POPRC-7/10: Debromination of brominated flame retardants

The Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee,

Having reviewed the information provided on reductive debromination of polybrominated diphenyl ethers,[1]

Taking note of the increasing number of studies related to the potential of highly brominated congeners, including octabromodiphenyl ether, nonabromodiphenyl ether and decabromodiphenyl ether, to be reductively debrominated in the environment and thus contribute to the formation of those brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants by decisions SC-4/14 and SC-4/18,

Taking note also of the formation of polybromodibenzodioxins and polybromodibenzofurans during the incineration of wastes containing polybrominated diphenyl ethers,

Noting that the information currently available is insufficient for the Committee to consider the implications of debromination for control measures governing the brominated diphenyl ethers listed in Annex A to the Convention by decisions SC-4/14 and SC-4/18,

Mindful that the above-mentioned information may be useful for parties in considering national, regional or international regulatory action on highly brominated diphenyl ethers or on polybromodibenzodioxins and polybromodibenzofurans,

1. *Decides* that it should reconsider, if necessary, the implications of debromination of brominated flame retardants when additional relevant information becomes available;

2. *Requests* the Secretariat to make the above-mentioned information available to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting to ensure that it reaches as broad an audience as possible.

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1 UNEP/POPS/POPRC.7/INF/18.