

## POPRC-20/3: Long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds

*The Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee,*

*Recalling* its decision POPRC-19/2, in which it recommended to the Conference of the Parties that it consider listing long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds in Annex A to the Convention with specific exemptions as specified in subparagraphs 2 (a) and (b) of that decision,

*Having assessed* the information provided in accordance with paragraph 3 of decision POPRC-19/2,<sup>1</sup>

1. *Adopts* the addendum to the risk management evaluation for long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds;<sup>2</sup>
2. *Decides*, in accordance with paragraph 9 of Article 8 of the Convention, to recommend to the Conference of the Parties that it consider listing long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds in Annex A to the Convention with specific exemptions for the following:
  - (a) For five years from the date of entry into force of the amendment in accordance with Article 4: semiconductors designed for replacement parts not covered under subparagraphs (b) (i) and (ii) below;
  - (b) Until the end of service life of the following articles or in 2041, whichever comes earlier:
    - (i) Semiconductors designed for replacement parts for combustion-engine-powered vessels;
    - (ii) Replacement parts for motor vehicles that have ceased mass production;<sup>3</sup>
3. *Notes* that, in order to support Parties and observers and to facilitate the identification of substances, an initial indicative list of long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds has been prepared as set out in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.20/INF/17;
4. *Recommends* to the Conference of the Parties, should it decide to list long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds, that it establish a process for the identification of substances covered by such a listing, taking into account the process established for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds and perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), its salts and PFHxS-related compounds as set out in paragraph 5 of decision SC-11/8;
5. *Also recommends* to the Conference of the Parties, should it decide to list long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds, that it consider reminding Parties that, when replacing long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds, they should take into account the information on potential alternatives provided in the risk management evaluation,<sup>4</sup> taking into consideration the criteria in paragraph 1 of Annex D, to determine whether those alternatives exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants.
6. *Decides* to establish an intersessional working group to prepare a draft indicative list of long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds, on the basis of the list set out in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.20/INF/17, and to provide comments on the indicative lists of

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP/POPS/POPRC.20/4.

<sup>2</sup> UNEP/POPS/POPRC.20/10/Add.3.

<sup>3</sup> Covering all land-based vehicles, such as cars, motorcycles, agricultural and construction vehicles, and industrial trucks. Applications include semiconductors, coatings, cables, electronics, engines and under-hood applications, modules, hydraulic system components and relay assemblies.

<sup>4</sup> Substances such as some short-chain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), mentioned in the risk management evaluation (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.19/9/Add.2).

substances covered by the listing of PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds, PFHxS, its salts and PFHxS-related compounds, for consideration by the Committee at its twenty-first meeting.