

**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

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Reference: SC/POPRC

Date: 30 April 2012

Subject: **Invitation to review and provide comments on the draft technical paper on the identification and assessment on alternatives to the use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid in open applications**

At its fifth meeting, by decision SC-5/5 the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention had requested the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to develop terms of reference for a technical paper on the identification and assessment of alternatives, to the use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid in open applications at its seventh meeting and requested the Secretariat to commission the technical paper, resources permitting, based on the terms of reference developed by the Committee, for consideration by the Committee at its eighth meeting. It had also requested the Committee to develop recommendations on the basis of the technical paper for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting.

At its seventh meeting, the Committee adopted terms of reference for the technical paper set out in annex I to the decision POPRC-7/5. The Committee also approved a format for the collection of information on alternatives to the use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid in open applications and a possible outline of the technical paper, which can be found in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.7/INF/22/Rev.1. Furthermore, the Committee established an ad hoc working group to undertake the activities requested in paragraphs 5 and 7 of decision SC-5/5 and agreed to work in accordance with the workplan set out in annex II to decision POPRC-7/5.

Parties and observers were invited to submit information using the approved format for the collection of information and the ad hoc working group prepared the attached draft technical paper.

You are invited to **review and provide your technical comments on the draft technical paper on the identification and assessment on alternatives to the use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid in open applications** to the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee by **22 June 2012**.

Submissions will be appreciated in electronic files by e-mail to: ssc@pops.int and awarmuth@pops.int.

Should this not be possible, please forward hard copies to:

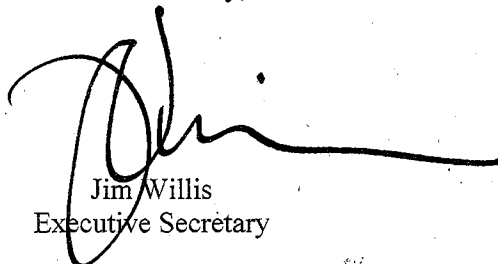
Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention
Att: POPs Review Committee
Ms. Andrea Warmuth
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11-13 chemin des Anémones
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Fax: (+41 22) 917 8098

To: Stockholm Convention Official Contact Points
Stockholm Convention National Focal Points

Cc: Representatives of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva

If you have any further questions regarding this invitation or if you would like to receive hard copies of the documents from the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Andrea Warmuth (e-mail: awarmuth@pops.int; telephone +41 22 917 8853).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Willis', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jim Willis
Executive Secretary

Attachment