

Policies and Efforts to Reduce the Persistent Organic Pollutants

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Chemical Contamination of Humans

*WWW-UK National Biomonitoring Survey 2003

- Blood samples from 155 volunteers around 13 EU countries to find for 78 chemicals –12 organochlorine pesticides, 45 PCB congeners and 21 PBDE flame retardants
- Found 70 chemicals(90%) of 78 chemicals
- The highest number of chemicals in any one person 49
- The most frequently detected chemicals PCB congeners 99, 118 and DDT metabolite p', p-DDE which were detected in all volunteers but one



POPs - Persistent Organic Pollutants

POPs are organochlorine compounds of concern to the international community because they are:

- · Highly toxic to humans and environment
- · Persistent in the environment, resisting biodegradation
- Taken up and bioaccumulated in soil and aquatic ecosystems
- Capable of long-range transboundary atmospheric transport and deposition
- Affecting plant and animal development and causing reduced reproductive success and birth defects



SOURCES of POPs

Intentionally developed and used in wide range of products

pesticides, insecticides, insulating oil in industrial machinery

Unintentionally generated in the processes involving combustion or chlorine

- · Waste incinerators
- Thermal processes in the metallurgical industry
- Chemical manufacture, production of pulp and textile dyeing using or generating chlorine



POPs - 'The Dirty Dozen'

Organochlorine Pesticides

 Aldin, Chlordane, DDT, Dieldrin, Endrin, Heptachlor, HCB, Mirex, Toxaphene

Industrial Chemicals

Polychlorinated biphenyls(PCBs), HCB

Industrial By-products

· Dioxins, Furans, HCB, PCBs



Stockholm Convention on POPs

Legally binding instrument(LBI) for international cooperation to control POPs

- 1997, Decision of preparing an international LBI
- 1998–2000, Meeting of intergovernmental negotiating committee(INC) held 5 times to make a draft Convention
- 22 May 2001, Adoption of final Convention and opening for signature
- 17 May 2004, Entering into force of the Convention
- 2-6 May 2005, The 1st conference of parties held in Uruguay



Activities to Comply with the Convention

Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use of POPs

- Prohibition of production and use of the pesticides and industrial chemicals included in the Stockholm Convention
 - * Relevant Act: 'Hazardous Chemicals Management Act', 'Pesticides Management Act'
- Preparing for legislation of the 'Special Act for reducing and regulating POPs emission from Industry' by 2006



Activities to Comply with the Convention

Measures to reduce releases from unintentional production of POPs(UPOPs)

- Regulation of dioxin emission from the waste incinerators
- Monitoring UPOPs emission from the Industries
- Establishing the National Inventory of UPOPs emission amount on the basis of nationwide monitoring
- Establishing the legal guideline for UPOPs emission from the industrial facilities



Legal Guideline for Dioxin Emission from Waste Incinerators

| | New facilities | (ng-TEQ/Nm3) Existing facilities | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Capacity of incineration | | | |
| Household wastes (>2ton/hr) | 0.1 | • | 0.1 (After June '03) |
| Other wastes | | (By Dec '05) | (After Jan'06) |
| > 4ton/hr | 0.1 | 20 | 1 |
| 2 - 4ton/hr | 1 | 40 | 5 |
| 0.025 - 2ton/hr | 5 | 40 | 10 |



Activities to Comply with the Convention

Elimination of the use of PCBs

Legal Regulation

- Prohibition of the production of PCBs and chemical compounds containing PCBs more than 0.005%
- Prohibition of the use of electric equipments containing PCBs compounds

Voluntary Agreement

 Among the government, electric companies and NGOs to eliminate PCBs containing electric equipments by 2015



Activities to Comply with the Convention

Preparing the National Implementation Plan

- · Evaluating the POPs situation
- · Establishing POPs inventories
- · Priority setting to address the most urgent problems
- Building a national coordination mechanism for the implementation of the Convention
- · Action planning to meet the Convention obligations
- · Involving key stakeholders in the country
- · Rasing awareness and information exchange