

Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention
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24 October 2008

Subject: Invitation to submit information specified in Annex E of the Stockholm Convention to the POPs Review Committee on Endosulfan

The fourth meeting of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee took place on 13-17 October 2008 in Geneva. The report of the meeting will soon be available at the Convention web site: <http://www.pops.int/poprc/>.

The Committee had before it a proposal submitted by the European Community and its Member States that are Parties to the Convention to list Endosulfan under Annexes A, B and/or C of the Convention.

In accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 8 of the Convention, the Committee examined the proposals and applied the screening criteria in Annex D of the Convention in a flexible and transparent way. The Committee decided that it was satisfied that the screening criteria had been fulfilled for Endosulfan and that further work should therefore be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

The next step in the process is to prepare a risk profile for Endosulfan, as noted in Annex E, to "evaluate whether the chemical is likely, as a result of its long-range environmental transport, to lead to significant adverse human health and/or environmental effects, such that global action is warranted". The risk profile shall further evaluate and elaborate on the information referred to in Annex D and include, as far as possible, the information listed in Annex E. To assist this task, an outline for risk profiles developed by the Committee is available at the Convention's website. As provided for by the Convention, the risk profile will take into account information to be submitted by Parties and observers.

What information is required?

You are invited to submit information specified in Annex E according to the explanatory note provided in this letter. The initial proposal for endosulfan, the verification of this proposal by the Secretariat as well as the Committee's decision on Annex D screening are available at the Convention's website: <http://www.pops.int/poprc/>.

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

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

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How to submit information?

A form, attached in English and available in the five other official languages of the United Nations at our website is provided to facilitate the submission of information required.

You are kindly requested to complete this form providing clear and precise references for each source of information. Without this the Committee will not be able to process the information. Please make sure that the name of the chemical is clearly indicated.

If the information is not readily available in the public literature, you may consider attaching the original source of information with your submission.

Annexed to this letter is a supplementary set of explanatory notes on how to complete the form which was developed by the Committee.

In relation to the confidentiality of the submitted information, please note that provisional confidentiality arrangements agreed upon by the Committee are available at our website.

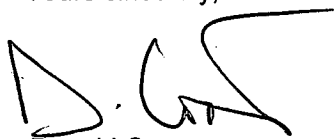
We would be most grateful to receive the required information **in English no later than 9 January 2009**. Information in **any other UN official language** (Arabic, Chinese, French, Spanish and Russian) should be submitted **by 12 December 2008**.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could submit the information by email: ssc@pops.int. Should this not be possible please forward hard copies or CD-Rom to:

Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention
Att: POPs Review Committee
Ms. Fatoumata Keita Ouane
United Nations Environment Programme
11-13 chemin des Anémones
CH-1219, Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland
Fax: (+41 22) 917 8098
E-mail: ssc@pops.int

If you have any further questions regarding this request or you would like to receive hard copies of the documents from the POPs Review Committee, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Fatoumata Keita Ouane (e-mail: fouane@pops.int; telephone +41 22 917 8161).

Yours sincerely,



Donald Cooper
Executive Secretary
Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention on
Persistent Organic Pollutants

Annex

Explanatory notes to the form for submission of information specified in Annex E for use by the POPs Review Committee

In filling in the form please provide, where possible and relevant, information of sufficient detail to inform scientific considerations of the Committee in preparing the risk profile, emphasizing information on study methods, tissue concentrations for comparative purposes, and citations, including, if possible, original copies of papers not readily available in the public literature. If the information is not peer-reviewed, it may still be useful for the Committee.

(a) Sources

1. Provide units for the data.
2. Historical data and trend data regarding production and uses.
3. Information regarding imports and exports.

(b) Hazard assessment for the endpoints of concern

1. Only information regarding the most important endpoints of concern need to be provided.
2. Data on human toxicity and ecotoxicity would be particularly helpful.

(c) Environmental fate

1. Other information, including long-range environmental transport modelling data.

(d) Monitoring data

1. If possible, provide additional monitoring data with indication of the data quality or the level of confidence.
2. Trend data.
3. Additional data related to the criteria in Annex D, especially where relevant to persistence, bio-accumulation and long-range environmental transport, as well as exposure. Please compare with the Annex D evaluation by the Committee (<http://www.pops.int/poprc/>)
4. Environmental monitoring data and exposure data.

(e) Exposure in local areas

1. Data regarding areas remote from sources of the chemical.
2. Data related to human health as well as wildlife.
3. Experimental or modelling data indicating possible long-range transport.
4. Occupational exposure data.

(f) National and international risk evaluations etc.

1. Rationale (assessment information) for regulation on toxic chemicals.
2. National and international risk evaluations prepared by Governments, inter-governmental organizations, regional economic integration organizations and non-governmental organizations

(g) Status of the chemical under international conventions

1. Only information regarding instruments other than the most well-known ones should be submitted (see document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.1/INF/10).

Additional information may also be submitted that is relevant for the evaluation of the chemical by the Committee but which does not fall within the above categories.
