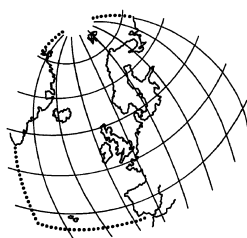


Review Statement for the OSPAR Background Document on Dicofol



**OSPAR Commission
2008**

The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (the "OSPAR Convention") was opened for signature at the Ministerial Meeting of the former Oslo and Paris Commissions in Paris on 22 September 1992. The Convention entered into force on 25 March 1998. It has been ratified by Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom and approved by the European Community and Spain.

La Convention pour la protection du milieu marin de l'Atlantique du Nord-Est, dite Convention OSPAR, a été ouverte à la signature à la réunion ministérielle des anciennes Commissions d'Oslo et de Paris, à Paris le 22 septembre 1992. La Convention est entrée en vigueur le 25 mars 1998. La Convention a été ratifiée par l'Allemagne, la Belgique, le Danemark, la Finlande, la France, l'Irlande, l'Islande, le Luxembourg, la Norvège, les Pays-Bas, le Portugal, le Royaume-Uni de Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord, la Suède et la Suisse et approuvée par la Communauté européenne et l'Espagne.

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Introduction

OSPAR Background Documents are periodically reviewed and revised as necessary to take account of the latest information so that any additional risks to the marine environment can be highlighted, and additional measures and controls can be acknowledged.

In cases where a revision was not advised, a Review Statement supplementing the Background Document is prepared by the lead country, highlighting new developments since the adoption of the Background Document. The Review Statement will be updated, as appropriate, with information on progress on actions agreed in Background Documents.

The OSPAR Background Document on dicofol was first published in 2002 and updated in 2004 (monitoring strategy added) (OSPAR Publication number 150/2002). Following a review by the OSPAR Hazardous Substances Committee in 2008, this Review Statement, prepared by Finland who is the lead country for this chemical, was adopted.

What is the progress in implementing and completing agreed actions?

The European risk assessment on dicofol as a plant protection product was submitted to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) in 2006. The EU Rapporteur Member State concluded in the Draft Risk Assessment report that there are risks to consumers and operators, data gaps related to inherent properties and possibility for DDT impurity in the preparation and proposed non-inclusion to Annex I of the Directive 91/414/EEC. The decision on non-inclusion including a possible withdrawal period for the Member States will be made in 2008.¹

As the plant protection use of dicofol will cease in the remaining two countries and thus in the whole OSPAR region, reviewing the persistence of the substance seems unnecessary.

What new information on the environment is available?

New information has not become available. The EU Draft Risk Assessment is available at EFSA.

What further work is needed?

It is possible that dicofol will be proposed to be added in the frameworks of international POPs work (Stockholm Convention or UNECE LRTAP/POPs. It is, however, Parties to the Convention who can make such proposals and it is difficult to see a role for OSPAR in this.

¹ Secretariat note: European Commission Decision 2008/764/EC: Non-inclusion in Annex 1 of Directive 91/414/EEC.