



Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention
International Environment House 1
11-13, chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine – Geneva
Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 917 87 29
Facsimile: +41 22 917 80 98
E-mail: ssc@pops.int
www.pops.int

Reference: SC/POPRC

Date: 4 June 2012

Subject: Invitation to review and provide comments on the draft reports on alternatives to endosulfan and DDT

At its fifth meeting, by decisions SC-5/4 and SC-5/6 respectively, the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants requested the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, to assess alternatives to endosulfan and DDT in accordance with the general guidance on considerations related to alternatives and substitutes to listed persistent organic pollutants and candidate chemicals (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.5/10/Add.1) on the basis of information provided by parties and observers.

Parties and observers submitted information on chemical and nonchemical alternatives to both endosulfan and DDT, which were compiled by the Secretariat for consideration by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee.

At its seventh meeting held in October 2011, the Committee reviewed the information and identified gaps in that information. The Committee established an intersessional working group to assess the information on alternatives to endosulfan in accordance with the workplan set out in annex I to decision POPRC-7/4 and on chemical alternatives to DDT identified in document UNEP/POPS/POPRC.7/INF/19, in accordance with the workplan set out in annex I to decision POPRC-7/8.

Additional information on alternatives to endosulfan was collected from parties and observers, on the gaps identified. The intersessional working group developed a methodology for the assessment of chemical alternatives to endosulfan and DDT, as well as a methodology for the evaluation of non-chemical alternatives to endosulfan. The working group then assessed the information on alternatives to both endosulfan and DDT using the above methodologies. Please find attached the following draft reports:

- “Assessment of Alternatives to Endosulfan and DDT”, containing the outcome of the assessment of chemical alternatives;
- “Background Document to the Report on Assessment of Alternatives to Endosulfan and DDT”, containing a summary of individual chemical specific technical information subjected to the assessment, and;
- “Evaluation of Non-chemical Alternatives to Endosulfan”.

You are invited to **review and provide your technical comments on the three draft reports on alternatives to endosulfan and DDT** to the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee by **22 June 2012**.

**To: Stockholm Convention Official Contact Points
Stockholm Convention National Focal Points**

Cc: Representatives of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva

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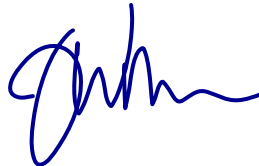
Submissions will be appreciated in electronic files by e-mail to: ssc@pops.int and awarmuth@pops.int.

Should this not be possible, please forward hard copies to:

Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention
Att: POPs Review Committee
Ms. Andrea Warmuth
United Nations Environment Programme
11-13 chemin des Anémones
CH-1219, Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland
Fax: (+41 22) 917 8098

If you have any further questions regarding this invitation or if you would like to receive hard copies of the documents from the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Andrea Warmuth (e-mail: awarmuth@pops.int; telephone +41 22 917 8853).

Yours sincerely,



Jim Willis
Executive Secretary

Attachment