

SC-9/4: Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride

The Conference of the Parties,

Having considered the report on the assessment of alternatives to perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride submitted by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee¹ and the report on the evaluation of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride submitted by the Secretariat,²

Taking note of the recommendations of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee on the continued need for the various acceptable purposes and specific exemptions of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride,³

Recalling its decision SC-7/1, in which it noted, pursuant to paragraph 9 of Article 4 of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, that as there were no longer any Parties registered for specific exemptions for the production and use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride for carpets, leather and apparel, textiles and upholstery, paper and packaging, coatings and coating additives and rubber and plastics, no new registrations may be made with respect to them,

1. *Decides* to amend part I of Annex B to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants by replacing the current listing of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (CAS No. 1763-23-1), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (CAS No. 307-35-7) with the new listing as follows:

<i>Chemical</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Acceptable purpose or specific exemption</i>
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (CAS No. 1763-23-1), its salts ^a and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (CAS No. 307-35-7)	Production	Acceptable purpose: In accordance with part III of this Annex, production of other chemicals to be used solely for the use below. Production for uses listed below. Specific exemption: None
^a For example: potassium perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No. 2795-39-3); lithium perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No. 29457-72-5); ammonium perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No. 29081-56-9); diethanolammonium perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No. 70225-14-8); tetraethylammonium perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No. 56773-42-3); didecyltrimethylammonium perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No. 251099-16-8)	Use	Acceptable purpose: In accordance with part III of this Annex for the following acceptable purpose, or as an intermediate in the production of chemicals with the following acceptable purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insect baits with sulfluramid (CAS No. 4151-50-2) as an active ingredient for control of leaf-cutting ants from <i>Atta</i> spp. and <i>Acromyrmex</i> spp. for agricultural use only Specific exemption: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metal plating (hard-metal plating) only in closed-loop systems Fire-fighting foam for liquid fuel vapour suppression and liquid fuel fires (Class B fires) in installed systems, including both mobile and fixed systems, in accordance with paragraph 10 of part III of this Annex

2. *Also decides* to amend part III of Annex B to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants by inserting a new paragraph 10 as follows:

¹ UNEP/POPS/POPRC.14/INF/13.

² UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/12.

³ Decision POPRC-14/3, annex.

“10. Each Party that has registered for an exemption pursuant to Article 4 for the use of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF for fire-fighting foam shall:

(a) Notwithstanding paragraph 2 of Article 3, ensure that fire-fighting foam that contains or may contain PFOS, its salts and PFOSF shall not be exported or imported except for the purpose of environmentally sound disposal as set forth in paragraph 1 (d) of Article 6;

(b) Not use fire-fighting foam that contains or may contain PFOS, its salts and PFOSF for training;

(c) Not use fire-fighting foam that contains or may contain PFOS, its salts and PFOSF for testing unless all releases are contained;

(d) By the end of 2022, if it has the capacity to do so, restrict uses of fire-fighting foam that contains or may contain PFOS, its salts and PFOSF to sites where all releases can be contained;

(e) Make determined efforts designed to lead to the environmentally sound management of fire-fighting foam stockpiles and wastes that contain or may contain PFOS, its salts and PFOSF, in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 6, as soon as possible.”
