

Environment

ECO-LABEL FOR TOURIST ACCOMMODATION SERVICE

Commission Decision [2009/578/EC](#) of 9 July 2009 establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label for tourist accommodation service

Objective

To set the ecological criteria, some mandatory and some optional, for the award of the Community Eco-label for tourist accommodation service.

Relevance for the hospitality industry

Obvious, although the eco-label is an instrument to be used on a voluntary basis.

State of progress

The Commission Decision was adopted on 9 July 2009. It repeals Decision [2003/287/EC](#).

Content

The criteria that need to be fulfilled in order to obtain the EU eco-label deal with the major environmental impacts of the accommodation structure: energy consumption, the use of water, the use of chemical substances and the production of waste. Some criteria are mandatory and some optional. All mandatory criteria need to be met. Each optional criteria is given 1, 1.5, 2, 3 or 4 points and the applicants need to fulfil 20 points.

Applications for the eco-label for tourist accommodation service, submitted from the date of adoption of this Decision until the 31 October 2009, may be based either on the criteria set out in Decision [2003/287/EC](#) or on the criteria set out in this Decision.

Where an application is made by a micro-enterprise for award of the Eco-label, the application fee shall be reduced by 75%.

HOTREC position

HOTREC fully supports actions aimed at achieving a more energy-efficient and sustainable production and consumption. However, with regard to the award of the community Ecolabel for tourist accommodation, HOTREC has always defended that the European Ecolabel scheme should have been developed as an umbrella, under which national and regional ecolabels, fulfilling a certain number and type of criteria, would be automatically recognized as EU ecolabels.

Official references

Commission Decision [2009/578/EC](#) of 9 July 2009 establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label for tourist accommodation service

See also:

Commission Decision [2003/287/EC](#) of 14 April 2003 establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label for tourist accommodation service