**Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants**

اتفاقية استكهولم بشأن الملوثات العضوية الثابتة · 关于持久性有机污染物的斯德哥尔摩公约 · Convention de Stockholm sur les polluants organiques persistants
Convenio de Estocolmo sobre Contaminantes Orgánicos Persistentes · Стокгольмская конвенция о стойких органических загрязнителях



Geneva, 12 June 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Information requests in follow-up to the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention at its sixth meeting

I am pleased to inform you that at its sixth meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland from 28 April to 10 May 2013, the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention agreed on the decisions contained in annex I to the report of the meeting, set out in document UNEP/POPS/COP.6/33. The report will be made available on the Convention's website: www.pops.int. Many of the decisions agreed upon include invitations to parties and others to provide information.

This letter is to solicit information sought in the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention at its sixth meeting that have early deadlines. A second letter will be sent later this year, compiling all other information requests contained in these decisions.

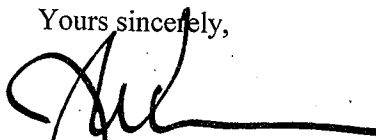
To facilitate your response, attached are the individual requests organized according to decision references. Information regarding each decision can be submitted separately, particularly since the deadlines for submission vary.

A similar letter has also been prepared to solicit information sought in the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention at its eleventh meeting that have early deadlines. These letters will be made available in the section on follow-up to Conference of the Parties of each Convention's website.

Should you have any queries, please contact Ms. Marylene Beau, Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (Email: marylene.beau@brsmeas.org; Tel: +41 22 917 83 87; Fax: +41 22 917 80 98).

We look forward to receiving your submissions.

Yours sincerely,


Jim Willis
Executive Secretary

Enc.: Follow up to the decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention at its sixth meeting

To: Stockholm Convention Official Contact Points

Cc: Stockholm Convention National Focal Points
Representatives of Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva

Follow up to the decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention at its sixth meeting

Requests	Decision	Page
(1) Request for information for the revision of the draft format supporting the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers	SC-6/3: Process for the evaluation of progress parties have made towards eliminating brominated diphenyl ethers contained in articles and the review of the continued need for specific exemptions for those chemicals	3
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(1) Request for information for the revision of the draft format supporting the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers

Decision: SC-6/3: Process for the evaluation of progress parties have made towards eliminating brominated diphenyl ethers contained in articles and the review of the continued need for specific exemptions for those chemicals

Background:

At its sixth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted the process to enable it to evaluate at its eighth meeting the progress that parties have made towards achieving their ultimate objective of elimination of brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Convention and to review the continued need for the specific exemption for those chemicals in accordance with paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of that Annex, as set out in annex I to decision SC-6/3. The Conference of the Parties decided, *inter alia*, to establish a small intersessional working group (SIWG), operating by electronic means, to review and revise the draft format for the submission of information for this evaluation and review, set out in annex II to document UNEP/POPS/COP.6/6.

Requests:

- Parties to nominate experts to participate in the SIWG and inform the Secretariat of their nominations by 30 June 2013;
- Parties to consider serving as lead country for the SIWG and inform the Secretariat accordingly by 30 June 2013;
- Parties to submit suggestions on revising the draft format to the Secretariat by 30 November 2013. The draft format is available on the website of the Convention at <http://chm.pops.int/Convention/ConferenceoftheParties%28COP%29/Meetings/COP6/FollowuptoCOP6/tabid/3254/Default.aspx>.

Respondents:

- Parties

Method of submission:

- Please submit suggestions on revising the draft format by including them in track changes mode, when applicable, to the contact point provided below.

Deadline for submissions:

- **30 June 2013** for nominations of experts;
- **30 June 2013** for indication of a party's willingness to serve as a lead country for the review and revision of the draft format;
- **30 November 2013** for submission of parties' suggestions on revising the draft format.

Contact point:

Mr. Gamini Manuweera (Email: gamini.manuweera@brsmeas.org, Tel: +41 22 917 86 04; Fax: +41 22 917 80 98).

(2) Request on guidelines on best available techniques and provisional guidance on best environmental practices

Decision: SC-6/10: Guidelines on best available techniques and provisional guidance on best environmental practices

Background:

At its sixth meeting, the Conference of the Parties, in decision SC-6/10, adopted the workplan of the expert group on best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practices (BEP) and invited parties to actively engage in the implementation of the workplan. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Secretariat to invite detailed comments on the draft guidance on BAT and BEP for the use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and the draft guidance on BAT and BEP for the recycling and waste disposal of articles containing polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) by 30 September 2013 and integrate the comments received into the draft guidance. The draft guidance on BAT and BEP is available at <http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/NIPs/Guidance/tabid/2882/Default.aspx>. A revised version of the draft guidance including the comments received prior to the above-mentioned deadline will be circulated to parties for further comments by 31 October 2014 to facilitate the development of the revised draft guidance to be submitted to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Requests:

- Parties are invited to provide detailed comments on the draft guidance on BAT and BEP for the use of PFOS and the draft guidance on the BAT and BEP for the recycling and waste disposal of articles containing PBDEs;
- Parties are invited to share their experiences on taking the guidelines and guidance into consideration when applying BAT and BEP pursuant to Article 5 of the Stockholm Convention;
- Parties are invited to nominate experts with specific expertise in BAT and BEP to the joint Toolkit and BAT and BEP expert roster.

Respondents:

- Parties

Method of submission:

- All submissions are to be made to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.

Deadline for submission:

- **30 September 2013** for submission of comments on the draft guidance on BAT and BEP for the use of PFOS and the draft guidance on the BAT and BEP for the recycling and waste disposal of articles containing PBDEs;
- **31 October 2014** for submission of comments on taking the guidelines and guidance into consideration when applying BAT and BEP pursuant to Article 5 of the Stockholm Convention;
- The joint Toolkit and best available techniques and best environmental practices expert roster remains open for nominations at all times.

Contact Point:

Ms. Ana Priceputu (Email: ana.priceputu@brsmeas.org; Tel: +41 22 917 85 53; Fax: +41 22 917 80 98).

(3) Request on implementation plans

Decision: SC-6/12: Implementation plans

Background:

At its sixth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted decision SC-6/12 in which it encourages parties to use the revised and updated guidance for developing a national implementation plan for the Stockholm Convention, updated in 2012 to include the chemicals listed in 2009 and 2011 and the additional guidance developed by the Secretariat. The revised/ updated and additional guidance is available at <http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/NIPs/Guidance/tabid/2882/Default.aspx>. The Conference of the Parties invited parties and others to provide comments to the Secretariat, based on their experiences in using them and also requested the Secretariat to facilitate the revision of these draft documents. As a first step, parties are invited to submit detailed comments by 30 September 2013. A revised version of the draft guidance including the comments received by the above-mentioned deadline will be circulated to parties for further comments by 31 October 2014. The revised versions of the draft documents will be then submitted to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Requests:

- Parties and others are invited to provide detailed comments on the following documents:
 - Draft guidance on socio-economic assessment for national implementation plan development and implementation under the Stockholm Convention (2007);
 - Draft guidance for the inventory for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and related chemicals listed under the Stockholm Convention (2012);
 - Draft guidance for the inventory polybrominated diphenyl ethers listed under the Stockholm Convention (2012);
 - Draft guidance for the control of the import and export of persistent organic pollutants (2012);
 - Document on labelling of products or articles that contain POPs – initial considerations (2012).
- Parties and others are invited to provide comments on the following documents, based on their experience in using them and on how to improve their usefulness:
 - Guidance for Developing a National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (updated in 2012 to include the persistent organic pollutants listed in 2009 and 2011);
 - Guidance on calculation of action plan costs, including incremental costs and action plans for specific organic pollutants (updated in 2012 to include the persistent organic pollutants listed in 2009 and 2011).

Respondents:

- Parties
- Others

Method of submission:

- All submissions are to be made to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.

Deadline for submission:

- **30 September 2013** for submission on detailed comments and comments on experiences using the revised and updated guidance for developing a NIP¹.

Contact point:

Ms. Jacqueline Alvarez (Email: ta@pops.int / jacqueline.alvarez@brsmeas.org, Tel +41 22 917 83 50, Fax: +41 22 917 80 98).

¹ <http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/NIPs/Guidance/tabid/2882/Default.aspx>