

SC-4/19: Establishing indicative elements of a work programme to facilitate the elimination of listed brominated diphenyl ethers and the restriction or elimination of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and its salts, perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride and other chemicals listed in Annexes A or B of the Convention at the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties,

Having amended the Stockholm Convention to list new chemicals in Annexes A or B of the Convention,¹

Taking note of the obligations of Parties, including among others the measures listed in Article 6 of the Convention to reduce or eliminate releases from stockpiles and wastes,

Taking into consideration that these chemicals exist globally in stockpiles and wastes,

Mindful of paragraph 1 of Article 12 of the Convention relating to the rendering of timely and appropriate technical assistance,

1. *Decides* to undertake a work programme to provide guidance to Parties on how best to restrict and eliminate brominated diphenyl ethers, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and its salts, perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF) and other chemicals listed in Annexes A or B of the Convention at the current meeting, as laid down in the annex to the present decision;

2. *Invites* Parties to support work on the evaluation of alternatives and other work related to the restriction and elimination of these newly listed persistent organic pollutants.

Annex to decision SC-4/19

Indicative elements of a work programme to facilitate the elimination of listed brominated diphenyl ethers and the restriction or elimination of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and its salts, perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride and other chemicals listed in Annexes A or B of the Convention at the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

1. Parties are requested and observers are invited to provide any information by July 2010 on the chemicals listed in Annexes A and/or B of the Convention at the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties as follows:

- (a) For brominated diphenyl ethers found in articles, information on:
 - (i) Types and quantities of articles containing brominated diphenyl ethers, including concentrations of those substances in the articles, including recycled articles;
 - (ii) Types of articles recycled, the extent of recycling, the types of articles produced from recycling, the options for the environmental management of recycling operations and releases or potential releases resulting from recycling operations;
 - (iii) Cost-effectiveness of different management options;
 - (iv) Options for environmentally sound disposal;
 - (v) Methods for identifying the presence and levels of brominated diphenyl ethers in articles;
 - (vi) Identification of remediation methods for contaminated sites as listed in subparagraph 1 (e) of Article 6 of the Convention;
 - (vii) Any other related information;

1 See decisions SC-4/10–SC-4/19, *supra*.

- (b) For perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF), information on:
- (i) Types and quantities of articles containing PFOS, its salts and PFOSF, including concentrations of those substances in such articles;
 - (ii) Types of processes using PFOS, its salts and PFOSF, including concentrations of those substances used in such processes, the options for the environmental management of such processing operations, recycling operations and releases and potential releases resulting from such processing operations; (iii) Types of articles recycled, the extent of recycling, the types of articles produced from recycling, the options for the environmental management of recycling operations and releases or potential releases resulting from recycling operations;
 - (iv) Cost effectiveness of different management options;
 - (v) Methods for sampling and analysis of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF in articles;
 - (vi) Identification of remediation methods for contaminated sites as listed in subparagraph 1 (e) of Article 6 of the Convention;
 - (vii) Any other related information;
- (c) For other chemicals listed in Annexes A or B of the Convention at the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, information on the extent to which such chemicals occur in articles or present a risk of exposure from stockpiles or contaminated sites.
2. The Secretariat is requested:
- (a) To gather and compile the information referred to in the preceding paragraph and make it available to Parties and observers;
 - (b) To summarize such information to facilitate the work of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee and submit it in advance of its sixth meeting.
3. The Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee at its fifth meeting is requested to develop terms of reference for a technical paper with the following objectives:
- (a) To assess the possible health and environmental impacts of recycling articles and containing brominated diphenyl ethers;
 - (b) To review the long-term environmental desirability of the recycling of articles containing brominated diphenyl ethers;
 - (c) To identify the best available technology and best environmental practices for the recycling of articles containing brominated diphenyl ethers.
4. The Secretariat is requested to commission a technical paper based upon the terms of reference set out in the preceding paragraph to be submitted to the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee in advance of its sixth meeting.
5. The Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee is requested:
- (a) To review the information provided pursuant to paragraphs 1–4 above;
 - (b) To identify potential gaps in such information and how to fill those gaps;
 - (c) To prepare reports for the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting on the information provided and develop recommendations on the elimination of brominated diphenyl ethers from the waste stream and on risk reduction for PFOS, its salts and PFOSF.