Version of 25 October 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT 2024

EMAS – MCI Benelux SA

Integral translation of the original French version

From January to December 2023 and January to June 2024





MCI Benelux SA Avenue des Arts 47 1000 Bruxelles BELGIQUE



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Introduction

Since January 2024, MCI Benelux SA has been part of the closed circle of EMAS certified companies – and this is particularly true in our sector of activity, namely the organisation of events and communication services.

MCI Benelux SA has also obtained ISO 14001 certification (environmental management system).

This environmental statement is the update of the statement which MCI Benelux presented as part of the first external audit of its environmental management system, carried out by the company Vinçotte at the end of December 2023.

In order to verify that the environmental management system is functioning as hoped, and with a view to starting to expand the scope of the certification, the Management of MCI Benelux, in agreement with the EMAS implementation team, has decided to carry out an initial management review as early as in the month of April 2024.

This review was an opportunity to:

- Update and consolidate the figures presented during the December 2023 audit;
- Align ourselves with a full calendar year (2023 in this case) and identify the first trends for the first two quarters of 2024;
- Measure the various indicators and confirm the effectiveness of the solutions implemented
- Verify the compliance of the environmental management system with the requirements of the standard as well as with all legal provisions.
- The internal audit and management review also allowed us to formally confirm the indicators, provisions, and commitments for 2025 and beyond.

The Management and the EMAS team plan to meet regularly (at least every six months) to monitor the effectiveness of the processes and tools implemented. These regular meetings will also be intended to best prepare for future requirements – and in particular, the EU CSR Directive – and the expectations of our sector of activity, our partners, shareholders and employees.

This statement aims at reflecting the corporate culture and the daily commitment of all employees of MCI Benelux and mci group Belgium altogether.



Idoia Rodés Torróntegui President mci group Belgium



1. Presentation of the activities

Glossary of entities and brands

MCI Benelux	Legal entity (public limited company) based in Brussels, which is subject to EMAS registration and ISO 14001 certification. https://www.linkedin.com/company/mci-brussels/
mci group Belgium	Trade name grouping together the legal entities (MCI Benelux, logos and ESN – from June 2024) and brands (Ovation – as part of MCI Benelux, Business Bridge Europe – as part of logos), located at 47, avenue des Arts, 1000 Brussels. <u>https://www.linkedin.com/company/mci-group-belgium/</u>
mci group	Legal entity based in Geneva (Switzerland), parent company and owner of MCI Benelux and the majority of MCI offices worldwide, forming part of mci group. <u>https://www.linkedin.com/company/wearemci/</u>

MCI Benelux SA

MCI Benelux is 100% owned by mci group, whose head office is in Geneva (Switzerland).

Created in 1987 by Roger Tondeur in Geneva, **mci group** is today one of the world leaders in the organisation of conferences on behalf of public authorities, corporations and associations. **mci group** is present in 31 countries thanks to a network of 60 offices and accounts for more than 1,450 employees.

For many years, **mci group** has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to environmental protection and sustainability.

The 2023 activity report is publicly available from the following links: <u>www.mci-group.com</u> and <u>https://mcigroupreport.com</u>

Founded in 2003 and headquartered in Brussels, **MCI Benelux** is a leading service company in the fields of communication and event organisation.

MCI Benelux fosters the importance of events as strategic communication tools to draw attention to specific issues, policy initiatives and programs, to launch new products or services, or to highlight key messages.

MCI Benelux organises small to large-scale multilingual events for various institutional clients, associations and companies based in Europe and around the world (Asia-Pacific, South America, Africa, United States).

Our activities can take many forms as they include seminars, workshops, conferences, congresses, exhibition spaces, debates, etc., in a physical, hybrid or virtual format.

MCI Benelux's role includes event strategy, design, and management of IT solutions for events (attendee registration, interactive tools, surveys, etc.); production of content and communication material, strategic planning, and stakeholder activation.

MCI Benelux specialises in delivering solutions that meet the expectations of many different target groups, from the general public to policy makers, media professionals and specialists from a variety of sectors (European Union, finance, security, ICT, health, etc.).

Legal provisions

MCI Benelux is committed to respecting and enforcing all legislations on the environment and other related regulations.

MCI Benelux fully complies with all professional, environmental, and social legislation.

The evolution of environmental legislation (international, European, national, regional and local) is monitored by:

- Subscription to the professional newsletters of Brussels-Environment;
- Regular monitoring of regional, national, European, and international legislation via the VITO¹ legal database;
- Support from the consulting firm Mahavi SRL, which ensures continuous monitoring of the relevant legislation;
- Proactive monitoring of European legislation via the European Commission website² and in particular the EMAS Guide;
- mci group closely monitors international and European legislation, standards and best practices and then shares them with all MCI entities.

An active review of the legislation is carried out on an ongoing basis.

Cofinimmo manages Arts 47.

The environmental permit is: **211045** – valid until June 10, 2033.

¹ Vlaamse Instelling voor Technologisch Onderzoek

² https://green-business.ec.europa.eu/emas/emas-resources/emas-reference-documents/emas-sectoral-reference-documents_en

Scope of EMAS registration

Activities

The scope of EMAS registration and ISO 14001 certification is as follows:

• Internal activities

Water and electricity consumption, waste, purchases, travel and transportation, cloud solutions, etc. generated or required for our daily activities.

• Organisation of events

MCI Benelux organises events on behalf of its clients (companies, associations, and institutions), which requires purchasing goods and services from various suppliers in Belgium, Europe and worldwide.

Communication activities

The registration also applies to all services and goods provided as part of the communication projects that we carry out on behalf of our clients.

Sites

The MCI Benelux offices are located at the following address:

Avenue des Arts 47 1000 Brussels Belgium

MCI Benelux occupies the third and fourth floors of the building, which has a total of seven floors.

Arts 47 is the only MCI Benelux site.

MCI Benelux currently employs **68.9 full-time equivalents** (average FTE for the observation period, i.e. from January to December 2023, based on the MCI Benelux salary list).

Background and suppliers

MCI Benelux rents its office space from Cofinimmo, the entity that manages the entire Arts 47 building and ensures the regulatory compliance of the premises.

- The maintenance of the premises (building, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, etc.) is organised by Cofinimmo.
- Cleaning services for the office spaces (3rd and 4th floors) are provided by Iris Group (under a service contract with MCI Benelux).
- The fire extinguishers located on the 3rd and 4th floors are controlled by Sicli (under a service contract with MCI Benelux).
- The hydrants and fire extinguishers on the landing are controlled by Somatifie (mandated by Cofinimmo).
- Waste management services are provided by the company MCA (under a service contract with Cofinimmo).

Management structure

The implementation of EMAS registration and ISO 14001 certification is actively supported by the senior management of MCI Benelux.



• Ms Idoia Rodés Torróntegui

Managing Director of MCI Benelux and President of mci group Belgium actively participating in the EMAS and ISO 14001 working group.

• Ms Isabelle Servais

Director People & Culture, in charge of managing all HR related matters.

• Ms Karolin Fink

Director Business Services, responsible for the implementation of all work protocols, internal communication, and internal events.

• Ms Julie Tack

Corporate Social Responsibility Champion, member of the EMAS working group. Collective activities related to corporate social responsibility (CSR) are included within the scope of EMAS registration and ISO 14001 certification.

• Mr Vincent Gallego

Sustainability Officer, the main point of contact and responsible person for all matters related to EMAS and ISO 14001 within MCI Benelux.

MCI Benelux is organised into operating units, which play an active role in the implementation of the EMAS and ISO 14001 principles, namely:

- All staff members of mci group Belgium the EMAS ambassadors
- Mr Jeroen Van Liempd Director AM&C Engagement, Associations and Communities
- Ms Isabelle Deniaud Director Professional Congress Organisation (PCO)
- Mr Gianluca Polenta Director Corporate Division & OVATION

The implementation of the fundamental principles of EMAS, as well as the daily discipline and communication skills it requires, is actively supported by all staff members.

In addition to having a positive impact on the environment and society, EMAS registration and ISO 14001 certification are the result of the commitment of an environmentally conscious and united professional community.

Sectoral best practices

The scope of our activities is not effectively covered by sectoral registers of best practices.

MCI Benelux regularly delivers services to European and international institutions. In this context, we are expected to comply with a set of commonly accepted best practices, which are supported by the following organisations or reference documents:

Brussels Environment

MCI Benelux keeps up to date with best practices in the sector through information sessions organised by Brussels Environment³.

• The 7 steps for greener events of the European Commission

DG SCIC (Directorate General for Joint Service Interpretation-Conferences) has published guidelines for improving the environmental performance of events.

• United Nations – Green Events Tool

MCI Benelux follows the expectations of stakeholders at global level, by observing the Green Events Tool provided by the United Nations, aiming at the reduction of the environmental impact of events.

• Trace by Isla

mci group is a member of the "Trace" platform – and recommends its use to its clients – for a precise calculation of the environmental impact of events, but also to benefit from advice and good practices to improve their sustainability.

Evolution of the composition of mci group Belgium

MCI Benelux shares its premises – processes, management systems, etc. – with two other entities that are part of mci group Belgium, namely **logos** (LS-Europe SA) and **Business Bridge Europe** (BBE), under the common name of "**mci group Belgium**."

Even though they are not directly concerned by the EMAS registration and ISO 14001 certification, these two entities and all their staff members have been systematically included in the overall vision, implementation, training, communications, and processes.

mci group Belgium has also recently acquired a new legal entity (the communications agency **Europe Service Network – ESN**). The acquisition was finalised on 17 June 2024. The complete integration of ESN into the premises of mci group Belgium, at Avenue des Arts 47, is scheduled for December 2024.

³ For instance : Séance d'information sur l'organisation d'événements durables – on 23 October 2024

2. NACE codes

MCI Benelux operates under the following NACE codes:

- Main activity: 82.300 Organisation of trade fairs and congresses
- Secondary activity: 73.11 Advertising and communication agencies

3. Environmental policy

Sustainability Policy

11 October 2023

MCI Benelux SA is specialised in communications, delivering services such as the organisation of events, promotional campaigns and consultancy. The scope of the policy also includes the general administration and management of its offices in Brussels.

MCI Benelux SA aims at reducing as much as possible the environmental impact of its activities and to implement and promote sustainable and ethical practices. In this respect, MCI Benelux SA actively supports the policy and the engagements of mci group in terms of sustainability. mci group is signatory of the UN Global Compact, of the Net Zero Carbon Pledge, supports the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, and communicates on its results in accordance with the principles of the Global Reporting Initiative.

With the EMAS registration, MCI Benelux SA commits to:

- Reducing the environmental impact of its activities.
- Continuously improving its organisation and is environmental performance for its clients and projects, as well as
 internally.
- Upholding its legal conformity obligations, as well as those related to its key stakeholders (employees, consultants, clients, suppliers, partners and mci group entities).

In practical terms, this commitment is implemented through concrete actions such as:

- Setting up a responsible management system aiming at optimising energy and water consumption and reducing the carbon footprint of our activities.
- Raise awareness and train our collaborators on sustainability and invite them to adopt a responsible behaviour and to promote sustainability practices.
- Guarantee an inclusive working environment, which fosters well-being at work for all coworkers.
- Promote alternative transport solutions for coworkers, clients and partners alike.
- Select suppliers which share the same vision as mci group Brussels through a certification or a strong, credible and verifiable sustainability policy.
- Promote sustainability best practices towards our stakeholders.
- Support partners and suppliers which have chosen to adopt a sustainable economic model.

MCI Benelux SA, in accordance with EMAS' core principles is committed to continuous improvement, to the promotion of best practices and to a proactive communication on the societal benefits of EMAS.

Idoia Rodés Torróntegui Managing Director MCI Benelux SA







4. Key environmental issues

Key direct and indirect environmental issues include:

Electricity consumption	Electricity consumption of mci group Belgium in our premises located at Arts 47, 1000 Brussels.	
Water and heating (gas)	Water consumption and heating are managed centrally for the entire building. However, MCI Benelux strives to limit its water and heating consumption as much as possible.	
Waste	Waste is also managed centrally for the entire building. mci group Belgium implements measures for correct waste sorting and strives to limit its waste production.	
Fire prevention and first aid	The permanent presence of at least one trained (and certified) fire prevention officer and first aider is ensured on the two floors occupied by mci group Belgium.	
Mobility of suppliers and visitors (indirect impact)	Visits and deliveries to the premises of mci group Belgium have an environmental impact (carbon footprint).	
Data stored in the cloud	Storing data in the cloud solution generates very high energy consumption.	
Organisation and delivery of events	The delivery of events has an impact related to the consumption of raw materials and the production of waste resulting from the provision of meeting rooms and hotel rooms, the production of communication materials, catering, etc.	
Travel and trips (direct and indirect impact)	Events are essentially intended to bring together people from different locations. The travels incurred by MCI Benelux staff (direct impact) as well as those of participants (indirect impact) have a significant carbon footprint, which we must work to reduce.	

To determine the significance of these major environmental issues, we used the Fine & Kinney method, which assesses the severity (S), exposure (E) and control (M) of the various environmental issues and generates a score reflecting the organisation's ability to respond effectively.

Severity (S)			Exposure	(E)	Mastery (M)	
Minimal	Environmental impact not measurable	1	Daily	10	Very effective measures implemented, and no further measures can be taken to date	1
Marginal	Environmental impact quickly under control	10	Weekly	7	Measures responding to risk situations, but which can be improved	3
Critical	Significant but reversible environmental impact	25	Monthly	5	Insufficient measures	6
Catastrophic	Significant and irreversible environmental impact	50	Quarterly	3	No measures in place / The measures in place are ineffective	10
			Annual	2		
			Exceptional	1		

The final score for each criterion is a multiplication of the scores obtained for severity, exposure, and control. It indicates the criterion requiring the planning and implementation of specific actions.

5. Environmental aspects

5.1 Initial remarks

MCI Benelux operates in a particular context, which has an influence on certain environmental aspects, as well as on our ability to improve our performance. Before presenting the various indicators, targets, objectives and data, the following remarks should be mentioned.

• Observation period

The observation period now extends from January 2023 to December 2023 (inclusive). Data from the first two quarters of 2024 are also represented.

• MCI Benelux is a tenant

MCI Benelux is the tenant of its offices and other infrastructure (garage, storage). The building manager, Cofinimmo, is solely responsible and decides on issues related to the choice of certain suppliers and type of energy (renewable sources or others).

Although we benefit from a positive working climate with Cofinimmo, our influence on the choice of suppliers and building management operations is only indirect.

• Premises energy policy

Since the effective entry into the premises in January 2023, MCI Benelux has implemented an optimised energy-saving policy. This involves limiting heating, using energy-efficient lighting systems, purchasing low-consumption screens, installing motion detectors, etc. Improving MCI Benelux's overall performance from one year to the next is therefore a major challenge.

• Actual occupancy rate of premises

Another element to take into consideration is the actual occupancy rate of the premises. MCI Benelux adopts a teleworking policy that encourages employees to work remotely for up to three days a week. As part of the company's activities, staff are also often required to travel abroad. As a result, the actual occupancy rate of the facilities is variable and complex to calculate.

5.2	Summary	table	of	indicators
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Ref.	Indicator	Guiding principle	Activities	Objectives	Phase
6.1	Energy – electricity	Sobriety Incident management	Reduce the number of electricity-related incidents per year, for example by turning off computer and meeting room screens	2% reduction in electricity consumption per FTE (year-on-year)	Ongoing
6.2	Energy — gas	Sobriety	Reduction gas consumption	2% reduction in gas consumption (year-on-year) per m ²	Ongoing
6.3	Raw materials	Sobriety	Paper consumption	No specific target	Observation
6.4	Water	Sobriety Gestion des incidents	Carry out maintenance and leak detection with the building owner Cofinimmo every quarter (+ sustainable suppliers)	2% reduction in water consumption per FTE (year-on- year)	Ongoing
6.5	Waste	Reduction Incident management	Monitor overall waste quantities	2% reduction in waste generation per FTE (year-on- year)	Ongoing
			Monitor once a week that waste is correctly sorted in the bins available on each office floor	5% reduction in recycling incidents	Ongoing
6.6	Land	Non applicable	n/a	n/a	n/a
6.7	Emissions	Reduction	Emissions from electricity and gas consumption	2% reduction in electricity and gas consumption on an annual basis (year-on-year)	Ongoing
			CO2 emissions from company cars	Reduction in the number of company cars to three or fewer	Ongoing
			CO2 emissions from air travel	No specific target at this time	Observation

Ref.	Indicator	Guiding principle	Activities	Objectives	Phase
			CO ₂ emissions from participants' travel	No specific target at this time	n/a
7.1	Sustainability of events	"Greening"	Ensure that 50% of all consolidated suppliers, across all supply categories, have signed the Supplier Code of Conduct (ESG Supplier Tracker)	Supplier Code of Conduct signed by 50% of suppliers	Ongoing
			Ensure that 50% of all consolidated suppliers, across all supply categories, are ESG compliant (ESG Supplier Tracker)	50% ESG compliance among	Ongoing
			Ensure a steady increase in euros spent on compliant consolidated suppliers compared to non- compliant suppliers (ESG Supplier Tracker)	5% increase in euros spent on ESG-compliant suppliers	Ongoing
7.2	1st care	Planification	Organisation of training in fire prevention and first aid	A permanent reserve consisting of at least four people trained in fire prevention and first aid throughout the year	Ongoing
7.3	Digital solutions	Sobriety	"Digital cleaning" action organised each year.	To be defined jointly with mci group and to be implemented in 2025	Observation
7.4	CSR	Engagement	Organise at least four CSR actions over the year	Four actions per year	Ongoing
			Ensure a rate of engagement of the company's employees according to the type of action	Objectives set individually, depending on the type of action	Ongoing

6. Core environmental indicators

6.1 Energy – Electricity

6.1.1 Context

Recently renovated (end of 2023), the building already has a high level of efficiency in terms of electricity and heating.

- The premises are equipped with LED lamps, accompanied by motion detectors and automatic on/off systems.
- MCI Benelux, upon entering the premises, has also adopted a strict hot/cold policy which implies that the heating and air conditioning are switched on only under specific temperature conditions.

6.1.2 Guiding principles: sobriety and incident management

In view of the context expressed above, two main objectives have been decided:

- Keep consumption as low as possible, by showing proactive consideration and moderation.
- Quickly remedy any problem or incident.

To this end, a tool has been set up - the "EMAS Incident Form."

This is an online form that allows sustainability-related incidents to be reported. This form is made available to all staff via the intranet and is accessible remotely on any device. The EMAS Incident Form allows employees to report but also **document** any incident.

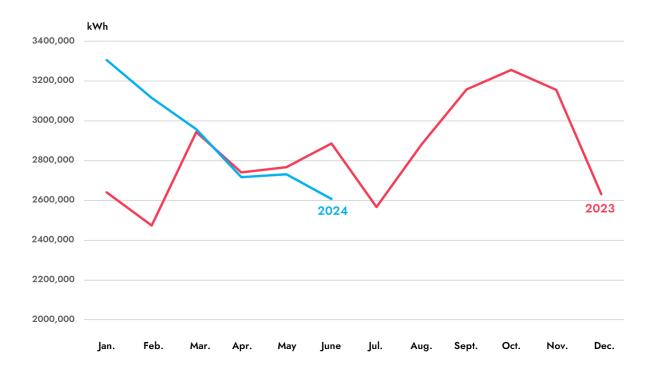
Incidents are then automatically transferred to the Sustainability Officer, who is responsible for managing them and following up on them.

- The EMAS Incident Form can be used to report internal incidents to MCI Benelux
- It can be used on site, to report an incident during an event or an external activity organised by MCI Benelux.
- This online form can also be used by any member of staff to propose improvements to environmental practices or suggest new ones.

MCI Benelux undertakes to deal with all incidents and proposals as quickly as possible. The aim is to deal with the incident/proposal within three working days.

6.1.3 Measurements

Below we present a graph showing MCI Benelux's electricity consumption in kWh (for both floors and the two zones on each floor) on a monthly basis.



Over the whole of 2023, electricity consumption is expressed according to the following measurements:

- **34,104 kWh** over a 12-month period
- An average monthly consumption of **2,842 kWh**
- Individual consumption per FTE (based on 68.9 FTE): 495 kWh over the entire 12 months of year 2023.

The measurements for the first two quarters of 2024 show the following results:

- 17,438 kWh over the observation period
- An average monthly consumption of 2,906 kW
- The individual consumption per EFT and covering a full 12-month period will be presented in 2025.

Remarks:

- January 2024 was significantly more energy-intensive than January 2023. This is probably due to the fact that MCI Benelux moved into its new offices during January 2023 while January 2024 was a full "normal" month.
- On the other hand, from March 2024 (equivalent to March 2023), electricity consumption shows a slight decrease.
- This indicator will be reviewed at a later date based on the average number of full-time equivalents (FTEs) over the whole of 2024.
- The targets for 2025 will be reassessed in due course.

Indicator	Description	Objective
Electricity consumption	Reduce the number of electricity-related incidents per year, for example by turning off computer and meeting room screens	2% reduction in electricity consumption per EFT (year-over-year)

6.1.4 Indicators, planned activities and objectives

6.2 Energy – Gas

6.2.1 Context

The gas consumption for the heating of the office area is common to all floors – and to all tenants of the Arts 47 building.

6.2.2 Guiding principle: sobriety

MCI Benelux has a clear heating policy, which states that the heating is only switched on if the temperature in our offices falls below 19°C.

The temperature inside the premises is managed in a fully automated manner – discussed and agreed with Cofinimmo.

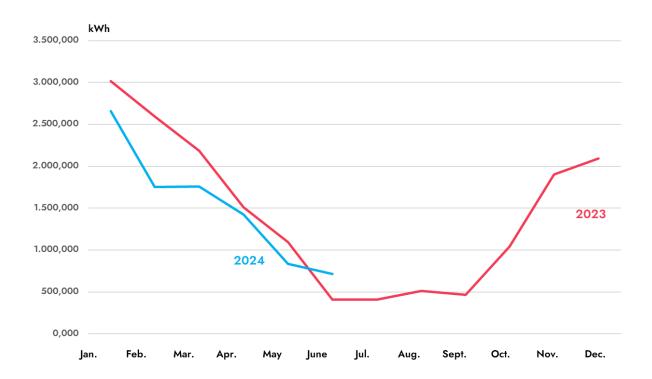
It should also be noted that no window opens, and that the doors to the premises are equipped with automatic closing systems.

6.2.3 Measurements

The gas consumption for the **12 months of 2023** for MCI Benelux is 2/7ths – occupation of 2 floors out of the 7 that the building has.

The total gas consumption of MCI Benelux is therefore established at 17,237 kWh, i.e. a monthly average of 1,436 kWh.

The premises (3rd and 4th floors) represent a total surface area of 1,448 m², which means an average consumption per m² of 11,904 kWh on an annual basis and 0.992 kWh per m²/month.



As for the **first half of 2024**, the first readings seem to confirm a slight decrease in consumption. However, since gas consumption is closely linked to climatic conditions, we will only be able to draw conclusions after the end of the whole of 2024.

- Total consumption over the first 6 months of the year for the entire building is 31,969 kWh.
- Since the proportion of MCI Benelux is 2/7, we deduce that the total actual consumption over the first 6 months of 2024 is 9,134 kWh.
- The monthly average over the observation period is therefore 1,522 kWh.
- Per m² of office space (1,448 m² in total), the averages currently stand at 6.308 kWh (total surface area over 6 months) and 1.051 kWh (m²/month). Note that this average is higher than the 2023 annual average, but that the hottest (summer) months have not yet been taken into account.

6.2.4 Indicators, planned activities and objectives

Indicator	Description	Objective
kWh	Gas consumption	Reduction by 2% of the overall gas consumption (year on year) per m ²

6.3 Raw materials

6.3.1 Context

In the course of its activities, MCI Benelux makes very little use of raw materials. As a service company, our services are essentially "non-atomic," but rather intellectual or digital.

Only paper consumption – intended for printing documents by all staff within MCI Benelux' premises – is actually to be reported.

6.3.2 Guiding principle: sobriety

As illustrated below, our paper consumption can be considered low, compared to the number of employees.

This sobriety is due to intersecting principles:

- Printers are configured to print in economy mode and double-sided by default.
- MCI Benelux provides high-performance IT solutions, as well as screens of superior size and quality, which facilitate reading on the screen and the digital marking of documents (highlighting, comments, etc.).

Employees are also invited to collect leftover paper (printing errors), and to use them for taking notes, if they need to.

6.3.3 Measurements

The move to our new offices in January 2023 does not allow us to correctly measure the paper consumption over the year 2023. This move meant a consolidation of different paper stocks at mci group Belgium, the reduction of the number of printers, and the implementation of the guiding principle expressed above.

As a result, the paper consumption measurements can only be reported in a harmonised manner since the beginning of **year 2024**. We will nevertheless take into account the last paper order of 2023 (mid-November 2023) in the current measurement, considering that a large part of the paper was effectively consumed in 2024.

Total paper orders (first half of 2024): 34 reams

Remarks:

- The measurements do not take into account the format or weight of the paper.
- It should also be noted that this is recycled paper.

6.3.4 Indicators, planned activities and objectives

Indicator	Description	Objective
Consumption of raw materials	Assessment of paper consumption – office use at company headquarters	No specific goal at the moment

6.4 Water

6.4.1 Context

MCI Benelux does not have an individual consumption meter. We therefore do not want to set a specific target, given that water consumption also depends on the behaviour of other companies and people present in the building (as well as their number).

6.4.2 Guiding principles: sobriety and incident management

Similar to what MCI Benelux is implementing for electricity and gas, all employees are made aware of good practices in terms of water consumption.

Dishwashers (4 appliances in total) and sanitary facilities present the most significant consumption. All members of staff are therefore expected to:

- Ensure that dishwashers are filled optimally.
- Ensure that toilet flushes are used appropriately.

The incident reporting form (as described above) also allows any problems and suggestions for improvement to be reported and documented.

6.4.3 Measurements

- The total consumption recorded on the central meter amounts to 1,710.6 m³ for the year 2023.
- As an occupant of two out of seven floors at Arts 47, we estimate the annual water consumption at 2/7 of the total consumption, or 488.74 cubic meters of annual consumption attributable to MCI. The total average monthly consumption is therefore 40.73 m³/month for all employees.
- This represents an individual annual consumption per FTE (based on 68.9 FTE) of: 7.1 m³/12 months per employee.
- The first readings for the first two quarters of 2024 seem to show comparable consumption, or even very slightly lower for the same observation period in 2023. The total is 255.7 m³ attributable to MCI, or a current monthly average of 42.62 m³/month.
- An overall monthly average as well as by FTE will be established and consolidated in 2025.

6.4.4 Indicators, planned activities and objectives

Indicator	Description	Objective
Water consumption	Carry out maintenance and leak detection with the building owner Cofinimmo every quarter (+ sustainable suppliers)	2% reduction in water consumption per FTE (year over year)

6.5 Waste

6.5.1 Context

MCI's waste volumes are combined with those of the other tenants of the Arts 47 building.

The quantities and results of the efforts made by all MCI Benelux employees should therefore be taken with caution.

Most of the waste produced in the course of the company's activities is office waste such as paper, cardboard, stationery, etc. and food waste (coffee, tea, food leftovers, food packaging, etc.).

The waste is collected and processed by a specialist company (MCA), which provides a monthly report on the quantities collected for the entire building.

6.5.2 Guiding principles: incident reduction and management

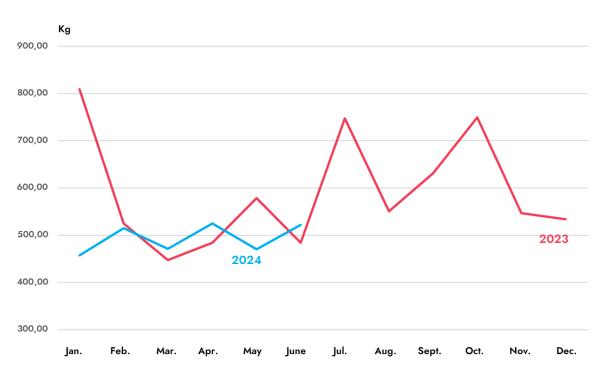
Our objective is to ensure that current levels are maintained, and to ensure that regional legislation (Brussels-Capital Region) is enforced as effectively as possible.

We will also endeavour to deal promptly with any waste-related incidents – and in particularly when it comes to compliance with selective sorting rules.

6.5.3 Measurements

Over the past 12 months, the overall waste collection for the entire building was as presented below. Please note that the numbers under "Part of MCI" have been rounded to 2 decimals. This remark applies to all numbers presented in the various tables hereafter.

Month	Total amount of all waste collected (kg)	Part of MCI (2/7)
Jan. 2023	2,831.00	808.86
Feb. 2023	1,836.00	524.57
Mar. 2023	1,566.50	447.57
Apr 2023	1,693.80	483.94
May 2023	2,023.50	578.14
Jun. 2023	1,696.00	484.57
Jul. 2023	2,616.00	743.43
Aug. 2023	1,928.70	551.06
Sep. 2023	2,208.20	630.91
Oct. 2023	2,623.70	749.63
Nov. 2023	1,913.20	546.63
Dec. 2023	1,868.80	533.94
Total over 12 months	24,805.40 kg	7,087.26 kg



- As an occupant of two out of seven floors at Arts 47, we estimate the quantity of waste from MCI Benelux at 7,087.26 kg over the whole of 2023.
- That is an individual annual waste production per FTE (based on 68.9 FTE) of: 102.86 kg/12 months.

In more detail, the following waste volumes we	re observed over the 12 months of 2023:
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Waste type	Total (kg)	Part of MCI (2/7°)
Paper	14,755.71	4,215.92
Cardboard	20,420.00	5,834.29
Residual waste	15,565.00	4,447.14
Plastic waste	17.14	4.90
РМС	951.43	271.84
Glass	566.74	161.93
Wood	228.57	65.31
Construction materials	685.71	195.92
Metal	274.29	78.37
Green waste	102.86	29.39
Bulky waste	171.43	48.98
Hazardous waste	L	
WEEE (waste electrical and electronic equipment)	411.43	117.55

Month	Total amount of waste collected (kg)	Part of MCI (2/7°)
Janv. 2024	1,601.00	457.43
Feb. 2024	1,803.70	515.34
March 2024	1,648.80	471.09
Apr. 2024	1,836.30	524.69
May 2024	1,648.80	470.51
June 2024	1,826.30	521.80
Total over 6 months	10,364.90 kg	2,960.86 kg

The collections carried out during the first half of 2024 show the following volumes:

The readings for the first two quarters of 2024 seem to indicate a slight decrease (2,960.86 kg) compared to the same observation period in 2023 (3,327.66 kg).

The figures will be confirmed and consolidated on an annual basis from the beginning of 2025.

6.5.4 Indicators, planned activities and objectives

Indicator	Description	Objective
Waste production	Monitor overall waste quantities	2% reduction in EFT waste production (year-over-year)
Recycling	Monitor once a week that waste is properly sorted into the bins available on each office floor	5% reduction in recycling incidents

6.6 Land use

Given the nature of MCI Benelux's activities, this indicator is not applicable.

6.7 Emissions

6.7.1 Energy reporting: electricity and gas

As stated in the presentation of MCI Benelux (Chapter 1), we are part of **mci group**, which has more than 60 entities in 30 countries around the world.

As such, we have chosen to use the CO₂ emissions calculation tool recommended by **mci group**. This is the myclimate.org⁴ platform.

This platform offers a free calculation tool that covers a very large number of countries – which will ultimately allow us to compare the performance of different mci group entities and adopt a common policy to reduce and potentially offset the carbon footprint.

⁴ <u>https://www.myclimate.org/fr-ch/</u>

Emissions related to electricity consumption

With reference to point 6.1.3, MCI Benelux's electricity consumption amounted to **34,104 kWh** over the 12-month period of 2023.

Emissions related to gas consumption

As indicated in point 6.2.3, MCI Benelux's gas consumption is therefore set at **17,237 kWh** for the year 2023.

According to the calculator, the energy balance of MCI Benelux is as follows:

- Emissions from electricity consumption: 1.50 t
- Emissions from heating: 4.75 t,
- Total amount of CO₂: 6.3 t

Over the first 6 months of 2024, CO_2 emissions are as follows – as reported in points 6.1.3 and 6.2.3:

- Emissions from electricity consumption (17,438 kWh) or: 0.77 t
- Emissions from heating (9,134 kWh) or: 2.52 t
- Total quantity of CO₂: 3.3 t

Electricity and gas consumption will be reassessed in 2025 – and will cover the 12 months of 2024 – so as to present directly comparable measurements.

6.7.2 Company cars

As a general policy, MCI Benelux does not support, encourage, or implement any policy in favour of company cars. Quite the opposite, since out of 68.9 FTEs, the company only provides four company cars. Only structural employees of MCI who actually need a car for the delivery of their assignments effectively benefit from this advantage.

For the assessment of the ratio between professional and private use of the car, we consider that 75% of the journeys made with the car are for professional purposes – given that 75% of the fuel costs can be charged to MCI Benelux, in accordance with Belgian tax legislation.

	Average Km/365d.	g CO2 WLTP	Average g CO2 365d	Ratio (75%)
Car 1 - 1-SYA-652	8,661.87	109.00	944,143.70	708,107.78
Car 2 - 1-SYA-197	17,213.66	109.00	1,876,289.02	1,407,216.76
Car 3 - 1-TJE-069	19,362.72	127.00	2,459,065.24	1,844,298.93
Car 4 - 1-VFW-821	9,201.04	99.00	910,903.13	683,177.34
			Total g CO2	4,642,800.82

Measurements:

The total CO_2 emissions generated by the four company cars for the **12 months of 2023** amount to approximately: **4,643 kg**.

The first half of 2024 shows a notable improvement in CO_2 emissions, which is mainly due to the fact that the vehicle fleet has had one fewer vehicle since the beginning of the year. Emissions for the first six months amount to just over 1,846 kg.

A full update will be carried out later for the whole of 2024.

Measurements:

	Average Km 182.5j	g CO2 WLTP	Average g CO ₂ 182.5j	Ratio (75%)
Car 1 - 1-SYA-652 / ERS -259	4,492.92	127.00	824,346.42	618,259.81
Car 2 - 1-SYA-197	9,726.00	109.00	1,060,134.00	795,100.50
Car 3 - 1-VFW-821	5,829.92	99.00	577,162.41	432,871.81
			Total g CO2	1,846,232.12

6.7.3 Travel

The travels and movements of event participants have a very significant impact in terms of carbon footprint. However, these are activities over which MCI Benelux has little direct influence. MCI Benelux aims to raise awareness among as many participants as possible of the need to adopt best practices to limit this impact.

For business travels and movements of MCI Benelux staff members, the principle of sobriety applies. Our vision is that digital solutions (Teams, Webex, Zoom, etc.) should be the default solutions and that travel and movement should only take place when the physical presence is essential and provides a clear and measurable added value.

CO2 emissions from air travel by MCI staff

mci group has set itself an ambitious goal of becoming "net-zero carbon" by 2030. **mci group** is also a signatory of the Carbon Neutral Pledge⁵ for the events industry.

As part of achieving this goal, mci group has decided to measure the carbon impact of all business travels by all its staff from January 2024.

Based on the observations collected at mci group and MCI Benelux levels, we will then define:

- The format of the indicator (and the measurement method and frequency)
- The observation periods
- The improvement objectives

⁵ <u>https://www.netzerocarbonevents.org/the-pledge/</u>

CO₂ emissions from travel by event participants

MCI Benelux delivers event organisation services which produce CO₂ emissions mainly related to travel (by plane, train and private car).

However, the CO_2 quantities for travel related to events remain difficult to quantify, for the following reasons:

• Destination

As a general rule, the destination is imposed by the client. MCI Benelux's influence is very limited, and at best local, in the sense that a location can be recommended, but rarely the country or city of destination.

• Type of travel of the participants

The choice of travel solution cannot be imposed on the participants. Our role is limited to communicating recommendations and good practices which aim at encouraging participants to limit the environmental impact of their travel, in particular for trips of less than 500 km, for which a train journey is proposed.

• Number of participants

MCI Benelux organises events of different sizes, some of which can bring together thousands of participants. The exact amount of greenhouse gases is therefore impossible to assess correctly, and this calculation also represents a considerable workload, which is rarely taken on by the client.

The precise assessment of the CO₂ impact of event-related travel therefore represents an extraordinary and potentially very costly effort in terms of human resources.

It is only upon express request (and financing) from clients that the actual CO_2 impact of events is assessed – with Trace or other tools, depending on the client's choice.

CO₂ emissions from visitors and deliveries

Our premises are very easily accessible by public transport.

In order to encourage the use of public transport, we have made available a **multimodal access plan** on the mci group Belgium intranet (for our employees with access), as well as on our website, for all our visitors and external suppliers.

At this stage, we have not set ourselves any particular objective, other than to ensure that the access plan remains up to date, and to inform all new visitors and suppliers.

6.7.4 Digital footprint

In section 7.3, MCI Benelux highlights the need to look at the carbon footprint of cloud solutions and other ICT tools.

At this stage, for technical reasons, we are not able to perform a precise analysis and calculation of the digital carbon footprint of MCI Benelux.

This topic has been discussed with **mci group** – which manages all IT issues for all entities – and we hope to be able to report this indicator in the coming years.

6.7.5 Overall reporting of emissions and impact on the climate

For the year 2023, and based on the indicators that we have been able to calculate, the emissions balance is as follows:

Source	CO ₂ Emissions (kg)
Electricity and gas	6,300
Company cars	4,643
Travel and transportation	n/a
Digital solutions	n/a
Total	10,943 kg

The first 6 months of 2024 show the following results:

Source	Emissions de CO2 (kg)
Electricity and gas	3,300
Company cars	1,846
Travel and transportation	n/a
Digital solutions	n/a
Total	5,146 kg

6.7.6 Indicators, planned activities and objectives

Indicator	Description	Objective
CO ₂ emissions	Emissions related to electricity and gas consumption	2% reduction in electricity and gas consumption on an annual basis (year-on-year)
CO ₂ emissions	CO ₂ emissions related to company cars	Reduction in the number of company cars to three or fewer
CO ₂ emissions	CO ₂ emissions related to air travel	No specific targets at this time
CO ₂ emissions	CO ₂ emissions related to participant travel	No specific targets at this time

7. Additional indicators

7.1 Strengthening the sustainability of events organised by MCI Benelux

7.1.1 Context

Events are activities that require many subcontractors, suppliers, and service providers.

The objective of the action will therefore be to curate our database and strengthen our collaboration with subcontractors (hotels, conference rooms, transport services, caterers, printers, etc.) committed to the same sustainability policy as us.

7.1.2 Guiding Principle: "Greening" our Supply Chain

Given the nature of its activities in the events sector, MCI Benelux requires numerous subcontractors, such as:

- hotels;
- lounges and meeting, conference, and exhibition rooms;
- catering services;
- transport and limousine services;
- transport services for event materials (stands, exhibitions, documents, etc.);
- production, shipping, and distribution of promotional materials;
- reception and security staff;
- decoration;
- printing of various materials (brochures, leaflets, signage, displays, etc.);
- socio-cultural activities;
- miscellaneous services.

Logically, the "greening" of our activities depends on the "greening" of our suppliers. It is therefore necessary for them themselves to adopt a sustainable approach, which, in addition to environmental aspects, also takes into account social inclusion and local economic development.

MCI Benelux has therefore taken the decision to include specific indicators as part of the EMAS registration, which will be covered by the MCI Benelux **ESG Supplier Tracker**. This tool will provide the following:

1. Value creation

Following the first specific indicator, the value creation indicator aims to quantify the financial weight of certified suppliers compared to non-certified suppliers. MCI Benelux's aim is to increase the proportion of certified suppliers, both in terms of number and volume.

2. Positive transformation of MCI Benelux's supplier database

This indicator aims to measure the number of suppliers who themselves have a sustainable or environmental certification – or a credible sustainability policy – compared to suppliers who do not. The aim is to achieve a positive change in the proportion of certified suppliers compared to non-certified suppliers.

3. Collaboration with inclusive suppliers and charities

Although MCI Benelux's activities remain heavily dependent on the will of its customers, this indicator aims to strengthen their social dimension. Our company demonstrates its willingness to follow an ethical and sustainable work approach, with the support of all staff members and professional organisations such as the social secretariat.

7.1.3 Measurements

The MCI Benelux database includes nearly 2,000 references, and assessing and documenting the environmental policies and certifications of each supplier represents a colossal task.

In order to be able to draw reliable and rapid conclusions, it was therefore decided to make improvements to the process and the tracker, namely:

- Initially, to concentrate efforts on the most active suppliers i.e. those who have been the subject of 5 invoices (or more) over the period 2023/2024;
- The establishment of a "consolidated" status for suppliers who have been reviewed and conversely a "non-consolidated" status;
- It is also planned to integrate the evaluation of the performance of each supplier both in terms of environmental performance (actually observed), and operational performance.

In terms of implementation, teams are expected to address all the most active suppliers before the end of 2024.

At the beginning of 2025, the indicator will be evaluated, and the objectives will be confirmed (or revised) for the following 12 months.

indicator	Description	Objective
Supplier Code of Conduct	Ensure that 50% of all consolidated suppliers, across all supply categories, have signed the Supplier Code of Conduct (ESG Supplier Tracker)	50% of suppliers sign supplier code of conduct
ESG Compliant Suppliers	Ensure that 50% of all consolidated suppliers, across all supply categories, are ESG compliant (ESG Supplier Tracker)	50% ESG compliance among suppliers
ESG Performance	Ensure a steady increase in euros spent on compliant consolidated suppliers compared to non-compliant suppliers (ESG Supplier Tracker)	5% increase in euros spent on ESG compliant suppliers

7.1.4 Indicators, planned activities and objectives

7.2 Fire prevention and first aid

7.2.1 Context

MCI Benelux supports teleworking. All employees are allowed to work remotely a maximum of three days a week – under normal working conditions.

While this policy contributes to a better work-life balance and reduces emissions related to commuting, it raises an important new issue, that of fire prevention and first aid on site.

7.2.2 Guiding principle: planning training and attendance

All companies established in Brussels have a legal obligation to have a fire prevention officer and a first aider present on site at all times.

Both fire prevention and first aid trainings were organised in November 2023 for MCI Benelux voluntary employees.

The current number of trained colleagues ensures our full compliance with legal requirements. It also guarantees the permanent presence of at least one fire prevention officer and one first aider on each floor.

Refresher trainings are also planned for 2024 for people certified in 2023. The first of these training courses was held on 4 June 2024.

The aim will be to have a permanent "reserve" of at least four fully trained staff members at all times.

7.2.3 Measurements

As of today (25 September 2024), MCI Benelux can count on:

- Six certified fire prevention agents;
- Six certified first aiders.

7.2.4 Indicators, planned activities and objectives

indicator	Description	Objective
Certified trainings	Organisation of training in fire prevention and first aid	A permanent reserve of at least four people trained in fire prevention and first aid throughout the year

7.3 Environmental impact of digital documents and applications

7.3.1 Context

Sending emails and storing documents in cloud solutions have a considerable impact on the environment, due to the energy consumption they generate.

Every year, we encourage our employees to participate in a "digital cleaning" action. This operation is an opportunity to reduce the environmental impact and IT costs by deleting and/or archiving online data. It is also an opportunity to raise awareness among employees about the importance of digital sobriety in a global manner.

7.3.2 Guiding principle: digital sobriety

While cloud solutions offer unmatched efficiency for communications and data management, they come at a significant environmental cost. Globally, the amount of data hosted in data centres are increasing, while data centres consume a huge amount of energy on a continuous basis, much of which is currently from non-renewable sources.

While this issue is currently low on the priority list for most organisations, we believe it will soon be too important to ignore.

MCI Benelux believes that we should seek to reduce our data hosting as a preventive measure. This decision has the direct benefits of:

- Reducing our environmental impact, as explained above
- Reducing IT costs (licenses and hosting costs).

MCI Benelux has regularly carried out "digital clean-ups" in recent years. Our ambition for the coming years is to transform this logical and healthy operation into a fully-fledged indicator.

It should be noted that IT management is operated by the IT team at the **mci group** head office (Geneva, Switzerland), as reported in chapter 6.7.5 on the calculation of carbon emissions.

7.3.3 Measurements

During the last week of March 2024, all employees of MCI Benelux (as well as those of other entities of **mci group**) were invited to carry out the annual "digital clean-up".

The first results measured for the March 2024 action at MCI Benelux are the following:

DESCRIPTION	DELTA
Individual mailboxes	- 3%
Shared mailboxes	- 0%
Shared cloud space	- 21%

indicator Description		Objective	
Digital clean-up	"Digital clean-up" action organised every year.	To be defined jointly with mci group and to be implemented in 2025	

7.3.4 Indicators, planned activities and objectives

7.4 CSR activities

7.4.1 Context

As stated in Chapter 6, MCI Benelux has decided to consider CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) activities as integral part of EMAS/ISO 14001.

Since its very beginning, MCI Benelux has been organising regular social and cultural activities.

These activities are essential for MCI Benelux (and **mci group**). They are an integral part of the company's culture and embody its fundamental values.

For this reason, we have chosen to integrate these activities into the scope of EMAS and ISO 14001. This convergence effort is essentially intended to:

- ensure that EMAS and ISO 14001 are perfectly integrated into the daily lives of employees and other stakeholders and remain "top of mind";
- get used to structuring, reporting, and documenting the CSR activities, with a view to the future implementation of the CSR Directive adopted by the European Union in early 2024.

7.4.2 Guiding principle: engagement

The undertaken actions are essentially aimed at raising awareness among all employees about social and/or environmental causes.

The central objective is to propose different actions – in order to reach the different sensitivities within the company – and to encourage commitment.

These actions are actively supported by the general management.

7.4.3 Measurements

#	Action	Dates	Goal	Staff participation rate
1	Mind over Miles Challenge	May 2023	Sponsored walk Beneficiary: Maison d'Enfants Reine Marie-Henriette asbl Total donations: €1,140.00	Around thirty active participants (20% of mci group Belgium staff) mci group Belgium finished in 3rd place in the world ranking

#	Action	Dates	Goal	Staff participation rate
2	Compost	Sept. 2023 – ongoing	Reducing waste through separate collection of organic waste	100 %
3	Toy collection	OctDec. 2023	Collecting toys for underprivileged children Beneficiary: Arc-en-Ciel ASBL Total donations: approximately 100 toys	Around 35% of mci group Belgium staff
4	Shoebox	OctDec. 2023	Collecting items (sanitary products, food, office supplies, etc.) for the homeless Beneficiary: Les Samaritains Total donations: 92 boxes	92 boxes received! The target was 40 boxes 85% from mci group Belgium (includes logos and BBE)

During the **first half of 2024**, the following actions were carried out or planned:

#	Action	Dates	Goal	Participation rate
1	Blood donation	6 March 2024	Blood donation Beneficiary: Belgian Red Cross Total donations: 8 litres of blood collected – equivalent to 51 lives potentially saved!	17 collaborators were able to contribute
2	Mind over Miles challenge	May 2024	Sponsored walk Beneficiary: de Zonnegloed (wildlife sanctuary) Total donations: €1,500.00	18 registered participants
3	20 kms of Brussel	26 May 2024	Sponsored walk Beneficiary: Maison d'enfants Reine Marie-Henriette asbl Total donations: €3,100.00	23 participants
4	City to Ocean	30 September 2024	Cleaning the Brussels Canal Beneficiary: World Clean-Up Day Total donations: evaluation after the action	7 participants (teams limited to 10 people maximum by the partner organisation).

indicator	Description	Objective
	Organise at least four CSR actions over the year	4 actions per year
CSR Activities	Ensure a rate of engagement of the company's employees according to the type of action	Defined individually for each action

7.4.4 Indicators, planned activities and objectives

7.4.5 CSR and environment: the expression of corporate culture

Clean-up action / Kayak activity

The ambition of this activity is to get involved in a collective clean-up action, on the occasion of the **United Nations World Clean-up Day.**

This is an entirely voluntary action organised by the City to Ocean association.

City to Ocean?

City to Ocean is an environmental organisation dedicated to reducing plastic pollution and raising awareness of its impact on urban waterways and oceans. Its **purpose** is to make the waterways of the Brussels region cleaner and plastic-free. Even in urban areas, nature must have its place and must be respected.

Its method of intervention consists in organising kayak operations aimed at collecting drifting plastic waste, greening the waterways, and maintaining a waste barrier there. **The result**: a significant improvement in the quality of the canal water and a positive plea for recycling and eco-responsibility.

The MCI Benelux team

The activity is carried out on the basis of teams of maximum 10 participants, aboard kayaks - for a zerocarbon operation...

The action took place on Monday, September 30, 2024.

Many thanks to the valiant team of mci group Belgium!



8. Main legal provisions

MCI Benelux maintains its regulatory register through regular monitoring of legal texts at regional, national, European, and international level (see chapter on legal provisions).

MCI Benelux has set up a functional email address (<u>emas-brussels@wearemci.com</u>), through which we are subscribed to several professional newsletters – including that of Bruxelles-Environnement, the central player in the Brussels-Capital Region. Bruxelles-Environnement provides regular updates on legislation as well as recommendations and best practices.

MCI Benelux also maintains regular contact with the sustainability experts of mci group, who provide highlevel political guidance.

The main people involved in sustainability certifications and best practices are:

- Mr Vincent Gallego
 Sustainability Officer MCI Benelux SA
 emas-brussels@wearemci.com
- Mr Emmanuel Andre
 Group Health, Safety and Sustainability Director mci group
 <u>emmanuel.andre@mci-group.com</u>
- Ms Celine Noir Group Sustainability Manager – mci group celine.noir@mci-group.com
- Ms Erica Fawer
 Group Internal Communication Director mci group
 <u>erica.fawer@mci-group.com</u>

9. Declaration of validation

See official French version of this document.