

Step-by-step companion guide to the review and updating of the National Implementation Plans

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Table of contents

1. Introduction.....	3
2. What are the 9 new POPs.....	4
3. Step-by-step guide to the review and updating of the NIP	8
Step 1: Identification of the need to review and update national implementation plans pursuant to Article 7	9
Step 2: Initiation of the process of reviewing and updating national implementation plans	9
Step 3: Coordinating mechanism and process organization	10
Step 4: Assessment of the effects of the internal factor referred to in step 1 above: listing of the 9 new POPs on Parties' existing national implementation plans	11
Step 5: Formulation of revised and updated national implementation plans	15
Step 6: Endorsement of updated and revised national implementation plans and transmission of updated and revised national implementation plans to the Conference of the Parties	16
Step 7: Transmission of updated and revised national implementation plans to the Conference of the Parties.....	16
4. Guidance documents under development for the review and updating of the NIP.....	17
Annex : Sample questionnaires for the preliminary inventory of the use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid in specific industrial sectors	18

1. Introduction

This is a step-by-step guide to the review and updating of the national implementation plans (NIPs) for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

The goal is to guide the readers to the documents already available for the review and updating of the national implementation plans and assist parties in complying with the obligation under Article 7 of the Stockholm Convention.

The Stockholm Convention was amended in May 2009 to include nine new chemicals in its annexes A, B and C. The amendments entered into force for most of the Stockholm Convention Parties on 26 August 2010.

Article 7 of the Convention requires parties to develop and endeavour to implement a plan for the implementation of its obligations under the Convention and to transmit it to the Conference of the Parties within two years of the date on which the Convention entered into force for it. Furthermore parties are required to review and update their national implementation plan on a periodic basis and in a manner specified by a decision of the Conference of the Parties.

At its first meeting the Conference of the Parties adopted guidance on reviewing and updating national implementation plans. Among others the guidance identifies changes in obligations arising from amendments to the Convention or its annexes, including the addition of chemicals to Annexes A, B, or C as an external factor that triggers the need for a Party to review and update its national implementation plan.

Thus, those Parties for which the amendments have entered into force must review and update their national implementation plan and transmit it to the Conference of the Parties within two years from the entry into force of the amendments for that Party.

When reviewing and updating their NIP parties should take into account the need to implement the following measures with respect to the newly listed POPs:

- Develop and implement action plans for unintentionally produced chemicals (Article 5)
- Develop and implement strategies for indentifying stockpiles, products and article in use, and wastes with POPs (Article 6)
- Implement control measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use (Article 3 and 4)
- Include the new chemicals in the programme for the effectiveness evaluation (Article 16)
- Include the new chemicals in the reporting (Article 15)

This guidance explains each step of the process for the review and updating of the NIP in accordance with the following guidance adopted by the Conference of the Parties:

- Guidance for developing national implementation plans for the Stockholm Convention (UNEP/POPS/COP.2/INF/7)
- Guidance for the review and updating of national implementation plans (Annex to decision SC-1/12)
- Elaborated process of reviewing and updating national implementation plans (Annex to decision SC-2/7)

It also contains r reference to other existing documents and r resources that are useful for the review and updating of the NIP. All the materials have been used for technical assistance activities undertaken by the Secretariat in 2009 and 2010.

2. What are the 9 new POPs?

Parties already have experience in developing the NIPs including action plans for elimination of pesticides, PCBs, DDT, and unintentionally produced chemicals mainly released from combustion. However, the management of industrial chemicals, such as brominated flame retardants and PFOS, is a new challenge by virtue of their widespread use in complex industrial processes and consumer products that are traded globally and contaminate the general waste and recycling streams world-wide.

The chemical identities including trade names, codes, and CAS numbers, chemical properties, historical and on-going use, health and environmental risks, monitoring data, and availability of alternatives have been reviewed and documented by the POPs Review Committee of the Stockholm Convention. Those documents are called “Risk Profiles” and “Risk Management Evaluations” and are available for each of the 9 chemicals in the six official languages of the United Nations.

Also a general guidance on selection of alternative chemicals or processes as well as guidance on alternatives to brominated flame retardants and PFOS and related substances have been developed by the Committee.

The Secretariat has also produced a number of awareness raising materials such as “The 9 new POPs”, “Ridding the World of POPs”, and “Start-up guidance for the 9 new POPs”.

The 9 new POPs at a glance:

Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane

- Listed in Annex A. No exemptions.
- By-product of lindane.
- Use of this chemical as an insecticide was phased out years ago.

Beta hexachlorocyclohexane

- Listed in Annex A. No exemptions.
- By-product of lindane.
- Use of this chemical as an insecticide was phased out years ago.

Chloredecone

- Listed in Annex A. No exemptions.
- Organochlorine pesticide, chemically related to Mirex.
- Used since 1950s but phased out.

Hexabromobiphenyl

- Listed in Annex A. No exemptions.
- Industrial chemical used as a flame retardant.
- Mainly used in the 1970s.

Hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether

- Listed in Annex A with specific exemption for use in recycling of articles containing these substances. Registered parties can use these substances for this purpose until 2030.
- Components of commercial octabromodiphenyl ether (OctaBDE).
- Brominated flame retardants.

Lindane

- Listed in Annex A with a specific exemption for use as human health pharmaceutical for control of head lice and scabies as second line treatment. Registered parties can continue using lindane for this purpose for five years from the date of entry into force.
- Used to be used as a broad-spectrum insecticide for seed and soil treatment, foliar applications, tree and wood treatment and against ectoparasites in both veterinary and human applications.

Pentachlorobenzene

- Listed in Annex A and C. No exemptions.
- Previously used in PCB products, in dyestuff carriers, as a fungicide and a flame retardant, chemical intermediate for the production of quintozene.
- Could be released unintentionally.

Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether

- Listed in Annex A with specific exemption for use in recycling of articles containing these substances. Registered parties can use these substances for this purpose until 2030.
- Components of commercial pentabromodiphenyl ether (PentaBDE)
- Brominated flame retardants

Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts a and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride

- Listed in Annex B with acceptable purposes and specific exemptions for production and use
- Current intentional uses of PFOS are widespread
- Acceptable purposes that are allowed for registered parties to continue to use and produce are:
 - Photo-imaging, Photo-resist and anti-reflective coatings for semi-conductors
 - Etching agent for compound semi-conductors and ceramic filters
 - Aviation hydraulic fluids
 - Metal plating (hard metal plating) only in closed-loop systems
 - Certain medical devices (such as ethylene tetrafluoroethylene copolymer (ETFE) layers and radio-opaque ETFE production, in-vitro diagnostic medical devices, and CCD colour filters
 - Fire-fighting foam
 - Insect baits for control of leaf-cutting ants from *Atta* spp. and *Acromyrmex* spp.
- Specific exemptions allowed for registered parties for five years from the date of entry into force are:
 - Photo masks in the semiconductor and liquid crystal display (LCD) industries
 - Metal plating (hard metal plating)
 - Metal plating (decorative plating)
 - Electric and electronic parts for some colour printers and colour copy machines
 - Insecticides for control of red imported fire ants and termites
 - Chemically driven oil production
 - Carpets
 - Leather and apparel
 - Textiles and upholstery
 - Paper and packaging
 - Coatings and coating additives
 - Rubber and plastics

List of available guidance on the 9 new POPs

All documents are available at: www.pops.int, under “CONVENTION >> Media >> Publications” or “CONVENTION >> POPs Review Committee >> Chemicals”. Hard copies can be requested from the Secretariat.

- **Risk Profiles**

- Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20/Add.8)
- Beta hexachlorocyclohexane (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20/Add.)
- Chloredacone (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20/Add.10)
- Hexabromobiphenyl (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.2/17/Add.3)
- Octabromodiphenyl ether (Hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether) (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20/Add.6)
- Lindane (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.2/17/Add.4)
- Pentachlorobenzene (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20/Add.7)
- Pentabromodiphenyl ether (Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether) (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.2/17/Add.1)
- Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.2/17/Add.5)

- **Risk Management Evaluations**

- Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.4/15/Add.3)
- Beta hexachlorocyclohexane (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.4/15/Add.4)
- Chloredacone (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20/Add.2)
- Hexabromobiphenyl (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20/Add.3)
- Octabromodiphenyl ether (Hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether) (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.4/15/Add.1)
- Lindane (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20/Add.4)
- Pentachlorobenzene (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.4/15/Add.2)
- Pentabromodiphenyl ether (Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether) (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20/Add.1)
- Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20/Add.5 and UNEP/POPS/POPRC.4/15/Add.6)
- A compilation of risk management evaluations of the 9 New POPs

- **Guidance on alternatives**

- Considerations related to alternatives and substitutes for listed persistent organic pollutants and candidate chemicals (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.5/10/Add.1)
- Guidance on feasible flame-retardant alternatives to commercial pentabromodiphenyl ether (UNEP/POPS/COP.4/INF/24)
- Guidance on alternatives to perfluorooctane sulfonate and its derivatives (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.6/13/Add.3)

- **Outcomes of the new POPs work programme (SC-4/19)**

- Technical review of the implications of recycling commercial pentabromodiphenyl ether and commercial octabromodiphenyl ether (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.6/2/Rev.1)
- Recommendations on the elimination of brominated diphenyl ethers from the waste stream and on risk reduction for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (UNEP/POPS/COP.5/15)

- **About POPs Review Committee**

- Handbook for effective participation in the work of the POPs Review Committee (UNEP/POPS/COP.4/INF/9)
- Pocket guide for effective participation in the work of the POPs Review Committee (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.5/INF/7)

- **BAT/BEP and Toolkit**

- Standardized Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Dioxin and Furan Releases
- Guidelines on best available techniques and guidance on best environmental practices relevant to Article 5 and Annex C of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants

- **Other relevant publications:**

- Start-up guidance on the 9 new POPs
- The 9 new POPs brochure
- Ridding the world of POPs



3. Step-by-step guide to the review and updating of the NIP

List of available guidance on the review and updating of the NIP:

Please consult with the listed guidance documents when you review and update the NIP.

All documents are available at: www.pops.int under “CONVENTION >> Media >> Publications” or “PROGRAMMES >> NIPs >> Guidance”. Hard copies can be requested from the Secretariat.

- Guidance for developing national implementation plans for the Stockholm Convention, in short “NIP Guidance” (UNEP/POPS/COP.2/INF/7)
- Guidance for the review and updating of national implementation plans (Annex to decision SC-1/12)
- Elaborated process of reviewing and updating national implementation plans (Annex to decision SC-2/7)
- Guidance on socio-economic assessment for national implementation plan development and implementation under the Stockholm Convention (UNEP/POPS/COP.3/INF/8)
- Guidance on calculation of action plan costs, including incremental costs and action plans for specific persistent organic pollutants (UNEP/POPS/COP.4/INF/11)



The elaborated process of reviewing and updating national implementation plans contained in the annex to decision SC-2/7 consists of the following 7 steps. This chapter guides you to the relevant documents useful for each step of the process.

- Step.1** Identification of the need to review and update national implementation plans pursuant to Article 7
- Step.2** Initiation of the process of reviewing and updating national implementation plan
- Step.3** Coordinating mechanism and process organization
- Step.4** Assessment of the effects of the external or internal factors referred to in step 1 above on Parties' existing national implementation plan
- Step.5** Formulation of revised and updated national implementation plan
- Step.6** Endorsement of updated and revised national implementation plan
- Step.7** Transmission of updated and revised national implementation plans to the Conference of the Parties

Step 1: Identification of the need to review and update national implementation plans pursuant to Article 7

A number of factors can lead to a need to review and update the NIP for a Party.

The factors are identified in “**Elaborated process of reviewing and updating national implementation plans (Annex to decision SC-2/7)**”.

External factors:

- (a) Changes in obligations arising from amendments to the Convention or its annexes, including the addition of chemicals to Annexes A, B or C;¹
- (b) Decisions of the Conference of the Parties that may affect how Parties implement Convention obligations, including adoption of guidance or guidelines;
- (c) Changes in the availability of technical or financial assistance;
- (d) Changes in access to infrastructure external to the Party (e.g., disposal facilities).

Internal factors:

- (a) Reporting under Article 15 of the Convention indicating that the Party’s implementation plan is not adequate;
- (b) A change in national priorities;
- (c) A significant change in national circumstances (e.g., infrastructure or institutional arrangements);
- (d) Inventories of persistent organic pollutants, after improvement or updating, indicating a change in the scope of the problem to be addressed.

Step 2: Initiation of the process of reviewing and updating national implementation plans

Amendments to the Convention are one of the key triggers to review and update NIPs. Each Party should initiate the process for NIP review and update through internal procedures. This step may be the responsibility of a national lead agency in charge of coordinating the implementation of the Stockholm Convention.

For raising awareness and enhancing understanding, you can use brochures “**Ridding the World of POPs: A guide to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants**” and “**The 9 new POPs**”.

In addition it is recommended that you take into account the guidance for developing national implementation plans and to apply it as appropriate.

¹ The amendments to annexes A, B and C to the Convention adopted in May 2009 constitute a trigger for the need to review an update the NIP for those Parties for whom the amendments have entered into force.

Step 3: Coordinating mechanism and process organization

The success of the NIP review and update process requires that a project planning and management structure be put in place to ensure the coordination and organization of the steps and activities of the process. **Parties should follow, as appropriate, phase I of the NIP Guidance (Establishment of Coordinating Mechanism and Process Organization).**

A coordinating mechanism may already exist for Parties that have already developed a NIP, which can be adapted for the review and update process.

The coordinating mechanism shall undertake an assessment of a Party's financial and technical needs in order to carry out the review and updating of its national implementation plan.

Funding to support the review and updating of implementation plans for those Parties eligible to receive such funding under the Convention, can be sought through the Global Environment Facility, for further information please visit: www.thegef.org.

The main objectives of this step are:

- To raise awareness among stakeholders about the addition of the 9 new POPs to the Stockholm Convention
- To gain the political commitment to the process
- To establish the structure and procedures for executing the process.

The key outcomes of this step are:

- The establishment of mechanisms for the process and stakeholder involvement
- Agreement on a project plan for the process, with responsibilities assigned and commitment of resources
- Identification of tasks teams to address issues specific to the new POPs.

Implementation arrangements established for developing the initial NIP can be adopted for the review and update process.

Annex 1 of the NIP Guidance provides detailed information on a possible project management structure for NIP development. The main elements of this structure are a stakeholder review committee (national coordinating committee (NCC)), a project coordinating unit (PCU) and task teams and experts who are responsible for specific tasks identified by the PCU.

Making use of mechanisms and structures already established for developing the initial NIP should facilitate and accelerate this step of the review and update process. However, in executing the tasks

National coordination meeting on new POPs assessment brought together stakeholders in Nigeria

A national coordination meeting was organized in Abuja, Nigeria to initiate a project on the national assessment of new POPs in preparation for the review and updating of the NIP.

Information gained from participants and their commitment to contribute further to the assessment greatly facilitated the planning and implementation of the project.

Stakeholder participants:

- Representatives from the ministries of environment, health, labour, commerce and industry, science and technology, foreign affairs, the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control, the Consumer protection council, the National Steering Committee on POPs management, Nigerian customs services, the chemicals industry, the farmers association, non-governmental organizations and the media.

outlined in section 5.5 of the NIP Guidance, it is essential to adequately address Convention requirements that are specific to the new POPs.

Issues related to the new POPs pesticides may be to a large extent similar to those related to the initial POPs. But requirements regarding the presence of POPs in articles and the management of these articles have become more relevant because brominated diphenyl ethers (BDEs) and PFOS occur in a wide variety of articles. It may therefore be necessary to invite additional stakeholders to join the NCC and to bring in tasks teams with expertise specific to the new POPs.

Many of the governmental and non-governmental bodies that had participated in the development of the initial NIP would also be involved in the review and update process (see section 5.4 of the NIP Guidance). In particular, it will be useful to consult stakeholders involved with the areas listed below:

- Import and export: required to control POPs flows into and out of the country and as a possible source of information on articles containing new POPs on the national market
- Industry: affected by regulations on production/disposal of waste and articles containing new POPs
- Waste disposal and recycling: affected by regulations on the disposal of new POPs and the recycling and disposal of articles containing new POPs

National coordination meeting on new POPs assessment brought together stakeholders in Nigeria

Key outcomes of the national coordination meeting:

- Stakeholders increased their awareness about new POPs and the obligations under the Stockholm Convention;
- Priority areas pertaining to the management of new POPs that should be addressed during the assessment were identified;
- Preliminary information on the presence of new POPs in Nigeria were provided by stakeholders;
- Possible sources of information and additional stakeholders to be consulted on new POPs were identified;
- A number of stakeholders committed themselves to participating in the assessment;
- Relevant ministries agreed to nominate an official contact point for the assessment;
- Ongoing activities on the management of POPs were reviewed and problems and possible solutions were discussed;
- Stakeholders agreed to increase communication and reinforce coordination at the national level on issues related to chemicals

Step 4: Assessment of the effects of the internal factor referred to in step 1 above: listing of the 9 new POPs on Parties' existing national implementation plans

Parties should follow, as appropriate, phase II of the NIP Guidance (Establishment of persistent organic pollutant inventories and assessment of national infrastructure and capacity), and phase III (Priority assessment and objective setting).

Phase II is one of the major steps of NIP development and updating.

The main objectives of this phase are:

- To determine the baseline situation with regards to the new POPs
- To identify gaps in resources, capacity and knowledge that prevent the complete assessment of the status of these POPs
- To identify technical and financial assistance needed to complete the review and update process and to implement the NIP.

The key outcome would be baseline data on production, distribution, use, import and export of new POPs, institutional setting and infrastructure for management of new POPs, environmental contamination and exposure and enforcement mechanisms.

Establishment of inventories of the new POPs

Parties may conduct a preliminary inventory of the presence of the new POPs within the country, and then decide on which ones need a national inventory. Task teams with expertise in specific areas, such as POPs pesticides and industrial chemicals, would be responsible for conducting the assessment.

The preliminary inventory would provide information on the following:

- Types of processes using new POPs, including concentrations of those substances used in such processes
- Types and quantities of articles containing new POPs
- Types of articles containing new POPs that are recycled; the extent of recycling; the types of articles produced from recycling; the options for the environmental management of recycling operations and releases or potential releases resulting from recycling operations;
- Types of alternatives identified at the international level used in products and processes at the national level
- Types and quantities of new POPs stockpiles
- Options used for the management of wastes containing new POPs, including products and articles that become waste
- Location of contaminated sites potentially contaminated with new POPs

Data on new POPs may be obtained through a review of existing information.

The **“Startup Guidance on the 9 new POPs”** provides an overview of possible sources of existing data on new POPs, such as Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTR) and customs databases. Data gaps identified following the review of existing information can be addressed through consultation with stakeholders and national surveys.

The **“Guidance on Calculation of calculation of costs for specific action plans”** developed by UNITAR and adopted by COP 4, provides useful tools and methodologies which can assist parties when undertaking the exercise of identifying their technical and financial resources needs for reviewing, updating and implementing their NIP.

In addition the **“Guidance for socio-economic assessment²”** provides a selection of useful tools that can assist parties when assessing the socio-economic impact of the possible measures necessary to address the obligations arising from the inclusion of the nine new POPs.

² Guidance on social and economic assessment for the development and implementation of persistent organic pollutant national implementation plans Adopted by decision SC-3/8.

Participation of key stakeholders

The participation of key stakeholders in the consultation process is essential for obtaining reliable results. It is therefore important for tasks teams to identify those groups and individuals that hold realistic information on the new POPs. The inclusion of these stakeholders in the NCC (See Step 1) will be useful in obtaining their commitment to this step of the process. The table below provides information on potential stakeholders that may hold valuable information on new POPs.

Chemical	Potential stakeholders or information sources
Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane; Beta hexachlorocyclohexane; Chloredecone; Lindane	Pesticides manufacturers, importers and distributors; pesticide registration agencies; farmers associations; pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors and retailers (for lindane); drug licensing and administration agencies (for lindane).
Hexabromobiphenyl; Hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether; Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether	Plastics industry; electrical and electronic equipment industry; furniture, textiles and packaging material industry; construction industry; industry for the recycling of electrical and electronic equipment, plastics and PUR foam.
Pentachlorobenzene	Manufacturers and users of pentachloronitrobenzene (quintozene) (Pentachlorobenzene is also listed under Annex C of the Stockholm Convention; Parties are required to identify and address releases from unintentional sources. These include incineration of waste, barrel burning of household waste, waste streams from pulp and paper mills, iron and steel mills, petroleum refineries and activated sludge from waste water treatment facilities.)
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride	Sectors related to the following applications: Fire fighting foams, carpets, leather/apparel, textiles/upholstery, paper and packaging, coatings and coating additives, industrial and household cleaning products, floor polishes, denture cleanser, shampoos, industrial and household cleaning products, hydraulic fluids, anti-erosion additives, anti-reflective coatings, surfactants, photography, photolithography, photomicro lithography, adhesion control, metal plating and termite and ant bait.

Conduct a national survey

National surveys may be conducted as an additional mechanism to fill in data gaps on the presence of new POPs in a country. A survey can target a specific sector or group of users of new POPs. It can be useful to find out the impacts of control measures on the production or use of the new POPs.

Members of the NCC can assist in identifying which sectors are likely to use the new POPs and should be surveyed. For conducting the survey, carefully designed questionnaires should be sent to potential stakeholders. The forms used to compile information according to Annex E and F of the Stockholm Convention can serve as guidance for the design of such questionnaires. These forms are found in the **“Handbook for Effective Participation in the Work of the POPs Review Committee”**.

A sample questionnaire that may be used for a preliminary inventory of the use of PFOS in specific industrial sectors is contained in the annex to this guide. The questionnaire can be adapted to survey other sectors that are of relevance in a country.

Assessment of national infrastructure and capacity

In addition to baseline data on the presence of new POPs, information should be collected on the legal framework and institutional infrastructure in place to meet the requirements of the Stockholm Convention with regard to the new POPs. The starting point can be the information already present in the initial NIP. It is necessary to review the existing information to identify information gaps and deficiencies that should be addressed in light of the listing of the new POPs under the Convention. It is also important to update the NIP with changes in the legal framework and institutional infrastructure pertaining to the management of POPs that may have occurred since the NIP was first developed or last updated.

For further guidance on the assessment of new POPs pesticides (chlordecone, lindane, alpha hexachlorocyclohexane and beta hexachlorocyclohexane), Parties may refer to Annex 2 of the NIP Guidance. For the assessment of pentachlorobenzene, refer to Annex 4 of the NIP Guidance.

Priority assessment and objective setting

The step of the NIP review update process should result in the identification of the priority issues to address in the management of new POPs. It should also lead to a set of objectives to guide the update of the NIP and the development of preliminary country activities relevant to new POPs (See step 5).

This step relies on establishing country-specific criteria for prioritizing health and environmental impacts of POPs. For the NIP review and update process, it is

recommended that Parties reassess their national priorities vis-à-vis those already in their NIPs and make adjustments accordingly. For further guidance on priority assessment is set out in the UNITAR **“Guidance on Action Plan development for sound chemical management”³**.

Information gathering during the initial assessment of new POPs in Nigeria

Nigeria has never manufactured any of the new POPs. Those could only be present in the country as a result of importation.

In Nigeria, as in many other countries, imports of certain goods are subject to tariffs, making it necessary for customs services to keep detailed records of imported goods. These records were one of the main sources of information used by task teams to identify users of new POPs in Nigeria.

Valuable information on users was also obtained from participants of the National coordination meeting on new POPs. To gather information on the presence of new POPs, task teams used both interviews with stakeholders and structured questionnaires.

A list of trade names of the new POPs were attached the questionnaires to assist respondents in them filling out.

³ Set out in Annex 3 of the “Guidance on Calculation of Action Plan Costs for Specific Persistent Organic Pollutants” developed by UNITAR and adopted by decision SC-4/9.

Step 5: Formulation of revised and updated national implementation plans

Parties should follow, as appropriate, phase IV of the NIP guidance (Formulation of the national implementation plan).

The key objective of this step is to identify possible options for the management of new POPs to meet Convention obligations and country objectives.

Task teams with expertise on the new POPs would be responsible for identifying management options and drafting corresponding action plans, under the supervision of the PCU. The main outcome will be a draft NIP suitable for submission to the Conference of the Parties updated with a detailed road map for reaching country objectives with respect to each of the nine new POPs, with responsibilities clearly assigned and implementing mechanisms well defined.

This step is based on the results of Step 4 of the review and update process. Each section of the initial NIP (Annex 5 of the NIP Guidance) should be reviewed to identify areas that will need to be updated. Some areas may require minor updates only; for example, the country profile may have changed only slightly since the NIP was first drafted.

The sections on the assessment of the POPs issue in the country will have to be updated to reflect the findings obtained in Step 4 of the review and update process. It may be helpful to consider each of the new POPs and develop action plans for implementing management strategies under consideration. This approach will also allow the identification of areas where assistance is required for conducting additional assessments to complete and implement the NIP. Whenever possible, action plans for new POPs should establish linkages and synergies with activities that are contained in the initial NIP, making sure to avoid duplication of efforts.

Specific action plans and elements

In accordance with Annex A, part IV and part V, the registered Parties are allowed recycling of articles that contain or may contain hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether and tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether, respectively. Action plans should address the need to identify articles containing these chemicals and their presence in the recycling and waste streams.

If appropriate technology is not available in the country, accessing such technology can be included as an area in which assistance is required for NIP implementation. The listed BDEs have been widely used in manufacturing electrical and electronic equipment. Parties should therefore consider coordinating their actions on BDEs with their programmes on the management of electronic wastes. In developing action plans, Parties may wish to consider the recommendations of the POPRC on the elimination of BDEs from the waste stream.

Annex B, part III, of the Stockholm Convention addresses specific requirements for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts, and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOS-F). Action plans should be developed building on the preliminary inventory of PFOS uses and acceptable purposes and specific exemptions for the production and use of PFOS for which a Party has registered.

Parties should take into account that the COP will evaluate the continued need for these chemicals for the various acceptable purposes and specific exemptions no later than in 2015. It is therefore important to propose, when possible, strategies towards the elimination of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F, including action plans for evaluating and phasing-in the use of alternatives to these chemicals.

In considering alternatives, the following document may be useful: **“Draft guidance document on alternatives to perfluorooctane sulfonate and its derivatives” (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.6/13/Add.3)**. In developing action plans, Parties may wish to consider the recommendations of the POPRC on risk

reduction for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride.

The action plan on measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production in the initial NIP should be updated to address pentachlorobenzene (Pentachlorobenzene). Parties should include elements to measure or estimate releases of Pentachlorobenzene from source categories, such as those identified in Parts I and II of Annex C, and to prevent such releases.

According to the POPRC, for pentachlorobenzene formed as unintentional by-products in combustion processes, there is a clear relation to hexachlorobenzene and PCDD/F releases such that most measures taken to reduce PCDD/F releases will lead to significant reduction of pentachlorobenzene releases. For pentachlorobenzene formed from diffuse sources, such as barrel burning of household wastes and degradation of quintonzene, abatement strategies may not be effective and release reduction measures might be obtained by legislation and/or providing information and education of stakeholders.

The following documents may assist in updating the action plan: **"Guidance on Action Plan development for sound chemical management"**⁴, the **"Standardized Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Dioxin and Furan Releases"**, that is being updated with emission factors for pentachlorobenzene, and **"Guidelines on best available techniques and guidance on best environmental practices relevant to Article 5 and Annex C of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants"**.

Step 6: Endorsement of updated and revised national implementation plans and transmission of updated and revised national implementation plans to the Conference of the Parties

Parties should follow, as appropriate, phase V of the NIP guidance (Endorsement and submission of the national implementation plan).

The main objectives of this step are to communicate the updated NIP to stakeholders and obtain their feedback for inclusion into the final version of the NIP. The PCU should establish a consultation system for collecting feedback that may include a national stakeholders meeting to present and discuss the updated NIP. The final version of the NIP should be submitted for endorsement by the relevant authorities before being transmitted to the COP.

Step 7: Transmission of updated and revised national implementation plans to the Conference of the Parties

When the review and updating of a national implementation plan has been undertaken in order to comply with changes in the obligations under the Convention occasioned by amendments to the Convention or its annexes, the Party concerned shall transmit to the Conference of the Parties its revised and updated implementation plan within two years of the entry into force for that Party of the amendment. When transmitting their revised and updated national implementation plans to the Conference of the Parties through the Secretariat, it is recommended that Parties consider transmitting both hard copy and electronic versions

⁴ Set out in Annex 3 of the Guidance on Calculation of Action Plan Costs for Specific Persistent Organic Pollutants developed by UNITAR and adopted by decision SC-4/9.

4. Guidance documents under development for the review and updating of the NIP

By its decision SC-4/9, the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to prepare a revised version of the social and economic guidance, of the additional guidance on the calculation of action plan costs and to identify any additional guidance that might be required to assist Parties in their development and implementation of the Convention.

Lessons learned by Parties in the preparation of the NIPs for the initial 12 POPs indicate that Parties, especially developing countries, face a number of difficulties in the development of NIPs. These include a lack of a clear understanding of the information to be provided, difficulties in the collection of data, lack of a suitable sampling and analytical capacity, difficulties in identifying or adopting suitable disposal technology for POPs and the need to develop country-specific BAT and BEP. For updating their NIPs, Parties have indicated that obtaining information on the presence of new POPs is likely to be challenging, especially for three groups of widely used industrial chemicals: commercial pentaBDE, commercial octaBDE and PFOS.

To support Parties in reviewing and updating their NIPs and in meeting the challenges of addressing the newly listed industrial POPs, the following guidance documents and information sharing tools are under development:

- Guidance for establishing inventory of products and articles containing new POPs and industrial processes using new POPs
- Guidance for strengthening regulatory framework to enable regular monitoring of imported products and articles that may contain new POPs
- General guidance for customs on use of commercial or trade names
- Guidance on labelling of products and articles that contain new POPs or use new POPs during manufacture
- Guidance on risk reduction approaches for environmentally sound management of new POPs
- Guidance for BAT and BEP for production and use of PFOS
- Guidance for BAT and BEP for the recycling and waste disposal of articles containing BDEs
- Guidance on patterns of exposure to new POPs and associated hazards
- Database with readily accessible international information useful for development of NIPs under the Stockholm Convention

The above set of guidance will enable countries to identify chemicals in products and articles, establish inventories, and undertake national survey of imported products or products in the market containing POPs. It will also enable countries to handle restricted production and use, recycling and waste disposal of industrial chemicals including PFOS and BDEs in an environmentally sound manner. The titles are indicative of the subject of the guidance documents and may be modified in the final versions of these documents.

The following guidance documents will also be revised taking into account the needs originating from the listing of the 9 new POPs under the Convention:

- Existing guidance documents on NIPs and their review and update
- The Standardized Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Dioxin and Furan Releases to be updated with emission factors for pentachlorobenzene
- Guidelines on best available techniques and guidance on best environmental practices relevant to Article 5 and Annex C of the Stockholm Convention

Annex

Sample questionnaires for the preliminary inventory of the use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid in specific industrial sectors

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PULP AND PAPER INDUSTRIES

1. Name and address of the paper industry using PFOS:

Name of paper industry	Address

2. State the type of bleaching technology you use

3. What type of papers do you produce?

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Uncoated wood free printing and writing papers | ☐ | (b) Tissue paper | ☐ |
| (c) Coated wood free printing and writing paper | ☐ | (d) Recycled paper | ☐ |
| (e) Coated papers for water and oil/grease repellence | ☐ | (f) Speciality paper | ☐ |
| (g) Other paper (please specify) _____ | ☐ | | |

4. What chemicals do you use for paper making?

S/N	Name of chemical	Amount

For companies producing coated papers/cardboard for water or oil/grease repellence

5. Does any of the chemicals used contain PFOS or a PFOS precursor?

- (a) Yes ☐ (b) No ☐ (c) Don't know ☐

What chemicals and amount?

S/N	Name of chemical	Amount

6. Does any of these chemicals contain other fluorinated carbons?

(a) Yes

☐

(b) No

☐

(c) Don't know

☐**What chemicals and amount?**

S/N	Name of chemical	Amount

7. Releases of PFOS and fluorinated carbons

Item	Amount of PFOS/Fluorinated Carbons (Estimated % of used chemical)
Paper Product	
Released via waste water	
Retained in sludge/solid residues	
Others	

8. How are sludges and wastes managed?

(a) Deposited on the factory area

☐

(b) Destroyed in a waste treatment facility

☐

(c) Sent to a landfill (name/address)

☐

(d) Use on agricultural area

☐

(e) Others (please specify)

9. Stockpiles of PFOS containing chemicals or wastes

S/N	Name of PFOS chemical	Stockpiled or not?	In what form?	Quantity	Location

10. Remarks**11. Respondent**

Name	
Department	
Position	
Telephone	
Mobile Phone	
Email Address	
Signature	
Date	

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR METAL PLATING INDUSTRIES**1. Name and address of plating facility:**

Name of facility	Address

2. Type of plating process

(a) Chromium ☐ (b) Nickel ☐ (d) Others (Please specify) ☐

3. Since when do you have plating activities?

4. Chemicals used in the process (List chemicals/attach list of chemicals used in the plating process; if possible with safety data sheet)

S/N	Chemicals used in the plating process

5. Are you aware that any of the chemicals contain PFOS, salt of PFOS or PFOS precursors?

Chemical	CAS number	Contain PFOS: yes or no

6. Stockpiles of PFOS

S/N	Name of PFOS chemical	Stockpiled or not?	In what form?	Quantity	Location

7. How is the waste sludge from the plating bath managed?

- (a) Deposited on the farm/factory area ☐ (b) Destroyed in a waste treatment facility ☐
 (c) Sent to a landfill (name/address) ☐ (d) Others (please specify) ☐

8. Remarks

9. Respondent

Name	
Department	
Position	
Telephone	
Mobile Phone	
Email Address	
Signature	
Date	

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FIRE FIGHTING ORGANIZATIONS

1. Name and address of fire fighting agency or factory/entity using or having used fire fighting foams with emphasize on AFFF foam category:

Name of fire fighting agency/factory/organization	Address

2. Name and producer (seller) of currently used AFFF fire fighting foams (Please attach safety data sheet if available)

S/N	Name of currently used AFFF	Producer of the AFFF	% PFOS in the AFFF	Availability	Price (NGN)

3. Names and producers (sellers) of AFFF fire fighting foams used in the past (if available from 1980s on) and the years they have been used (Please attach safety data sheet if available)

S/N	Name of previously used AFFF; producer of this AFFF	Years used (from - to)	% PFOS in the AFFF	Reason for not using it again

4. Usage frequency, location and amount of AFFF foam use for training purpose

S/N	Number of times used/year	Total amount used/year	Training location (detail address)

5. Location and amount of AFFF foam used in actual fire events (for the past 20 years)

S/N	Location of large fire event	Date	Type of AFFF used	Rough amount of AFFF used

(Use additional sheets, if necessary)

6. Stockpiles of AFFF

S/N	Name of AFFF chemical	Stockpiled or not?	In what form?	Quantity	Location

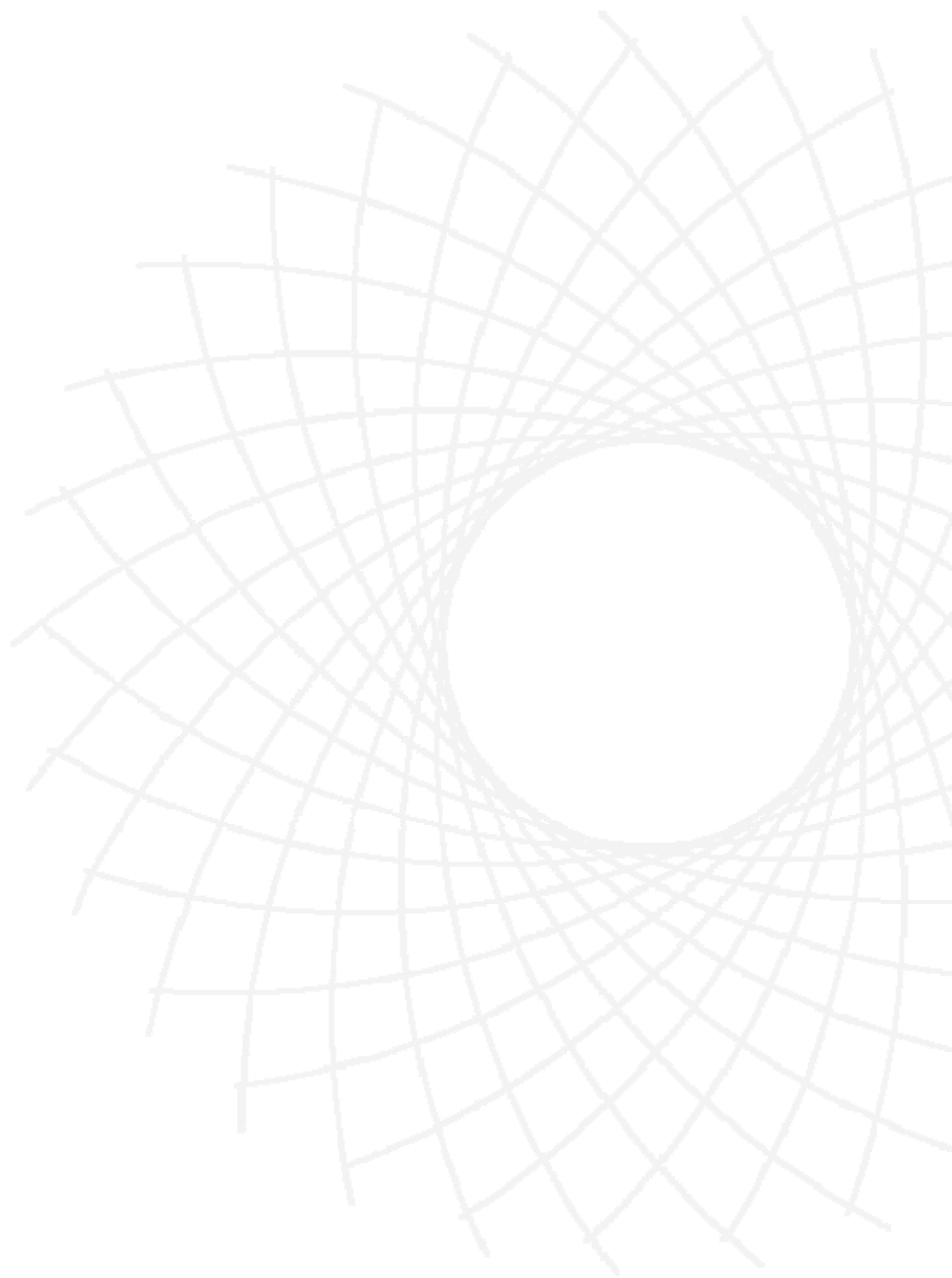
7. How is the waste generated from application of AFFF managed in your organization?

- (a) Deposited on the farm/factory area ☐ (b) Destroyed in a waste treatment facility ☐
(c) Sent to a landfill (name/address) ☐ (d) Others (please specify) ☐

8. Remarks

9. Respondent

Name	
Department	
Position	
Telephone	
Mobile Phone	
Email Address	
Signature	
Date	



For more information, contact:

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