

SC-3/6: Ongoing review and updating of the Standardized Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Dioxin and Furan Releases

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Takes note* of the Toolkit Expert Roster¹ and welcomes the report from the expert meeting to further develop the Standardized Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Dioxin and Furan Releases;²
2. *Adopts* the process for the ongoing review and updating of the Toolkit, within available resources, as set forth in the annex to the present decision and requests the Secretariat to implement the process and report on progress made to the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting;
3. *Requests* the Secretariat, when implementing the Toolkit review and updating process, to place adequate emphasis on the key sources for which limited monitoring data is available, including sources of hexachlorobenzene and polychlorinated biphenyls, and to support developing countries in their efforts to further verify their emission factors;
4. *Invites* Parties, States not party to the Convention, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations and industry:
 - (a) To generate relevant data and information on Annex C chemicals, as identified in the Toolkit review and updating process, and provide such data and information to the Secretariat;
 - (b) To participate actively in the Toolkit review and updating process;
 - (c) To provide funding to support the work outlined in the present paragraph and in paragraph 1 above, if they are in a position to do so.

Annex to decision SC-3/6

Process for the ongoing review and updating of the Standardized Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Dioxin and Furan Releases

Introduction

1. In fulfilling the request of the Conference of the Parties in its decision SC-2/5, the Stockholm Convention Secretariat organized jointly with the Chemicals Branch of the United Nations Environment Programme's Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (UNEP Chemicals) an expert meeting to further develop the Toolkit. The meeting took place from 13 to 15 December 2006. Individuals were selected by the Secretariat from the newly established Toolkit Expert Roster (see document UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/24) to take part in the meeting on the basis of the criteria set out in decision SC-2/5 and geographical distribution. Representatives of both environmental and industrial non-governmental organizations were invited as well. In addition, further experts have been identified by UNEP Chemicals to provide supporting specialized expertise in dioxin measurements or determination of emission factors. The main issues to be addressed by the meeting were: (i) possible elements of an open and transparent process of ongoing review and updating of the Toolkit; (ii) summary of two expert meetings held on Category 6 - Open burning of biomass and waste; (iii) determination of emission factors for combustion of biomass and fossil fuels in power plants, boilers, and small installations. The report of the meeting is available as document UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/6.

Process for the ongoing review and updating of the Standardized Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Dioxin and Furan Releases

2. A proposal for an open, transparent and inclusive process for the ongoing review and updating of the Toolkit, as recommended by the Toolkit meeting participants, is outlined below. It contains the following elements: the *general tasks* to be performed in the Toolkit review and updating process; the *stakeholders* involved in the process; the *activities, procedures and specific tasks* to be performed in the

1 UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/24.

2 UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/6.

process, together with the roles particular stakeholders play in them; and the *periodicity* in which the particular activities and tasks are to be performed.

General tasks

3. The general tasks to be undertaken in the Toolkit review and updating process have been outlined in paragraphs 3 and 6 of decision SC-2/5 as follows:
 - (a) Verifying of emission factors;
 - (b) Filling in the gaps still existing in the Toolkit, in particular:
 - (i) Improving emission factors for technologies typically used in developing countries;
 - (ii) Filling in emission factors for hexachlorobenzene (HCB) and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB);
 - (c) Improving the overall usefulness and user friendliness of the Toolkit, particularly for developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
 - (d) Providing training in the use of the Toolkit.
4. The procedures for identifying detailed tasks and activities, to be undertaken as priorities in a certain period of time, are outlined in paragraphs 15 (a) to (h) below.

Stakeholders

5. Following the general principles of participation in the ongoing Toolkit review and updating process, outlined in paragraph 4 of decision SC-2/5, the Secretariat invited Parties and others to nominate experts to be consulted as needed in the Toolkit development process. These experts are included in the Toolkit Expert Roster.
6. All experts nominated by Parties and others, included in the Toolkit Expert Roster (Toolkit experts), will be involved in the Toolkit review and updating process at least by electronic means.
7. The Toolkit Expert Roster should remain open for further nominations.
8. Party representatives selected from this roster (up to 25–30) may be invited by the Secretariat to participate in Toolkit expert meetings. Participants would be selected considering specific topics of meetings and the expertise available with the particular experts, as well as geographic distribution and balance between developed and developing countries.³
9. Additional experts (up to 5) may be invited in order to provide specific expertise related to the particular topic to be discussed, if such expertise is not available with the experts included in the Toolkit Expert Roster.
10. Toolkit expert meetings should be open to observers; however, the total number of meeting participants should not exceed 35.

Procedures, activities, and specific tasks

11. The Toolkit review and updating process should be driven by Parties. Expert panels focusing on a specific source category or task (such as developing of data quality criteria) could be established within the Toolkit Expert Roster, lead by volunteering Parties.
12. The Secretariat, in cooperation with UNEP Chemicals, will organize and facilitate this process as outlined in paragraphs 13–18 below.
13. Parties and others will be invited to generate relevant data and information on Annex C chemicals to assist in the ongoing Toolkit review and updating process, and to provide that information to the Secretariat.
14. On regular bases information will be collected, summarized and provided for consideration of the Toolkit experts. The following sources of information could be considered inter alia:
 - (a) Relevant information submitted by Parties and others;
 - (b) Results of available recent literature searches;
 - (c) Results of possible UNEP activities targeted to verification / establishment of new emission factors.
15. The Toolkit experts should perform the following tasks and activities, among others:

³ Participation in the Toolkit expert meeting held 13–15 December 2006 in Geneva was recommended by the participants as a suitable model for participation in future meetings.

- (a) Analyse and evaluate the information before them including the current Toolkit edition;
- (b) Identify still existing shortcomings and gaps, agree on priorities, and propose activities for improvement;
- (c) Identify possible activities for improving the overall usefulness and user friendliness of the Toolkit, particularly for developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
- (d) Elaborate a detailed workplan and timetable for the Toolkit revision and updating process for the forthcoming period, based on the above;
- (e) Set up the necessary organizational structure (expert panels);
- (f) Agree on data quality criteria for validation of data/information, in order to ensure that only scientifically sound information is included in the Toolkit;
- (g) Validate information and data to be included in the Toolkit according to the agreed data quality criteria and prepare revised/new Toolkit texts;
- (h) Assess training and capacity-building needs for Parties to evaluate current and projected releases and develop release estimates and trends with respect to Article 5 Annex C persistent organic pollutants.

16. Toolkit expert meetings will be organized to facilitate implementation of the activities and tasks outlined in paragraph 15 above.

17. Toolkit chapters, revised/elaborated by the expert panels, will be circulated to all Toolkit experts for review and comments and afterwards made available through the clearing-house mechanism. Parties and others will be invited to peruse them and provide comments and suggestions.

18. The following activities will be further promoted:

- (a) Sharing and exchanging information via the clearing-house mechanism;
- (b) Local initiatives for data generation and collection;
- (c) Joint activities and projects between developed and developing countries;
- (d) Synergies between activities related to Article 5 and Annex C (release inventories and BAT/BEP).

Periodicity

19. The Conference of the Parties recognizes that the Toolkit should be a living document and defines in its decision SC-2/5 the Toolkit review and updating process as “ongoing”.

20. The Toolkit expert meetings should be organized on a yearly basis, at least up to the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. However, work should be continued intersessionally by electronic means, organized by the expert panel leaders, and facilitated by the Secretariat.

21. Revised and agreed Toolkit chapters will be shared via the clearing-house mechanism (see paragraph 17 above). The next full revision of the Toolkit will be presented for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting.

22. The Conference of the Parties will decide at its fourth meeting whether the Toolkit review and updating process should continue as outlined above, or on any amendments to it.