



27 September 2024

(24-6687)

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

1. Notifying Member: <u>AUSTRALIA</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):
2. Agency responsible: Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water. Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above: Australian WTO TBT Enquiry Point Office of Global Trade Negotiations Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Canberra ACT 0221 tbt.enquiry@dfat.gov.au +61 2 6261 1111
3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [], 5.7.1 [], 3.2 [], 7.2 [], other:
4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Benzene, hexachloro- (Hexachlorobenzene)• 1,1'-Biphenyl, chloro derivatives (Polychlorinated biphenyls, PCBs)• Polychlorinated terphenyls (PCTs)
5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Proposed management standards for high-risk industrial chemicals: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed decision – Hexachlorobenzene (1 2 page(s), in English)• Proposed decision – Polychlorinated biphenyls (13 page(s), in English)• Proposed decision – Polychlorinated terphenyls (16 page(s), in English)
6. Description of content: The Industrial Chemicals Environmental Management Standard (IChEMS) has been developed by all Australian governments to efficiently and effectively manage the risks of industrial chemicals to the environment, while providing consistent requirements for businesses across Australia. The IChEMS Register records standards for the environmental management of chemicals, including risk management measures for specific industrial uses. In turn, the Australian federal government and each state and territory government will enact legislation to implement the standards in their jurisdictions. The proposed decisions will assign the following chemicals, and mixtures and articles containing the chemicals, to Schedule 7 of the Register. This will prohibit their import,

<p>manufacture, use and export in Australia, with exceptions for unintentional trace contamination, research, environmentally sound disposal, and for articles in use prior to the standards' date of entry into force.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benzene, hexachloro- (Hexachlorobenzene) • 1,1'-Biphenyl, chloro derivatives (Polychlorinated biphenyls, PCBs) • Polychlorinated terphenyls (PCTs)
<p>7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: The proposed standards aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow Australia to fulfil its obligations for Stockholm Convention listed persistent organic pollutants (POPs) that have industrial uses. • Achieve better protection of the environment through improved management of the environmental risks posed by industrial chemicals. • Provide a nationally consistent, transparent, predictable and streamlined approach to environmental risk management of industrial chemicals for governments, industry and the community. <p><; Protection of the environment</p>
<p>8. Relevant documents:</p> <p>Relevant documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed decision – Hexachlorobenzene • Proposed decision – Polychlorinated biphenyls • Proposed decision – Polychlorinated terphenyls • Further supporting documents are available at: Consultation hub Public comments on IChEMS proposed decisions - Climate Change (dccceew.gov.au) • Further information on IChEMS is available at: Industrial Chemicals Environmental Management Standard - IChEMS - DCCEEW
<p>9. Proposed date of adoption: 31 December 2024</p> <p>Proposed date of entry into force: 1 July 2025</p>
<p>10. Final date for comments: 25 October 2024</p>
<p>11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:</p> <p>https://consult.dccceew.gov.au/ichems-s17-proposed-decisions</p> <p>https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2024/TBT/AUS/24_06329_00_e.pdf</p> <p>https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2024/TBT/AUS/24_06329_01_e.pdf</p> <p>https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2024/TBT/AUS/24_06329_02_e.pdf</p>