

# Group Environmental Policy Statement

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**Status:** annex 1 to KRL 17  
**Version:** V2.0  
**Date:** 09.04.2019

# Group Environmental Policy Statement

As a global leader in the development, production and distribution of motor vehicles and mobility services, the Volkswagen Group endeavors to become a leading provider of sustainable mobility and a role model in environment. We embrace the challenges of climate change and we are committed to the 2° target of the United Nations. We are keenly aware of the worldwide environmental and societal impact of our activities and products. To reduce our environmental footprint we use our global innovative capacity to address environmental challenges throughout all life cycle stages of our mobility offers. Our mobility innovations will also help our customers reduce their environmental footprint while simultaneously securing our business competitiveness and employment.

Guided by our “Environmental Mission Statement”, the Volkswagen Group commits to the following requirements:

## **1. Leadership:**

Our leaders, at every level of the organization in all brands and majority shareholdings of the Volkswagen Group, are aware of the environmental risks of their business activities and will demonstrate, in words and in actions, their commitment to compliance and to environmental leadership. They are responsible for the implementation of this policy in their business units and for ensuring that all employees are informed, qualified and held accountable for their assigned responsibilities. The Boards of Management at Group and at each entity will consider environmental leadership with equal weight to other business criteria in key company decisions.

## **2. Compliance**

We comply with legal and regulatory requirements as well as company standards and targets. We implement Environmental Compliance Management Systems to ensure that environmental compliance obligations are understood and achieved in our business operations. Environmental fraud and misconduct will be treated as a severe compliance violation. Compliance with this Environmental Policy Statement and with Group environmental requirements will be annually evaluated and reported to the Boards of Management at Group and at each entity.

## **3. Environmental Protection**

We follow a life-cycle approach to mitigate environmental risks and to optimize environmental opportunities such as the integration of renewable energy sources, decarbonisation, sustainable supply chains and resource efficiency. We implement economically viable methods to reduce our environmental impact across the life cycle of our operations, products and services. Our efforts are verified annually by public disclosure of key performance indicators.

#### **4. Stakeholder Collaboration**

We engage with our employees, regulators, customers, suppliers, communities, public authorities and other interested stakeholders to improve our understanding of environmental requirements and expectations. Stakeholder input is considered and reflected in our Environmental Compliance Management System and in our operations, products and services. We commit to providing transparent and reliable information in our dialogue with and reporting to our stakeholders.

#### **5. Continual Improvement**

As part of our effort to continually improve, we implement internationally-recognized and third-party verified environmental management systems which integrate environmental requirements into our key business processes and decision-making. As well our environmental management systems themselves are subject to a process of continual improvement. We rely on our global network of subject matter experts to identify and transfer best practices in environmental technology and management. We stay at the forefront of emerging environmental developments in regulations, science, technology and stakeholder expectations to meet or exceed our commitments.

Wolfsburg, May 2019

Dr. Herbert Diess

Dr. Oliver Blume