**Submission by Bosnia and Herzegovina, 26 August 2014**

Dear Madam,

Thank you for your remainder regarding a request for information for supporting the evaluation of the continued need for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF) for the various acceptable purposes and specific exemptions in accordance with decision SC-6/4 adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention dated July 31 2014 with the attached Second letter related to information requests in follow-up to the decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention at its sixth meeting, dated 6 September 2013.

Regarding the requests for information copied from the second letter (pgs. 1 - 2) and provided below, please note the following answers:

* Parties to submit to the Secretariat their third national reports pursuant to Article 15 of the Convention by 31 August 2014; (the online electronic reporting system for third national reports will be made available on the Convention's website early 2014):
* This item is not applicable to Bosnia and Herzegovina, as Bosnia and Herzegovina is in the process of developing its first National Implementation Plan.
* Parties that may wish to register for specific exemptions and/or acceptable purposes available under the Convention to notify the Secretariat in writing; (Relevant forms available here):
* Bosnia and Herzegovina has not yet brought legislation pertaining to the exemption of PFOS in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) no. 757/2010. Only one of the entities that Bosnia and Herzegovina consists of (Republika Srpska) has transposed this Regulation via the Ordinance on Conditions for Restriction and Prohibition of Production, Trade and Use of Chemicals (Official Gazette of Republika Srpska, no. 100/10, 63/13). No legislation exists in the other entity (Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina) pertaining to PFOS yet, and therefore this item will be subsequently replied to, following consultation and completion of the National Implementation Plan in BiH.
* Parties that may export chemicals listed in Annex A or B to the Convention to any States not party to the Convention to use the template for the certification of non-party imports, in accordance with paragraph 2 (b) (iii) of Article 3; (Relevant certificate available here) Bosnia and Herzegovina does not export chemicals listed under Annexes A and B to countries non-parties of the Stockholm convention.
* 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; (Relevant guidance and guidelines available here) During the development of the first National Implementation Plan, all relevant guidance documents adopted by the Conference are being taken into consideration.
* Parties for whom the deadlines for transmitting their implementation plans have passed to transmit their plans as soon as possible, if they have not already done so. (Status of submission of implementation plans available here) Bosnia and Herzegovina is in the process of developing its first National Implementation Plan. Transmission will follow upon completion and adoption of the Plan by the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

As with regard to (4) Request for information supporting the evaluation of the continued need for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride for the various acceptable purposes and specific exemptions, please find the specific requests copied from the Second letter (page 7) and corresponding answers below:

* The progress made to eliminate PFOS, its salts and PFOSF, in the process of reporting under Article 15 of the Convention, in accordance with paragraph 3 of part III of Annex B to the Convention; (request a):
* Bosnia and Herzegovina is in the process of developing its first National Implementation Plan which will provide an overview of the initial quantities of PFOS in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
* The production and use of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF, in the process of reporting under Article 15 of the Convention, as specified in paragraph 5(b) of part III of Annex B to the Convention; (request b) The data on the use of PFOS have been listed in the "Preliminary Inventory of POPs substances in Bosnia and Herzegovina" developed under the project "Enabling Activities to Facilitate Early Action on the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs in Bosnia and Herzegovina" which is in progress. This data will be incorporated into the National Implementation Plan and transmitted to the Conference upon completion of the Plan and its adoption by the Government of BiH o The availability, suitability and implementation of alternatives to PFOS, its salts and PFOSF, as specified in paragraph 5(c) of part III of Annex B to the Convention; (request c) Bosnia and Herzegovina is in the process of developing its first National Implementation Plan which will provide an overview of the initial quantities of PFOS in Bosnia and Herzegovina. At this moment, no data is available confirming the use of alternatives to PFOS in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
* The progress made in building the capacity of countries to transfer safely to reliance on alternatives to PFOS, its salts and PFOSF; as specified in paragraph 5(d) of part III of Annex B to the Convention. (request d) Bosnia and Herzegovina is in the process of developing its first National Implementation Plan which will provide an overview of the initial quantities of PFOS in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Strengthening of Bosnia and Herzegovina's capacities for the safe transition to PFOS alternatives is part of the Action Plans contained in the National Implementation Plan and activities pertaining to safe transfer to PFOS alternatives will follow subsequently after the completion and adoption of the National Implementation Plan by the Government of BiH.

Kind regards,

Nermina Skejovic - Huric,

NFP for Stockholm Convention on POPs

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