

(4) Request for information supporting the evaluation of the continued need for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride for the various acceptable purposes and specific exemptions

Decision: SC-6/4: Process for the evaluation of the continued need for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride for the various acceptable purposes and specific exemptions

Background:

At its sixth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted the process to enable it to evaluate at its seventh meeting the continued need for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF) for the various acceptable purposes and specific exemptions listed in Annex B to the Convention, in accordance with paragraphs 5 and 6 of part III of that Annex.

Requests:

- Parties are invited to provide to the Secretariat information on:
 - The progress made to eliminate PFOS, its salts and PFOSF, in the process of reporting under Article 15 of the Convention, in accordance with paragraph 3 of part III of Annex B to the Convention; (request a)
 - The production and use of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF, in the process of reporting under Article 15 of the Convention, as specified in paragraph 5(b) of part III of Annex B to the Convention; (request b)
 - The availability, suitability and implementation of alternatives to PFOS, its salts and PFOSF, as specified in paragraph 5(c) of part III of Annex B to the Convention; (request c)
 - The progress made in building the capacity of countries to transfer safely to reliance on alternatives to PFOS, its salts and PFOSF; as specified in paragraph 5(d) of part III of Annex B to the Convention. (request d)

Respondents:

- Parties.

Method of submission:

- For requests a and b: please submit information by completing section D in the process of reporting under Article 15;⁸
- For request c: please submit information using the format that will be developed by the POPs Review Committee, and made available shortly after its ninth meeting on the Convention website;
- All submissions are to be made to the Secretariat via the contact point provided below.

Deadlines for submissions:

- For request c: **31 March 2014** for submission of information on alternatives to PFOS;
- For requests a and b: **31 August 2014** for submission of information on PFOS in the process of reporting under Article 15;
- For request d: **31 August 2014** for submission of information specified in paragraph 5(d) of part III of Annex B (earlier submission by March 2014 will be appreciated).

Contact point:

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⁸ The updated online electronic reporting system will be made available early 2014.