United Nations Environment Programme

30 April 2025 Original: English

Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants Twelfth meeting Geneva, 28 April–9 May 2025 Agenda item 5 (e)

Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: listing of chemicals in Annex A, B or C to the Convention

Draft decision SC-12/[--]: Listing of long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds

Submission by the contact group on the listing of chemicals under the Stockholm Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Having considered the risk profile, the risk management evaluation and the addendum to the risk management evaluation for long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds as transmitted by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, ¹

Taking note of the recommendation by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee that long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds be listed in Annex A to the Convention with specific exemptions,²

1. Decides to amend part I of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants to list long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds with specific exemptions by inserting the following row:

Chemical	Activity	Specific exemption
Long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds	Production	As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register in accordance with the provisions of Part [XIV] of this Annex
 "Long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds" means the following: (i) Long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids or their salts, for the purposes of the Convention, are a homologous series of substances with the molecular formula of C_nF_{2n+1}COOH (where 8 ≤ n ≤ 20); (ii) Compounds related to long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, for the purposes of the Convention, are any substance that is a precursor and may transform to long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, where the perfluorinated alkyl moiety has the formula C_nF_{2n+1} (where 8 ≤ n ≤ 20) and is directly 	Use	 Semiconductors designed for replacement parts not covered in paragraphs 2 (a) and (b) of Part [XIV] of this Annex Semiconductors designed for replacement parts for combustion-engine-powered vessels in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of Part [XIV] of this Annex Replacement parts for motor vehicles that have ceased mass production in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of Part [XIV] of this Annex

¹UNEP/POPS/POPRC.18/11/Add.4; UNEP/POPS/POPRC.19/9/Add.2; UNEP/POPS/POPRC.20/10/Add.3.

² UNEP/POPS/COP.12/14.

bonded to any chemical moiety other than a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom.

The following compounds are not included as long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds: perfluorocatanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds as listed in Annex A to the Convention.

2. Also decides to insert a new part [XIV] in Annex A as follows:

Part [XIV]

Long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds

- 1. The production and use of long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds shall be eliminated except for Parties that have notified the Secretariat of their intention to produce and/or use them in accordance with Article 4.
- 2. Specific exemptions for the production and use of long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds, limited to the following applications, may be available until the end of the service life of articles being repaired or until 2041, whichever comes earlier:
- (a) Semiconductors designed for replacement parts for combustion-engine-powered vessels;
- (b) Replacement parts for motor vehicles that have ceased mass production, covering all land-based vehicles, such as cars, motorcycles, agricultural and construction vehicles, and industrial trucks. Applications include semiconductors, coatings, cables, electronics, engines and under-hood applications, modules, hydraulic system components and relay assemblies.

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Matters related to the implementation of the Convention: listing of chemicals in Annex A, B or C to the Convention

Draft decision SC-12/[--]: Actions related to long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds

Submission by the contact group on the listing of chemicals under the Stockholm Convention

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision SC-12/[--], by which it decided to amend part I of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants to list long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds with specific exemptions,

Recalling also the process, as set out in paragraph 5 of decision SC-11/8, adopted at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, for the identification of substances covered by the listing of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds and by the listing of perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), its salts and PFHxS-related compounds,

- 1. *Notes* that, in order to support Parties and facilitate the identification of substances covered by the listing of long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds, a draft indicative list of substances has been prepared;¹
- 2. *Invites* Parties and others to take into account the information available in the draft indicative list of substances and to provide further information regarding the identification of substances covered by the listing of long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds;
- 3. Requests the Secretariat to compile, in consultation with the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee, the information submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 above and to establish an indicative list of substances covered by the listing of long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds, mindful of the indicative list of substances covered by the listing of perfluorocatanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds, make the list available on the Convention website, and update it periodically;
- 4. *Urges* Parties to take into account the information on potential alternatives provided in the risk management evaluation, ² taking into consideration the criteria in paragraph 1 of Annex D to the Convention, to determine whether those alternatives exhibit the characteristics of persistent organic pollutants.

¹ UNEP/POPS/POPRC.20/INF/17.

² Substances such as some short-chain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), as mentioned in the risk management evaluation (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.19/9/Add.2, annex).