**SC-8/5: Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride**

*The Conference of the Parties*,

*Noting* the priority areas for action recognized in decision SC-8/18 on effectiveness evaluation as they relate to perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride,

*Recalling* paragraph 7 of decision SC-7/5, by which it decided to undertake the further evaluation of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride pursuant to paragraphs 5 and 6 of part III of Annex B to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants at its ninth meeting,

1. *Welcomes* the consolidated guidance on alternatives to perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and its related chemicals[[1]](#footnote-1) developed by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee;
2. *Takes note of* the options for possible action by the Conference of the Parties should it conclude that there is no continued need for the various acceptable purposes for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride listed in Annex B to the Convention;[[2]](#footnote-2)
3. *Also takes note of* the information related to the interpretation and application of Article 4 of the Convention transmitted by Parties;[[3]](#footnote-3)
4. *Invites* Parties and others to submit to the Secretariat, by 15 February 2018, the following information for use by the Secretariat in preparing its next report on the evaluation of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride in accordance with paragraph 6 of the annex to decision SC-6/4 and by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee in its future updating of the guidance on alternatives to perfluorooctane sulfonic acid and its related chemicals:
5. Information on the production and use of sulfluramid;
6. Information on local monitoring of releases of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid from the use of sulfluramid;
7. Information on research on and the development of safe alternatives to perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride as stipulated in paragraph 4 (c) of part III of Annex B to the Convention;
8. *Encourages* the regional centres and others to provide support to Parties to improve their technical and legal capacity for the sound management of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride and the introduction of alternatives;
9. *Requests* the Secretariat:
10. To continue to support the process set out in the annex to decision SC-6/4, in accordance with the revised schedule set out in the annex to decision SC-7/5, and to support Parties, subject to the availability of resources, in collecting the information required for the process;
11. To further promote the exchange of information, including information provided by Parties and others, on alternatives to perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride and their related chemicals;
12. To provide support to Parties, in particular developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition, subject to the availability of resources, to build their capacity to identify and collect information on perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride, to strengthen their legislation and regulations on the management of those chemicals throughout their life cycles and to introduce safer, effective and affordable alternatives to those chemicals.

1. UNEP/POPS/POPRC.12/INF/15/Rev.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. UNEP/POPS/COP.8/8, paras. 10–15. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. UNEP/POPS/COP.8/INF/13. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)