

SC-4/14: Listing of hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether

The Conference of the Parties,

Having considered the risk profile and risk management evaluation for commercial octabromodiphenyl ether transmitted by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee,¹

Taking note of the recommendation by the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to list hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether in Annex A of the Convention,²

1. *Decides* to amend part I of Annex A of the Convention to list therein hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, as defined in paragraph 2 of the present decision, with a specific exemption for articles containing hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether in accordance with the provisions of part IV of the Annex, as follows:

Chemical	Activity	Specific exemption
Hexabromodiphenyl ether* and heptabromodiphenyl ether*	Production	None
	Use	Articles in accordance with provisions of part IV of this Annex

2. *Also decides* to insert a definition for hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether in a new part III of Annex A called “Definitions” as follows:

For the purpose of this Annex:

“Hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether” means 2,2',4,4',5,5'-hexabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-153, CAS No: 68631-49-2), 2,2',4,4',5,6'-hexabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-154, CAS No: 207122-15-4), 2,2',3,3',4,5',6 heptabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-175, CAS No: 446255-22-7), 2,2',3,4,4',5',6-heptabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-183, CAS No: 207122-16-5) and other hexa- and heptabromodiphenyl ethers present in commercial octabromodiphenyl ether.

3. *Decides* to insert a new part IV in Annex A as follows:

Part IV

Hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether

1. A Party may allow recycling of articles that contain or may contain hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, and the use and final disposal of articles manufactured from recycled materials that contain or may contain hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether, provided that:

(a) The recycling and final disposal is carried out in an environmentally sound manner and does not lead to recovery of hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether for the purpose of their reuse;

(b) The Party takes steps to prevent exports of such articles that contain levels/concentrations of hexabromodiphenyl ether and

¹ UNEP/POPS/POPRC.3/20/Add.6 and UNEP/POPS/POPRC.4/15/Add.1.

² UNEP/POPS/COP.4/17.

heptabromodiphenyl ether exceeding those permitted for the sale, use, import or manufacture of those articles within territory of the Party; and

(c) The Party has notified the Secretariat of its intention to make use of this exemption.

2. 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 contained in articles and review the continued need for this specific exemption. This specific exemption shall in any case expire at the latest in 2030.

4. *Decides* to amend part I of Annex A of the Convention by inserting in note (iv), after the words “polychlorinated biphenyls in articles in use in accordance with the provisions of Part II”, a comma and the words “and the use of hexabromodiphenyl ether and heptabromodiphenyl ether in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of this Annex”.