

SC-6/10: Guidelines on best available techniques and provisional guidance on best environmental practices

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Takes note* of the nominations to the joint Toolkit and best available techniques and best environmental practices expert roster¹ and of the report of the first meeting of the expert group on best available techniques and best environmental practices;²
2. *Adopts* the workplan set out in the annex to the present decision;
3. *Invites* parties to nominate experts with specific expertise in best available techniques and best environmental practices, in particular those relevant to the chemicals that were listed in the annexes to the Stockholm Convention in 2009 and 2011, to the joint Toolkit and best available techniques and best environmental practices expert roster, and to engage actively in the implementation of the adopted workplan referred to in paragraph 2 of the present decision;
4. *Requests* the Secretariat to support the expert group in implementing the workplan referred to in paragraph 2 of the present decision and to implement awareness-raising and technical assistance activities to promote the guidelines and guidance adopted by the Conference of the Parties and the sharing of experience with their use in implementing obligations under the Convention, subject to the availability of resources;
5. *Reminds* parties to take into consideration the guidelines and guidance adopted by the Conference of the Parties when applying best available techniques and best environmental practices and to assist decision-making in the implementation of action plans and other actions related to the obligations under various articles of the Convention and invites them to share their experiences, such as in the form of case studies, via the Stockholm Convention clearing-house mechanism;
6. *Requests* the Secretariat to forward the waste-related content of the draft guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices for the use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and related chemicals listed under the Stockholm Convention (2012) and the draft guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices for the recycling and waste disposal of articles containing polybrominated diphenyl ethers listed under the Stockholm Convention (2012) to the appropriate bodies of the Basel Convention;
7. *Invites* the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention:
 - (a) To take the draft guidance referred to in paragraph 6 into account in its work on updating the Basel Convention general technical guidelines and the preparation or updating of specific Basel Convention technical guidelines on persistent organic pollutants;
 - (b) To review the waste-related aspects of the draft guidance documents referred to in paragraph 6 and forward the outcome to the Stockholm Convention Secretariat by 31 October 2014;
8. *Requests* the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources:
 - (a) To facilitate the revision of the draft guidance documents referred to in paragraph 6 based on the comments received from the Basel Convention;
 - (b) To invite detailed comments from parties by 30 September 2013;
 - (c) To integrate parties' comments into the draft guidance by 31 March 2014;
 - (d) To circulate the draft guidance to parties for further comment by 31 October 2014;
 - (e) To integrate parties' comments into the draft guidance and to submit revised draft guidance to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its seventh meeting;

¹ UNEP/POPS/COP.6/INF/8.

² UNEP/POPS/COP.6/INF/11, annex II.

9. *Invites* parties and others in a position to do so to fund activities aimed at enhancing the understanding and implementation of the guidelines and guidance;

10. *Invites* experts of the Basel Convention to participate in the work to assess technologies for the destruction and irreversible transformation of persistent organic pollutants,³ taking into consideration existing guidance (e.g., technical guidelines under the Basel Convention).

Annex to decision SC-6/10

Workplan for the review and updating of the guidelines on best available techniques and provisional guidance on best environmental practices

Introduction

1. Considerable time, efforts and funds were invested in the development of the Guidelines on Best Available Techniques and Provisional Guidance on Best Environmental Practices relevant to Article 5 and Annex C of the Stockholm Convention (Guidelines on BAT and BEP relevant to Article 5, Annex C). These guidelines have been, and continue to be, a useful and informative document, and do not require major revision. The expert group will thus focus its work on necessary updates and additions of relevant new information, as well as harmonization with outputs of other relevant processes such as the work under the European Commission on the reference documents on best available techniques (BREFs), in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

2. Further proposed activities relate to aspects of best available techniques and best environmental practices other than those relevant to Article 5, Annex C, of the Stockholm Convention, as required in paragraph 3 of decision SC-5/12.

Areas of work

I. Guidelines on BAT and BEP relevant to Article 5, Annex C

3. With regard to the guidelines on BAT and BEP relevant to Article 5, Annex C, the expert group will:

(a) Collect and evaluate new information from parties and others, in particular recently updated BREFs and national documents on best available techniques and best environmental practices, and supplement/update the guidelines as appropriate;

(b) Include new information that became available through the Toolkit revision process;

(c) Confirm the applicability of the existing guidance for pentachlorobenzene and confirm whether polychlorinated dibenzo-*p*-dioxins and dibenzofurans mitigation measures address pentachlorobenzene as well;

(d) Incorporate as appropriate available new information on areas of concern identified by parties, including -brick kilns, charcoal production, artisanal metal production, primary iron and steel production (other than sinter plants), galvanizing, quarantine waste incineration at borders, waste oil disposal and reuse, landfill gas and leachate management.

II. Guidance on BAT and BEP relevant to the newly listed persistent organic pollutants

4. With regard to guidance on BAT and BEP relevant to the persistent organic pollutants newly listed in the annexes to the Convention the expert group will:

(a) Appraise the draft guidance on best available techniques and best environmental practices for recycling and waste disposal of articles containing polybrominated diphenyl ethers listed in the Stockholm Convention, for the production and use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and related chemicals listed under the Stockholm Convention⁴ developed in the framework of

³ See paragraph 10 of the work plan in the annex to decision SC-6/10.

⁴ UNEP/POPS/COP.6/15.

the project “Development of the Guidelines for updating of National Implementation Plans (NIPs) under the Stockholm Convention taking into account the new persistent organic pollutants added to the Convention” implemented by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization with support from the Global Environment Facility, and identify needs for revision/amendments;

(b) Collect and evaluate new information from parties and others and revise/supplement the guidance as appropriate.

III. Alternatives

5. With regard to the guidelines on BAT and BEP relevant to Article 5, Annex C, the expert group will supplement the guidelines with new information on available alternative techniques and practices, including home-grown alternatives, and on the use of substitute or modified materials, products and processes.

IV. Destruction of persistent organic pollutants, including remediation of contaminated sites

With regard to the destruction of persistent organic pollutants, including the remediation of contaminated sites, the expert group will assess technologies for the destruction and irreversible transformation of persistent organic pollutants, taking into consideration existing guidance (e.g., technical guidelines under the Basel Convention).