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RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Analytical interlaboratory validation and round-robin studies using standardized quality assurance and quality control procedures are needed to improve analytical methodology.
Sampling strategy and analytical procedures and data interpretation should be optimised and standardized before undertaking surveys.
2. Further information is required about the origins and environmental distribution and fate of PCDDs and PCDFs.
Further monitoring data including time trends and determinations of isomer patterns are required for environmental levels of PCDDs and PCDFs, especially for food, ambient air and sediments.
3. Data should be obtained about the effects of PCDDs and PCDFs on environmental biota.
4. More information is required about the bioavailability of PCDDs and PCDFs from different matrices in the environment, and from the diet.
Exposure from these sources should be correlated with agricultural and industrial practices.
5. Simpler and less expensive chemical and biological analytical methods suitable for screening the presence of PCDDs and PCDFs should be developed and validated.
6. Studies to determine the mechanisms of toxicity of PCDDs and PCDFs are needed to support evaluation of the differences in effects between species to support extrapolation to man.