

Intervention on SCCPs

Thank you Madame Chair. My name is Pamela Miller, Co-Chair of IPEN and with the environmental health research and advocacy organization, Alaska Community Action on Toxics.

Since the development of the risk profile and RME, newer and more accurate assessments of the global production have shown that production of SCCPs is increasing. Production of SCCPs exceeds all other POPs. Future emissions from SCCP-containing products and waste will be substantial for decades to come, making action now to eliminate this dangerous substance all the more urgent.ⁱ

Alternatives, especially non-chemical alternatives are widely available, in current use, and economical for all uses. Particularly promising for major metalworking applications include vegetable oils that substantially reduce costs compared with the health, environmental, and disposal costs of a POP. We must prevent the widespread use and dispersal of SCCPs in articles given that levels are alarmingly high in such products as children's toys and food contact items including hand blenders and microwave dishes.

Swift, decisive action must be taken to prevent further harm to the health of our environment and people of the world. It is important to note that no party or observer submitted information to propose or justify the need for a specific exemption in the listing of SCCPs to the Convention. We therefore urge the Committee to recommend listing of SCCPs in Annex A with no exemptions with, noting the need to restrict the production of SCCPs in other CP mixtures.

ⁱ Current worldwide SCCP production is at least 165,000 t/year. Global total CP production is exceeding 1 million t/year today.