## BC-14/4: Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants

The Conference of the Parties

- 1. Welcomes with appreciation the contributions made by the Government of Norway as lead country and by the small intersessional working group to the tasks pertaining to the technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants;
  - 2. Adopts the following technical guidelines:
- (a) Updated general technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants;1
- (b) Updated technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, or tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether or decabromodiphenyl ether;2
- (c) Updated technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes containing or contaminated with unintentionally produced polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins, polychlorinated dibenzofurans, hexachlorobenzene, polychlorinated biphenyls, pentachlorobenzene, polychlorinated naphthalenes or hexachlorobutadiene;3
- (d) Updated technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with hexachlorobutadiene;4
- (e) Technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with short-chain chlorinated paraffins;5
- 3. Requests the Secretariat to disseminate the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 of the present decision to Parties and others in the six official languages of the United Nations;
- 4. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the small intersessional working group established by paragraph 9 of decision OEWG-I/4 to provide that the group shall monitor and assist in the review, updating and preparation, as appropriate, of technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants, working in particular by electronic means;
- 5. *Recognizes* that provisional low persistent organic pollutant content values have been established at previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties and that knowledge limitations have posed challenges to the setting of such values;
- 6. Decides to continue working towards a review of provisional low persistent organic pollutant content values in the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 (a) of the present decision, and other technical guidelines, as appropriate, before the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, with a view to establishing lower low persistent organic pollutant content values at least for hexabromodiphenyl ether (hexaBDE) and heptabromodiphenyl ether (heptaBDE), tetrabromodiphenyl ether (tetraBDE) and pentabromodiphenyl ether (pentaBDE), decabromodiphenyl ether (decaBDE) and short-chain chlorinated paraffins at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- 7. *Invites* Parties and observers to submit to the Secretariat, no fewer than three months in advance of the twelfth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group, comments on the low persistent

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UNEP/CHW.14/7/Add.1/Rev.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> UNEP/CHW.14/7/Add.3/Rev.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> UNEP/CHW.14/7/Add.4/Rev.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> UNEP/CHW.14/7/Add.5/Rev.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> UNEP/CHW.14/7/Add.2/Rev.1.

organic pollutant content values included in the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 (a) of the present decision, and other technical guidelines, as appropriate, and related information, including on studies, taking into account relevant information available under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants;

- 8. Encourages Parties and others, as soon as possible, to develop and use methods, including screening methods, that are validated and suitable for industrial-scale use for the sampling and analysis of persistent organic pollutant content in waste, in particular of hexaBDE and heptaBDE, tetraBDE and pentaBDE, and decaBDE content in waste, in the range between 50mg/kg and 1,000mg/kg;
- 9. *Decides* that the updating of the general technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 (a) of the present decision and the updating of specific technical guidelines with regard to the chemicals listed in Annex A to the Stockholm Convention by decisions SC-9/11 and SC-9/12 of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention and to the amendment of the listing of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF) in Annex B to the Stockholm Convention by decision SC-9/4 should be included in the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for the biennium 2020–2021, including with regard to the following:
- (a) Establishment of levels of destruction and irreversible transformation for the chemicals necessary to ensure that when disposed of they do not exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants specified in paragraph 1 of Annex D to the Stockholm Convention;
- (b) Determination of which disposal methods constitute environmentally sound disposal as referred to in paragraph 1 (d) (ii) of Article 6 of the Stockholm Convention;
- (c) Establishment, as appropriate, of the concentration levels of the chemicals in order to define for them low persistent organic pollutant content as referred to in paragraph 1 (d) (ii) of Article 6 of the Stockholm Convention;
- 10. *Invites* Parties and relevant organizations to indicate to the Secretariat by 31 August 2019 their willingness to take the lead in updating the following technical guidelines in accordance with paragraph 9 of the present decision:
- (a) The general technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 2 (a) of the present decision, taking into account decisions SC-9/11, SC-9/12 and SC-9/4;
- (b) The technical guidelines on perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride to reflect the amendment of the listing of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF in Annex B and to include perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds, taking into account decisions SC-9/4 and SC-9/5, respectively;
- (c) The technical guidelines on the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with the pesticides aldrin, alpha hexachlorocyclohexane, beta hexachlorocyclohexane, chlordane, chlordecone, dieldrin, endrin, heptachlor, hexachlorobenzene, hexachlorobutadiene, lindane, mirex, pentachlorobenzene, pentachlorophenol and its salts, perfluorocotane sulfonic acid, technical endosulfan and its related isomers or toxaphene or with hexachlorobenzene as an industrial chemical to include dicofol, taking into account decision SC-9/11;
- 11. *Invites* the lead countries and the lead relevant organizations for the technical guidelines referred to in paragraph 10 of the present decision, if any, and requests the Secretariat, if there is no lead country or organization, subject to the availability of resources and in consultation with the small intersessional working group, to prepare draft technical guidelines in accordance with paragraph 10 of the present decision for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its twelfth meeting;
- 12. Requests the small intersessional working group to prepare a draft analysis of candidate persistent organic pollutants recommended for listing in annexes A, B and/or C to the Stockholm Convention by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee in order to identify whether

technical guidelines will need to be updated or developed for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting;

- 13. *Requests* the Secretariat:
- (a) To prepare a compilation of the comments and information referred to in paragraph 7 of the present decision for consideration by the Open-ended Working Group at its twelfth meeting;
- (b) To continue to provide, subject to the availability of resources, training to developing-country Parties and other Parties in need of assistance in using the adopted technical guidelines, organizing such activities in cooperation with the regional and coordinating centres under the Basel Convention or by other appropriate means;
- (c) To report on the implementation of the present decision to the Open-ended Working Group at its twelfth meeting and to the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.