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Chemicals for Priority Action

The List of Chemicals for Priority Action in its current form was adopted in 2002. There are currently 42 substances or groups of substances on the List of Chemicals for Priority Action. OSPAR action is focused on the substances on Part A of the List. For each of these substances or groups of substances a background document has been prepared (see below). Since 2002 the list has been revised to reflect removal of substances from this list, as well as the List of Substances of Possible Concern.

The Background Documents assess the situation for the substance and conclude on what actions OSPAR should take to move towards the cessation target. They are reviewed periodically, resulting in review statements or revised Background Documents, depending on whether the new information available affects the risk evaluation and the recommended actions.

OSPAR has adopted monitoring strategies for the hazardous substances for which background documents have been prepared. These describe information to be collected in order to monitor progress towards the cessation target.

In 2004, OSPAR has decided not to systematically run DYNAMEC for the selection and prioritisation of substances, because the evaluation of chemicals and their properties was sufficiently covered by EU legislation. In the work on substances of possible concern, OSPAR is relying on progress on the evaluation of substances under the REACH Regulation and on the priorisation of substances under the Water Framework Directive.

Download here the OSPAR List of Chemicals for Priority Action. with annotations. The table below provides quick access to Background Documents for chemicals for priority action listed in Part A.

CAS No	Group of substances / substances	Function	Last revision of Background Document(Lead country)	Year of publication of Review statement on Background document
	cadmium	Metallic compound	2004 (Spain)	2010
	lead and organic lead compounds	Metal/organometallic compounds	2009 (Norway)	
	mercury and organic mercury compounds	Metal/organometallic compounds	2004 (UK)	2009
	organic tin compounds	Organometallic compounds	2011 (The Netherlands)	
51000-52-3	neodecanoic acid, ethenyl ester	Organic Ester	2011 (UK)	
1763-23-1	perfluorooctanyl sulphonic acid and its salts (PFOS)	Organohalogens	2006 (UK)	2011
79-94-7	tetrabromobisphenol A (TBBP-A)	Organohalogens	2011 (UK)	
87-61-6	1,2,3-trichlorobenzene	Organohalogens	2005 (Belgium & Luxembourg)	2010
120-82-1	1,2,4-trichlorobenzene	Organohalogens	2005 (Belgium & Luxembourg)	2010
108-70-3	1,3,5-trichlorobenzene	Organohalogens	2005 (Belgium & Luxembourg)	2010
	brominated flame retardants	Organohalogens	2009 (Sweden)	
	polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)	Organohalogens	2004 (Germany & Belgium)	2008
	polychlorinated dibenzodioxins (PCDDs)	Organohalogens	2007 (Denmark & Belgium)	

	polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDFs)	Organohalogens	2007 (Denmark & Belgium)	
	short chained chlorinated paraffins (SCCP)	Organohalogens	2009 (Sweden)	
793-24-8	4-(dimethylbutylamino)diphenylamin (6PPD)	Organic nitrogen compound	2006 (Germany)	
115-32-2 115-29-7	Dicofol endosulfan	Pesticides/biocides/organohalogens Pesticides/biocides/organohalogens	2004 (Finland) 2004 (Germany)	2008 2008
	hexachlorocyclohexane isomers (HCH)	Pesticides/biocides/organohalogens	2004 (Germany)	2008
72-43-5	methoxychlor	Pesticides/biocides/organohalogens	2004 (Finland)	2008
	pentachlorophenol (PCP)	Pesticides/biocides/organohalogens	2004 (Finland)	
1582-09-8	trifluralin	Pesticides/biocides/organohalogens	2005 (Germany)	2012
23593-75-1	clotrimazole	Pharmaceutical	2005 (France)	
732-26-3	2,4,6-tri-tert-butylphenol	Phenol	2006 (UK)	2009
	nonylphenol/ethoxylates (NP/NPEs) and related substances	Phenol	2009 (Sweden)	
140-66-9	octylphenol	Phenol	2006 (UK)	2009
	certain phthalates: dibutylphthalate (DBP), diethylhexylphthalate (DEHP)	Phthalate esters	2006 (Denmark & France)	
	polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)	Polycyclic aromatic compounds	2009 (Norway)	
	musk xylene	Synthetic musk	2004 (Switzerland)	

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