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Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee Thirteenth meeting Rome, 17–20 October 2017

Item 9 of the provisional agenda

Other matters

Outlines for risk profiles and risk management evaluations

Note by the Secretariat

- 1. As referred to in paragraph 15 of the annotations to the provisional agenda (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.13/1/Add.1), annexes I and II to the present note reproduce outlines for risk profiles 1 and risk management evaluations, 2 respectively.
- 2. At its first meeting, the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee agreed on an outline for risk profiles with a possibility of reviewing it in the future to address any dissatisfaction.³ The Committee also agreed that the length of a risk profile should be 20 pages and that there should be no annexes to the document. Supplemental information may be provided as information documents.
- 3. At its third meeting, the Committee agreed to use the outline for risk management evaluations with a possibility of reviewing it in the future to take into account the experience gained in doing so.⁴
- 4. The length of risk profile and risk management evaluation documents tends to increase when the scope of chemicals covered in those documents is large. In order to ensure conformity with document length and translation requirements, the Committee may wish to review the outlines to avoid duplication and to identify information which may be provided as information documents.
- 5. The present note, including its annexes, has not been formally edited.

^{*} UNEP/POPS/POPRC.13/1.

¹ UNEP/POPS/POPRC.1/10, annex IV.

² UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20, annex II.

³ UNEP/POPS/POPRC.1/10, paragraph 47.

⁴ UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20, paragraph 26.

Annex I

Risk profile outline¹

Executive summary

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Chemical identity of the proposed substance
 - Mention which Party has made the proposal and when it was made
 - Spell out the specific chemical identity and particular considerations related to that identity
- 1.2 Conclusion of the Review Committee regarding Annex D information
 - "The Committee has evaluated Annex D information (add reference to the meeting and the decision) and has concluded that [...]"

1.3 Data sources

- Short overview of the data sources provided by the proposing Party or used by the Committee in Annex D screening
- Short overview of data submitted by Parties and observers (NB: a more elaborated summary of the submissions may be provided as a separate POPRC/INF document)
- Information on availability of national and international assessment reports;
- 1.4 Status of the chemical under international conventions

2. Summary information relevant to the risk profile

- 2.1 Sources
 - Production, trade, stockpiles
 - Uses
 - Releases to the environment

2.2 Environmental fate

- Further elaboration of information referred to in Annex D, paragraphs (b)-(d), based on all relevant and available information
- Available monitoring data and data on levels of exposure must be integrated under the subheading or alternatively dealt with under separate headings.
- Could be divided into the following categories:
- 2.2.1 Persistence
- 2.2.2 Bioaccumulation
- 2.2.3 Potential for long-range environmental transport

2.3 Exposure

- Summary of relevant information concerning exposure in local areas (both near the source and in remote areas)
- Summary of relevant information concerning exposure as a result of long-range environmental transport
- Information on bioavailability

¹ UNEP/POPS/POPRC.1/10, annex IV.

2.4 Hazard assessment for endpoints of concern

- Further elaboration of information referred to in Annex D, paragraph (e); based on all relevant available information
- Monitoring data on effects included

3. Synthesis of information

 Synthesis of information relevant to the risk profile, in the form of a risk characterization,² with emphasis on information that leads to the conclusive statement

4. Concluding statement

 Is the chemical likely, as a result of long-range environmental transport, to cause significant adverse effects on human health or the environment, such that global action is warranted?

References to be provided

Note: No annexes; all other data to be provided as POPRC/INF documents.

Target size: not longer than 20 pages.

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² UNEP/POPS/POPRC.1/10, annex V.

Annex II

Revised risk management evaluation outline¹

Executive summary

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Chemical identity of the proposed substance
 - Mention which Party made the proposal and when it was made
 - Spell out the specific chemical identity and particular considerations related to that identity
- 1.2 Conclusions of the Review Committee, Annex E information
 - "the Committee has conducted and evaluated a risk profile in accordance with Annex E (add reference to the meeting and the decision) and has concluded that [...]"

1.3 Data sources

- Short overview of data submitted by Parties and observers regarding the information specified in Annex F of the Stockholm Convention (N.B. a more elaborated summary of the submissions may be provided as a separate POPRC/INF document)
- Information on availability of national and international management reports
- 1.4 Status of the chemical under international conventions
- 1.5 Any national or regional control actions taken

2. Summary information relevant to the risk management evaluation²

- 2.1 Identification of possible control measures
 - Short list of possible control measures (such as production prohibition, production restrictions, all use prohibition, restriction of a specific use, phase-out of stocks and articles in use, release control measures, waste disposal and clean-up of contaminated sites)
- 2.2 Efficacy and efficiency of possible control measures in meeting risk reduction goals
 - Technical feasibility
 - Identification of critical uses
 - Costs and benefits of implementing possible control measures, including environmental and health costs and benefits
- 2.3 Information on alternatives (products and processes) where relevant
 - Description of alternatives
 - Technical feasibility
 - Costs, including environmental and health costs
 - Efficacy, including benefits and limitations of alternatives versus nominated substance and identification of any critical uses for which there is at present no alternative
 - Risk, including information on whether the proposed alternative has been tested/evaluated and any information on potential risks associated with untested alternatives over the life cycle of the alternative
 - Availability
 - Accessibility

¹ UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20, annex II.

² Such information should reflect due regard for the differing capabilities and conditions among the Parties.

- 2.4 Summary of information on impacts on society of implementing possible control measures
 - Health, including public, environmental and occupational health
 - Agriculture, including aquaculture and forestry
 - Biota (biodiversity)
 - Economic aspects, including costs and benefits for producers and consumers and the distribution of costs and benefits
 - Movement towards sustainable development
 - Social costs (employment, etc.)
 - Other impacts

2.5 Other considerations

- Access to information and public education
- Status of control and monitoring capacity

3. Synthesis of information

- Synthesis of information relevant to the risk management evaluation, in the form of a risk management strategy,³ with emphasis on an analysis of possible control measures for the chemical that leads to the concluding statement
- The analysis of possible control measures should evaluate the full range of potential control measures and conclude, where possible, whether the recommended strategy/strategies are cost-effective, market-neutral and provide benefits to human health and the environment

4. Concluding statement

- Conclusion from the risk profile (for example: "Having decided that [name of chemical] is likely, as a result of long-range environmental transport, to lead to significant adverse effects on human health and/or the environment such that global action is warranted);
- Having prepared a risk management evaluation and considered the management options;
- The Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee recommends that the chemical be considered by the Conference of the Parties for listing in Annex [A], [B], [and/or C]."
- Statement linking the objective of sustainable development as set forth in the plan of implementation of the World Summit for Sustainable Development⁴ to the process and work of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee

References to be provided

[...]

³ This synthesis will include the integration of information on hazard identification, risk assessment, risk control measures evaluation, including a decision-making proposal on control measures, and recommendations for strategy implementation, supervision and review.

⁴ Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August—4 September 2002 (A/CONF.199/20* and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, subparagraph 139 (b): "Integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner".