

## China Releases Draft Action Plan Targeting “New Pollutants”

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In October 2021, China’s Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE) published a draft action plan aiming to strengthen new pollutant management and treatment. Please read more about the draft action plan on the MEE site [here](#).

We’re providing this unofficial translation for information purposes only. We appreciate the help of Fanyu Zhang, IPC’s environmental fellow in China for her work on this report.

The draft action plan establishes an environmental risk management system for chemicals, including hazardous chemical substances, and it outlines 25 measures in six major categories and includes 28 substances for priority management measures.

### **Establish and improve laws and regulations system**

- Push forward legislative process
- Improve technical standards system
- Establish new pollutants management system

### **Carry out investigation and evaluation of new pollutants risk status**

- Conduct environmental information investigation
- Carry out environmental investigation monitoring
- Assess environmental risk
- Regularly update list of new pollutants for priority management

### **Strengthen source control to prevent new pollutant generation**

- Fully implement new chemical substances registration
- Implement elimination or limitation measures
- Strengthen the control of toxic and hazardous chemical substances concentration in products

### **Strengthen process control to reduce new pollutant emission**

- Strengthen environmental-friendly manufacturing
- Standardize the use and management of antibiotics
- Strengthen pesticide management
- Guide environmental-friendly consumption

## Strengthen end-point management, reduce environmental risk

- Strengthen the collaborative management of new pollutants and multiple environmental media
- Strengthen the management of collection, use and deposition of waste containing certain new pollutants
- Carry out pilot demonstration of new pollutants treatment projects
- Strengthen organizational leadership
- Strengthen supervision and law enforcement
- Broaden funding input channels
- Increase scientific and technological support
- Build supporting platform
- Strengthen social co-governance
- Strengthen advocacy and education
- Increase international communication and corporation

A list of new pollutants for priority management was released with the draft action plan. The list includes 28 chemical substances from three categories: internationally recognized environmental endocrine disruptors, chemical substances regulated by the Stockholm Convention, and regulated chemical substances in the Inventory of Toxic and Hazardous Atmospheric/Water Pollutants that lack effective control measures. Corresponding management measures for each new pollutant are also listed, measures include prohibition of manufacture, use, import or export, emission restriction, and environmental risk assessment. The new pollutants are:

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Nonyl Phenol  | 14. Chloroform                        |
| 2. Antibiotics   | 15. Trichloroethylene                 |
| 3. Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid and its salts,<br>Perfluoro-1-octanesulfonyl fluoride (PFOS) | 16. Tetrachloroethylene               |
| 4. Perfluorooctanoic acid and its salts/compounds<br>(PFOA)                                  | 17. Formaldehyde                      |
| 5. Perfluorohexane-1-sulphonic acid and its salts/<br>compounds (PFHxS)                      | 18. Acetaldehyde                      |
| 6. Hexabromocyclododecane  | 19. Chlordane                         |
| 7. Decabromodiphenyl ether   | 20. Mirex                             |
| 8. Short Chain Chlorinated Paraffins (SCCP)  | 21. Hexachlorobenzene                 |
| 9. Hexachlorobutadiene   | 22. Dichloro-Diphenyl-Trichloroethane |
| 10. Pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters   | 23. $\alpha$ -hexachlorocyclohexane   |
| 11. Dechlorane   | 24. $\beta$ -hexachlorocyclohexane    |
| 12. Dioxin   | 25. $\gamma$ -hexachlorocyclohexane   |
| 13. Dichloromethane  | 26. Endosulfan                        |
|  | 27. PCBs                              |
|  | 28. Dicofol                           |

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