

STOCKHOLM CONVENTION

Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention
United Nations Environment Programme

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Date: 1 February 2022

Subject: Invitation for information following the decisions adopted by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee at its seventeenth meeting (POPRC-17)

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that at its seventeenth meeting held from 24 to 28 January 2022 in Geneva, the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee adopted ten decisions contained in annex I to the report of the meeting set out in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.17/13. The report will be made available on the Stockholm Convention's website: www.pops.int/poprc17.

The invitations for information made by the Committee within those decisions are detailed below.

(1) Methoxychlor:

By decision POPRC-17/1, the Committee, having completed the risk management evaluation for methoxychlor in accordance with paragraph 7 (a) of Article 8 of the Convention, adopted the risk management evaluation (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.17/13/Add.1) and decided, in accordance with paragraph 9 of Article 8 of the Convention, to recommend to the Conference of the Parties that it consider listing methoxychlor in Annex A to the Convention without specific exemptions. The recommendation will be considered at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention.

(2) Dechlorane Plus:

By decision POPRC-17/2, the Committee, having completed the risk profile for Dechlorane Plus in accordance with paragraph 6 of Article 8 of the Convention, adopted the risk profile (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.17/13/Add.2) and decided, in accordance with paragraph 7 (a) of Article 8 of the Convention, that **Dechlorane Plus is likely, as a result of its long-range environmental transport, to lead to significant adverse human health and/or environmental effects such that global action is warranted.**

The Committee established an intersessional working group to prepare a risk management evaluation that includes an analysis of possible control measures for Dechlorane Plus in accordance with Annex F to the Convention. The Committee also invited the intersessional working group on Dechlorane Plus to explore any further information on adverse effects, and, if appropriate, to revise the risk profile for consideration by the Committee at its eighteenth meeting.

The Committee invited Parties and observers to submit to the Secretariat the **information specified in Annex F on Dechlorane Plus and additional information relating to adverse effects of Dechlorane Plus** before **14 March 2022**.

Please use the enclosed form for submission of information on Annex F and please submit additional information relating to adverse effects of Dechlorane Plus using the form for submission of information on Annex E.

To: Stockholm Convention official contact points, national focal points, observers
Cc: Representatives of permanent missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva

(3) UV-328:

By decision POPRC-17/3, the Committee, having completed the risk profile for UV-328 in accordance with paragraph 6 of Article 8 of the Convention, adopted the risk profile (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.17/13/Add.3) and decided, in accordance with paragraph 7 (a) of Article 8 of the Convention, that **UV-328 is likely, as a result of its long-range environmental transport, to lead to significant adverse human health and/or environmental effects such that global action is warranted.**

The Committee established an intersessional working group to prepare a risk management evaluation that includes an analysis of possible control measures for UV-328 in accordance with Annex F to the Convention.

The Committee invited Parties and observers to submit to the Secretariat the **information specified in Annex F on UV-328** before **14 March 2022**.

Please use the enclosed form for submission of information on Annex F.

(4) Chlorpyrifos:

By decision POPRC-17/4, the Committee, having examined the proposal by the European Union to list chlorpyrifos in Annexes A, B and/or C to the Convention and having applied the screening criteria specified in Annex D to the Convention, decided, in accordance with paragraph 4 (a) of Article 8, that **it is satisfied that the screening criteria for chlorpyrifos have been fulfilled**, as set out in the evaluation contained in the annex to that decision.

The Committee established an intersessional working group to review the proposal further and to prepare a draft risk profile for chlorpyrifos in accordance with Annex E to the Convention.

The Committee invited Parties and observers to submit to the Secretariat the **information specified in Annex E on chlorpyrifos** before **14 March 2022**.

Please use the enclosed form for submission of information on Annex E.

(5) Chlorinated paraffins with carbon chain lengths in the range C₁₄₋₁₇ and chlorination levels at or exceeding 45 per cent chlorine by weight:

By decision POPRC-17/5, the Committee, having examined the proposal by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to list chlorinated paraffins with carbon chain lengths in the range C₁₄₋₁₇ and chlorination levels at or exceeding 45 per cent chlorine by weight in Annexes A, B and/or C to the Convention and having applied the screening criteria specified in Annex D to the Convention, decided, in accordance with paragraph 4 (a) of Article 8, that **it is satisfied that the screening criteria for chlorinated paraffins with carbon chain lengths of C₁₄ and chlorination levels at or exceeding 45 per cent chlorine by weight have been fulfilled**, as set out in the evaluation contained in the annex to that decision.

The Committee noted that information relating to the screening criteria on bioaccumulation for chlorinated paraffins with carbon chain lengths in the range C₁₅₋₁₇ was less certain, and that, however, the information relating to the remaining screening criteria specified in Annex D was conclusive, and decided that more detail on bioaccumulation data should be included in the draft risk profile.

The Committee established an intersessional working group to review the proposal further and to prepare a draft risk profile for chlorinated paraffins with carbon chain lengths in the range C₁₄₋₁₇ and chlorination levels at or exceeding 45 per cent chlorine by weight in accordance with Annex E to the Convention.

The Committee invited Parties and observers to submit to the Secretariat the **information specified in Annex E on those chemicals** before **14 March 2022**.

Please use the enclosed form for submission of information on Annex E.

(6) Long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds:

By decision POPRC-17/6, the Committee, having examined the proposal by Canada to list long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds in Annexes A, B and/or C to the Convention and having applied the screening criteria specified in Annex D to the Convention, decided, in accordance with paragraph 4 (a) of Article 8, that **it is satisfied that the screening criteria for long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds have been fulfilled**, as set out in the evaluation contained in the annex to that decision.

The Committee established an intersessional working group to review the proposal further and to prepare a draft risk profile for long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds in accordance with Annex E to the Convention.

The Committee invited Parties and observers to submit to the Secretariat the **information specified in Annex E for the following substances** before **14 March 2022**:

- (a) Perfluorocarboxylic acids that have the molecular formula $C_nF_{2n+1}CO_2H$ in which $8 \leq n \leq 20$ and their salts – for example, perfluorononanoic acid (CAS No. 375-95-1), perfluorodecanoic acid (CAS No. 335-76-2), perfluoroundecanoic acid (CAS No. 2058-94-8), perfluorododecanoic acid (CAS No. 307-55-1), perfluorotridecanoic acid (CAS No. 72629-94-8), perfluorotetradecanoic acid (CAS No. 376-06-7), perfluoropentadecanoic acid (CAS No. 141074-63-7), perfluorohexadecanoic acid (CAS No. 67905-19-5), perfluoroheptadecanoic acid (CAS No. 57475-95-3), perfluorooctadecanoic acid (CAS No. 16517-11-6), perfluorononadecanoic acid (CAS No. 133921-38-7), perfluoroeicosanoic acid (CAS No. 68310-12-3) and perfluoroheneicosanoic acid and their salts;
- (b) Any substance that consists of a perfluorinated alkyl group that has the molecular formula C_nF_{2n+1} in which $8 \leq n \leq 20$ and that is directly bonded to any chemical moiety other than a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom.

For the purpose of facilitating information collection and as requested by the Committee, the Secretariat will make available a non-exhaustive list of CAS numbers for long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds on the website of the Stockholm Convention: www.pops.int/poprc17.

Please use the enclosed form for submission of information on Annex E.

(7) Review of information related to specific exemptions for decabromodiphenyl ether and short chain chlorinated paraffins:

By decision POPRC-17/7, the Committee, recalling decision POPRC-16/4, by which it decided to submit to the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention the reports on the review of information related to specific exemptions for decabromodiphenyl ether (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/17) and short-chain chlorinated paraffins (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.16/INF/18) noting the need for the continuation of the intersessional work of the Committee conducted between its sixteenth and seventeenth meetings in order to provide up-to-date information to enable decision-making by the Conference of the Parties, the Committee invited the following by **15 March 2022**:

- (a) Parties and observers to provide information on the composition of commercial chlorinated paraffins that include homologues with C_{10-13} chain length;
- (b) Parties listed in the register for specific exemptions for decabromodiphenyl ether to provide additional information to justify the need for the registration of such exemptions, including on:
 - o Production;
 - o Uses;
 - o Efficacy and efficiency of possible control measures;
 - o Information on the availability, suitability and implementation of alternatives;
 - o Status of control and monitoring capacity;
 - o Any control actions taken at the national or regional levels.

The Committee established intersessional working groups on decabromodiphenyl ether and on short-chain chlorinated paraffins to update the reports on the review of information related to specific exemptions for those chemicals, taking into account the information provided by Parties and observers, the outcomes of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and any relevant information that may subsequently be received in accordance with decisions adopted at that meeting, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting.

Please use the enclosed form for submission of information on decabromodiphenyl ether and short-chain chlorinated paraffins.

(8) Process for the evaluation of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride pursuant to paragraphs 5 and 6 of part III of Annex B to the Convention:

By decision POPRC-17/8, the Committee established an intersessional working group to undertake the activities specified in the process set out in the annex to decision SC-6/4 for the evaluation of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF) pursuant to paragraphs 5 and 6 of part III of Annex B to the Convention.

The Committee invited Parties and observers to provide to the Secretariat, by **15 March 2022**, information on PFOS, its salts and PFOSF using the form set out in the terms of reference for the assessment of alternatives to perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride.

Please use the enclosed form for submission of information on alternatives to PFOS, its salts and PFOSF.

(9) Indicative list of substances covered by the listing of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds:

By decision POPRC-17/9, the Committee recommended that the Conference of the Parties consider inviting Parties and observers to submit to the Secretariat any further information regarding the identification of substances covered by the listing of PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds; and consider requesting the Secretariat, in consultation with the Committee, to take the information into account for the purpose of further updating the indicative list, and to make the updated indicative list available on the Convention website.

The Secretariat will make available the updated indicative list of substances covered by the listing of PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds on the website of the Stockholm Convention: : www.pops.int/poprc17.

(10) Long-range environmental transport:

By decision POPRC-17/10, the Committee decided to further develop the document on long-range environmental transport (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.17/INF/15) and agreed to work in accordance with the workplan set out in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.17/INF/16/Rev.1.

All information and comments should be sent to the Secretariat by e-mail to:

Ms. Kei Ohno Woodall (kei.ohno@un.org).

Should you require additional information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat by e-mail.

Yours sincerely,



Rolph Payet
Executive Secretary

Encl.

- Form for submission of information on Annex E
- Form for submission of information on Annex F
- Form for submission of information on decabromodiphenyl ether
- Form for submission of information on short-chain chlorinate paraffins
- Form for submission of information on alternatives to PFOS, its salts and PFOSF