possible;
- reducing the amount of waste we produce and sorting it more effectively;
- reducing emissions due to staff travel;
- informing staff and members and raising their awareness; encouraging everyone to participate in implementation of the environmental management system. Awareness raising may also take the form of participation in regional or international initiatives.

Meeting these commitments is the responsibility of all EESC and CoR staff members, coordinated by the EMAS project manager. Members, contractors and everyone else concerned will be informed of this environmental policy.

Brussels, 10 October 2011

European Economic and Social Committee

Committee of the Regions

Staffan NILSSON
President

Martin Westlake
Secretary-General

Mercedes BRESSO
President

Gerhard Stahl
Secretary-General
4. Description of the environmental management system - EMAS

4.1 Definition of EMAS

EMAS is the environmental management system (EMS) developed by the European Union.

The purpose of the EMS is to improve an organisation's environmental performance, based on the rules set out in EMAS Regulation (EC) No. 1221/2009.

This system is implemented in the following stages:

The *environmental review* involves a detailed analysis of the Committees’ activities in order to identify those which have a significant environmental impact. The most significant impacts are identified using a points-based system, and improvement objectives are set for them.

This points-based system uses the following criteria: how serious is the impact, how frequently does it occur, and is it under control? In addition, all aspects covered by environmental legislation are considered as significant.

The review distinguishes between direct\(^1\) and indirect\(^2\) environmental aspects. For example, purchases and activities by subcontractors are described as indirect aspects. They can be identified as significant or non-significant using the method described above.

To ensure that everyone in the Committees follows a similar approach, the Committees have drawn up an "environmental policy" putting their commitment to the project on an official basis.

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\(^1\) An environmental aspect associated with activities, products and services of the organisation itself over which it has direct management control.

\(^2\) An environmental aspect which can result from the interaction of an organisation with third parties and which can to a reasonable degree be influenced by an organisation.
Based on environmental policy and the results of the environmental review, "environmental objectives" (expressed in the form of actions) are defined. These objectives take into account legal and other requirements applicable to the Committees. In order to be credible, these objectives must be translated into a performance requirement which, wherever possible, should be quantified. The objectives are consolidated in an "environmental programme" defining deadlines, those responsible, and resources for achieving them. This programme is approved by the EMAS Steering Committee.

The environmental programme is then implemented by means of the actions specified. At this stage, all members of the organisation need to work together so that the objectives can be met. This stage also includes information and awareness-raising activities at all levels. At the same time, official environmental practices are established (for example waste sorting procedures) and disseminated among those concerned. The procedures and environmental handbook³ are available on the Committees’ intranet site.

Any organisational system must continuously develop, with regular checks enabling shortcomings to be identified and overcome. In the case of the EMS, internal or external audits are carried out. Cases of non-compliance (irregularities) with environmental requirements are recorded in audit reports used as a basis for improvement measures.

The environmental statement (this document) is intended to inform the public of the existence of an EMAS-compliant environmental management system while enabling it to follow changes in our environmental performance. A new updated version of the environmental statement is published every year after checking and approval by an accredited organisation.

The final stage involves checking that the system is working properly. To ensure that the audit on the Committees is credible, it is carried out by an independent auditor. Finally, if all requirements of the EMAS Regulation have been met, the relevant authority in the Brussels Capital Region, i.e. Bruxelles Environnement, registers the Committees.

4.2 Scope

The scope of the environmental management system at the EESC and CoR is as follows:

- all staff working at the EESC and CoR - around 1 400 people;
- contractors occupying our premises: they are informed of our environmental approach;
- EESC and CoR members: they are informed of EMAS activities, but are not obliged to take part.

The Committees occupy and manage six buildings together in Brussels besides sharing joint translation and logistics services (infrastructure, security, IT, catering and printing). The buildings are situated in the Brussels European quarter in Brussels, an area mainly devoted to administrative activity and office buildings.

The following five buildings are an integral part of the scope of EMAS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Gross above ground area - m²</th>
<th>Gross underground area - m²</th>
<th>Net car parking area - m²</th>
<th>Number of car parking spaces</th>
<th>Occupants 2010</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jacques Delors (JDE)</td>
<td>36 379</td>
<td>15 284</td>
<td>10 167</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>Rue Belliard 99 – 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bertha van Suttner (BvS)</td>
<td>20 566</td>
<td>9 925</td>
<td>5 358</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>Rue Montoyer 92 – 102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belliard 68 (B68)</td>
<td>7 305</td>
<td>1 322</td>
<td>687</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>Rue Belliard 68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trèves (TRE)</td>
<td>6 091</td>
<td>2 108</td>
<td>1 143</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>Rue de Trèves 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remorqueur (REM)</td>
<td>2 325</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>Rue Belliard 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>72 666</td>
<td>29 010</td>
<td>17 355</td>
<td>562</td>
<td>1 421</td>
<td>March 2010 data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total number of occupants (March 2010 data) in the above table also includes contractors as well as members with offices in the EESC and CoR buildings.

The Committees’ buildings also include a sixth building, the "Van Maerlant" (VMA, Rue Van Maerlant/Van Maerlantstraat 2, Brussels), shared by the EESC and CoR with the European Commission, which owns the building. This building is not included in the scope of the environmental management system. However, CoR and EESC staff working in the building (222 staff together with some members) must apply our procedures unless there are other procedures required by the European Commission.

³ A document summarising how the environmental management system works, with particular reference to documentation and other components of the system.
Historique des bâtiments

Until June 2004, the Committees’ headquarters, administrative offices and meeting rooms were located at no 2 rue Ravenstein, in the very heart of Brussels. Following several enlargements of the European Union, the Ravenstein buildings had become too small for the Committees, and it was decided to move in 2004 to new buildings at 99-101 rue Belliard, in the European quarter.

The Jacques Delors Building, which used to belong to the European Parliament, was completely renovated. The renovated building is a kind of buffer between the adjoining Parc Léopold and the busy rue Belliard; its northern facade has been converted into a vertical greenhouse, 40 metres high and 100 metres long. There are almost 1800 bamboo plants within the double facades helping to provide effective and environmental protection from traffic noise and pollution.

The Bertha von Suttner Building dates from the early 1990s. Like the Jacques Delors building, it was transferred to the Committees from the Parliament in 2000, and has undergone several major renovations.

The Remorqueur Building was built in 2006 on the site of a former office building with a petrol station on the ground floor. The soil under the building is still being decontaminated.

The Belliard 68 Building dates from the 1970s and was taken over from the European Commission in 2002. This building has undergone major renovations since the Committees took ownership of it.

The Trèves 74 Building, built in the early 1990s, was chosen as Building of the Year by “Trends” magazine in 1994; it was also awarded a prize by the Belgian City Planning Federation. The Committees took over the building in 2004 from EFTA (European Free Trade Association), and since then it has undergone major renovations.

Activities

The buildings mostly contain offices, conference rooms and meeting rooms, as well as the following: the print shop and copy shop, catering, IT rooms, sports rooms, waste storage, sick rooms, a library, and technical rooms. The premises also include some small green and unbuilt areas and green roofs.

The JDE building also houses a newsagent’s and a bank, which are not included in the scope of the environmental management system as these activities are directly managed by outside companies. However, these companies are informed of the Committees’ environmental management system procedures and invited to follow them.

The political activities of EESC and CoR members are excluded from the environmental management system - it is not possible to restrict members, who must remain independent in their consultative work. In addition, the environmental criterion is only one of several used by members. As for staff and other people working for the institution, only the non-political aspects of their daily activities are taken into account.

In addition, the Committees receive an average of 200 visitors a day (student groups, participants in Open Days, certain contractors, etc.), mainly in the JDE building.

Number of persons working at the Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CoR</td>
<td>549</td>
<td>569</td>
<td>581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EESC</td>
<td>789</td>
<td>812</td>
<td>809</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: EESC and CoR administrations. These figures show the number of (active) staff working at the Committees on 1 October of each year.

The number of staff working in each building has only been recorded since 2010.

Staff are divided into the following categories:

• officials;
• temporary staff;
• contract staff;
• seconded national experts;
• medical officer;
• interns.

Number of EESC and CoR members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>since 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CoR</td>
<td>344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EESC</td>
<td>344</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: EU treaties.
4.3 EMAS organisational structure

The structure established in the Committees for implementation of EMAS includes:

1. the EMAS Steering Committee
2. the EMAS Project Manager
3. the EMAS team

EMAS Steering Committee

The EMAS Steering Committee is a body representing EESC and CoR management. Members are responsible for supervising the environmental management system (EMS) and ensuring that it operates properly. In this context, they take key decisions on the allocation of resources and set a good example in the implementation of best practice.

Membership:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EESC</th>
<th>CoR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secretary-general</td>
<td>Secretary-general</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of the secretary-general's secretariat</td>
<td>Head of the secretary-general's secretariat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy secretary-general, Consultative Work</td>
<td>Director for Translation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director for Human Resources and Internal Services</td>
<td>Director for Consultative Works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Committee Representative</td>
<td>Director for Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff Committee Representative</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The EMAS Project Manager

The EMAS project manager is responsible for setting up the environmental management system (EMS) in line with the European EMAS standard.

Among other things, he is responsible for the following:

- documentation: procedures, operational instructions and other documents;
- information needed for continuous improvement of activities and performance: audit reports, irregularities, suggestions for improvement, environmental incidents, indicators, etc;
- coordinating the project across all directorates;
- environmental awareness-raising;
- organising management reviews;
- suggesting and following up environmental objectives;
- organising internal environmental audits;
- drafting and updating the environmental statement.

EMAS team

The members of the EMAS team are responsible for day-to-day management of the environmental management system (EMS) in relation to their areas of activity. They may also act as contact points for the purposes of communication and awareness-raising. The team comprises some 50 members of staff working in all the directorates.
5. Description of significant environmental aspects and impacts and environmental objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Details of measures taken</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Committees have taken various steps in order to comply with <strong>environmental legislation</strong>, for example adapting the storage room for hazardous printing products, cleaning up the soil under the REM building, etc.</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit, security department, printing/distribution unit</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Cleaning buildings and maintaining green spaces</td>
<td>Use of cleaning and plant care products</td>
<td>Water pollution</td>
<td>Purchase of more environmental cleaning products</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Purchase of more environmental plant care products</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>Use of water in all buildings</td>
<td>Use of water in all buildings</td>
<td>Water consumption</td>
<td>Establishing regular water meter readings in each building</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>➜</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lighting</td>
<td>Type of lighting</td>
<td>Electricity consumption</td>
<td>Renovating the lighting system in the TRE building</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reducing lighting in the ladies’ toilet in the JDE building by not replacing defective bulbs behind the mirror.</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>➜</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Replacing high-energy bulbs (e.g. halogen bulbs) by more economical systems (LEDs); installing motion sensors</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>➜</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reducing corridor lighting in the B68 building (decorative ceilings and lighting)</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>➜</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming of lighting</td>
<td>Electricity consumption</td>
<td>Changing the times during which the facade of the JDE building is lit (originally lit all night)</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Adjusting the central technical control settings in the B68 building</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Studying and installing a central technical control system in the BvS building</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Adjusting the central technical control settings in the TRE building</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theme</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Aspect</td>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>Details of measures taken</td>
<td>Responsibility</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Due:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
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<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use of electrical appliances</td>
<td>Use of boilers</td>
<td>Electricity consumption</td>
<td>Use of boilers for sinks in the BvS toilets</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Replacing two 1000 l boilers by two 150 l boilers in the BvS building</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Installing a programming device in the cafeteria and canteen espresso machines</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Installing a programming device in the boilers in the B68 kitchen and TRE shower rooms</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection of electrical</td>
<td>Electricity consumption</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Selecting electrical appliances according to environmental criteria</td>
<td>Catering unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>appliances</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Introducing a policy to limit the number of personal electrical appliances in offices</td>
<td>Prevention, health and safety committees</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office automation</td>
<td>Existence of personal printers</td>
<td>Electricity consumption</td>
<td></td>
<td>Defining and implementing a policy for allocating personal printers</td>
<td>IT unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Computers constantly switched on</td>
<td>Electricity consumption</td>
<td></td>
<td>Purchase of software enabling PCs to be automatically shut down or put on standby overnight and during weekends</td>
<td>IT unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Energy-saving awareness raising</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>campaign (computers, lighting, etc)</td>
<td>IT unit</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Steady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Choice of electrically powered</td>
<td>Electricity consumption</td>
<td></td>
<td>Feasibility study on replacing electric heating system with a more efficient heating system</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>heating</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Adjusting the central technical control settings</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Poor under-floor installation on</td>
<td>Electricity consumption</td>
<td></td>
<td>Improving thermal insulation on the first floor: installing more efficient double glazing</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the first floor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Improving thermal insulation on</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the first floor (use of auxiliary heating system)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Theme</td>
<td>Activity</td>
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<td>Impact</td>
<td>Details of measures taken</td>
<td>Responsibility</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Due:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cooling system in JDE building</td>
<td>Use of cooling systems</td>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>Feasibility study on improved cooling in technical rooms (installing &quot;free chilling&quot;)</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td></td>
<td>2011</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>consumption</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Use of electricity in the B68 and JDE buildings</td>
<td>Electrical appliances, lighting, etc</td>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>Installation of photovoltaic solar panels</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>consumption</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Heating buildings (except TRE)</td>
<td>Insufficient installation of facades and pipes</td>
<td></td>
<td>Gas consumption</td>
<td>Feasibility study on thermal break windows in the BvS building</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<td>Feasibility study on installing double skinned facades in the REM building</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td></td>
<td>2011</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lagging of heating systems in B68, BvS, JDE and REM buildings</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Energy performance studies (thermal envelope) of BvS and REM buildings</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Renovation of the upper level of the BvS-JDE footbridge: replacing plexiglass by energy-efficient double glazing</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td></td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use of gas in the REM building</td>
<td>Heating</td>
<td>Gas consumption</td>
<td>Establishing regular meter readings by the gas supplier</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit</td>
<td></td>
<td>2011</td>
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<td>Theme</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Aspect</td>
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<td>Details of measures taken</td>
<td>Responsibility</td>
<td>Status</td>
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<td>Materials</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Printing and photocopining</td>
<td>Paper use by staff</td>
<td>Consumption of natural resources</td>
<td>Monitoring consumption and purchasing of different paper types (recycled, bleached, chlorine-free) and defining specific indicators (e.g. paper consumption for each building)</td>
<td>Printing/distribution unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Setting up a working group on paper use Drawing up and implementing an action plan</td>
<td>Representatives of all directorates</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Print shop</td>
<td>Paper use for publications</td>
<td>Consumption of natural resources</td>
<td>Monitoring consumption and purchasing of different paper types (recycled, bleached, chlorine-free) and defining specific indicators (e.g. paper consumption for each publication type)</td>
<td>Printing/distribution unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Setting up a working group on paper use for publications. Drawing up and implementing an action plan</td>
<td>Representatives of all directorates</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mobility (including impacts on air)</td>
<td>Official cars</td>
<td>Choice of highly polluting official cars</td>
<td>CO₂ emissions</td>
<td>Evaluating the possibility of purchasing vehicles with lower CO₂ emissions</td>
<td>EESC and CoR internal services departments</td>
<td>→</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staff commuting</td>
<td>Using cars and other means of transport</td>
<td>CO₂ emissions, use of raw materials, increased traffic, noise pollution</td>
<td>Transport plan for the institution, and awareness-raising measures: FridayBikeDay, Mobility Week, Mobility Lunchtime, Move it!, “La Ville en mouvement”, Bike to Work, Bike Experience, City Cycling Course,…</td>
<td>EESC and CoR mobility coordinators</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Public transport subsidies for season tickets</td>
<td>EESC and CoR mobility coordinators</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cycling subsidies</td>
<td>EESC mobility coordinator</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Providing staff bicycles</td>
<td>EESC and CoR mobility coordinators</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2008</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Creating a carpooling website</td>
<td>EESC and CoR mobility coordinators</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Introducing flexitime</td>
<td>EESC and CoR administration</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tele-working pilot project</td>
<td>EESC and CoR administration</td>
<td>→</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- **IN PROGRESS** indicates ongoing activities.
- **COMPLETED** indicates activities that have been completed.

**Responsibility Levels:**
- **Printing/distribution unit**
- **Representatives of all directorates**
- **EESC mobility coordinator**
- **EESC and CoR internal services departments**
- **EESC and CoR administration**
- **EESC and CoR mobility coordinators**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Aspect</th>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Details of measures taken</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waste</td>
<td>All Committee activity</td>
<td>Catering, office work, infrastructure, printing and copy shop</td>
<td>Generation of waste</td>
<td>Improved monitoring of waste quantities generated and collected by the waste disposal company</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit, EMAS cell</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reducing the quantity of disposable tableware</td>
<td>EMAS cell, catering department</td>
<td>➜</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Providing the BvS coffee bar with recyclable or biodegradable supplies together with suitable waste sorting bins</td>
<td>EMAS cell, catering department</td>
<td>➜</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Improved waste sorting: blue bins (PMC) on every floor, green bins for glass in every building</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit, EMAS cell</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Evaluating alternatives for food waste</td>
<td>Infrastructure unit, EMAS cell</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Awareness-raising campaign for recovering bottles with a deposit</td>
<td>EMAS cell</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Donating IT equipment and furniture to charities when they are replaced at the Committees</td>
<td>IT unit and infrastructure unit</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Raising staff awareness at all management levels</td>
<td>EMAS cell</td>
<td>➜</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Providing more regular information to members, newly recruited staff and interns</td>
<td>EMAS cell</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>More intensive training of EMAS team members</td>
<td>EMAS cell</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The indirect aspects considered as significant are as follows: the purchase of cleaning and plant care products, and staff commuting. Indirect impacts can be identified as significant or non-significant using the same method as for direct impacts (see page 7).

Environmental criteria are often included in the criteria used to select the Committees’ contractors. In some cases, one of these criteria is for the contractors to have their own environmental management system.

For 2011-2012, the Committees signed up to the IBGE’s (Brussels Environmental Agency’s) “sustainable canteen” programme and “food waste” pilot project. As part of these programmes, the canteen will receive one year’s assistance from a coach providing advice and assistance in searching for solutions, sustainable products, etc.

The principles followed in the “sustainable canteen” programme are as follows: giving priority to local, seasonal, organic and fair trade products; reducing proteins of animal origin and increasing those sourced from “health products” (cereals, legumes, etc); looking at new ways of cooking and preparing food; reducing food waste and other kinds of waste.

The “food waste” pilot project involves developing long-term strategies to reduce food waste in canteens.
6. Environmental results and indicators

6.1 Electricity

Objective: Reducing electricity consumption by 5% per m² (above ground) for all buildings from 2009 to 2011 (reference year: 2008).

Use:
Most electricity is used by lighting, lifts, air conditioning, computers, printers and other electrical appliances, and heating in the TRE building.

Comments on the indicators:
• Data has been provided by the infrastructure unit based on invoices from the electricity supplier.
• The charts showing consumption per m² refer to gross above-ground area.
• The charts showing consumption per person refer to the numbers of occupants per building recorded in March 2010 (precise data on this subject were not available before then).

Results:
• Total electricity consumption fell by 10% between 2008 and 2009 for all buildings. Most of this was due to numerous adjustments and improvements to technical systems. In 2010 this trend continued but at a much lower rate (- -0.6% compared to 2009).

Indicator: MWh consumed per year for all buildings

![Annual electricity consumption: Total for five buildings](image-url)
**Indicateur:** kWh/m² above ground for all buildings

*Unfortunately, in 2010, reduced consumption in the JDE and B68 buildings was largely cancelled out by increased consumption in the TRE building which is heated by electricity and is therefore very sensitive to weather conditions* (see “TRE building weighted by degree day 15:15”, below).

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*The “degree day 15:15” concept takes into account temperatures observed throughout the relevant year, thus showing energy consumption in relation to changing weather. For example, a particularly cold winter will mean greater energy consumption. Using the degree day concept, the impact of insulation on energy consumption can be measured.*
**Indicator:** MWh consumed per year per building

![Electricity consumption chart](chart1.png)

**Indicator:** kWh/m² above ground per building

![Annual electricity consumption chart](chart2.png)
**Indicator:** kWh/person above ground per building

- The JDE building houses many meeting and conference rooms as well as the canteen and print shop, with relatively few staff. This explains why consumption per person is significantly higher than in the other buildings.

- Care should be taken when comparing the different buildings, given that each one has its own specific systems and facilities:
  - the BvS building has no air conditioning, thus explaining its lower consumption compared to the other buildings;
  - the JDE building houses the canteen and print shop, which are particularly energy-intensive;
  - the TRE building is heated by electricity and is therefore very sensitive to weather conditions.

- Therefore, the above tables are useful in that they show consumption trends over time rather than in enabling a comparison between buildings. The charts show a general downward trend in consumption, especially between 2008 and 2009.
Reduced consumption in the TRE building in 2009 was partly due to complete renovation of the lighting system (June 2009). In addition, improved heating insulation in 2010 had a major impact on consumption, given that the building is heated by electricity. The following table shows electricity consumption taking into account the varying weather conditions each year:

**Indicator:** kWh per year – weighted by degree day 15:15 (TRE building)

![Annual electricity consumption chart]

**Production of renewable energy:**

Photovoltaic panels (150 m²) were installed on the roofs of two buildings (B68 and JDE) and have been operational since summer 2010. Annual production is expected to be around 20MW, some 0.2% of the Committees’ total electricity consumption in 2010. It will not be possible to calculate exact figures until after 12 months of operation.
6.2 Gas

Objective: Reducing gas consumption by 5% per m² for all buildings from 2009 to 2011 (reference year: 2008).

Use: Gas is only used to heat four buildings.

Comments on the indicators:

- Data has been provided by the infrastructure unit based on invoices from the gas supplier.
- Only three buildings are taken into account when calculating the Committees’ consumption. The following buildings are not taken into account:
  - the TRE building, which has an electrical heating system;
  - the REM building, data for which is unusable: only two gas invoices have been received since the building was acquired in 2007, and these cover very different periods. Since early 2011 we have been asking for quarterly readings from the gas supplier.
- The charts showing consumption per m² refer to gross above-ground area.
- The charts showing consumption per person refer to the numbers of occupants per building recorded in March 2010 (precise data on this subject were not available before then).
- The “degree day 15:15” concept takes into account temperatures observed throughout the relevant year, thus showing energy consumption in relation to changing weather. For example, a particularly cold winter will mean greater energy consumption, even if new insulation measures have been taken. Using the degree day concept, the impact of insulation can be measured.

Results

- Adjustments to technical systems have significantly cut gas consumption (−30 % between 2008 and 2010). The objective has therefore been achieved.

Indicator: kWh/degree day 15:15/per person per year for the three buildings (JDE, BvS, B68)
The charts with the results per building show that there was a particularly sharp decrease in the JDE and B68 buildings. By contrast, consumption was stable in the BvS building. This has to do with the fact that a “static” (radiator) heating system offers less scope for technical adjustments than a “dynamic” (HVAC with fan convector units) system as used in the JDE and B68 buildings.

Increased consumption in the BvS building in 2010 is due to a problem with boiler settings and occupation of the offices during the Christmas holidays (compared to previous years when this building was empty and unheated during this particularly cold period).

It can also be seen at the BvS is 2-3 times more energy efficient in terms of consumption per m² than the other two buildings. This has to do with the ventilation system used in the JDE and B68 buildings requiring a much higher volume of blown air - all of which has to be heated in winter.

*Indicator*: Wh/ degree day 15:15 /m² per year for the three buildings (JDE, BvS, B68)
Indicator: Wh/degree day 15:15/m²/per year/per building

Annual gas consumption
By degree day 15:15
Per building - per m²

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JOE</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BVS</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B68</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.3 Water

Objective: No objective has been set for water consumption as we do not have (sufficiently reliable) data from before 2011; in addition, this aspect was not considered as significant in the environmental review (see page 7 for a description of the environmental review stage).

Source: Data provided by the infrastructure unit based on invoices from the water supplier.

Indicator: m³ water consumed per year for all buildings.

Indicator: m³ water consumed per person per year per building.
Remarks:

• *Reservation about figures*: these data are based on invoices received by the Committees for periods which are sometimes unequal. They therefore represent an extrapolation for a period of one year of data covering periods which may be longer or shorter than one year. Regular readings of water meters were started in 2011 by the infrastructure unit.

• The Committees only use mains water.

• There are two factors explaining the higher levels of water consumption in the JDE building than in other buildings:
  - firstly, this building houses the kitchens and main canteen for Committee staff, which is a particularly water-intensive department.
  - secondly, this building is visited by all members doing the plenary sessions as well as most visitors and participants in meetings/conferences, etc. Consumption of water by these external persons is included in water consumption per staff member in the JDE building.

• There is also a small kitchen and cafeteria in the B68 building, which partly accounts for the relatively high consumption of water per occupant compared to other buildings; significantly less water was consumed in this building than in 2009.

• Increased consumption in the JDE building was due to a rise in the number of visitors.
6.4 Waste

**Objective:** We do not yet have a numerical target as we do not have data for a sufficiently long period.

**Indicator:** weight per year per waste type and per person.

Source: the Committees’ waste management contractor.
Data are only available from April 2010, the date on which the new contract with the waste management company began for all buildings covered by the EMS.

Waste is collected by truck, by an approved waste collection company.

For organic waste, the data only cover the August-December 2010 period as collection of this type of waste only began in April 2010. From 2011 data will be provided on an annual basis.

The percentage of hazardous waste relative to total waste is not available for 2011; we are waiting for data from the companies managing this waste. The following types of hazardous waste have been identified: old electrical and electronic equipment, needles used by the medical departments, printer toners and cartridges, energy-saving and other bulbs, used oils from the buildings maintenance department, dirty cloths/ink/waste water from the print shop.

In order to reduce waste quantities, the Committees have taken various steps such as:

• awareness-raising activities, e.g. participation in European Waste Production Week in 2009 and 2010;

• in cooperation with the catering company, disposable tableware (plates, cutlery) was cut by 39% from 2009 to 2010 and by 46% in 2010 compared to 2008.

In terms of food waste, several steps have been taken with the catering company, particularly in terms of managing purchases and stocks, preserving food, meals, awareness-raising among kitchen staff, and using sales statistics.

In addition, the Committees recently signed up to two programmes organised by the Brussels Capital Region:

1. the “sustainable canteen” programme, the objectives of which are to prevent food waste and other kinds of waste, and to save water and energy;

2. the “food waste” pilot project, which involves developing long-term strategies to reduce food waste in canteens.

Food leftovers (“organic waste”) have been collected separately since August 2010 for use in biogas production.

Waste sorting is organised at different levels. Each office is equipped with a paper bin and a bin for residual waste. On each floor of every building there are blue bins for PMC (paper, metal, cans). Each building has a glass bin and several collection points for used batteries. Meeting rooms have smarter bins with three compartments (PMC, paper and residual waste). Different types of hazardous waste are collected separately by each department.
6.5 Paper

The Committees aim to use paper rationally and responsibly in their activities.

Two working groups ("office paper" and "paper for publications") have been set up, each one comprising about 20 members of staff representing all the directorates of the two Committees.

Two indicators have been established: "office paper" and "paper for publication".

The "office paper" indicator measures paper consumption (A4 size, recycled, 80g) used by staff in their personal printers or network printers.

![Office paper consumption chart]

Source: paper ordered by the printing unit

This indicator, which was established in 2009, enables us to measure the number of sheets used per day and per employee in each of the Committees' six buildings. On average, for all employees paper use fell from 27 sheets per day per employee in 2009 to 21 sheets in 2010, a drop of 22%. Communication and awareness-raising activity encourage staff to only print when strictly necessary and to use double-sided printing or multiple pages on each sheet. In addition, the double-sided printing option has been set as the default option on all network printers. Monitoring this indicator over several years will enable us to establish whether this trend continues.

A quantitative target for reducing paper consumption will be set by the "office paper" working group in 2011 following an analysis of potential measures.
The “paper for publications” indicator measures consumption by the printing unit of different types of paper used for copies of members’ meeting documents as well as communication products (brochures, books, posters, greetings cards, visiting cards, etc), many of which are printed in colour and on special paper.

![Use of paper for publications](image)

Source: paper ordered by the printing unit

This indicator, which was established in 2009, shows that the quantity of paper ordered by the printing unit for publications has increased by 20% (in terms of weight). This increase reflects the printing unit’s concern in 2010 to establish large stocks of paper in order to immediately respond to an anticipated heavy demand for printing in the first half of 2011. In view of this, a significantly smaller amount of paper could well be ordered in 2011. Monitoring this indicator over several years could enable us to identify clearer paper use trends.

A quantitative target for reducing this kind of paper use would be of little relevance for two reasons: firstly, the quantity of “paper for publication” consumed is closely dependent on the communication plans implemented by each of the Committees; secondly, lower consumption could reflect outsourcing of some publications (e.g. to the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities) rather than being a consequence of measures taken by the working group on “paper for publications”.

From 2009 to 2010 the quantity of publications printed by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (OPOCE) fell by 9%, as shown in the following table.

![OPOCE publications](image)

5 On A4 paper, 80g recycled, in black and white and double sided
6.6 Green procurement

Objective: All calls for tender by the Logistics Directorate are checked by the EMAS cell to ensure that they include environmental criteria. Monitoring of the EMAS Cell’s recommendations shows that most of them were followed.

Cleaning products

Objective: Purchase of more environmental cleaning products and consumables.

Indicator: Number of products replaced by more environmental alternatives.

Until 2009 the cleaning company used conventional products available on the market. Since the cleaning contract with the Committees was renewed in 2010, it has replaced some of these products with environmental alternatives. The cleaning company still uses some conventional products, as internal tests found that the corresponding environmental products were not sufficiently effective.

The total number of products (both conventional and environmental) has decreased from 35 to 26 as some products introduced in 2010 are multipurpose.

The percentage of environmental products has increased very significantly from 3% to 27%.

Environmental cleaning products are fully and rapidly biodegradable, free from bio-accumulative raw materials and nitro musks (scents), and are based on surfactants of plant or mineral origin. In addition, cartridges for these products are recyclable and pump dispensers are reusable.
**Plant care products:**

**Objective:** Purchase of more environmental plant care products and consumables

**Indicator:** Number of products replaced by more environmental alternatives

Since 2010 there has been a new contractor in charge of green areas. Only three types of fertiliser are used, of which two are organic and one is chemical (for indoor plants); no chemical herbicides are used. Weeding is done manually or mechanically. The above indicator cannot yet be used to give any relevant results, given that data have only been available since 2010. The objective of purchasing more environmental plant care products has been met, given that only organic products are used for outdoor green spaces. The only chemical product used is a fertiliser for indoor plants, as there are no alternatives for hydroponics.

**6.7 Official cars**

**Objective:** improving the average category of official car used at the Committees.

**Indicator:** Vehicle category

Calculations are based on the Guide CO₂ de la voiture published each year by the Belgian government (DG Environment of the Federal Public Service for Health, Food Chain Safety and the Environment). In turn, this system of classification is based on Directive 1999/94/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 1999 relating to the availability of consumer information on fuel economy and carbon dioxide emissions in respect of the marketing of new passenger cars. Vehicles are categorised from A to G, where A is the least polluting category and G is the most polluting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>1 point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>2 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>3 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>4 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>5 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>6 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>7 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2009 and 2010 the Committees had seven vehicles with a total of 43 points (one in category E, four in category F and two in category G). There was no change between 2009 and 2010, as the Committees were bound by a contract with their car supplier. It is planned to replace vehicles in 2011, with CO₂ emissions being one of the criteria taken into account when selecting cars. Three more environmental cars were delivered to the EESC in early 2011.

The Committees’ drivers are trained in “eco-driving” once every two years.

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* growing plants without soil, using only nutritive solutions.
6.8 Mobility

As required by legislation of the Brussels Capital Region, the Committees have a corporate transport plan.

A survey was carried out of CoR commuting habits in 2009.

No recent mobility surveys have been carried out for EESC staff; the next survey is planned for 2011 and its results will feed into the updated transport plan.

Each Committee’s transport plan includes a variety of measures:

• public transport subsidies for season tickets;
• cycling subsidies (only at the EESC);
• since 2008, providing 10 staff bicycles for Committee staff and members;
• providing lockers and showers near the bike racks;
• providing charging points for electrical bicycles;
• creating a car-pooling website in 2010;
• awareness-raising measures targeted at all staff in order to promote sustainable mobility: FridayBike/Foot Day (breakfasts for cyclists and pedestrians), participation in Mobility Week organised by the Brussels Region, Mobility Lunchtime (to inform colleagues of alternatives to driving), the Bike Experience, Bike to Work, City Cycling course, Move it!, “La Ville en mouvement” exhibition. Eco-driving courses are planned for 2011.
• access plans are displayed at the entrance to the EESC and CoR buildings, showing nearby public transport.
• introduction of flexitime: provided they work core hours, staff can adjust their working hours to avoid rush-hour traffic.
• introduction of teleworking: based on the results of the pilot project carried out in 2011, the Committees will decide whether or not to roll it out to other staff.
6.9 Biodiversity

The EMAS III Regulation includes a biodiversity impact indicator as one of the indicators which it is obligatory to monitor. For us, this is relevant to the way in which we use land, especially in terms of land which is built on. Built-on land is sealed, and therefore plants cannot grow there, which is not conducive to biodiversity.

**Indicator:**
The Committees’ premises cover an area of 13 508 m² of which:
- 9 786 m² are built on (72 %) and
- 3 723 m² (28 %) is unbuilt.

It should be pointed out that 2602 m² of the unbuilt area is given over to green spaces, while the rest is sealed (pavements, courtyards, etc.).

In addition, the built-on area includes 778 m² of green roofs (on the JDE building).

6.10 Emissions

The EMAS III Regulation also includes total greenhouse gas emissions and annual emissions of other gases as indicators which it is obligatory to monitor. At the Committees, the only gas emissions come from the heating system. This was not identified as a significant aspect in the environmental review, and therefore no study has been carried out on this subject.
7. **Reference to the applicable legal requirements relating to the environment**

The Committees are subject to European, Belgian, regional and Brussels municipal environmental legislation and rules. Legislative monitoring is ensured by a register of applicable legislation and by regular audits of legislative compliance.

In the event of an accident or incident entailing environmental or staff health and safety risks, the Committees will immediately inform the Brussels Environment Agency and the relevant municipality.

8. **Conclusions**

By committing themselves to implementing an environmental management system, the Committees are bringing their in-house practices into line with their political activities. This commitment translates into specific measures backed by the requisite human, material and financial resources.

The initial positive results set out in this environmental statement demonstrate the relevance of the EMAS project and encourage all Committee stakeholders to continue their efforts over the next few years to achieve even better environmental results.
9. Information concerning verification

STATEMENT BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITOR ON AUDITING AND VALIDATION ACTIVITY

AIB-Vinçotte International S.A., EMAS environmental auditor, authorised for activities 10, 11, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20 (excl. 20.51), 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30.2, 30.9, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 49, 52, 53, 58, 59, 60, 70, 71, 74, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 90, 94, 95, 96, 99 (NACE code) declares that it has checked compliance by all the organisations included in the environmental statement of the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions with all provisions 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 (EMAS).

By signing this declaration, I declare that:

- the verification and validation has been carried out in full compliance with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009,
- the outcome of the verification and validation confirms that there is no evidence of non-compliance with applicable legal requirements relating to the environment,
- the data and information of the environmental statement of the organisations reflect a reliable, credible and correct image of all the organisations’ activities, within the scope mentioned in the environmental statement.

This document is not equivalent to EMAS registration. EMAS registration can only be granted by a Competent Body under Regulation (EC) No 1221/2009. This document shall not be used as a stand-alone piece of public communication.

Done in Brussels, 27th of December 2011

Signature

Bart JANSSENS,
Chairman of the Certifying Committee.

The next complete edition of the environmental statement (republication) will be in July 2014. Data will be updated in July 2012.
Acronyms

CoR: Committee of the Regions
EESC: European Economic and Social Committee
EMAS: Eco-Management and Audit Scheme
EMS: Environmental management system
PMC: Plastic, metal and drinks cartons

Buildings

JDE: Jacques Delors, rue Belliard 99-101, Brussels
BvS: Bertha von Suttner, rue Montoyer 92-102, Brussels
B68: Belliard 68, rue Belliard 68, Brussels
TRE: Trèves, rue de Trèves 74, Brussels
REM: Remorqueur, rue Remorqueur 93, Brussels

The Committees’ NACE (statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community) code is NACE 99: activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies

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