



HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES OF THE GLOBAL PFC GROUP

PFAS-RESTRICTION WEBEX Meeting
September 28, 2020

, Principal Administrator, OECD



OECD ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY (EHS) PROGRAMME

36 Member countries, many partner countries and other stakeholders work together to develop and co-ordinate activities on chemical safety and biosafety on an international basis. One of the core aspects of the work relates to the Mutual Acceptance of Data.

The main objectives of the Programme are to:

- Assist OECD Member countries' efforts to protect human health and the environment through improving chemical safety and biosafety
- Make chemical control policies more transparent and efficient and save resources for government and industry; and
- Prevent unnecessary distortions in the trade of chemicals, chemical products and products of modern biotechnology.



<http://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/>



OECD/UNEP Global PFC Group

SYNTHESIS PAPER ON
PER- AND POLYFLUORINATED
CHEMICALS (PFCs)



- Mandate from 2nd International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM, SAICM)
- SAICM Resolutions to shift towards safer alternatives

<http://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/portal-perfluorinated-chemicals/>



Current Projects of the Global PFC Group



- PFASs and alternatives: Report on Commercial Availability and Current Uses



NEW
(Published 25 September 2020)

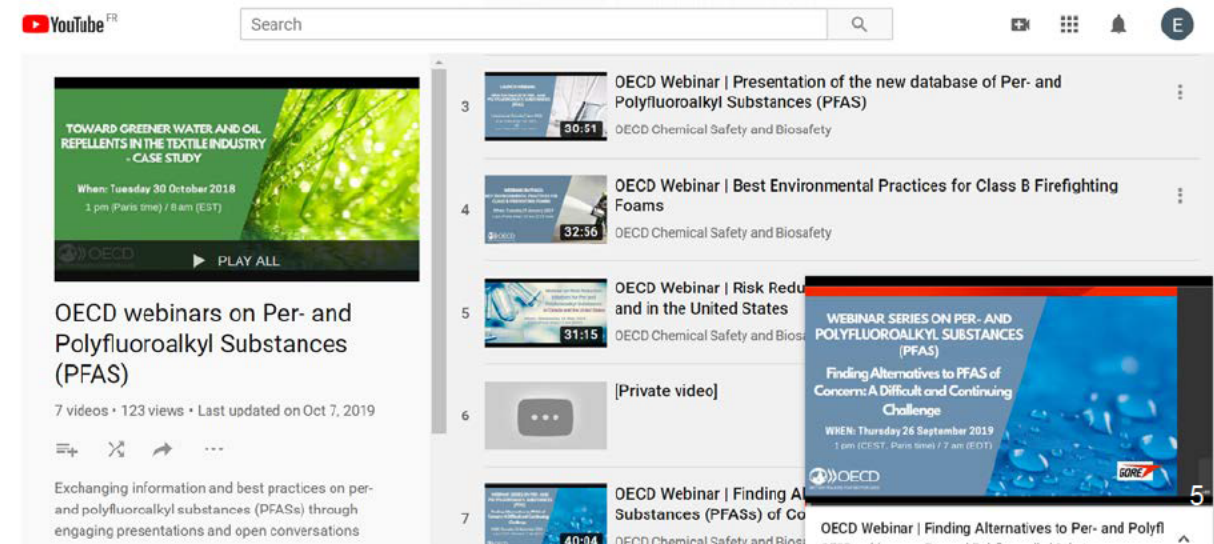
- Next:
 - Collection of information on hazards of identified alternatives
 - Additional sector (paints and coatings)



Current Projects of the Global PFC Group



- Expanding the Current Terminology of PFASs (led by Switzerland)
- PFAS Fact Cards
- Update of country Risk Reduction approaches on website
- PFAS webinar series





WORKPLAN FOR 2021-2024



Project 1: Collection of Information on Alternatives

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- Collecting information on the **commercial availability** and **current uses** of alternatives in different industry sectors and on their **hazard profiles**;
 - If information available, possibility to collect information on the **level of efficacy** relative to the chemical replaced or envisioned to replace, and on the **cost of use**;
- Based on the revised list of PFASs, countries could identify from their domestic inventory **PFASs in commerce**;
- Organise regular **webinars** with experts to share information on shifting to safer alternatives.



Project 2: Working toward the development of criteria for “essential use”

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- Goal: To work step-wise toward the development of a set of criteria that will help reach a common understanding of the term.
- To date, there is not a commonly agreed list of criteria to characterise what an “essential use” could be with respect to the applications of PFASs.
- Start with an initial exploratory study on mapping how countries consider criteria for essential use in different contexts, drawing on work already underway in member countries
 - will consider the context in which existing research, definitions and criteria have been developed as well as the challenges in establishing criteria and possibly, how they have been overcome
 - build on ongoing work by Switzerland to develop a definition of essential use
 - The Global PFC Group will be invited to submit relevant resources. it is not the intent of this initiative to identify which uses then fall under the criteria, but rather to develop the criteria that could be applied for assessing a use.
- The Global PFC Group will present to the Joint Meeting the results of this exploratory study. The Joint Meeting will be invited to reflect on these results and discuss the best approach to undertake.



Project 3: Understanding the life cycle of polymeric PFASs

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- Synthesize existing research on life cycle of polymeric PFASs;
- Then focus on particular groups of PFASs (as identified in the OECD PFASs updated list).



Project 4: Collection of information on risk reduction initiatives and update of the Webportal

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- Continue the regular collection, twice per year (or as requested), of information from countries and other stakeholders on risk reduction initiatives;
- Update this information in the OECD PFASs WebPortal.



Project 5: Identify Assessments of PFAS and Share Grouping Approaches

WPHA

- Project would be conducted under the framework of the OECD Working Party on Hazard Assessment (WPHA);
 - Mapping of PFAS hazard and fate assessments conducted under different regulatory regimes
 - Explore the grouping approaches to PFAS being developed in member countries



Project 6: Consideration of additional hazard and risk parameters

WPHA

- Topic would also be considered under the WPHA;
- Discussion on substances which are considered persistent, mobile and toxic (PMT);
 - begin with an exchange of experience within the WPHA on the topic
 - follow-up activities identified in WPHA
- Share results of discussion with the Global PFC Group.



Further Information

- Website
 - <http://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety>
 - <https://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/risk-management/>
- EHS Newsletters (sign up to receive automatically)
 - <http://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/environment-health-safety-news.htm>
- Email: 

Thank you!