

## **SC-6/3: Process for the evaluation of progress parties have made towards eliminating brominated diphenyl ethers contained in articles and the review of the continued need for specific exemptions for those chemicals**

### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Takes notes* of the information<sup>1</sup> submitted by parties for the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants pursuant to paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of that Annex and on their experiences in implementing the recommendations on the elimination from the waste stream of brominated diphenyl ethers set out in the annex to decision POPRC-6/2;
2. *Concludes* that countries may still need to make use of the exemption for brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Convention in accordance with the provisions of parts IV and V of that annex;
3. *Commits itself* to evaluating the progress that parties have made towards achieving their ultimate objective of elimination of brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Convention and to reviewing the continued need for the specific exemption for those chemicals in accordance with paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of that annex at its eighth meeting and every second ordinary meeting thereafter;
4. *Adopts* the process to enable the Conference of the Parties to evaluate the progress that parties have made towards achieving their ultimate objective of elimination of brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Convention and to review the continued need for the specific exemption for those chemicals in accordance with paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of that Annex set out in annex I to the present decision;
5. *Decides* to establish a small intersessional working group, which shall operate by electronic means, to review and revise the draft format for the submission of information for the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Convention pursuant to paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of that annex set out in annex II to the note by the Secretariat on the process for that evaluation and review;<sup>2</sup>
6. *Invites* parties to nominate experts to participate in the small intersessional working group and to inform the Secretariat of their nominations by 30 June 2013;
7. *Also invites* parties to consider serving as lead country for the review and revision of the reporting format and to inform the Secretariat of their willingness to do so by 30 June 2013;
8. *Further invites* parties to submit suggestions on revising the reporting format to the Secretariat by 30 November 2013;
9. *Requests* the lead country or, if there is no lead country, the Secretariat, in consultation with the small intersessional working group, to prepare a draft revised format, taking into account the suggestions received pursuant to paragraph 8 above, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;
10. *Requests* the Secretariat:
  - (a) To support the small intersessional working group referred to in paragraph 5 above;
  - (b) To carry out the activities of data collection and data analysis for the process of the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Convention;
  - (c) To assess the gaps in the information provided in the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers;
  - (d) To support parties in undertaking activities to collect and submit information required for the process;

---

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/POPS/COP.6/INF/7.

<sup>2</sup> UNEP/POPS/COP.6/6.

(e) To report to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting on activities undertaken pursuant to paragraphs (a)–(d) above, including recommendations for any modifications to the process and/or format for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties;

11. *Reminds* any party that has a need for the specific exemption for brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Convention to register for that exemption by means of a notification in writing to the Secretariat.

## **Annex to decision SC-6/3**

### **Process for the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers pursuant to paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants**

#### **I. Purpose of the evaluation**

1. Paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention provides that at its sixth ordinary meeting and at every second ordinary meeting thereafter the Conference of the Parties shall evaluate the progress that parties have made towards achieving their ultimate objective of elimination of hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether and tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether (hereinafter “brominated diphenyl ethers”) contained in articles and review the continued need for the specific exemptions for those chemicals. The specific exemptions shall in any case expire at the latest in 2030.

#### **II. Information collection and compilation**

2. Each party shall review the progress that it has made towards achieving the ultimate objective of eliminating brominated diphenyl ethers contained in articles and provide information on that review to the Secretariat.

3. Each party that is listed in the register of specific exemptions in respect of the exemptions for brominated diphenyl ethers shall review its continued need for those exemptions and provide information on that review to the Secretariat.

4. The information referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 above shall be submitted to the Secretariat in accordance with the schedule set out in paragraph 8 below. The Secretariat shall compile the information and make it available to the Conference of the Parties.

5. The Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, will analyse the information submitted by parties and any other pertinent and credible information available. Based on this analysis, the Secretariat, with advice from relevant experts such as the members of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, will prepare a report for consideration by the Conference of the Parties to assist it in undertaking the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers. The Secretariat may engage a consultant to assist it in undertaking these activities.

#### **III. Evaluation**

6. The Conference of the Parties, in evaluating the progress made by parties towards achieving the ultimate objective of eliminating brominated diphenyl ethers contained in articles and in reviewing the continued need for the specific exemptions for those chemicals in accordance with paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of Annex A to the Convention, shall take into consideration all available information, including the information referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3 above.

7. The Conference of the Parties will undertake the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers at its eighth meeting and every second ordinary meeting thereafter.

#### **IV. Schedule of the evaluation**

8. In order to provide the Conference of the Parties with the information on which to base the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers at its eighth meeting, the following

schedule is proposed. The schedule, however, shall be revised, as necessary, in 2017 and at every second ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties thereafter:

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Timing</i>
Parties submit information on brominated diphenyl ethers.	December 2015
The Secretariat prepares a draft report on the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers and transmits it to the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee.	September 2016
The Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee provides comments on the draft report on the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers.	October 2016
The Secretariat finalizes the report on the evaluation for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting.	October 2016
Evaluation by the Conference of the Parties in accordance with paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of Annex A to the Convention.	April 2017