**Annex**

Workplan for the small intersessional working group on PCB

The work of the small intersessional working group on PCB (PCB SIWG) will build on the report and the recommendations developed by the former PCB SIWG (UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/10, UNEP/POPS/COP.9/6/Add.1).[[1]](#footnote-1)

Information from national reports under the Stockholm Convention[[2]](#footnote-2) as well as the Basel Convention[[3]](#footnote-3) will be the primary sources of information.

| **Scheduled date** | **Activity** |
| --- | --- |
| 8 July 2020 | First meeting of the PCB SIWG (PCBSIWG-1) to discuss the draft workplan. |
| July–August 2020 | The Secretariat prepares the documents requested by the COP as follows:For submission to the COP-10 in July 2021:* Draft guidance on a standardized approach to developing inventories of PCB and to analysis for the identification and quantification of PCB (title to be decided);
* Proposal for a revision to the format for national reporting concerning information on PCB as per decision SC-9/16.

For submission to the effectiveness evaluation committee by 31 January 2022 as per decision SC-9/17:* Preliminary report on progress towards the elimination of PCB.

For submission to the COP-11 in May 2023 as per decision SC-9/3:* Report on progress towards the elimination of PCB, including recommendations of the PCB SIWG;
* Revised guidance on a standardized approach to developing inventories of PCB and to analysis for the identification and quantification of PCB (title to be decided), taking into account the feedback from the COP-10, comments by Parties and observers;
* Draft strategy for Parties to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals of the Stockholm Convention.

The Secretariat will engage consultants, as necessary, to support the activities.  |
| 30 September 2020 | The Secretariat prepares:* Draft terms of reference for the preparation (objective, outline, scope etc.) of the guidance on a standardized approach to developing inventories of PCB and to analysis for the identification and quantification of PCB (title to be decided);
* Draft terms of reference for the preparation of the proposal for a revision to the format for national reporting concerning information on PCB.

The Secretariat invites comments from the PCB SIWG members. |
| October 2020 | Second meeting of the PCB SIWG to discuss the draft terms of reference (PCBSIWG-2). |
| November–December 2020 | The Secretariat prepares:* First draft guidance on a standardized approach to developing inventories of PCB and to analysis for the identification and quantification of PCB (title to be decided);
* First draft proposal for a revision to the format for national reporting concerning information on PCB;
* Draft terms of reference for the preparation of a draft preliminary report on progress towards the elimination of PCB.

The Secretariat invites comments from the PCB SIWG members. |
| January 2021 | Third meeting of the PCB SIWG to provide feedback on the draft documents and discuss the draft terms of reference for the preparation of a draft preliminary report on progress towards the elimination of PCB (PCBSIWG-3). |
| 18 January 2021 | The Secretariat prepares a meeting document on PCB for the COP-10 including a report on the progress in the implementation of decision SC‑9/3 and a draft decision on the matter. |
| February–March 2021 | The Secretariat prepares:* Second draft guidance on a standardized approach to developing inventories of PCB and to analysis for the identification and quantification of PCB (title to be decided);
* Second draft proposal for a revision to the format for national reporting concerning information on PCB.

The Secretariat invites comments from the PCB SIWG members. |
| 27 March 2021 | Deadline for inputs to the information document for the COP-10 (English only). The Secretariat finalizes:* Draft guidance on a standardized approach to developing inventories of PCB and to analysis for the identification and quantification of PCB (title to be decided);
* Draft proposal for a revision to the format for national reporting concerning information on PCB.
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| April–July 2021 | Undertake training and awareness raising activities to support the submission of national reports using relevant guidance documents. |
| 19–30 July 2021 | Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention (COP-10).As a follow-up to the COP, the Secretariat invites comments from Parties and observers on the draft guidance and revises the format for national reporting as agreed by the COP. |
| 31 October 2021 | The Secretariat prepares:* Frist draft preliminary report on progress towards the elimination of PCB, taking into account the report and the recommendations developed by the former PCB SIWG,[[4]](#footnote-4) and based on the information from:
	+ National reports under the Stockholm Convention,[[5]](#footnote-5)
	+ National reports under the Basel Convention,[[6]](#footnote-6)
	+ Other sources, as appropriate.

The Secretariat invites comments from the PCB SIWG members. |
| November 2021 | Fourth meeting of the PCB SIWG to provide feedback on the first draft preliminary report (PCBSIWG-4). |
| December 2021 | The Secretariat prepares:* Second draft preliminary report on progress towards the elimination of PCB.

The Secretariat invites comments from the PCB SIWG members.The Secretariat makes the revised format for the 5th national report available on the website, as requested in decision SC-9/16. |
| 31 January 2022 | The Secretariat finalizes and submits to the effectiveness evaluation committee the preliminary report on progress towards the elimination of PCB, as part of the preliminary report to facilitate the evaluation requested in decision SC-9/17. |
| 28 February 2022 | The Secretariat prepares:* Draft terms of reference for the preparation of a draft strategy for Parties to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals of the Stockholm Convention.

The Secretariat invites comments from the PCB SIWG members. |
| March 2022 | Fifth meeting of the PCB SIWG to provide feedback on the preliminary report and discuss how to improve it; discuss the draft terms of reference for the preparation of the draft strategy (PCBSIWG-5). |
| April–July 2022 | Undertake training and awareness raising activities to support the submission of national reports using relevant guidance documents. |
| 31 August 2022 | Deadline for Parties to submit the 5th national reports. |
| 31 October 2022 | The Secretariat prepares:* First draft report on progress towards the elimination of PCB, on the basis of the preliminary report and taking into account the information from the 5th national reports of the Stockholm Convention and the national reports of the Basel Convention;
* First draft revised guidance on a standardized approach to developing inventories of PCB and to analysis for the identification and quantification of PCB (title to be decided), taking into account the feedback from the COP-10 and comments by Parties and observers;
* First draft strategy for Parties to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals of the Stockholm Convention.

The Secretariat invites comments from the PCB SIWG members. |
| November 2022 | Sixth meeting of the PCB SIWG to provide feedback on the draft documents (PCBSIWG-6). |
| November–December 2022 | Deadline for inputs to the working document for the COP-11 (six UN languages).The Secretariat prepares a working document on PCB including a report on the progress in the implementation of decision SC‑9/3 and the decision to be taken at the COP-10 and a draft decision on the matter. The working document could include recommendations of the PCB SIWG. |
| December 2022 | The Secretariat prepares:* Second draft report on progress towards the elimination of PCB, on the basis of the preliminary report and taking into account the information from the 5th national reports;
* Second draft revised guidance on a standardized approach to developing inventories of PCB and to analysis for the identification and quantification of PCB (title to be decided);
* Second draft strategy for Parties to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals of the Stockholm Convention.

The Secretariat invites comments from the PCB SIWG members. |
| January 2023 | Deadline for inputs to the information document for the COP-11 (English only).The Secretariat finalizes:* Report on progress towards the elimination of PCB;
* Revised guidance on a standardized approach to developing inventories of PCB and to analysis for the identification and quantification of PCB (title to be decided);
* Draft strategy for Parties to meet the 2025 and 2028 goals of the Stockholm Convention.
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| May 2023 | Eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.* The COP-11 undertakes the effectiveness evaluation pursuant to Article 16 and the review of the progress towards the elimination of PCB pursuant to para (g) of Part II of Annex A.
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1. [http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/IndustrialPOPs/PCB/Evaluation(review)/tabid/8304/Default.aspx](http://chm.pops.int/Implementation/IndustrialPOPs/PCB/Evaluation%28review%29/tabid/8304/Default.aspx). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://chm.pops.int/Countries/NationalReports/FourthRoundPartyReports/tabid/6346/Default.aspx>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <http://www.basel.int/Countries/NationalReporting/NationalReports/BC2018Reports/tabid/8202/Default.aspx>. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. UNEP/POPS/COP.9/INF/10, UNEP/POPS/COP.9/6/Add.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <http://chm.pops.int/Countries/NationalReports/FourthRoundPartyReports/tabid/6346/Default.aspx>. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. http://www.basel.int/Countries/NationalReporting/NationalReports/BC2018Reports/tabid/8202/Default.aspx. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)