# Conference on environmental legislation for Luxembourg held at LIST

9 December 2020 Contact: Communication Team Tel: + 352 275 888-1 Email: communication@list.lu

Upcoming environmental regulations: keen interest from companies

*More than 70 participants took part in the annual “Betriber & Emwelt” conference on environmental legislation organised on 8 December by the Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST) and the Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development (MECDD).*

This event organised as part of the Betriber & Emwelt cycle aims to present the most decisive legislative changes in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for this year and those to come for 2021.

The complete PDF presentation can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/3qNVzKv>

Luxembourg’s Minister of the Environment, Carole Dieschbourg was present and introduced the event. She mentioned in particular that the Climate Bill will be debated on 9 December in the parliament. In terms of waste, the transition from a linear economy to a circular economy is essential. The package of five waste laws has now reached the State Council.

Mr. Hoffmann, Director of the Environmental Research and Innovation (ERIN) department at LIST recalled the objective of this event, which is to inform Luxembourg companies about their legal obligations in terms of environmental protection and help them comply.

Then Caroline Fedrigo, Senior Environmental Engineer at LIST, explained the possibilities offered by the Betriber & Emwelt platform (betriber-emwelt.lu) and invited participants to subscribe to the free newsletter.

The first part of the event was devoted to the presentation of the future Climate Law. Mr. Ducomble, Government Attaché at MECDD, outlined the structure and content of this new law, which could be adopted this year for the fifth anniversary of the Paris Agreement. The objectives are ambitious with the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions attributed to Luxembourg (excluding Emission Trading System) by 55% by 2030 compared to the 2005 level and a long-term objective of climate neutrality. The new climate law sets the framework for Luxembourg's climate policy with clear and transparent procedures and new bodies in the area of ​​climate governance. A partial review of the Climate and Energy Fund will be carried out as well as an adaptation of the greenhouse gas emission allowance trading system.

Following on from this, Mr. Strasser, expert in air quality at the Environment Administration (AEV) presented the National Air Pollution Control Program (NAPCP). The National Emission Ceilings (NEC) directive, which aims to set the ceilings for air pollutant emissions for each Member State for the 2030 horizon, was transposed in Luxembourg by the Grand-Ducal regulation of 27 June 2018 concerning the reduction of air pollutants and national emissions of certain air pollutants. The following five pollutants are regulated by the “NEC” directive: sulfur dioxide (SO2), non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOC), ammonia (NH3), nitrogen oxides (NOx), fine particles (PM2.5).

The NAPCP, currently in the project phase, is drawn up by the Environment Administration in collaboration with the sectors and authorities concerned and proposes measures to achieve the objectives of reducing these pollutants, while ensuring consistency with other plans and programs (eg integrated national energy and climate plan).

Regarding pollutant emissions, the Environment Administration encourages companies, on a voluntary basis, to go beyond the requirements. Every effort counts! Companies that voluntarily modernise, beyond legal requirements, their technical systems in order to reduce or avoid pollutant emissions, can benefit from financial assistance.

The second part was dedicated to the “Null Offall Lëtzebuerg” strategy (Zero waste) and the revision of the legislative framework.

Stephanie Goergen, researcher at AEV, presented the ins and outs. Resulting from the consultation of various stakeholders in 2019, the “Null Offall Lëtzebuerg” strategy was presented in September 2020 and can be found on the emwelt.lu site here: <https://bit.ly/3m03xMO>

This strategy is inspired by the principles of the circular economy, has transversal objectives and specific objectives linked to key themes: better protection and use of our soils, forests and waters; better use of our materials; pack our products in a useful way; build and deconstruct our buildings properly. The objectives of each theme have been detailed. One of the key ideas is to move away from the negative connotation of waste and towards resource management. The transposition of five directives into a package of five different laws is underway and will take place as soon as possible.

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