

## **POPRC-20/5: Persistent organic pollutants in stockpiles, products and articles in use and in wastes**

### *The Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee*

1. *Decides* to submit to the Conference of the Parties the report on the options for identifying persistent organic pollutants in stockpiles, products and articles in use and in wastes, and on issues related to the production, import and export of products and articles containing persistent organic pollutants,<sup>1</sup> for consideration at its twelfth meeting;

2. *Recognizes* the complexity of the issue of identifying persistent organic pollutants in stockpiles, products and articles in use and in wastes in many countries and regions, including the fact that the definitions of these terms may differ;

3. *Notes* that the report referred to in paragraph 1 above identifies challenges in identifying persistent organic pollutants in stockpiles, products and articles in use and in wastes, including financial and technological capacity challenges, global regulatory challenges, complexity in value chains, and lack of disclosure of information on chemicals content in articles and products throughout the value chain, traceability, and transparency;

4. *Also notes* that the responses and information submitted by Parties and observers following the invitation for information following the decisions adopted by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee at its nineteenth meeting contain valuable information and that they have been made available on the Convention website;<sup>2</sup>

5. *Further notes* that the identification of chemicals in products and articles would be enhanced by the availability of Chemical Abstracts Service Registry numbers and Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System codes;

6. *Recognizes* that other international bodies have identified challenges similar to those identified in the report referred to in paragraph 1 above, and that several options and mechanisms may be applied by multiple actors at multiple levels;

7. *Notes* the existing guidance under the Stockholm Convention relevant to the identification of persistent organic pollutants;<sup>3</sup>

8. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties:

(a) Continue its work on improving the identification of persistent organic pollutants in stockpiles, products and articles in use and in wastes, especially taking into account developing countries' need for capacity-building and technical assistance to address those challenges;

(b) Continue cooperation and coordination with the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, the Global Framework on Chemicals, the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and other forums relevant to the identification of persistent organic pollutants in stockpiles, products and articles in use and in wastes, and to invite those international agreements and initiatives to consider the outcomes and information provided in the report referred to in paragraph 1 above;

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<sup>1</sup> UNEP/POPS/POPRC.20/INF/9/Rev.1.

<sup>2</sup> UNEP/POPS/POPRC.20/INF/10.

<https://chm.pops.int/TheConvention/POPsReviewCommittee/Meetings/POPRC20/Meetingdocuments/tabid/9913/Default.aspx>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.pops.int/tabid/3071>.

(c) Explore ways to improve the identification of persistent organic pollutants in products and articles through the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System and continue collaboration with the World Customs Organization;

(d) Request the Secretariat to continue to raise awareness among Parties of existing guidance relevant to the identification of persistent organic pollutants.