

**NB: Unofficial translation, legally binding only in Finnish and Swedish**

**Act on the Finnish Environment Institute**  
(1069/2009)

In accordance with the decision made by Parliament, the following is enacted:

**Section 1 – Operating principle and tasks of the Finnish Environment Institute**

(1) Subordinate to the Ministry of the Environment, the Finnish Environment Institute is a research and development centre that supports the evaluation and selection of the goals and means of sustainable development, and the implementation of environmental policies. Moreover, the Finnish Environment Institute carries out certain tasks related to the use and management of water resources that fall within the mandate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

(2) While carrying out the tasks mentioned above in subsection 1, the Finnish Environment Institute specifically:

1) researches and assesses changes taking place in the environment, land use and water resources, as well as the causes of such changes and, in cooperation with other bodies, develops measures and methods for the prevention and remediation of harmful changes in the environment;

2) creates expert services for the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment, and Regional State Administrative Agencies;

3) monitors and assesses the state of the environment and the pollution load, land use and water resources, and fulfils reporting obligations related to the above;

4) maintains and develops information systems, information resources and information services within its field of activity;

5) participates in international cooperation relevant to its tasks;

6) promotes awareness of the environment and provides training services within its field of activity.

(3) The Finnish Environment Institute conducts multi-disciplinary marine research within its field of activity, is responsible for monitoring the state of sea areas, and provides the related expert services.

(4) The Finnish Environment Institute also carries out other tasks assigned to it by decree or order.

**Section 2 – Steering of the Finnish Environment Institute**

The Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry direct the Finnish Environment Institute in duties falling within their respective mandates.

**Section 3 – Managing the Finnish Environment Institute and decision-making**

(1) The Finnish Environment Institute is headed by the Director General.

(2) The Director General makes decisions on the most important matters under the responsibility of the Finnish Environment Institute. The power of decision-making can be granted to other officials of

the Finnish Environment Institute, as laid down in the Standing Orders. The Standing Orders are approved by the Director General.

(3) The Finnish Environment Institute may have a consultative body in the form of an Advisory Board, whose tasks, composition and establishment are laid down by government decree.

#### **Section 4 – Receiving donations**

The Finnish Environment Institute may receive donations in order to finance its operations.

#### **Section 5 – More detailed provisions**

More detailed provisions on organising the administration and operations of the Finnish Environment Institute, on decision-making, and on appointing public servants are given by government decree.

#### **Section 6 – Entry into force**

(1) This Act enters into force on 1 January 2010.

(2) Measures necessary for the implementation of this Act may be undertaken before its entry into force.

Government bill 236/2009  
Environment Committee report 8/2009  
Response of the Parliament 201/2009

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President of the Republic of Finland  
TARJA HALONEN

Minister of the Environment  
Paula Lehtomäki