

**Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants**

اتفاقية استكهولم بشأن الملوثات العضوية الثابتة · 关于持久性有机污染物的斯德哥尔摩公约 · Convention de Stockholm sur les polluants organiques persistants  
Convenio de Estocolmo sobre Contaminantes Orgánicos Persistentes · Стокгольмская конвенция о стойких органических загрязнителях



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21 October 2011

**Subject: Invitation to submit information on alternatives to the use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) in open application to the POPs Review Committee**

The seventh meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee of the Stockholm Convention took place from 10 to 14 October 2011, in Geneva. The report of the meeting will be available at the Convention's website: <http://www.pops.int/poprc/>.

As requested by the Conference of the Parties in paragraph 5 of decision SC-5/5, the Committee at its seventh meeting developed terms of reference for a technical paper on the identification and assessment of alternatives to the use of PFOS in open application, including consideration of the following aspects of the substitution of PFOS:

- (a) Technical feasibility;
- (b) Health and environmental effects;
- (c) Cost-effectiveness;
- (d) Efficacy;
- (e) Availability;
- (f) Accessibility.

The Secretariat is requested to commission a technical paper based on the terms of reference set out in decision POPRC-7/5. The Committee will develop recommendations on the basis of the technical paper for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting.

**What information is required?**

You are invited to submit information on **alternatives to the use of PFOS in open application**. PFOS in open application includes the following:

- (a) Aviation hydraulic fluids
- (b) Insecticides for control of red imported fired ants and termites
- (c) Chemically driven oil production
- (d) Carpets
- (e) Textiles and upholstery
- (f) Leather and apparel
- (g) Electric and electronic parts for some colour printers and colour copy machines
- (h) Paper and packaging

**To: Stockholm Convention official contact points  
Stockholm Convention national focal points**

**Cc: Representatives of permanent missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva**

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- (i) Fire fighting foams
- (j) Insect baits for control of leaf-cutting ants from *Atta* spp. and *Acromyrmex* spp
- (k) Coating and coating additives
- (l) Rubber and plastics
- (m) Metal plating (hard metal plating)
- (n) Metal plating (decorative plating)
- (o) Others

### **How to submit information?**

A form with explanatory notes developed by the Committee is contained in the annex to this letter to facilitate the submission of information. The form will also be available on the Convention's website in the six official languages of the United Nations. You may also provide a free text submission.

Where feasible, please complete the form and give precise references for the data sources. Without the exact source of the information, the Committee might not be able to use it. If the information is not readily available in the public literature, you may consider attaching the original source of the information to the submission.

Concerning the submission of confidential information, please note that the code of practice for the treatment of confidential information in the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee adopted in decision SC-3/9 by the Conference of the Parties is available on the Convention's website.

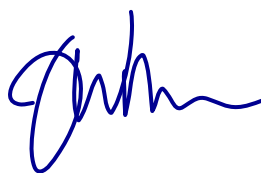
We would be grateful to receive your submission **in English no later than 9 January 2012**. Information in other United Nations official languages (Arabic, Chinese, French, Spanish and Russian) should be submitted by 15 December 2011.

The information should be submitted to the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention, preferably by e-mail:

Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention  
Att: POPs Review Committee  
United Nations Environment Programme  
11-13 chemin des Anémones  
CH-1219, Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland  
Fax: (+41 22) 917 8098  
E-mail: [ssc@pops.int](mailto:ssc@pops.int); [kohno@pops.int](mailto:kohno@pops.int)

If you have any questions regarding this request or you would like to receive hard copies of the documents from the Committee, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Kei Ohno (e-mail: [kohno@pops.int](mailto:kohno@pops.int); telephone +41 22 917 8201).

Yours sincerely,



Jim Willis  
Executive Secretary