



# OECD/UNEP GLOBAL PFC GROUP

[www.oecd.org/ehs/pfc](http://www.oecd.org/ehs/pfc)

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# Outline

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- International efforts
- UNEP/OECD Global PFC Group



# International Efforts



- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD)
  - Activities since early 2000's
  - *2010 Survey of Product Content and Environmental Release Information on PFCs*
  - *A range of other activities to support information gathering and exchange*
- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
  - In May 2009, PFOS, its salts, and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF) were added to Annex B, subjecting them to restrictions on production and use
- Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM)
  - In May 2009, during the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM2), delegates agreed to consider the development of stewardship programs and regulatory approaches to reduce emissions and content of PFCA and PFAS chemicals in products and to work toward their elimination, where feasible



# ICCM2 and PFCs



SAICM ICCM2 Resolution II/5 invited relevant stakeholders to promote PFC stewardship programmes and to contribute to:

- **Information-gathering activities**, such as the recently developed OECD survey of product content and environmental release information on PFOS, PFOA, their related substances and products and mixtures containing these substances;
- **Information exchange on alternatives currently in use**, including short-chain-length fluorocarbons, **and potentially safer alternative substances or technologies** for their use;



# Global PFC Group

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- Establishment of a global group, given importance of countries outside OECD region in production and use of PFCs
- UNEP and OECD serve as secretariat to « Global PFC Group »
- Open and informal group that operates through conference calls
- Developing countries and emerging economies are regular participants to the Group:
  - Russia, China, India, Brazil, Cuba, Benin, Pakistan, Zambia
  - Japan, Canada, USA, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Australia, Korea, Chile, Italy, Czech Republic, Switzerland, European Commission, SETAC, FluoroCouncil



# Scope of Work of Global PFC Group



- In the past, PFASs were often referred to as “PFCs” (per- and polyfluorinated chemicals)
- Distinction between long-chain perfluorinated compounds (LC PFASs) and short-chain perfluorinated compounds (SC PFASs), based on the toxicity and bioaccumulation differences between LC PFASs and SC PFASs.
- Global PFC Group looks at a broad range of PFASs, including PFOS, and including alternatives to PFOS



# Outcomes of ICCM3

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- Resolution adopted
  - Welcomes efforts to date and states much remains to be done
  - Takes note of establishment of Global PFC Group
  - Invites OECD/UNEP Global PFC Group to carry on and report progress to ICCM4
  - Requests close cooperation with Stockholm convention and UNIDO



# Work programme 2012-15



- Discussed and agreed at 1st conference call of Global PFC Group on 1 March 2012 and presented to ICCM3
- Key activities:
  - **Activity 1: PFC Web Portal**  
Regular updates, [www.oecd.org/ehs/pfc](http://www.oecd.org/ehs/pfc)
  - **Activity 2: Synthesis papers**  
On scientific evidence, regulatory approaches, alternatives to long-chain PFCs
  - **Activity 3: Webinars and other events**  
Focus on the topics of the synthesis papers
  - **Activity 4: PFC survey**  
Reach out to main PFC producers; agree on survey methodology in an expert workshop; implement survey; publish survey
  - **Activity 5: Information about uses of PFCs**
  - **Activity 6: Cooperation with the Stockholm Convention and UNIDO**





# GPFCG papers: Regulatory approaches



Country	Action	Proposed	Effective
Canada	Voluntary agreement on PFCA PFOA proposed risk management approach	2010 2012	2015 Pending
USA	2010/15 PFOA Stewardship Programme Significant new use rule PFAS Significant new use rule PFAC	2006 2002, 2007 2012, 2013	2015 2002, 2007 Pending
Norway	Proposed regulations to restrict production, import, export of consumer products with PFOA	2011	Pending
Germany	Proposed quality standards and reduction targets for PFAS in the environment	2007	Pending
Russia	APFO and a number of PFASs regulated in occupational air and water		
EU	C11-C14 PFCAs listed as vPvB substances on REACH candidate list and proposal to list PFOA, too		



## Additional Resources



- OECD Portal on Perfluorinated Chemicals
  - [http://www.oecd.org/site/0,3407,en\\_21571361\\_44787844\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/site/0,3407,en_21571361_44787844_1_1_1_1_1,00.html)
- The 2009 OECD survey report is available at
  - <http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/displaydocumentpdf/?cote=env/jm/mono%282011%291&doclanguage=en>



# OECD Portal on Perfluorinated Chemicals

[www.oecd.org/ehs/pfc](http://www.oecd.org/ehs/pfc)

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