



National Gap Analysis
of information and data under the National
Implementation Plan and reports under the Stockholm
Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants in the
Republic of Moldova

Each Party shall report to the COP on the measures it has taken to implement the provision of the Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures in the meeting the objectives of the Convention.

This report presents the results of the review of the Republic of Moldova reporting obligation under Articles 07 and 15 and how to improve and correlate it with the information presented in the National Implementation Plan.

The gap analysis on Persistent Organic Pollutants related reporting obligation and correlation with the information presented in the National Implementation Plan was performed in August-November 2020.

Elaborated by:

Dr. Tatiana TUGUI, National team leader
Tatiana ECHIM, Technical expert
Natalia EFROS, Technical expert
Maria POPESCU, Project assistant/outreach expert

Endorsed by:

Svetlana BOLOCAN, National Focal Point on Stockholm Convention on POPs
Chief division Waste Management and Chemicals Policies Direction
Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment

Chisinau 2020

Executive Summary

The expert team has drafted the National Gap Analysis of information and data under the National Implementation Plan and reports under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants in the Republic of Moldova within the framework of the UNEP/GEF project entitled “Integrated Stockholm Convention toolkit to improve the transmission of information under Articles 07 and 15”.

The National Gap Analysis following the structure provided by Knowledge and Risk Unit Chemicals and Health Branch, Economy Division. However, the expert team consider relevant to include additional information on institutional arrangements on waste and chemical’s management for better understanding of the national background.

Therefore, the National Gap Analysis represents potential shortcomings in national Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) legislation and initiatives and it has been elaborated to assess the need for further measures for the Republic of Moldova to live up to its reporting obligations under Articles 07 and 15 under the Convention as well to improve and correlate it with the information presented in the National Implementation Plan of the Convention.

The assessment covers reporting requirements regarding initial 12 POPs and newly listed POS such as POP PBDE, HBCD, PCN, PCP, PFOS, SCCP, including update of the uPOPs emissions inventories. The draft report was discussed during the national workshop with interested public and private stakeholders. The deliberations and conclusions of this process will establish the basis for elaboration of report on National Gap Analysis of information and data under the National Implementation Plan and reports under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. This assessment report will be further examined and adjusted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment and later used for the NIP update project.

Chapter 1 contains a short introduction, describes the project context and the overview of prepared analysis. It also presents a short country profile.

After, chapter 2 presents objectives of the National Gap Analysis, describing the steps of process conducted and used approach and methodology to prepare this analysis. Furthermore, the description is followed by a description of the institutional arrangements on who does what, and how POPs issues are connected through waste and chemical environmental policy to the reporting obligation under Articles 07 and 15. In the subsequent sections the obligations of the private sector users of POPs are described, followed by a description of the infrastructure for data collection – information systems that are available in the Republic of Moldova. Activities describing which data and information have been compiled and how these data have been evaluated are mentioned in a short section at the end of this chapter.

Chapter 3 goes over the political and regulatory frameworks, strategies and action plan elements for the fulfilment of Moldova’s reporting obligations under the Convention. Assessment was done following reporting content, indicating reporting obligation versus, status of reporting as well legal framework covering POPs reporting issues, indicating the qualitative and quantitative information gaps.

Chapter 4 is focused on general information about NIP update process, describing challenges on NIP updating and concerns on new NIP development / updating due to the country’s declaration in the

Stockholm Convention ratification legal framework. It also describes the qualitative and quantitative information gaps identified in the first NIP of the Republic of Moldova.

Chapter 5 summarizes general finding on the data and information gaps identified within the national reports and NIPs. The findings were integrated during the analyses and provide the basis for the recommendations, as well the next step activities to be done at the NIP update phase.

The expert team would like to acknowledge the many and diverse contributions made to this assessment by the aforementioned institution such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment, the State Ecological Inspection, the Environmental Agency and other public institution that provide their inputs. and business association private stakeholders.

The expert team highly appreciates fruitful cooperation with UNEP Economy Division, Chemicals and Health Branch and Basel Convention Coordinating Centre, Stockholm Convention Regional Centre, for Capacity Building and Transfer of Technology from Uruguay, particularly of its support in project implementation, providing technical assistance and guidance to EPPO-EPIU-MARDE to meet the project's objectives. We as well would like to acknowledge the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

We believe that experience gained by our country in the process of preparation of the National Gap Analysis, could to be an important contribution to other similar activities undertaken by the countries involved in the project "Integrated Stockholm Convention toolkit to improve the transmission of information under Articles 07 and 15".

Svetlana Bolocan, chief division,

National Focal Point on Stockholm Convention on POPs

Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment

Contents

Summary	Error! Bookmark not defined.
1. Introduction	6
1.1 Country profile	7
2.1 Objectives.....	8
2.2 Methodology for the National Gap Analysis.....	9
2.2.1 Used approach	9
2.3 Challenges and limitations	24
3. Gaps related to the data and information requested to be included within the Article 15 report.....	25
3.1 General information.....	25
3.2 Qualitative information gaps	26
3.3 Quantitative data gaps.....	35
4. Gaps related to the data and information requested to be included within the NIP.....	41
4.1 General information.....	41
4.2 Qualitative information gaps	43
4.3 Quantitative data gaps.....	54
5. Conclusions and Recommendations	60
5.1 Summary of the data and information gaps identified within the national reports and NIPs	60
5.1.1. General findings	60
5.1.2 Summary of data and information gaps identified within national reports.....	66
5.1.3 Summary of data and information gaps identified within NIP	67
5.2 Conclusions	67
5.3 Recommendations	68
5.4 Future streamlining the NIP development and reporting processes in the country	70
Annex nr.1 Legal measures undertaken as regards the Annexes A, part I and B, part I to the Stockholm Convention.....	71

1. Introduction

Parties to the Stockholm Convention are required to develop a National Implementation Plan (NIP) to demonstrate how the obligations of the Convention will be implemented. The paper considers methodology for POPs inventory and results of implementing the Stockholm Convention in the Republic of Moldova.

This report on the National Gap Analysis of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), is provided within the framework of the UNEP/GEF project entitled “Integrated Stockholm Convention toolkit to improve the transmission of information under Articles 07 and 15”, whose main focus is to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment of the Republic of Moldova, with the support of BCCC-SCRC, in executing in-country activities for data collection for national reporting under the Stockholm Convention, and to increase capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks.

The NIP and the National Reports submitted to the SC Secretariat under articles 15 and 7 respectively are key data sources used in the effectiveness evaluation of the implementation of the Stockholm Convention.

The purpose of this Report will be to determine legal/institutional/ IT infrastructure issues and provide a succinct overview of the most significant legislative gaps in legislation on POPs in the Republic of Moldova for data collection for national reporting under the Stockholm conventions. As result of this project functional environmental information systems will be established to support decision-making process in the country.

The comments and feedbacks on questionnaires received from the stakeholders during various sites visits / face to face workshops, phone discussions are also incorporated to the report in order to adequately cope with managing Moldova’s priority on POPs related issues in line with planned further activities on NIP update.

1.1 Country profile

The Republic of Moldova is located in the South-East of Central Europe and in the North-East of the Black Sea between Romania and Ukraine. The largest part of the nation lies between two rivers, the Dniester and the Prut. The western border of Moldova is formed by the Prut river, which joins the Danube before flowing into the Black Sea.

According to data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), at the beginning of 2019, 2.68 million people with habitual residence lived in the Republic of Moldova. In recent years, the country's inhabitants have been massively involved in international migration, so in 2017, about 160 thousand people emigrated from the country, and 110 thousand people immigrated to the country, most of them being returned migrants. Moldova continues to be the country with the lowest degree of urbanization in Europe: 41.6% of people living in urban and 58.4% - in rural areas. About half of the urban population lives in Chişinău.

The Republic of Moldova has gained its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. The current Constitution of Moldova was adopted in 1994. The politics of Moldova takes place in a framework of a parliamentary representative democratic republic, wherein the prime minister heads the government, and of a multi-party system. The government exercises executive power. Legislative power is vested in the Parliament.

The Government of Moldova regards European integration as a fundamental priority of domestic and foreign policy. In line with the government's objective to create a modern European public administration system, a series of reforms have been launched to streamline and enhance the efficiency of the civil service and several reforms have already been launched in the sphere of fighting corruption, justice reform, local administration reform, education and health reform.

The Republic of Moldova acceded to the Stockholm Convention on 7 April 2004 and the Convention entered into force in July 2004. The first NIP has been developed and submitted to the SC secretariat as per 25.08.2005. The original NIP addressed the twelve (12) POPs initially listed on the Convention. The NIP developed in 2004 has allowed to define the list of the actions, that have been reflected within both policy and regulatory country documents, developed further.

As the designated National Focal Point for the Stockholm Convention on POPs in the country, the Waste Management Division under the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources in the Government of Republic of Moldova served as the Executing Agency for the development of the original NIP with assistance from the Global Environmental Facility and the World Bank (GEF/WB TF051208).

At present, the POPs priority actions are reflected in the National Programme on Sound Management of Chemicals for 2010-2020, approved by the Governmental Decision no. 973 dated 18.10.2010 (Annex 2 List of activities related to needs and priorities for Stockholm Convention implementation) and within the Environmental Protection Strategy as a sector document and Environment as separate goal is set by UN under the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

2.1 Objectives

The objective of the project is to facilitate the development, transmission, access and use of data contained in National Implementation Plans (NIP, Article 7) and National Reports (Article 15).

The National Implementation Plans is the obligations under the Article 7 of the Convention that requires each party to develop and endeavor to implement a plan for implementing its obligations under the Convention, and to transmit its implementations plan to the Conference of the Parties within two years of the entry into force of the Convention and its amend for the Party.

Other important obligation under Article 15 of the Convention that requires Party to prepare and deliver a national report contains information on the measures taken by a Party in implementing the SC and on its effectiveness. The Conference of the Parties decided at its first meeting that national reports shall be submitted every four years. In order to enable the interpretation and comparison of trends, it is important that Parties complete their national reports in a timely and accurate manner.

Within the project an integrated electronic toolkit to is to be developed by UNEP and tested by project pilot countries, including Republic of Moldova. In order to be able to test the integrated electronic toolkit, some preparatory work needs to be performed, namely:

- update/revise the national gap analysis to check the information included in the National Implementation Plan(s) and national reports already submitted by Moldova, highlighting gaps on POPs qualitative and quantitative data;
- undertake revision/collection of POPs data (quantitative and qualitative).

The National Gap Analysis consists of performing the following activities:

- checking the information included in the national reports submitted by Republic of Moldova to the Stockholm Convention Secretariat, highlighting gaps on POPs qualitative and quantitative data;
- checking the information included in the National Implementation Plan(s) submitted by Republic of Moldova to the Stockholm Convention Secretariat, highlighting gaps on POPs qualitative and quantitative data;
- highlighting the differences between the information included in the national reports and the information presented in the National Implementation Plan(s);
- providing recommendations for future streamlining of the data revision/collection process under the national reports and the National Implementation Plan(s), with focus in addressing the identified data gaps (qualitative and quantitative data).

The National Gap Analysis also consists on the review of the current regulations and laws governing of POPs reporting issues in line with the specific objectives identified below:

- To confirm the provisions in the current environmental regulations of the Republic of Moldova covering POPs issues,
- To determine inconsistent provisions of national legislation on the POPs and Stockholm Convention that might be eliminated or improved,
- To identify the gaps of the national legislation on POPs data collection.

The National Gap Analysis was focused on following criteria: relevance to country circumstance, effectiveness for NIP update process, efficiency due to pandemic situation, sustainability and the capacity of the expert team and national authorities.

The National Gap Analysis Report will provide recommendations where appropriate, to be used in drafting the new legislation on collection of POPs data. The review has been carried out by the national expert team of the Project.

2.2 Methodology for the National Gap Analysis

2.2.1 Used approach on National Gap Analysis

The development of the report is being completed in three steps (details provided below):

- Data and information identification, collection and classification - initial screening of the key documents on the subject;
- Compilation and evaluation of data and information;
- Review of the analysis and consultations.

2.2.2. Data and information collection and classification

The information contained in this section was used to support expert team in conducting National Gap Analysis for reporting obligation as well for the NIP development.

The National Gap Analysis on qualitative / quantitative data collection was performed following general guidance and rules in order to promote consistency with already included information in the national reports submitted by Republic of Moldova to the Stockholm Convention Secretariat. Moreover, the need of correlation between reporting obligation and information included in the National Implementation Plan(s) submitted by Republic of Moldova to the Stockholm Convention Secretariat is widely recognized as a priority activity. As results of this assessment the expert team shall highlighting gaps on POPs qualitative and quantitative data and provide recommendations for future streamlining of the data revision/collection process under the national reports and the National Implementation Plan(s), with focus in addressing the identified data gaps (qualitative and quantitative data).

The first step was to review of the relevant resource documents as presented in Table 1 below:

TABLE 1. RELEVANT RESOURCE DOCUMENTS CONSULTED

Stockholm Convention Obligation	Reference Document screened
Article 15: National Reporting	Electronic Reporting System of the Stockholm Convention - Fourth reporting cycle questionnaire; First Art. 15 report submitted by Moldova Second Art. 15 report submitted by Moldova

Stockholm Convention Obligation	Reference Document screened
Article 7: National Implementation Plan	First National Implementation Plan
	Guidance for Developing a National Implementation Plan (NIP)
	FAO Technical Guidelines: FAO Pesticide Disposal Series: Environmental Management Tool Kit for Obsolete Pesticides(EMTK) – Volumes 1-4
	Toolkit for the sound management of DDT for disease vector control
	Guidelines for the identification of PCBs and materials containing PCBs
	PCB inventory guidance (PCB Elimination Network)
	Preparation of a National Environmentally Sound Management Plan for PCBs and PCB-Contaminated Equipment - Training Manual
	Updated technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), polychlorinated terphenyls (PCTs) or polybrominated biphenyls (PBBs)
	Updated general technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with persistent organic pollutants (POPs)
	PCB management guidance - Maintenance, Handling, Transport and Interim Storage of Liquids Containing PCB and Equipment Contaminated with PCB (PCB Elimination Network, June 2016)
	Framework for the management of PCBs
	PCB Transformers and Capacitors - From Management to Reclassification and Disposal
	Open system uses of PCBs
	Factsheet on Open Applications: Machinery and Installations;
	Photo Booklet on Open Applications
	Factsheet on Open Applications: Residential and Public Buildings;
	Draft guidance for the inventory of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) and related chemicals
	Draft guidance for the inventory of polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)
	Guidance for the inventory, identification and substitution of Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD)
	Draft guidance on preparing inventories of hexachlorobutadiene (HCBD)
Draft guidance on preparing inventories of pentachlorophenol (PCP) and its salts	
Draft guidance on preparing inventories of polychlorinated naphthalene's (PCN)	
UPOPs	Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Releases of Dioxins, Furans and Other Unintentional POPs (Toolkit)
PBDEs	Format for the submission of information for the evaluation and review of brominated diphenyl ethers pursuant to paragraph 2 of parts IV and V of Annex A to the Stockholm Convention

Stockholm Convention Obligation	Reference Document screened
DDT	Questionnaire for reporting by each Party on production and use of DDT for disease vector control and for reporting other information relevant to the evaluation of the continued need for DDT for disease vector control
PFOS	Form for the collection of information on PFOS, its salts, PFOSF and their related chemicals to be used in the evaluation of the continued need for the various acceptable purposes and specific exemptions

2.2.3 Compilation and evaluation of data and information

Based on the proposed framework indicated in guidance document, the approach to conduct the comparative analysis of the NIP and the Art. 15 on reporting was done using Qualitative Comparative Analysis and the Quantitative Comparative Analysis.

At both levels, the team was able to use relatively simple groups of data sets.

In order to perform the evaluation of data, the following documents were reviewed:

- National report submitted to SC – cycle 1, cycle 2 and draft cycle 3 reporting report;
- Additional substance based excel files on gap analysis, drafted within the project for DDT, PFOS, PBDEs reporting
- Input from Moldova for Draft Generic Gap Analysis report developed in frames of GEF-6 Medium Size Project: Integrated SC Toolkit to improve the transmission of information under Articles 07 and 15
- Filled in online Questionnaire on Assessment of needs of developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to implement the Stockholm Convention, that includes: needs in terms of technical assistance and technology transfer and the barriers and obstacles in that regard (decision SC-9/14); and on country funding needed to implement the Convention over the period 2022-2026 (decision SC-9/15).

In order to consider the compliance with the obligations under the Convention in a more integrative manner, the project analyses the possibilities for harmonizing the followings:

- i) the format for Article 15 reporting requirements with the formats of the other reporting obligations under the Stockholm Convention;
- ii) the format of the NIP development and/or update with the Article 15 reporting format;
- iii) national mechanisms for NIP development and/or update with the NIP implementation and with the national mechanisms for reporting;
- iv) reporting submissions time schedules.

2.2.4 Review of the analysis and consultations

The main findings and recommendation have been presented during the national workshop and share them with interested stakeholders. The expert team prepared a PPT presentation and deliver it at a national workshop to be organised in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. The expert team will highlight the differences between the information included in the national reports and the information presented in the National Implementation Plan and shall provide recommendations for future streamlining of the data revision/collection process under the national reports and the National Implementation Plan(s), with focus in addressing the identified data gaps (qualitative and quantitative data).

The presentation of the findings of draft National Gap Analysis report was conducted on October 15, 2020 for the representatives of environmental, technical supervision and agriculture authorities. A series of preliminary actions and measures to be further described were discussed and reflected under the comments / current status chapters of the tables. In addition, a series of fact-finding missions shall be conducted during end of October- beginning of November 2020 to selected enterprises on revealing the situation with certain POPs potential use and recycling.

The deliberations and conclusions of this process will establish the basis for elaboration of a draft implementation plan, including strategic elements and action plans. This report will be further deeper examined and adjusted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment and later used for the NIP update project.

Other important issue is Quality assurance/quality control; this issue is assessed separately with support provided by Knowledge and Risk Unit Chemicals and Health Branch, Economy Division.

2.2.5 Challenges and limitations

The report seeks to present identified existing overlapping and gaps data and information requested reported under Article 15 and other reporting obligations under the Stockholm Convention and the data and information generated and included in the NIP development and/or update process, as submitted by Moldova to the Secretariat.

Challenges were encountered in compiling and analyzing this information, resulting in some noteworthy limitations to the report and its findings.

These challenges are related to the process of correlation of the data and information generated during the NIP development and update with the reporting obligations.

The correlation was based on expert judgement and may have resulted in an oversight of information and data or on the contrary in an over appreciation of the coverage of information and data generated during NIP development and/or update over the reporting requirements.

2.3 Methodology for the data and information collection

2.3.1 Used approach regarding the POPs data collection, estimation of POPs content in relevant products and waste, as well as of uPOPs emissions

Due to difficulties that country face in submitting of last two reports it become obvious that reporting requires national coordination and the collection of information and data from multiple stakeholders, including different ministries. The lack of technical knowledge, as well poor cooperation between these stakeholders delays the gathering of the needed information for national reports and NIP updating.

The expert team decide additionally to include in this National Gap Analysis two approaches on data collection as well to indicate the method how to assess the POPs content in relevant products and

waste. In particular, this additional efforts should be done in order to address the outstanding reporting issues and help country in identifying the newly listed POPs in products and articles.

Methodological approach for data and information collection consists of five components; (i) desk reviews of legal framework and available data base; (ii) questionnaire based surveys; (iii) field visits to main stakeholder; (iv) cross checking interviews with state and private stakeholders; and (v) an expert assumption.

In order to ensure accuracy of the estimations calculated, the data and information collection was performed using two approaches. A “bottom-up” approach was used in specific sources, such as industrial sources, disposal and treatment of waste, and transformers, in which case there were data of activity levels or whose estimation was possible using the information available.

On the other hand, a “top-down” approach was used for area sources, including the registration to put on market/ imports application of agrochemicals and the use of electric and electrical equipment with BFRs, for which there are available data at a national level and a lesser level of disaggregation. The expert team considers previous several inventory experiences where both approaches were used that serve as references of this POPs inventory. Particularly as team we were involved in GHG inventory for the waste sectors, Hg inventory for the Minamata Initial Assessment, as well in developing the inventory methodologies for the PRTR reporting.

Following methodological approach have been applied to conduct this National Gap Analysis Report regarding the POPs data collection:

- Identification of key sources of POPs data collection: include data needs assessment and data sources;
- Collection and selection of AD: includes issues related to the collection and selection of AD using “bottom-up” and “top-down” approaches. It should be noted that some AD will be placed under missing categories, due to lack of information and methodologies under SC.

Estimation of POPs content in relevant products and waste, as well as of uPOPs emissions are the next step to be done within this project, based on collected data and available information at the nation level. In this regard expert team will do in the upcoming period following activities:

- Selection and use of estimation methodologies and assumptions, include descriptions and selection of factors, using available guidelines and relevant assumptions.
- Carry out recalculations: includes issues related to the quantitative and qualitative reporting of information on recalculations. It is important to note that under current project activities is envisage to recalculated uPOPs inventory conducted in 2001.
- Secure consistent time series: includes issues related to inconsistent time series and methods and approaches applied to ensure time series consistency.

In case of emission estimation, the final calculations will be performed using the procedure according to which an emission factor (F: potential emission of a given substance per reference unit of a product or compound) and a temporal level of activity (A: values of consumption or production) are used for a known source, according to the equation: $E = F \times A$

Emission factors have been identified from various sources, such as the Toolkit for Identification and Quantification of Releases of Dioxins, Furans and Other Unintentional POPs, national / international

publications, GHG Inventories, EMEP Guidebook, PRTR reports provided by the private sector related to industrial activities, reports from environmental agency/inspection.

2.3.3 Institutional arrangements for data and information collection

In order to perform data collection, an official request have been send from the MARDE to the public institutions, using “top-down” approach

There are three main resources for data and information about chemicals / waste management in Moldova, such as:

1. Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment collects data:
 - a. for Stockholm Convention reporting (PCB/PTT, obsolete pesticides),
 - b. for Basel Convention on (some) hazardous wastes,
 - c. for PRTR – register that provides key environmental data from industrial facilities reported annually by more than 300 industrial facilities covering 10 economic activities;
 - d. in the frame of several projects on inventory of wastes and chemicals.
2. Statistical Office collects data on waste as reported by obliged subjects. These data are not full-scale and contain mostly information of some specific hazardous wastes and mixed municipal wastes.
3. Customs offices collect data of exported / imported goods, chemicals and wastes.
4. The National Agency for Food Safety is the administrative authority responsible for state policy implementation in the field of regulations and control for plant protection and phytosanitary quarantine.
5. Public Institution "Public Services Agency" - the competent authority for the registration and deregistration of motor vehicles and trailers.
6. Agency for Technical Supervision - the competent authority for the market surveillance regarding construction materials and dangerous industrial equipment.

Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment (MARDE) – www.madrm.gov.md

Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment coordinates the implementation of the treaties and international agreements related to waste and chemicals to which the Republic of Moldova is a party. It also contributes to the collection and dissemination of the information about waste and chemicals management, including the cross-border context, and ensure the public access to information.

National Bureau of Statistics www.statistica.md

Law on official statistics establishes the principles for the collection, processing, centralization, dissemination and storage of statistical information, including on substances and chemicals. In addition,

the statistical information on the formation, use and neutralization of toxic waste is collected by the NBS through a statistical form separate from the economic agents that carry out such activities.

Customs Service of the Ministry of Finance – www.customs.gov.md

The Customs Service controls and admits import/export of chemicals and waste on the territory of the Republic of Moldova on the basis of permissive acts, and cooperates with environment authorities in the process of implementing the international environmental treaties.

National Food Safety Agency - www.ansa.gov.md

The Agency performs the supervision and control of the production, import, marketing, use and storage of plant protection products in accordance with the legislation in the field of plant protection.

Public Institution "Public Services Agency"- www.asp.gov.md

The registration, transcription of the transfer of ownership and deregistration of vehicles and trailers is carried out by the territorial subdivisions of examination and registration of vehicles of the Public Institution "Public Services Agency" at the request of vehicle owners or their agents (after certifying that the vehicle is not listed on registration as announced in pursuit according to the information resources held by the competent authorities of the Republic of Moldova).

Agency for Technical Supervision – www.ast.gov.md

The Agency performs the supervision and control for safety of dangerous industrial objects, market surveillance regarding construction materials and dangerous industrial equipment / objects; fire safety and civil protection, etc.

The following entities are subordinated to the MARDE have been also consulted with regard to data collection for the POPs inventories issues, as well invited to the workshop on the data revision/collection process under the national reports and the National Implementation Plan(s), hold in October 2020

Environmental Agency (EA) www.mediu.gov.md

The recently established Environment Agency is the regulatory authority responsible for implementation of the waste legislation. It has the following duties, in relation to MEAs:

- participate in the implementation of the international treaties and agreements regarding waste management and their cross-border transportation

- issue notification documents regarding the cross-border transportation of waste, according regulations approved by the Government;
- ensure the set up of targets for the separate collection and recycling of product waste under the extended producer responsibility;
- is the owner of Waste Management Information System and shall maintain it
- is the owner of Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and shall maintain it.

Environmental Protection Inspectorate (EPI) – www.ipm.gov.md

The mission of the Inspectorate is to implement state policy in the field of environmental protection and rational use of natural resources, to exercise state control and surveillance, to prevent and counteract violations in the areas of competence, in order to ensure a high level of supervision and protection. environment, public interests, ecological security of the state and other values protected by legislation. It has competencies in the fields of waste and chemicals management.

2.3.4 Obligations of Industry

Data collected using “bottom-up” methodology from the state companies or private sector:

According to Article 15 of Stockholm Convention each Party shall report to the Conference of the Parties on the measures it has taken to implement the provisions of this Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures in meeting the objectives of the Convention.

Among with the obligations of the relevant ministries and governmental authorities listed above, the obligations of the private sector users of POPs must be clearly defined in the national legislation. It became obvious that the issues of the management and disposal requirements on POPs chemicals should be understood by the industrialists that handle the POPs chemicals.

In order to overcome this situation, several legal frameworks have been developed and approved since 2009 that obliged industries to undertake measure in meeting the objectives of the Convention. According to the current legal framework industry has several obligations related to the POPs issues, particularly for identification, labeling and removing from use equipment containing PCBs, reduction of unintentional POPs (uPOPs) releases, relevant annex that lists substances subject to management of POPs stockpiles and waste have been included in the Law on Waste nr. 209 of 29.07.2016. Below the relevant legal framework are listed that obliged industries to undertake measure in meeting the objectives of the Convention.

- As regards PCB, in 2009 there was approved the Regulation on Polychlorinated Biphenyls (GD No. 81 of 02 February 2009). The production and placing on the market of PCB whether on its own, in

preparations or as constituents of articles, is prohibited. Placing on the market means supplying or making available to third persons against payment or free of charge.

- The reduction of unintentional POPs (uPOPs) releases have been highlighted in the first inventory of PCDD/PCDF conducted in 2001, but due to inconsistencies in data collection / reporting, an updated inventory has been done for the period 2001-2019. Furthermore, these results will become a starting point in setting up reduction measures to be included in the NIP.
- The Law on Waste nr. 209 of 29.07.2016, Art. 53 on Persistent Organic Pollutants Stocks and Waste para (1) prohibits marketing and using substances listed in the in Annex 6, with specific exemptions were relevant, either individually or in preparations or as constituents of articles, in order to protect human health and the environment, and prevent the formation of hazardous waste.
- There is lack of data regarding newly listed POPs, pesticides such as Alpha, Beta – hexachlorocyclohexane, Chlordecone, Pentachlorobenzene, Technical endosulfan, industrial chemicals such as Decabromodiphenyl ether, Hexabromobiphenyl, Hexabromocyclododecane, tetra, Penta, Hexa and Hepta-bromodiphenyl ether, Hexachlorobutadiene, Pentachlorobenzene, Polychlorinated naphthalenes, SCCPs, PFOS.

2.4 Infrastructure for data collection

2.4.1 Automatic Information System “Pollutant Release and Transfer Register”



The Pollutant Release Transfer Register (PRTR) is an instrument for industry reporting on MEAs which allows for the reporting and consolidation of a large part of the pollutants and processes covered by different chemical-related MEAs.

The national PRTR system (in Romanian is Registrul Emisiilor și Transferului de Poluanți - RETP) represents an online platform for submission of reports by the economic operators on their releases to air, water and soil, as well as off-site transfers of waste and their destination or operations disposal or recovery of waste and off-site transfers of pollutants in waste water.

It should be noted that most of operators do not meet the thresholds established under the E-PRTR, and it was proposed that all operators, holding environmental permits for air emissions, waste management and wastewater discharge, shall report within the National PRTR system. Such an arrangement is needed to avoid duplicating reporting efforts by operators and to prevent the establishment of a range of reporting systems. The implementation of PRTR Protocol provides easy access and traceability. It legally falls under the PRTR Regulation (GD 373/2018) and it shall fall under the industrial emissions legislation to be adopted soon. It is expected to cover all the facilities (e.g. waste water treatment sites, chemical plants, incinerators) engaged in 65 economic activities within 9 sectors.

National PRTR system covers 101 pollutants in 7 Groups (GHG, chlorinated organics, heavy metals, inorganic substances, other gases, other organic substances, pesticides). These appear to cover part of the scope of the MEAs collecting information on potentially hazardous chemical substances and/or pollutants released to air, water and soil or transferred off-site for treatment or disposal.

PRTR shall serve as a tool to report the releases of the following of POPs:

- Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, their salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride
- Alpha hexachlorocyclohexane
- Beta hexachlorocyclohexane
- Beta-Chlordane
- Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
- Chlordecone
- Dibenzoparadioxins polychlorinated and dibenzofurans (PCDD /PCDF)
- Endrina
- Hexabromodiphenyl ether and ether heptabromodiphenyl
- Hexabromodiphenyl ether, heptabromodiphenyl, octabromodiphenyl ether
- Tetrabromodifenil ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether
- Hexabromobiphenyl
- Hexachlorobenzen
- Lindane
- Mirex
- Pentachlorobenzene
- Hexabromocyclododecane and 1,2,5,6,9,10-hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD)
- Polychlorinated naphthalenes
- Tetrabromodiphenyl ether and pentabromodiphenyl ether
- Decabromodiphenyl ether,
- Dicofol,
- Short-chained chlorinated paraffins
- Pentadecafluorooctanoic acid

However, it should be mentioned that production and use of Aldrin, Dieldrin, Heptachlor, Toxaphene and DDT were prohibited since the Soviet times during 1970 – 1990 and therefore are not included in the official Register of substances permitted for import / export and use in agriculture, including individual farms, forestry and household. Moreover, the new legislation on chemicals prohibits the import and production of the listed above substances. These substances are exempted from the PRTR reporting.

The following sectors were identified as potential point and diffuse sources of POPs releases:

Point sources:

- Energy sector – thermal power stations and other combustion installations
- Production and processing of metals
- Mineral industry (Cement clinker and lime production, glass production)
- Chemical industry (basic plastic materials; surface-active agents and surfactants; basic pharmaceutical products)
- Waste and waste water management (open burning of landfills)

Diffuse sources:

- unauthorized landfills (open burning)

- emissions from transport means
- agricultural activities (use of pesticides and fertilizers)

The calculation methodologies are available for a part of the listed pollutants, so that the economic operators can calculate and report them. For the others, additional work and research need to be done.

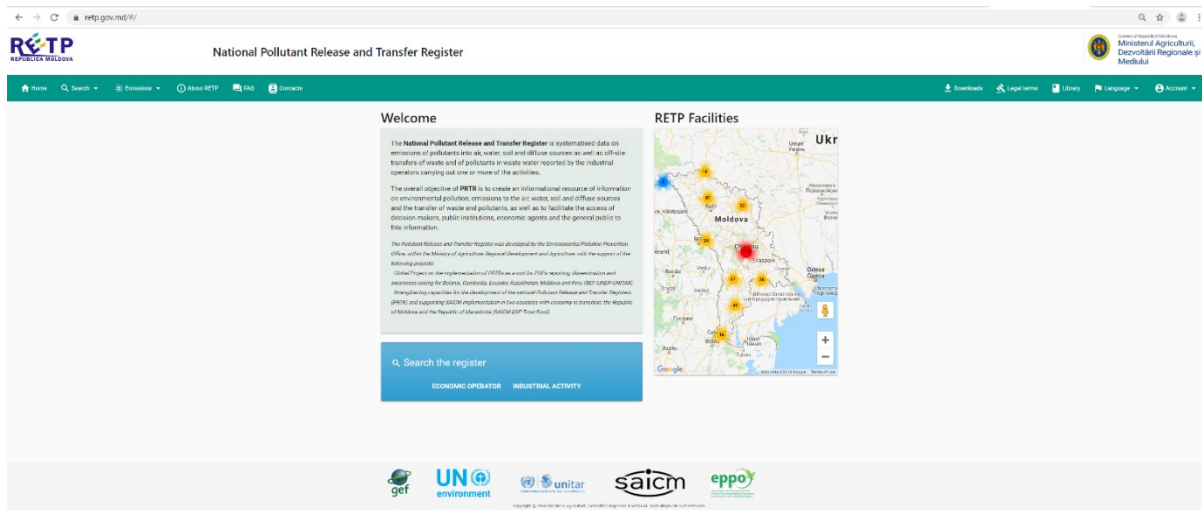


Figure 1. The home page interface of the PRTR system, www.retp.gov.md

2.4.2 Waste Management Automatic Information System



Waste Management Automatic Information System (WM AIS, in Romanian it is Sistemul informațional automatizat Managementul deșeurilor – SIA MD) represents the totality of software and hardware products intended for information collection, storage and processing in order to create the information resource on waste named the ‘Waste Management’ Register. It shall include the events related to the economic life cycle, the documents accompanying this cycle, including the import and export of waste, waste producers and certified business entities, as well as the automation of the business-processes of subjects involved in the waste chain and the submission of waste chain information to the public authorities, individuals and legal entities through the departmental portal.

The information regarding the implementation of the extended producer responsibility for the products, as well as the data about the quantity of products placed on market, in tones and number of units, the quantities, the number and the category of collected and treated product waste is part of WM AIS.

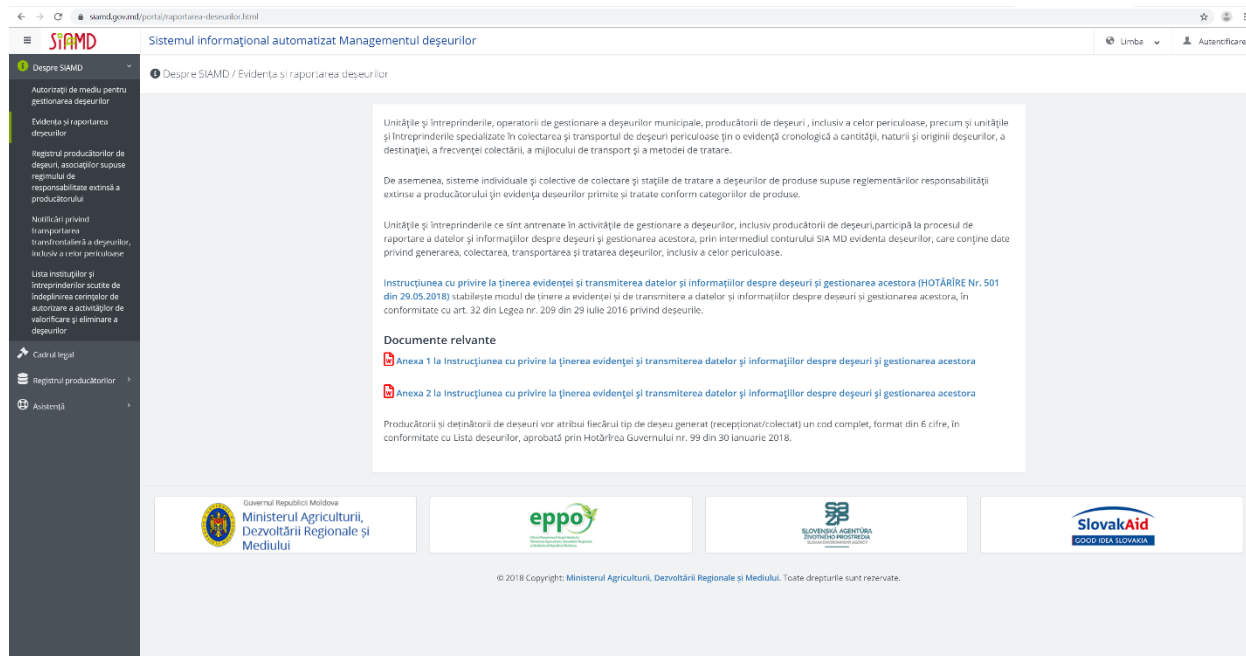


Figure 2 Waste Management Automatic Information System

2.4.3. Automatic Information System "Registry of chemicals placed on the Moldovan market"

The Automatic Information System "Registry of chemicals placed on the Moldovan market" represents the specialized information resource of the chemicals placed on the market of Moldova.

One of its layers shall be "Export and import of hazardous chemicals" which will serve as platform for submitting an export notification and it shall have the following functions:

- 1) Collection of Export Notifications of chemicals in accordance with the Regulation on the import and export of hazardous chemicals;
- 2) Approval by the National Agency of the requests for the issuance of the prior import consent in accordance with the Regulation on the import and export of hazardous chemicals;
- 3) Generation of documents for Decisions to issue the prior import consent;
- 4) Registration of export notifications.

The export notification shall be a permissive act.

2.4.4 Compilation and evaluation of data and information

In the table below is summarized entire process on the data and information collection performed using two approaches. A “bottom-up” approach was used to collect data from specific sources, particularly from the state companies or private sector such as industrial sources, disposal and treatment of waste, and transformers, in which case there were data of activity levels or whose estimation was possible using the information available.

Official request from the MARDE to the public institutions, using “top-down” methodology was used for area sources, including the registration to put on market/ imports application of agrochemicals and the use of electric and electrical equipment with BFRs, for which there are available data at a national level and a lesser level of disaggregation.

Table 2. Data collection and validation approach

Official request from the MARDE to the public institutions, using “top-down” methodology		
<i>Public institution</i>	<i>Activity Data</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Customs Service of Ministry of Finance	Import of all chemicals listed in Annex A for 2015-2019	Official letter of request no. 14-07/3176 of 18.07.2020 Reply received by email on 29.07.2020
National Food Safety Agency	Use of POPs pesticides and existence of stocks of POPs pesticides for 2010-2019	Official letter of request no. 14-07/3175 of 18.07.2020 Official reply received 01-6/1835 of 30.07.2020
Agency for Technical Supervision	Use of chemicals in construction materials and in fire fighting foams for 2015-2019: - PFOS in fire fighting foams - HCBd in polystyrene - PCN and PCP in wood - SCCP in paints	Official letter of request no. 14-07/4332 of 22.09.2020 Official reply pending
Agency for Public Services	Data on number of vehicles for estimation of POP PBDE, in particular vehicles registered in 1975-2004	Official letter of request no. 14-07/3985 of 04.09.2020 Official reply received, Letter no 01/6624 of 07.10.2020
Emergency Situations Inspectorate	Use of PFOS in fire fighting foams for 2015-2019	Official letter of request no. 14-07/4329 of 22.09.2020 Official reply received – letter no 19/5-1705 of 08.10.2020 Site visit planned
Authority for Civil Aeronautics	Use of PFOS in fire fighting foams in hydraulic oils for 2010-2019 Data on transformers	Official letter of request no. 14-07/4333 of 22.09.2020 Official reply received – letter no 2962 of 27.10.2020
Moldsilva	Use of PCN and PCP for treatment of wood	Official letter of request no. 14-07/4331 of 22.09.2020

		Official reply pending	
Data collected using "bottom-up" methodology from the state companies or private sector			
<i>Entities mane</i>	<i>Activity Data</i>	<i>QA/QC (site visits /phone call/)</i>	<i>Remarks Links / web site</i>
ÎCS Premier Energy SRL	Data on PCB containing capacitors and transformers, phase out and management Data on treatment of cross arms and utility poles with PCP and PCN	Site visits to multiple locations Official letter no 14-07/4335 of 22.09.2020 Official replies received Letter no 46-74/1498 of 03.11.2020	Energy distribution company https://premierenergy.md/
Red Nord SE			Energy distribution company https://rednord.md
Moldelectrica SE			Energy transmission company https://www.moldelectrica.md/ro/
Moldtelecom SE			Telecommunication company https://unite.md/
Termolectrica SE			Heat and power supply company https://www.termoelectrica.md
CET Nord SE			Heat and power supply company https://www.cet-nord.md/ro/
IS Calea Ferată (Railway)	Data on PCB containing capacitors and transformers, phase out and management Data on treatment of railway sleepers with PCP and PCN	Site visit Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020 Official reply Pending	Railway transport administration http://www.railway.md/
ME Regia Transport Electric	Data on PCB containing capacitors and transformers, phase out and management Data on treatment of utility poles with PCP and PCN	Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020 Official reply – letter no 070/924 of 27.10.2020	Electric transport administration www.rtec.md
Moldovatrangaz SE	Data on PCB containing capacitors and transformers, phase out and management	Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020 Official reply – letter no 15-930/5 nov 2020	Gas distribution company https://moldovatrangaz.md/
IS Nodul Hidrotehnic Costesti (HPP)	Data on PCB containing capacitors and transformers, phase out and management	Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020 Site visit	Hydropower plant
Moara SA	Data on PCB containing capacitors and transformers,	Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020 Site visit	Milling company

	phase out and management		
Tracom SA	Data on PCB containing capacitors and transformers, phase out and management	Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020 Official reply – letter no 40/352/ 29 oct 2020	Former tractor production company, now – economic free zone https://tracom.md/ru/
Apă Canal Chisinau	Data on PCB containing capacitors and transformers, phase out and management	Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020 Official reply – letter no 01-3252 din 23 oct 2020	Water supply and sanitation company https://acc.md/
Orange SA	Data on PCB containing capacitors and transformers, phase out and management	Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020 Official reply – letter no 10258 of 30.10.2020	Telecommunication company https://www.orange.md/
Coroplast Harness Technology in Free Economic Zone	Data on use of POPPBDE, HBCD, PFOS or SCCP in PVC for production of cables	Site visit in Căușeni Filling in a questionnaire	Cable assembling company https://zelb.md/
GG Cables		Site visit in Bălți – Filling in a questionnaire	Cable production company https://zelb.md/
Draxlmaier			Visit pending
Bilagro Prim SRL	Use od HBCD or POPPBDE as flame retardant in polyurethane foam	Site visit	Polyurethane foam production http://www.bilargoprim.md/
F.C.P. SOLDI S.R.L.	Use of HBCD in polystyrene	Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020 Site visit	EPS polystyrene boards production from beans http://soldi.md
ORIZONT S. A			EPS polystyrene boards production from beans http://polistiren.md/
Damalio SRL			Visit pending
Nelimot Com SRL			EPS polystyrene boards distributor https://nanu.md/ro/
ABS SRL	Recycling of CRT casings contaminated with HBCD / sorting station for municipal waste	Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020 Site visit to Chișinău Site visit to Peresecina	Plastic waste collection and recycling company http://abs.md/

Finplast SRL	Recycling of plastic potentially contaminated with POPs	Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020	Site visit pending
Acvila Group	Use of PFOS in synthetic carpet production	Official letter no 14-07/4373 of 23.09.2020	The reply pending
Waste landfill mun Bălți (located in Singerei)	Check for open burning of waste for estimation of share of	Site visit	In all three waste landfills there were registered open burning
Waste landfill from Crețoaia			
Waste landfill from Ștefan Vodă			
Pesticide deposit in Florești	Check the state and the quantity	Site visit	Site visit pending
Former pesticide storage – v. Bujor, r. Hincești	Check the state of cofferdam isolation	Site visit	Site visit done
IMIX Moldo-Germana Semger - Balti	Check the state and the quantity of treated seeds waste	Site visit	Site visit done
Cismichioi Obsolete p burial	Check the state of cofferdam isolation	Site visit	Site visit pending

2.5 Challenges and limitations on data collection

While performing the gap analysis the major data sets on current situation were collected through desk review, analysis of the national reports under MEAs and the extraction of data from the economic operators annual reports on chemicals and waste management, as well as from other freely available data sources (NBS database, comtrade.org).

The COVID 19 pandemics didn't allow to organize many face-to-face meetings with the line ministries and authorities to discuss on particular POPs issues, also referring on POPs prioritization. Interviews and some site visits were organized, however it is expected to check for more accurate data in the period post-Gap report, in November 2020.

In the end bridging the gap and search for solutions shall be the important part of NIP update process, that will allow prioritization of POPs, determination of measures, calculation costs and benefits based on conditional probability.

3. Gaps related to the data and information requested to be included within the Article 15 report

3.1 General information

The Republic of Moldova has ratified the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants by Law no. 40-XV from 19.02.2004 regarding the ratification of Stockholm convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Official Monitor of RM, 2004, no. 39-41), and accordingly has become the Party member of Convention.

According to art. 2 of Law no 40-XV from 19.02.2004, the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment (MARDE) is designated as competent authority for coordination of execution of provisions of the conventions. According to Law no. 40-XV from February 19th, 2004 regarding the ratification of Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and Art. 9 of Stockholm Convention in 2004 the National Focal Point has been appointed.

In accordance with Art. 15, the Stockholm Convention national reports shall be submitted every four years and contain statistical data on its total quantities of production, import and export of each of the chemicals listed in Annex A and Annex B or a reasonable estimate of such data; and to the extent practicable, a list of the States from which it has imported each such substance and the States to which it has exported each such substance, as well as data on waste disposal for specific POPs.

Current status of reporting obligations of the Republic of Moldova to SC are presented in the Table 2 below.

TABLE 2. STATUS OF REPORTING OBLIGATIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA TO SC

SC Obligation	Status in Moldova
Stockholm Convention Art. 7 obligation of NIP development/update and transmission	Initial NIP elaborated
Stockholm Convention Art. 15 reporting obligation	Cycle 1st reporting – submitted Cycle 2 reporting - submitted Cycle 3 reporting – was not submitted Cycle 4 reporting – was not submitted Cycle 5 reporting – to be submitted in 2022

Reporting requires national coordination and the collection of information and data from multiple stakeholders, including different ministries. The lack of cooperation between these stakeholders delays the gathering of the needed information for national reports and NIP updating.

Additionally, a key element of the reporting is the data collection on new POPs inventories and this task is rather challenging and demanding. It requires time, technical knowledge, organization of the data collected and financial support to execute the required activities (e.g. desk study, surveys, field trips to economic entities, data analysis). In particular, there are challenges in identifying the newly listed POPs in products and articles.

3.2 Qualitative information gaps

The Stockholm Convention national reports shall be submitted every four years and contain annual data on production, import, export, use and waste disposal /waste incineration for specific POPs.



FIGURE 1. QUANTITATIVE DATA TO BE REPORTED FOR SPECIFIC POPs

The reporting under the Stockholm Convention is rather challenging for the Republic of Moldova. The data collection systems are recently established: PRTR which will allow to collect data on 101 pollutants, including 20 POPs and WMAIS – data on POPs containing waste. There is lack of data regarding newly listed POPs and insufficient monitoring data on industrial chemicals including the unintentional production.

It should be also noted that, the acceptance of amendments to the SC Convention is rather difficult process, due to the fact that the Law on Ratification of the Stockholm Convention (Law no 40/2004) includes the provision under Art. 1 - ratify the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, adopted on 22 May 2001 in Stockholm (Sweden) and signed by Moldova on 23 May 2001 with the following statement: "In accordance with Article 25 paragraph 4 of the Convention, any amendment to Annexes A, B or C shall enter into force for Moldova after the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or

accession to the amendment.“ At the same time in order to accept the amendments, it is necessary to present the detailed information of the country’s situation with reference to the new listings within the Annexes A, B, C (inventory, costs, etc).

TABLE 3. IDENTIFIED QUALITATIVE INFORMATION GAPS WITHIN THE ART. 15 REPORTS SUBMITTED BY MOLDOVA

Qualitative information reporting requirements		Status	Remarks	What should be done
Part A: General information		No gap		
Part B: Information on the measures taken by the Party to implement the provisions of the Stockholm Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures in meeting the objectives of the Convention				
Section I Implementation plans (Article 7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the status of development, update and transmission of NIP; - financial assistance received, as well as the GEF Agency providing the assistance; - NIP review and update triggers; 	Partial gap First NIP submitted in 20004	GD 1155/2004 on approval of 1 st NIP	NIP needs to be updated
Section II. Article 3: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - legal and administrative measures necessary to eliminate releases from intentional production and use of chemicals listed in Annex A, or restrict the production and use of the chemicals listed in Annex B to the Convention 	partial	Law on waste 209/2016, Annex 6, Law on chemicals 277/2018, Art. 17, 18 and 25	Update de Annex 6 of Law 209/2016 Approve POPs regulation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - measures to regulate new pesticides or new industrial chemicals (i.e. chemicals that have not yet been introduced in the market or registered in the country); 	partial		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consideration the criteria in paragraph 1 of Annex D when conducting assessments of pesticides or industrial chemicals currently in use; 	Partial		
Section III. Article 4: Register of specific exemptions; Annex A and Annex B	notification the Secretariat to register for specific exemptions listed in Annex A or Annex B or for acceptable purposes listed in Annex B?	No gap The secretariat has not been notified	Law on waste 209/2016, Annex 6 lists the exceptions, Law on ratification of SC with no exemptions	more research for identification of need for exemptions for new pops
Section IV. Article 5: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production	evaluation of the efficacy of the laws and policies adopted to manage releases of unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants, in accordance with paragraph (a) (ii) of Article 5 of the Convention?	partial		
	promotion or introduction requirements for use of best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practices (BEP) for new sources and existing sources, in accordance with paragraphs (d) and (e) of Article 5 of	Partial	draft POPs regulation, draft IED law/regulation	promote and approve the POPs Regulation, promote

Qualitative information reporting requirements		Status	Remarks	What should be done
	the Convention? New Sources/ Existing Sources			industrial emissions legislation (in process)
Section V. Article 6: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from stockpiles and wastes	strategies for identifying stockpiles consisting of, or containing, chemicals listed in either Annex A or Annex B to the Convention, in accordance with paragraph 1 (a) (i) of Article 6 of the Convention	Partial	part of NIP	update NIP and develop strategies for new POPs
	Identification and quantification stockpiles consisting of, or containing, chemicals listed in Annex A or Annex B to the Convention, in accordance with paragraph 1 (b) of Article 6 of the Convention?	Partial	part of NIP, 2004	Information on stockpiles to be checked in annual env reporting
	measures to manage stockpiles in a safe, efficient and environmentally sound manner, in accordance with paragraph 1 (c) of Article 6 of the Convention	No gap	part of NIP, 2004, and other legislative measures, export of stockpiles	
	strategies for identifying products and articles in use and wastes consisting of, containing, or contaminated with chemicals listed in Annex A, B or C, in accordance with paragraph 1 (a) (ii) of Article 6 of the Convention?	Partial	part of NIP, 2004, and other legislative measures	Update of strategies for new PoPs
	measures to manage wastes, including products and articles upon becoming wastes, in accordance with paragraph 1 (d) of Article 6 of the Convention?	Partial	part of NIP, 2004, and other legislative measures (Law on waste, Law on chemicals, PCB regulation, draft POPs regulation, etc)	promote POPs regulation, update Law on waste
	disposal of wastes consisting of or containing chemicals listed in Annex A, B, or C to the Convention in an environmentally sound manner, in accordance with paragraph 1 (d) (ii) of Article 6 of the Convention?	No gaps	Export notifications	
	strategies for identifying sites contaminated by chemicals listed in Annex A, B or C, in accordance with paragraph 1 (e) of Article 6 of the Convention?	Partial	part of NIP, 2004,	Update NIP and strategies for new PoPs
	sites contaminated by chemicals listed in Annex A, B or C, in accordance with paragraph 1 (e) of Article 6 of the Convention?	No gaps	part of NIP, 2004	Update NIP

Qualitative information reporting requirements		Status	Remarks	What should be done
	taken steps to remediate the sites contaminated by chemicals listed in Annex A, B or C, in accordance with paragraph 1 (e) of Article 6 of the Convention?	Partial		
Section VI. Information required in paragraph 2 of Article 15 of the Convention.				
Information on DDT	Submission of report on the production and use of DDT in a format provided by the Secretariat in accordance with paragraph 4 of Part II of Annex B	No gaps	Republic of Moldova does not use DDT	
Section VII. Article 9: Information exchange	establishing an information exchange mechanism, in accordance with Article 9 of the Convention	No gaps	part of NIP, 2004	update NIP/National Programme
Section VIII. Article 10: Public information, awareness and education.	measures to implement Article 10 of the Convention	No gaps	part of NIP, 2004, PRTR Register lesflets, booklets, publications	update NIP/ National Programme/upgrade the PRTR reporting system
Section IX. Article 11: Research, development and monitoring	research, development, and monitoring and cooperation pertaining to persistent organic pollutants, and where relevant, to their alternatives and to candidate persistent organic pollutants, in accordance with Article 11 of the Convention?	No gaps	monitoring, Sources and releases into the environment. Presence, levels and trends in human health and the environment.	update National Programme on SMC
Part C: Information on progress in eliminating polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) in accordance with subparagraph (g) of Part II of Annex A to the Convention				
Section I. Article 6: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from stockpiles and wastes	strategies for identifying stockpiles consisting of or containing greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB, in accordance with paragraph 1 (a) (i) of Article 6 of the Convention?	No gaps	part of NIP, GD 81/2009 on PCB, inventory on PCB	
	strategies for identifying products and articles in use and wastes consisting of, containing or contaminated with greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB, in accordance with paragraph 1 (a) (ii) of Article 6 of the Convention?	No gaps		
	strategies for identifying products and articles containing more than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB contaminated through open applications of PCB (e.g. cable-sheaths, cured caulk and painted objects), in	lack		NIP update

Qualitative information reporting requirements		Status	Remarks	What should be done
	accordance with paragraph 1 (a) (ii) of Article 6 and paragraph (f) of Part II of Annex A to the Convention?			
	measures to ensure PCB or products and articles containing greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB identified as wastes are managed in an environmentally sound manner, in accordance with paragraph 1 (d) of Article 6 of the Convention?	No gaps		
	strategies for identifying sites contaminated by greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB, in accordance with paragraph 1 (e) of Article 6 of the Convention?	No gaps		
	identified sites contaminated by greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB, in accordance with paragraph 1 (e) of Article 6 of the Convention?	No gaps		
Section II. Part II of Annex A: Polychlorinated biphenyls	measures to identify and label, where appropriate, equipment in use containing greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB, in accordance with paragraph (a) of Part II of Annex A?	No gaps	GD 81/2009 on PCB, inventory	
	measures to identify and/or label, where appropriate, wastes liable to contain greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB, in accordance with paragraph (a) of Part II of Annex A to the Convention?	No gaps		
	identify and manage them in accordance with para 1 of Article 6 the articles containing more than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB contaminated through open applications of PCB (e.g. cable-sheaths, cured caulk and painted objects) in accordance with paragraph (f) of Part II of Annex A to the Convention	lack		
	specific plan for the management, phase-out and disposal of PCB difficulties in the implementation of the specific plan for the management, phase-out and disposal of PCB	No gap	GD 81/2009 on PCB, inventory , but the deadline for PCB phase out as per 2020 is not achievable	
	measures to reduce exposures from the use of PCB, in accordance with paragraph (b) of Part II of Annex A to the Convention?	No gaps	GD 81/2009 on PCB, inventory of PCB	

Qualitative information reporting requirements		Status	Remarks	What should be done
	PCB in equipment (e.g. transformers, capacitors or other receptacles containing liquid stocks), articles, oils and waste?			
Part D: Information specifically on the progress made in eliminating perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride in accordance with paragraph 3 in Part III of Annex B to the Convention	registering for any of the specific exemptions related to PFOS listed in Annex B to the Convention (information on status and type of specific exemption);	No gaps	<p>1. Restrictions and prohibitions shall not apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - concentrations of PFOS less than or equal to 10 mg / kg (0.001 percent by mass) present in substances or preparations; - concentrations in semi-finished products or articles or components thereof, if the PFOS concentration is less than 0.1 weight percent, calculated in relation to the mass of structurally or microstructurally distinct components containing PFOS or textiles or other coating materials, where the PFOS is less than 1 µg/m² of coating material. <p>2. Articles already in use containing PFOS as a constituent of these articles may continue to be used. When dealing with such articles, the operator shall notify without undue delay the central environmental authority of the</p>	
	registering for any of the acceptable purposes related to PFOS listed in Annex B to the Convention (information on status and type of acceptable purpose);			

Qualitative information reporting requirements		Status	Remarks	What should be done
			public administration of the presence of PFOS in the managed articles	
	<p>reviewing the continued need for the specific exemption(s) and/or acceptable purpose(s) (information on status and details of review);</p> <p>development and implementation of an action plan with the goal of reducing and ultimately eliminating the production and/or use of PFOS, as Parties are encouraged to do in accordance with paragraph 4 (b) of Part III of Annex B (information on status and year);</p> <p>actions to phase out the use of PFOS as safer alternative substances or methods have become available, as Parties are encouraged to do in accordance with paragraph 4 (a) of Part III of Annex B (information on status, types of alternative substances or methods or difficulties encountered);</p> <p>taking action to promote research on and development of safe alternative chemicals and non-chemical products and processes, methods and strategies to the use of PFOS as parties are encouraged to do so in accordance with paragraph 4 (c) of Part III of Annex B (information on status, types of actions or difficulties encountered);</p> <p>taking action to build the capacity to transfer safely to reliance on alternatives to PFOS, its salts and PFOSF in accordance with paragraph 5 (d) of Part III of Annex B (information on status or difficulties encountered);</p>	Lack		<p>Research is needed</p> <p>To be included in the NIP update</p> <p><i>Inventory of PFOS is in process</i></p>

3.3 Quantitative data gaps

The quantitative data gaps were assessed against each of the reporting section. The reporting obligations cover mostly chemicals that were already addressed at national level, such as PCB, uPOPs and DDT.

According to provisions of the National Implementation Plan, PCBs have never been produced in the Republic of Moldova, all of them being imported. Their utilization in some sectors was discontinued or prohibited in the 1980s. However, PCBs continue to be used in power installations and other types of equipment. A preliminary inventory made in Moldova in 2003 estimated the total amount of dielectric oil from electric installations at approximately 30,000 tons, including 23,300 tons in high voltage transformers, 5,400 tons in circuit breakers and 400 tons in capacitors. Within GEF/WB "Persistent Organic Pollutants Stockpiles Management and Destruction" Project the total amount of PCB disposed capacitors is 934 tons, during November 2006 - April 2007. Following Government Decision No. 81 dated February 2009 on PCB Regulation, all power equipment in the country (e.g. transformers, switches, breakers, inductors and other receptacles containing liquid stocks) have to be checked for PCB content, to be labelled accordingly and, PCBs removed from equipment containing them. In this regard a comprehensive national PCB inventory was performed in 2009 -2010 within the GEF-World Bank "POPs Stockpiles Management and Destruction Project". The PCB Inventory performed in closed systems in energy sector includes generation, transportation and distribution. Totally 8 companies from the energy sector (4 companies in the generation sector, 1 transport company and 3 distributors of energy) were involved in these activities. More detail on results of PCB inventories as well current assessment will be included in the next report on POPs data collection.

An inventory of POPs obsolete stocks including DDT and DDT-contaminated wastes has been carried out in 2002-2004 when developing NIP within the WB Project (GEF-PPG Grant nr. TF051208) "Enabling activities related to the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants". During the NIP implementation a national inventory and mapping of POPs polluted areas, including DDT, has been carried out in 2008-2010 within the WB Project (GEF Grant TF055875) "POPs Stockpiles Management and Destruction". The POPs stockpiles inventory data from 2004, based on the available documents, shows that at Cismichioi landfill, in the south of Moldova, are stored approx. 650 tons of DDT, along with other POP pesticides and hazardous waste. For this purpose, in 2016, within the Framework of the development cooperation between the Czech Republic and the Republic of Moldova, the project "Reduction of risks associated with hazardous waste landfill in Cismichioi" started. The project is implemented by the Czech Development Agency. The work being done within the project includes risk analysis and a feasibility study for remedial measures, including possibilities to removing the OP.

Since the first PCDD/PCDF inventory was completed in 2003, an update of the POPs inventories is required to comply with the new obligations related to the listing of new substances in the Stockholm Convention, as well as to apply updated emission factors made available in the new versions of UNEP Toolkit and EMEP/EEA Guidebook. In frames of UNEP/SP project “Improving sustainable institutional and regulatory framework for chemicals and waste management throughout their lifecycle in the Republic of Moldova” uPOPs emissions data was upgraded for 2001 and 2016 for the same range of pollutants.

Therefore, the second multi-media inventory, performed within this project “Integrated Stockholm Convention toolkit to improve the transmission of information under Articles 07 and 15”, included releases to air, land and water for PCDD/PCDF, HCB and PCBs. These emission data present a general picture of emissions of individual POP substances in quantitative terms for the reporting years: 2001, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016, 2018.

As regard to PFOS the quantitative data assessment is undergoing currently, collected data and available information will be included in the next report.

TABLE 4. IDENTIFIED QUANTITATIVE DATA GAPS WITHIN THE ART. 15 REPORTS SUBMITTED BY MOLDOVA

Quantitative data gaps reporting requirements		Status	Remarks	What should be done
Part B: Information on the measures taken by the Party to implement the provisions of the Stockholm Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures in meeting the objectives of the Convention				
Section IV. Article 5: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production (PCDD/PCDF)	source inventories and release estimates of PCDD/PCDF;	No gap		Inventory for 2001-2018 is in process of development
	inventory of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) (kg/year)?	Partial	Inventory of PCB	update the inventory – <i>in process</i>
	inventory of pentachlorobenzene (kg/year)	No gap	Is not used as pesticide, nor in stocks - confirmed by NFSA	
	inventory of hexachlorobenzene (kg/year)			
	polychlorinated naphthalenes (PCN)	Lack data		<i>in process</i>
Section X. Article 12: Technical assistance	Providing technical assistance to another Party, in accordance with Article 12 of the Convention Receiving technical assistance in accordance with Article 12 of the Convention	No gap	No support provided	GEF project proposal - Introduction of BAT and BEP methodologies to reduce or eliminate unintentionally produced POPs released from thermal processes in the metallurgical industry – stage of approval
Section XI. Article 13: Financial resources and mechanisms	provide, within its capabilities, financial support and incentives in respect of those national activities that are intended to achieve the objectives of the Convention in accordance with your national plans, priorities and programmes, pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article 13 of the Convention?	No gap	National Environment Facility projects	Necessary to list all the projects from NEF
	Providing financial resources to enable developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to fulfill their obligations under the Convention, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 13 of the Convention?	No gap	No support provided	

	provided financial resources in accordance with its capabilities and in accordance with its national plans, priorities and programmes, to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their implementation of the Convention through other bilateral, regional and multilateral sources or channels, in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 13 of the Convention?	No gap	No support provided	
Part C: Information on progress in eliminating polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) in accordance with subparagraph (g) of Part II of Annex A to the Convention				
Section II. Part II of Annex A: Polychlorinated biphenyls	✓ identification of articles and materials containing more than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB contaminated through open applications of PCB (data on type of article and year/period);	Lack of data		
	✓ proportion of waste containing greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB identified in your country is managed in an environmentally sound manner (data on proportion of articles identified, year in which the environmentally sound management was completed and proportion of waste environmentally sound managed);	Partial		Some PCB containing oil& equipment was treated/ or included in companie's operational plans for further treatment in upcoming period
	✓ equipment containing greater than 10% (100,000 ppm) PCB and volumes greater than 5 litres (status of equipment, year of inventory, number of equipment, total mass of equipment [kg], mass of solid parts of equipment (equipment without oil) [kg], mass of liquids (oil) [kg], PCB content in oil (%) and total mass (kg));	No gap		
	✓ equipment containing greater than 0.05% (500 ppm) PCB and volumes greater than 5 litres (status of equipment, year of inventory, number of equipment, total mass of equipment [kg], mass of solid parts of equipment (equipment without oil) [kg], mass of liquids (oil) [kg], PCB content in oil (%) and total mass (kg));	No gap		

	✓ equipment containing greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB and volumes greater than 0.05 litres (status of equipment, year of inventory, number of equipment, total mass of equipment [kg], mass of solid parts of equipment (equipment without oil) [kg], mass of liquids (oil) [kg], PCB content in oil (%) and total mass (kg));	Partial	GD 81/2009 on PCB	Subject to PCB inventory update, deadline for phasing out specified in GD 81.2009 is 31 dec 2020
	✓ equipment containing an undefined concentration of PCB (status of equipment, year of inventory, number of equipment, total mass of equipment [kg], mass of solid parts of equipment (equipment without oil) [kg], mass of liquids (oil) [kg], PCB content in oil (%) and total mass (kg));	Lack of data		
	✓ stored liquids (oil) containing PCB (status of equipment, year of inventory, number of equipment, total mass of equipment [kg], mass of solid parts of equipment (equipment without oil) [kg], mass of liquids (oil) [kg], PCB content in oil (%) and total mass (kg));	Partial		Subject to PCB inventory update, deadline for phasing out specified in GD 81.2009 is 31 dec 2020
	✓ other wastes containing PCB (status of equipment, year of inventory, number of equipment, total mass of equipment [kg], mass of solid parts of equipment (equipment without oil) [kg], mass of liquids (oil) [kg], PCB content in oil (%) and total mass (kg));	Lack of data		
Section III. Information on local destruction and import and export of PCB for destruction				
	locally destroyed, in an environmentally sound manner, equipment, liquids, or other wastes containing greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB (e.g. transformers, capacitors or other receptacles containing liquid stocks) identified in your country?	No gap	RM has no capacity to destroy PCB waste	
	equipment, liquids, or other wastes containing greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB for environmentally sound destruction?	No gap	No import	
	exported equipment, liquids, or other wastes containing greater than 0.005% (50 ppm) PCB (e.g. transformers, capacitors or other receptacles containing liquid stocks) for environmentally sound destruction?	No gap	Export notifications	

Part D: Information specifically on the progress made in eliminating perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride in accordance with paragraph 3 in Part III of Annex B to the Convention	statistical data on production of PFOS for the acceptable purposes listed in Annex B of the Convention (status, year, type of acceptable purpose and estimated total production (kg));	No gap	No production	
	statistical data on your country's production of PFOS for the specific exemptions listed in Annex B of the Convention (status, year, type of specific exemption and estimated total production (kg));			
	statistical data on use of PFOS for the acceptable purposes listed in Annex B of the Convention (status, year, type of acceptable purpose and estimated total production (kg));	Partial		<i>Inventory of potential articles with PFOS is in process</i>

4. Gaps related to the data and information requested to be included within the NIP

4.1 General information

As regards to status of the National Implementation Plan, NIP, the first one NIP was developed and approved by the Governmental Decision nr. 1155 from 22 October 2004 in 2004) provided a policy and legal framework, status quo of the initially listed POPs within the country and described concrete interventions to reach the national objectives and priorities regarding the management of POPs, and to meet the obligations taken by the Republic of Moldova under the Stockholm Convention.

The NIP has allowed to define the list of the actions that have been reflected within both policy and regulatory country documents, developed further. As such, the National Programme on Sound Management of Chemicals for 2010-2020, approved by the Governmental Decision no 973/18.10.2010 includes in Annex 2 the list of activities related to needs and priorities for SC implementation.

As a Party to the Convention and in response to the commitment regarding the recently added new POPs, the Republic of Moldova is intending to review and update the current version of the National Implementation Plan. The original NIP addressed the twelve (12) POPs initially listed on the Stockholm Convention.

As it was noted in the section above, due to circumstance that arise from the Law on Ratification of the Stockholm Convention (Law no 40/2004) and relevant statement regarding amendment to Annexes A, B or C, Moldova did not managed to accept the amendments, because of lack of the detailed information of the country's situation with reference to the new listings within the Annexes A, B, C (inventory, costs, etc.). As a result, up to date the Republic of Moldova develop only the first NIP, consequently there is a big gap that will need to be covered in the second NIP update.

Recently, the GEF Project "Review and Update of the National Implementation Plan in the Republic of Moldova" was signed between the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment, the UNEP Chemicals and Health branch and Masaryk University – RECETOX that will assist in project implementation. The NIP update process will investigate the extent to which the measures listed in the first National Implementations Plan in relation to the initial 12 POPs have been achieved, and will establish an inventory of products and articles containing new POPs identifying where new POPs are employed or unintentionally produced. The NIP update process will enable Republic of Moldova to establish inventories of products and articles containing the newly listed POPs and identify the industrial processes where these POPs are still employed or unintentionally produced. The NIP update will build on existing national coordination mechanisms and capacities established during the original NIP development and will take into consideration assessments done within the UNEP/GEF project entitled "Integrated Stockholm Convention toolkit to improve the transmission of information under Articles 07 and 15".

Table 5 below summarizes general information about deadlines for transmission of NIP updates in Moldova, number of NIPs prepared and sent by the Republic of Moldova up to date.

TABLE 5. NIP TRANSMISSION STATUS IN MOLDOVA, AS OF NOVEMBER 2020

NIPs	Deadline for transmission	Date NIPs were received	Delay
<i>Initial 12 POPs</i>			
<i>Initial NIP</i>	06 July 2006	15 August 2005	None
<i>Addressing COP 4 amendments</i>			
<i>NIP 1st update</i>	14 August 2014	Not sent	Above 6 years
<i>Addressing COP 5 amendments</i>			
<i>NIP 2nd update</i>	18 November 2015	Not sent	Above 6 years
<i>Addressing COP 6 amendments</i>			
<i>NIP 3rd update</i>	Not indicated on the Secretariat website	Not sent	Above 6 years
<i>Addressing COP 7 amendments</i>			
<i>NIP 4th update</i>	Not indicated on the Secretariat website	Not sent	Above 6 years
<i>Addressing COP 8 amendments</i>			
<i>NIP 5th update</i>	18 December 2020	Not sent	Above 6 years

4.2 Qualitative information gaps

As it was mentioned in the table above, the initial NIP was transmitted in 2005, being prepared during the period 2000-2004. At that time, under the Stockholm Convention there were listed only the initial 12 POPs, which were subject of NIP.

Since supplementing the Annex A and B of the Convention with the new Pops, the Republic of Moldova hasn't update its NIP, and therefore this information is obviously missing from the initial NIP.

More information on findings can be find in the chapter 5.1.

TABLE 6. IDENTIFIED QUALITATIVE INFORMATION GAPS WITHIN THE NIPs SUBMITTED BY MOLDOVA

NIP qualitative information requested to be included in the NIP		Status within initial NIP submitted by Moldova	Implications for the NIP update process
Chapter/ sub-chapter	Information to be generated		Current status/challenges
1. Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ the status of development, update and transmission of NIP; ✓ financial assistance received, as well as the GEF Agency providing the assistance; ✓ NIP review and update triggers; 	al NIP – transmitted in 2005	<p><i>Bilateral projects implementation reports</i></p> <p><i>Ratification clause on SC by Moldova - challenge on new NIP update</i></p>
2. Country baseline			
2.1 Country profile	summary information on geography and population, membership in regional and sub-regional organizations, the country's political and economic profile, profiles of potentially important economic sectors in the context of the POPs issue, and overall environmental conditions and priorities in the country;	uded	
2.2 Institutional, policy, and regulatory framework	description of institutional, policy and regulatory frameworks;	uded	
2.3.1 Assessment of POPs pesticides (Annex A, Part I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ legal and institutional framework for control of the production, use, import, export and environmentally sound management and disposal of the pesticides, listed in Annexes A and B of the Convention, including for contaminated sites; ✓ suitable alternative products, methods and strategies to the POPs pesticides; ✓ necessity to register for the allowed specific exemptions for POPs pesticides; ✓ data gaps and deficiencies in the knowledge on POPs pesticides; 	uded	<p>Pending POPs regulation approval</p> <p>Law on Waste – complementing Annex 6 list of Substances Subject to Provisions on the Management of Stocks and Waste of POP</p> <p>Pending creation of Chemicals Agency, piloting of information system Chemicals Registry</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ disposal and destruction options for POPs pesticides stockpiles and wastes; ✓ sites potentially contaminated with POPs pesticides; 		
2.3.2 Assessment of PCBs (Annex A, Part II)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ legal, institutional, regulatory, and enforcement systems for PCBs management, including for contaminated sites; ✓ possibilities for integration of the management of PCB-containing articles in the overall waste management; ✓ condition and operation of PCB-containing equipment; ✓ suitable controls on the movement, maintenance, and handling of any equipment containing PCBs; ✓ availability of appropriate waste management systems; ✓ appropriate and effective monitoring and reporting of PCB equipment use, movement, sale, and disposal; ✓ data gaps and deficiencies in the knowledge on for PCBs management; ✓ disposal and destruction options for PCBs stockpiles and wastes; ✓ sites potentially contaminated with PCBs; 	included	Assessment of status of implementation of PCB Regulation
2.3.3 Assessment of POP-PBDEs (Annex A, Part IV and Part V), HBB (Annex A, Part I) and HBCD (Annex A, Part I and Part VII)		included – not subject of initial NIP	<p>Pending POPs regulation approval</p> <p>Lack of data on HBCD, PCN, HBB status in country</p> <p>PIC regulation – transpose of Annex 3</p>
2.3.4 Assessment of HCBD (Annex A, Part I)		included – not subject of initial NIP	

2.3.5 Assessment of PCNs (Annex A, part I)		included – not subject of initial NIP	Law on Waste – complementing Annex 6 list of Substances Subject to Provisions on the Management of Stocks and Waste of POP
2.3.6 Assessment with respect to DDT (Annex B, Part II)		included – not subject of initial NIP	
2.3.7 Assessment of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III)		included – not subject of initial NIP	Pending creation of Chemicals Agency, piloting of information system Chemicals Registry
2.3.8 Assessment of releases of unintentional produced chemicals (Annex C)	✓ information on the development of source inventories and release estimates status and difficulties encountered	uded – preliminary inventory of PCB, POPs pesticides, release of uPOPs,	Use of Climate Change NIR data as a basis for estimation of releases
	✓ existing laws and policies relating to the management of releases of unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants and their effectiveness and deficiencies;	uded – mentioned that no specific legislation exist	Draft Law on Industrial Emissions, etc, which will cover uPOPs emissions
	✓ situation regarding BAT/BEP implementation within industries and facilities listed in Annex C;	uded – mentioned that no specific legislation exist	Draft Law on Industrial Emissions, etc, which will cover BAT/BEP Securing synergy with National Cleaner Production Center within MoEI
	✓ sites potentially contaminated with U-POPs.		Conduct assessment
2.3.9 Information on the state of knowledge on stockpiles, contaminated sites and wastes, identification, likely numbers, relevant regulations, guidance, remediation measures, and data on releases from sites	<p>✓ strategies for identifying products and articles in use consisting of, or containing, chemicals listed in either Annex A or Annex B to the Convention;</p> <p>✓ strategies for identifying stockpiles consisting of, or containing, chemicals listed in either Annex A or Annex B to the Convention;</p> <p>✓ strategies for identifying waste consisting of, or containing, chemicals listed in either Annex A or Annex B to the Convention;</p> <p>✓ measures to identify and label, where</p>	Included for old POPs - GD 1155/2004 for the approval of the National Strategy on the reduction and elimination of persistent organic pollutants and the National Plan for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs expired.	<p>Annual reports on implementation of National Strategy on Reducing risks from POPs stockpiles</p> <p>Update of the contaminated sites database Pops.moldovapos.md</p> <p>Interviews of regulators to assess the knowledge status - POPs pesticide repackaging and disposal project for Transnistria region (2020-2021)</p> <p>Verification of PCB contaminated equipment labelling according to PCB regulation no. 81/2009</p> <p>Capacity and training building among LPAs, business and environmental authorities</p>

	<p>appropriate, POP-containing products and articles in use;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ measures to identify and label, where appropriate, waste containing POPs; ✓ measures to identify and label, where appropriate, POPs in open applications; ✓ measures to manage products, articles, stockpiles and wastes in a safe, efficient and environmentally sound manner; ✓ system(s) for management of stockpiles and wastes; ✓ measures and modalities of storage, labeling, handling, transportation of products and articles, stockpiles and waste; ✓ progress in eliminating the POPs listed in Annexes A and/or B; ✓ strategies for identifying sites contaminated by chemicals listed in Annex A, B or C; ✓ system for management of contaminated sites; ✓ steps taken to remediate the sites contaminated by chemicals listed in Annex A, B or C; 		<p>Updating Strategy on POPs based on new SC guidance documents</p> <p>Approximately 1500 contaminated sites identified within information system on contaminated soils: pops.moldovapops.md, among which the laboratory testing performed 10 POPs were monitored (no Dioxin and Furans) and only five POPs (groups of) compounds namely Σ DDT, Σ HCH, Chlordane, Heptachlor and Toxaphene have been found and included in database .</p> <p>National Classification System for Contaminated Sites of Soil Quality Guidelines Task Group of CCME of Canada (http://www.ec.gc.ca/ceqg-rcqe) was used as Technical Basis for the Classification System</p> <p>Project on isolation of Cismichioi pesticide burial (2019)</p> <p>Project on decontamination of PCB soil – Moldelectrica (pending 2021)</p> <p>Updating Strategy on POPs based on new SC guidance documents</p> <p>SDS and technical documentation of potentially POPs containing articles shall be checked in inventory exercise</p> <p>Repackaging of OPs done in compliance with UN labelling requirement association with transportation of dangerous goods, using containers.</p> <p>Promoting case studies on POPs site remediation and safe storage of POPs stocks/waste</p>
<p>2.3.10 Summary of future production, use, and releases of POPs -requirements for exemptions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ necessity to register for the allowed specific exemptions for POPs pesticides; ✓ necessity to register for the specific exemption on recycling of articles that contain or may contain POP-PBDEs and use of articles manufactured from recycled materials that contain or may contain POP-PBDEs; ✓ necessity to register for the specific exemption on production and use 	<p>included for the situation at that time</p> <p>included – not subject of initial NIP</p> <p>included – not subject of initial NIP</p>	<p>In No local production is envisaged, yet the use of some articles containing POPs, for instance PFOS, PCN must be studies</p> <p>Investigation of share / % of market on articles containing POPs that can be subject of recycling locally</p>

	<p>of HBCD in expanded polystyrene and extruded polystyrene in buildings;</p> <p>✓ necessity to register for the allowed PFOS and related chemicals specific exemptions and acceptable purposes;</p> <p>✓ necessity to register for the specific exemption on production and use of PCNs in the production of polyfluorinated naphthalenes, including octafluoronaphthalene;</p>	<p>Not included – not subject of initial NIP</p> <p>Not included – not subject of initial NIP</p>	
2.3.11 Existing programmes for monitoring releases and environmental and human health impacts, including findings	<p>✓ existent programmes for monitoring releases and environmental and human health impacts;</p> <p>✓ POPs monitoring findings;</p>	cluded	<p>There is a necessity to increase country's laboratory capacities: accreditation of waste laboratory within Env Agency, cooperation to enhance the capacity of existing laboratories for determination of chemicals included in list of SC (to improve the monitoring NETWORK, equipment, standards, chemicals, training the personal implicated).</p> <p>Labour safety training for workers on chemicals management is insufficient, ILO Conventions on chemicals aren't adopted by Moldova</p>
2.3.12 Current level of information, awareness, and education among target groups; existing systems to communicate such information to the various groups;	<p>✓ level of information, awareness, and education among target groups on POPs negative effects on human health and environment;</p> <p>✓ existing systems to communicate the negative effects of POPs on human health and environment to the various groups;</p> <p>✓ awareness raising among communities and households on safety issues relating to DDT use in disease vector control;</p>	cluded	<p>Need to promote cooperation with academia and NGO sector. Financing of the public awareness program. Focus on gender issues and health impacts.</p>
2.3.13 Mechanism to report under Article 15 on measures taken to implement the provisions of the Convention and for	<p>✓ description of the mechanism for information exchange with other Parties to the Convention;</p>	cial	<p>PCB reporting flow, as part of the annual reporting of economic operators (oil and contaminated equipment) based on inventory form to be integrated within information system on Waste Management and further used within Electronic toolkit on Article 15 reporting.</p>

information exchange with other Parties to the Convention	✓ description of the mechanism for information exchange with other Parties to the Convention;		
2.3.14 Relevant activities of non-governmental stakeholders	✓ activities of non-governmental stakeholders on POPs;	cluded	
2.3.15 Overview of technical infrastructure for POPs assessment, measurement, analysis, alternatives and prevention measures, research and development - linkage to international programmes and projects	✓ technical infrastructure for POPs assessment; ✓ description of POPs measurement, analysis, alternatives and prevention measures; ✓ POPs research and development activities;	ial	There is a necessity to increase country's laboratory capacities: accreditation of waste laboratory within Env Agency, cooperation to enhance the capacity of existing laboratories for determination of chemicals included in list of SC (to improve the monitoring NETWORK, equipment, standards, chemicals, training the personal implicated). Labour safety training for workers on chemicals management is insufficient, ILO Conventions on chemicals aren't adopted by Moldova
2.3.16 Overview of technical infrastructure for POPs management and destruction	✓ technical infrastructure for POPs management and destruction; ✓ disposal and destruction options available at the national level;	included	No local treatment and disposal capacities. Investigation needed to seek for share of POPs containing articles in use to estimate the needed technical capacity
2.3.17 Identification of impacted populations or environments, estimated scale and magnitude of threats to public health and environmental quality, and social implications for workers and local communities	Overview on impacted populations or environments, estimated scale and magnitude of threats to public health and environmental quality, and social implications for workers and local communities;	ial	
2.3.18 Details of any relevant system for the assessment and listing of new chemicals	✓ description of the system for the assessment and listing of new chemicals;	ial	
2.3.19 Details of any relevant system for the assessment and regulation of chemicals already in the market	✓ description of the system for the assessment and regulation of chemicals already in the market;	ial	
2.4 Implementation status	✓ status of the previous NIP(s)	applicable	Report in implementation of the National Strategy and

	implementation at the national level;		NIP on POPs
3. Strategy and action plan elements of the NIP			
3.1 Policy statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Government's commitment in addressing the POPs issue, including the formal adoption or endorsement of the NIP; ✓ defining the NIP integration within the country's overall environmental policies and sustainable development strategy; 	Included in GD1155/2004	<p>GD 1155/2004 for the approval of the National Strategy on the reduction and elimination of persistent organic pollutants and the National Plan for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs expired. New strategy shall be correlated with NIP update</p> <p>Necessary to development of new NIP</p>
3.2 Implementation strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ framework mechanism to coordinate discrete NIP activities including review, reporting, evaluation, revision, and updating of the NIP; 	Included in GD1155/2004	
3.3 Action plans, including respective activities and strategies			
3.3.1 Activity: Institutional and regulatory strengthening measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ action plan on institutional and regulatory strengthening; 	Included in GD1155/2004 for initial POPs	
3.3.2 Activity: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ action plan on reducing or eliminating releases from intentional production and use; 	Included in GD1155/2004 for initial POPs	
3.3.3 Activity: Production, import and export, use, stockpiles, and wastes of Annex A POPs pesticides (Annex A, Part I chemicals)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ action plan on POPs pesticides 	Included in GD1155/2004 for initial POPs	
3.3.4 Activity: Production, import and export, use, identification, labelling, removal, storage, and disposal of PCBs and equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ action plan on PCBs; 	Included in GD1155/2004	

containing PCBs (Annex A, Part II chemicals)			
3.3.5 Activity: Production, import and export, use, stockpiles, and wastes of hexaBDE and heptaBDE (Annex A, Part IV chemicals) and tetraBDE and pentaBDE (Annex A, Part V chemicals) (and HBB, where applicable (Annex A, Part I chemicals))	✓ action plan on POP-PBDEs and HBCD;	Not included – not subject of initial NIP	NIP update
3.3.6 Activity: Production, import and export, use, stockpiles, and wastes of DDT (Annex B, Part II chemicals) if used in the country	✓ action plan on DDT;	Included in GD1155/2004	
3.3.7 Activity: Production, import and export, use, stockpiles, and wastes of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III chemicals)	action plan on PFOS, its salts and PFOSF;	Not included – not subject of initial NIP	NIP update
3.3.8 Activity: Register for specific exemptions and the continuing need for exemptions (Article 4)	✓ action plan on registering for specific exemptions and the continuing need for exemptions (Article 4);	Not included	NIP update
3.3.9 Action plan: Measures to reduce releases from unintentional production (Article 5)	✓ action plan on reducing releases from unintentional production (Article 5);	Included in GD1155/2004	
3.3.10 Activity: Identification and management of stockpiles, waste and articles in use, including release reduction and appropriate measures for handling and disposal (Article 6)	✓ action plan on identification and management of stockpiles, waste and articles in use, including release reduction and appropriate measures for handling and disposal;	Included in GD1155/2004	

3.3.11 Activity: Identification of contaminated sites (Annex A, B, and C Chemicals) and, where feasible, remediation in an environmentally sound manner	✓ action plan on identification of contaminated sites (Annex A, B, and C Chemicals) and, where feasible, remediation in an environmentally sound manner;	Included in GD1155/2004	
3.3.12 Activity: Facilitating or undertaking information exchange and stakeholder involvement	✓ action plan on facilitating or undertaking information exchange and stakeholder involvement;	Included in GD1155/2004	
3.3.13 Activity: Public and stakeholder awareness, information and education (Article 10)	✓ action plan on public and stakeholder awareness, information and education (Article 10);	Included in GD1155/2004	
3.3.14 Activity: Effectiveness evaluation (Article 16)	✓ action plan on effectiveness evaluation (Article 16);	Included in GD1155/2004	
3.3.15 Activity: Reporting (Article 15)	✓ action plan on reporting (Article 15);	Included in GD1155/2004	
3.3.16 Activity: Research, development and monitoring (Article 11)	✓ action plan on research, development and monitoring (Article 11);	Included in GD1155/2004	
3.3.17 Activity: Technical and financial assistance (Articles 12 and 13)	✓ action plan for technical and financial assistance (Articles 12 and 13);	Included in GD1155/2004	
3.4 Development and capacity-building proposals and priorities	✓ priority areas where current capacity and capability need to be strengthened to achieve the objectives of the NIP;	Included in GD1155/2004	
3.5 Timetable for implementation strategy and measures of success	✓ principal targets contained in the detailed strategy, outlining specific targets, milestones, and performance indicators to allow progress to be reviewed and monitored;	Included in GD1155/2004	

<p>3.6 Resource requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ details on the projected costs of measures included in the NIP; ✓ identified incremental costs for measures; ✓ identified potential sources of funding for both incremental costs and baseline costs; ✓ alternate sources of funding to be considered, as appropriate; 	<p>Included in GD1155/2004</p>	
---	---	--------------------------------	--

4.3 Quantitative data gaps

It should be remarked that, as the initial NIP was developed before 2005, only the 12 initial POPs were included in NIP, consequently no quantitative data on new POPs can be found in it.

As regard to legal framework development, most POPs related legislation was missed by that time when NIP was developed, waste and chemical legislation covers only general aspects of hazardous chemical and toxic waste.

More information on findings can be find in the chapter 5.1.

TABLE 7. IDENTIFIED QUINTATIVE INFORMATION GAPS WITHIN THE NIPS SUBMITTED BY MOLDOVA

Chapter/ Sub-chapter of NIP	Data to be included in the NIP	Status within initial NIP submitted by Moldova	Current status/Actions done	Proposed measures/ pending actions
2.3.8 Assessment of releases of Unintentional produced chemicals (Annex C)	source inventories and release estimates of PCDD/PCDF in air, water, land, product and residue (g-TEQ/year);	Included	First U-Pops inventory done for 2001	Inventory for UPops releases 2001-2018 is in process of development
	source inventories and release estimates of PCBs air, water, land, product and residue (g-TEQ/year);	Included		Inventory for UPops releases 2001-2018 is in process of development
	source inventories and release estimates of PeCBz air, water, land, product and residue (g-TEQ/year);	Not included	Is not used as pesticide, nor in stocks - confirmed by NFSA	Inventory for UPops releases 2001-2018 is in process of development
	source inventories and release estimates of HCBd air, water, land, product and residue (g-TEQ/year);	Not included – not subject of initial NIP		
	source inventories and release estimates of PCN air, water, land, product and residue (g-TEQ/year);	Not included – not subject of initial NIP	As new POPs wasn't investigated at country level	No data on PCN is available, yet will take into account the methodology of U-POPs calculation
Assessment - PRODUCTION				
2.3.1 Assessment of POPs pesticides (Annex A, Part I) 2.3.2 Assessment of PCBs (Annex A, Part II) 2.3.3 Assessment of POP-PBDEs (Annex A, Part IV and Part V), HBB (Annex A, Part I) and HBCD (Annex A, Part I and Part VII) 2.3.4 Assessment of HCBd (Annex A, Part I) 2.3.5 Assessment of PCNs (Annex A, part I)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantity of POPs pesticides produced (tonnes); • Quantity of PCBs produced (tonnes) historical; • Quantity of POP-PBDEs produced (tonnes) - historical; • Quantity of HBCD produced (tonnes) - historical and current; • Quantity of HCBd by-product (tonnes) and related HCBd content (%); • Quantity of PCNs produced (tonnes) (for using as intermediate for the production of polyfluorinated naphthalenes (PFNs) or for other purposes) - historical and current; • Quantity of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F produced (tonnes); 	Not applicable	No production is registered at country level	n/a

2.3.7 Assessment of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III)				
Assessment EXPORT				
<p>2.3.1 Assessment of POPs pesticides (Annex A, Part I)</p> <p>2.3.2 Assessment of PCBs (Annex A, Part II)</p> <p>2.3.3 Assessment of POP-PBDEs (Annex A, Part IV and Part V), HBB (Annex A, Part I) and HBCD (Annex A, Part I and Part VII)</p> <p>2.3.4 Assessment of HCBd (Annex A, Part I)</p> <p>2.3.5 Assessment of PCNs (Annex A, part I)</p> <p>2.3.7 Assessment of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantity of POPs pesticides exported (tonnes); • Quantity of PCP, its salts and esters treated timber exported (for utility poles and cross-arms) (tonnes); • Quantity of POP-PBDEs exported (historical, tonnes); • Quantity of POP-PBDEs in articles/products exported (tonnes) • Quantity of HBCD exported as powder or pellets, as masterbatelies, as HBCD containing EPS beads and high impact polystyrene (HIPS) pellets (tonnes) • Quantity of HBCD in articles/products exported (especially EPS and XPS in construction sector and flame retarded textile applications) (tonnes); • Quantity of HCBd exported as by-product (especially for use in agricultural sector, industrial manufacture, purification of gas streams and electrical equipment) (tonnes) -historical and current; • Quantity of exported products and articles containing HCBd (tonnes) - historical and current; • Quantity of PCNs exported (tonnes); • Quantity of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F exported (tonnes) - historical and current; • Quantity of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F in articles/products exported (especially firefighting foams and hydraulic fluids) (tonnes) - historical and current; 	Not included	<p>Export notifications on POPs obsolete and redundant pesticides</p> <p>Export on PCB oil and contaminated equipment</p>	<p>Updated export notifications from Environmental Agency</p> <p>HCBd – supplementing Annex 6 List of Pops/ Law on Waste</p> <p>Elaborating of POPs Regulation</p>

		Assessment IMPORT		
2.3.1 Assessment of POPs pesticides (Annex A, Part I) 2.3.3 Assessment of POP-PBDEs (Annex A, Part IV and Part V), HBB (Annex A, Part I) and HBCD (Annex A, Part I and Part VII) 2.3.4 Assessment of HCBd (Annex A, Part I) 2.3.5 Assessment of PCNs (Annex A, part I) 2.3.7 Assessment of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantity of POPs pesticides imported (tonnes); Quantity of PCP, its salts and esters treated timber imported (for utility poles and cross-arms) (tonnes); Quantity of POP-PBDEs imported (historical, tonnes); Quantity of POP-PBDEs in articles/products imported (tonnes); Quantity of HCBd imported as powder or pellets, as masterbatches, as HCBd containing EPS beads and high impact polystyrene (HIPS) pellets (tonnes); Quantity of HCBd in articles/products imported (especially EPS and XPS in construction sector and flame retarded textile applications) (tonnes); Quantity of HCBd imported as by-product (especially for use in agricultural sector, industrial manufacture, purification of gas streams and electrical equipment) (tonnes) -historical and current; Quantity of imported products and articles containing HCBd (tonnes) - historical and current; Quantity of PCNs imported (tonnes); Quantity of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F imported (tonnes) - historical and current; Quantity of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F in articles/products imported (especially firefighting foams and hydraulic fluids) (tonnes) - historical and current; 	Not included	Imports of products potentially containing POPs must be checked within the customs office and NBS	<i>In process of development for some POPs</i>
		PCB		
2.3.2 Assessment of PCBs (Annex A, Part II)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of equipment in service/ out of service; 	Partial	Inventory of PCB in 2009	-Inventory on PCB contaminated equipment – status of achievement of target

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total mass of equipment in service/out of service [Kg]; • Mass of liquids (oil) of equipment in service/out of service [Kg]; • PCB content in oil of equipment in service/out of service (%). 		Regulation on PCB nr81/2009	as per PCB Regulation Art. 7 p.2 2) <i>the use of the equipment, with PCB content between 0.005% and 0.05% is allowed until December 31, 2020;</i>
2.3.2 Assessment of PCBs (Annex A, Part II) 2.3.9 Information on the state of knowledge on stockpiles, contaminated sites and wastes, likely numbers, relevant regulations, guidance, remediation measures, and data on releases from sites	Quantity of PCBs locally destroyed (tonnes);	Partial	RM has no capacity to eliminate PCB waste in ESM	Technical project on remediation of the PCB contaminated soil at Moldelectrica Vulcanesti station - Czech Development Assistance via DECONTA company (feasibility study)
2.3.2 Assessment of PCBs (Annex A, Part II) 2.3.9 Information on the state of knowledge on stockpiles, contaminated sites and wastes, identification, likely numbers, relevant regulations, guidance, Remediation measures, and data on releases from sites contaminated sites and wastes, identification, likely numbers, relevant regulations, guidance, remediation measures, and data on releases from sites	Quantity of PCBs imported for environmentally sound disposal (tonnes);	Not applicable	RM has no capacity to eliminate PCB waste in ESM	Survey among the key companies to estimate the state of knowledge; use and update of online database – www.pops.moldovapops.md
2.3.2 Assessment of PCBs (Annex A, Part II)	Quantity of PCBs exported for environmentally sound disposal (tonnes);	Not applicable at that time	Export notifications from MARDE (before 2018) and	

			Environmental Agency (after 2018)	
2.3.9 Information on the state of knowledge on stockpiles,		Included		
2.3.7 Assessment of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III)	Quantity of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F produced as allowed by the /acceptable purposes (tonnes);	Not included – not subject of initial NIP	No production	
2.3.7 Assessment of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III)	Quantity of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F produced as allowed by the specific exemptions (tonnes);	Not included – not subject of initial NIP	No production	
2.3.7 Assessment of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III)	Quantity of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F used to manufacture article/products (tonnes) as allowed by the acceptable purposes historical and current; Quantity of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F in article/products in use (tonnes) as allowed by the acceptable purposes - historical and current;	Not included – not subject of initial NIP	No production	
2.3.7 Assessment of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III) produced chemicals (Annex C)	Quantity of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F used to manufacture article/products (tonnes) as allowed by the specific exemptions purposes - historical and current; Quantity of PFOS, its salts and PFOS-F in article/products in use (tonnes) as allowed by the specific exemptions - historical and current; TEQ/year);	Not included – not subject of initial NIP	No production	<i>Inventory of potential articles with PFOS is in process</i>
2.3.8 Assessment of releases of unintentional produced chemicals (Annex C)	source inventories and release estimates of PCN air, water, land, product and residue (g-TEQ/year);	Not included – not subject of initial NIP	No data available	<i>Inventory is in process</i>

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 Summary of the data and information gaps identified within the national reports and NIPs

This chapter presents the main conclusions and recommendations from the National Gap Analysis. The expert team considers that this assessment played a critical role in assisting the Republic of Moldova to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment in understanding the linkages between the NIPs data and information and the national reporting under the Stockholm Convention. This will contribute to increase country capacity to implement the Stockholm Convention and meet its reporting obligations for the next reporting round in 2022 and to update its NIP - putting in place foundational government capacities, completing initial inventories for new POPs and raising awareness of hazardous chemicals issues among policy-makers and private sectors.

As the NIP and the National Reports submitted to the SC Secretariat under articles 15 and 7 respectively are key data sources used in the effectiveness evaluation of the implementation of the Stockholm Convention, this assessment will help the Republic of Moldova to increase its rating.

5.1.1. General findings

The general findings presented below reflect the evidence presented in the main text and build on the conclusions and recommendations listed at the end of this chapter. The data and information gaps which were identified have been grouped by the expert team as following:

- policy and regulatory framework;
- institutional framework and capacity building activities;
- laboratory and monitoring capacities;
- data collection and use of information system.

Policy and regulatory framework

The policy and regulatory actions are targeted at developing legislation specifically related to the Stockholm Convention and are aimed at establishing a broader chemical safety approach in the country. They also include drafting specific regulatory acts and supporting operational guidelines and practical handbooks. A detailed presentation of legal measures related to all the POPs listed under the Convention is presented in Annex 1.

During the last years the Republic of Moldova has been consistent in building its regulatory framework on chemicals and waste management regime. Starting with the prioritization exercise on major

sound management of chemicals and waste needs as a part of National Sound Management of Chemicals Programme formulation (Gov. Dec. no. 246/2010), key instruments and processes have been established to address major chemicals and waste management concerns. However, at policy level, the country lacks the programming on sound management of chemicals for the period beyond 2020. The national SMC program (2010-2020) has already achieved its major goals, activities being mainly completed, that require the new approach and components, consistent with the SAICM beyond 2020 and SDG actions.

The country has managed to elaborate and adopt two framework laws: Waste Law on No. 209 /2016 and Chemicals Law no. 277/2018, which are fully harmonized it with European Union Directives and MEAs approaches and provisions. The Waste Law provides for a five-step waste hierarchy, waste management plans, implementation of EPR systems for specific waste streams, as well as specific provision for POPs waste management (Art. 53) and Annex 6, etc. It should be mentioned that the Art. 53 on Persistent Organic Pollutants Stocks and Waste prohibits marketing and using substances listed in the in Annex 6, either individually or in preparations or as constituents of articles, in order to protect human health and the environment, and prevent the formation of hazardous waste. it also contains provisions related to management of POPs waste. The Annex 6 contains almost all the chemicals listed in the Annex A of the Stockholm Convention and needs to be supplemented with Decabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-209) present in commercial decabromodiphenyl ether, Hexabromocyclododecane, Pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters.

The Chemicals Law incorporated provisions on the REACH, CLP, as well as the PIC requirements and sets up a comprehensive framework with a view to promoting sustainable development by covering chemicals at all stages of their life-cycle, including in products. Furthermore, specific by-laws were approved or are in process of approval to facilitate the implementation of the umbrella laws. The PIC regulation is approved by GH 505/2020 and transposes the EU Regulation 649/2012 and the PCB regulation wad approved by GD no. 81/2009. The draft waste shipment regulation (transposes the EU Regulation 1013/2006), CLP Regulation (which transposes the EU Regulation 1272/8008) and POPs regulation (which transposes the EU Regulation 1021/2019) are in process of development and approval by the Government.

The Law on plant protection and phytosanitary quarantine no. 228 of 23.09.2010 aims at strengthening the legal and institutional framework, creating economic conditions suitable for the organization and conduct of plant protection and plant quarantine protection.

It should be noted that it is in process of development the new Law on industrial emissions in line with the EU Directive 2010/75/UE on industrial emissions. It shall include provisions related to BAT and BEP for new and existing sources, as well as requirements for modified materials, products and processes.

The whole chemicals management legal framework at the same time is very demanding, especially in the context of poor institutional capacity and scare financial resources of regulated entities (importers, distributors, producers/ manufacturers) that impacts the whole supply-chain. The complexity of the legislation can be successfully implemented only if all the relevant authorities and stakeholders are well prepared and work in a multi-sectoral, efficient and transparent manner to enforce, monitor and control the regulatory framework execution and compliance at both national and international levels, consistent with chemicals and waste MEAs to which the country is a Party and responding to global objectives identified as a part of formulation of SAICM beyond 2020.

Institutional framework and capacity building

The Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment (MARDE) of the Republic of Moldova is the state authority responsible for development and promotion of policies and strategies addressing agriculture, food production and food safety, regional and rural development, use of territory, environment protection, climate change and natural resources. However, it should be noted that after the institutional reform hold in 2017, three central authorities have been merged in one, that environment became last priority in new established authority.

The main regulatory bodies are the Environment Agency, which is responsible for implementation of the environmental protection policy, including waste management issues, while the National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear, Radiological and Chemical Activities, which is in process of establishment, shall be responsible for the implementation of chemicals policy. For both sectors, the control authority is the Environment Protection Inspectorate.

The Food Safety Agency performs the supervision and control of the production, import, marketing, use and storage of plant protection products in accordance with the legislation in the field of plant protection.

The Customs Service controls and admits import/export of chemicals and waste on the territory of the Republic of Moldova on the basis of permissive acts, and cooperates with environment authorities in the process of implementing the international environmental treaties. Custom controls of chemicals and waste play an important role in the implementation of legislation governing the placement of chemicals on the market, as well as import of waste, especially with regard to the prevention of illegal traffic of chemical and prevention of import of waste for which the country has no capacities to deal with.

The complexity of the legislation can be successfully implemented only if all the relevant authorities and stakeholders are well prepared and work in a multi-sectoral, efficient and transparent manner to enforce, monitor and control the regulatory framework execution and compliance at both national and international levels, consistent with chemicals and waste MEAs to which the country is a Party.

Besides the state authorities, there were established at inter-ministerial level a SAICM national inter-ministerial working group, which mandates to elaborate the unified policy in the field of chemicals and waste management in order to report and ensure the implementation of the chemicals and waste MEAs to which the country is a Party, including the SC. In addition, at the MARDE level, the Project Implementation Unit, in particular the Waste and Chemicals division is providing technical assistance to MARDE in chemicals and waste related treaties.

The Ministry faces challenged related to often change of the ministries staff and the SC focal points, which implies lack of submission of the country reporting (3rd and 4th round) the irregularity of the meeting's organization.

Laboratory and monitoring capacities

The implementation of efficient monitoring of pollution levels of environmental objects and food and their influence on the health of the population requires the development of a network of laboratories in the country to perform tests in different environments.

The national observation and control network of laboratory aims at observation and control in order to detect in time the radioactive, chemical and biological contamination (pollution) of the soil, air, water, food raw materials, feed and other environmental objectives, as well as for the timely implementation of measures. protection of the population, civil protection teams, animals, plants and water against contamination with radioactive, poisonous, highly toxic substances and biological agents. **The network** includes the following institutions:

- the central and branch laboratories of the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment, as well as of the subordinated institutions (Environmental Agency, State Hydrometeorological Service);
- laboratories of the National Agency for Food Safety, as well as district laboratories for collecting samples;
- laboratories of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection, municipal and territorial public health centers;
- testing laboratories within the enterprises managed by the Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure;
- chemical-radiometric laboratory of the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations;
- object laboratories at food production, bakery, winemaking, etc. accredited, regardless of the form of ownership.

The assessment of existing POPs monitoring programs revealed the following problems:

- Coordination and exchange of information on POPs among the monitoring agencies is sporadic. Currently there are no operational channels of information exchange between the parties;
- The general laboratory capacity is insufficient, especially for POPs chemicals determination in articles and waste, for instance PCBs and unintended POPs;
- Quality assurance/quality control issues are of concern, since the equipment in many laboratories is obsolete, training of staff is episodic and inter-laboratory comparison exercises are not undertaken;
- Data handling and analysis procedures are deficient, preventing the possibility to use gathered monitoring information for decision-making;
- Lack of internationally recognized accreditation for the environmental authorities reference laboratories;
- Currently, the industries and the energy sector do not have self-monitoring obligations concerning specific pollutants like PCBs or PCDD/PCDF.

Data collection

The following are main official sources of waste and chemicals data in Moldova:

1. Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment;
 - 1.1 Environmental Agency;
 - 1.2 Environmental Protection Inspectorate;
 - 1.3 National Agency for Regulation of Nuclear, Radiological and Chemical Activities.
2. Statistical Office;
3. Customs Service;
4. Agency for Food Safety;
5. National Agency for Public Health.

The three information systems (WMAIS, PRTR, SIA REPC), under Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment umbrella's, represent the main tool for collection of data on waste, chemicals placed in market and release of emissions from several economic sectors.

WMAIS

The WMAIS is fully operational since 2019 and economic operators already started to report in it. It is not possible to expect the good quality of data during first 2 – 3 years of the implementation of the system.

The waste producers as well as waste management companies are not familiar with the new legislation, which is very different from the old one, as it is containing new and more obligations, new waste list, new templates. The quality of waste data will be shown in time data projection when comparing the same data provided by obliged subjects during several years. If the trend will be seen the quality of data will be satisfactory.

In addition, it is foreseen to update the system and add a layer for reporting of PCB containing equipment and waste, as well as for stocks of waste.

PRTR

The PRTR system represents an important tool for collection of data on emissions of POPs from selected sectors, such as energy, open burning, application of pesticides, metallurgy, mineral and chemical sectors. On one hand not all the economic operators report into the system and at the moment it is difficult to get data on POPs emissions at national level. On the other hand, such data are accessible for point sources, i.e. the economic operators that reported.

The PRTR system shall be also supplemented with additional layer for inclusion of emission from diffuse sources, which shall include emissions of PCDD/PCDF, PCB, HCB, PAHs.

SIAREPC

The system on chemicals registration and evidence is in process of development and shall include the layer related to authorization of pesticides. In addition, the chemicals in articles shall be also registered into the system. The technical concept of the system was recently approved by Governmental Decision no. 535 from 20.07.2020.

Customs Service

The Customs Service within the Ministry of Finance is the main provider of data on import/export of goods and waste. In addition, there is freely available database on trade of goods <https://comtrade.un.org>. However, it has some limitations related to level of detail and it does not provide data on importers.

National Bureau of Statistics

The Bureau is the main provider of data on local production of goods. The data on waste management is available until 2018, however it is based on an outdated classification, which was replaced by a new one. As for the chemicals, such data, except for production, has never collected.

National Agency for Public Health

The agency responsible for keeping the Registry on Biocides till creation of the Chemicals Agency. According the Chemical Law, a common platform on permit issue must be established the Chemical Agency. It is envisaged that in one year after the Chemical Agency establishing, inter-ministerial body will become responsible for the entire authorization process on put into the market chemical, including biocides.

Agency for Food Safety

The main provider of data on pesticides registered and used at national level, as well as for stocks of pesticides. It is envisaged that in two years after the Chemical Agency establishing, inter-ministerial body will become responsible for the entire authorization process on put into the market chemical, including pesticides.

Business

The most important economic activities related to the POPs data are energy sector, construction materials, transport (air and railway), textiles, waste recyclers. Documentation visits and questionnaires are the best way to obtain the necessary data. It should be noted that not always companies were aware about used raw materials or products. In many cases only commercial name of chemical products has been offered and later expert team verify SDS on the Internet and conclude on POPs contain. In case of energy sectors some company provide clear documents (customs invoice s or SDF) that stated that they use a free BCB oil. Also series of visits shall be organized to track the obsolete pesticides stocks.

5.1.2 Summary of data and information gaps identified within national reports

The following parts and sections of the national report have not been identified as having significant quantitative or qualitative data gaps, as they are covered by legislative provisions or some activities were already conducted during the 1st NIP and just need an update.

- Part A: General information
- Part B: Information on the measures taken by the Party to implement the provisions of the Stockholm Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures in meeting the objectives of the Convention
 - Section II. Article 3: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use – *for chemicals covered by the legislation*;
 - Section IV. Article 5: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production (PCDD/PCDF) – *inventory of PCDD/PCDF, hexachlorobenzene*;
 - Section V. Article 6: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from stockpiles and wastes;
 - Section VI. Information required in paragraph 2 of Article 15 of the Convention;
 - Section VII. Article 9: Information exchange ;
 - Section VIII. Article 10: Public information, awareness and education;
 - Section IX. Article 11: Research, development and monitoring;
 - Section X. Article 12: Technical assistance ;
 - Section XI. Article 13: Financial resources and mechanisms;
- Part C: Information on progress in eliminating polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) in accordance with subparagraph (g) of Part II of Annex A to the Convention:
 - Section I. Article 6: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from stockpiles and wastes;
 - Section II. Part II of Annex A: Polychlorinated biphenyls;
 - Section III. Information on local destruction and import and export of PCB for destruction.
- Part D: Information specifically on the progress made in eliminating perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride in accordance with paragraph 3 in Part III of Annex B to the Convention – *production and acceptable purpose*.

The following parts and sections of the national report have been identified as having quantitative or qualitative data gaps, as they are not covered by legislative provisions and not any other measures has been conducted in their relation:

- Part B: Information on the measures taken by the Party to implement the provisions of the Stockholm Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures in meeting the objectives of the Convention
 - Section II. Article 3: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from intentional production and use – *for the chemicals not covered by legislation*;
 - Section III. Article 4: Register of specific exemptions; Annex A and Annex B;
 - Section IV. Article 5: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production (PCDD/PCDF) – *pentachlorobenzene, polychlorinated biphenyls, and polychlorinated naphthalenes*;

Section IV. Article 5: Measures to reduce or eliminate releases from unintentional production – *promotion of BAT and BEP*;

- Part D: Information specifically on the progress made in eliminating perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride in accordance with paragraph 3 in Part III of Annex B to the Convention.

5.1.3 Summary of data and information gaps identified within NIP

The following chapter of NIP have not been identified as having significant quantitative or qualitative data gaps, as they are covered by legislative provisions or some activities were already conducted during the 1st NIP and just need an update.

- 2.3.8 Assessment of releases of Unintentional produced chemicals (Annex C) - *PCDD/PCDF, HCB*;
- 2.3.1 Assessment of POPs pesticides (Annex A, Part I) – *no production, import/export available*;
- 2.3.2 Assessment of PCBs (Annex A, Part II) - *no production, import/export available, inventory conducted*;
- 2.3.3 Assessment of POP-PBDEs (Annex A, Part IV and Part V), HBB (Annex A, Part I) and HBCD (Annex A, Part I and Part VII) - *no production, import/export available*;
- 2.3.4 Assessment of HCB (Annex A, Part I) - *no production, import/export available*;
- 2.3.5 Assessment of PCNs (Annex A, part I) - *no production, import/export available*;
- 2.3.7 Assessment of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III) - *no production, import/export available*.

The following chapter of NIP have been identified as having quantitative or qualitative data gaps:

- 2.3.8 Assessment of releases of Unintentional produced chemicals (Annex C) – *PCBs, PeCB*;
- 2.3.2 Assessment of PCBs (Annex A, Part II) - *quantity in products – update the previous inventory*;
- 2.3.3 Assessment of POP-PBDEs (Annex A, Part IV and Part V), HBB (Annex A, Part I) and HBCD (Annex A, Part I and Part VII) *quantity in products*;
- 2.3.4 Assessment of HCB (Annex A, Part I) - *quantity in products*;
- 2.3.5 Assessment of PCNs (Annex A, part I) - *quantity in products*;
- 2.3.7 Assessment of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III) - *quantity in products*;
- *Section 3 Strategies* cannot be defined at the moment, due to lack of NIP update.

5.2 Conclusions

The National Gap Analysis represents potential shortcomings in existed national Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) legislation and initiatives and it has been elaborated to assess the need for further measures for the Republic of Moldova to ensure its reporting obligations under Articles 07 and 15 under the Convention, as well to improve and correlate it with the information presented in the National Implementation Plan of the Convention.

Since the first National Gap Analysis on POPs issues were done in 2003-2004 during preparing the ratification Law, requirements set out in the international agreements have changed. The current

legislation covers initial 12 POPs and partially the new ones. The following have been concluded as priority issues in order to assist the Republic of Moldova in complying with its updated international obligations:

- All the POPs pesticides are prohibited to be used in the Republic of Moldova. Additional data shall be collected to seek for alternatives to POPs pesticides used.
- The following chemicals are not yet covered by legislation: *Decabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-209) present in commercial decabromodiphenyl ether, Hexabromocyclododecane, Pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters.*
- Almost all industrial POPs, except of PCBs, need to be assessed from perspective of use in products and waste of such products. Additional import/export information must be requested, filtered and analyzed.
- WEEE and EEE data is needed to assess using available data in statistics database and in other open sources, such as international trade statistics <https://comtrade.un.org>.
- Inventory of uPOPs was conducted for PCDD/ PCDF and HCB for the reporting years: 2001, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2016, 2018.
- The inventory of PCBs in transformers and capacitors need to be updated. Proper handling, labeling storage and disposal of PCB containing oil and equipment must be ensured.
- Additional knowledge and capacity building for testing, monitoring and promoting of alternatives is needed for the country.

5.3 Recommendations

This section contains a set of recommendations for further improvement of the waste and chemical policy and framework as well for POPs inventory and to address the areas with highest gaps assessed. Some of the recommendations, particularly on data collection and partially POPs inventories may be addressed during the project implementation, other such as complete POPs inventory, as well action plan on POPs reduction measures will be covered by the GEF Project “Review and Update of the National Implementation Plan in the Republic of Moldova”. However, there are still long term recommendations on improving laboratory capacity, that require additional technical and financial assistances in order to addressed.

Policy and regulatory framework

- Develop the National Sound Management of Chemicals Programme in line with SAICM Beyond 2020 provisions;
- Update the NIP in order to address the COP-4, COP-5 and COP-6 amendments, subject to data availability;
- Continue implementing and enforcing chemicals and waste legislation, including the adopted secondary acts, such as PIC regulation;
- Develop and approve other relevant secondary acts, such as waste shipment, POPs and CLP regulation;
- Further promote for approval Law on industrial emissions, which contains provisions related to BAT and BEP;
- Prepare the grounds for ratification of the amendments and registration of exemptions or acceptable purpose, as needed;

- Enforce the established mechanism for regular national reporting to Stockholm Convention;
- Draft action plans, which shall include objectives, activities, indicators and resources / needs mostly for the following POPs, but not limited to:
 - o Production, import and export, use, identification, labelling, removal, storage, and disposal of PCBs and equipment containing PCBs (Annex A, Part II chemicals)
 - o Production, import and export, use, stockpiles, and wastes of hexaBDE and heptaBDE (Annex A, Part IV chemicals) and tetraBDE and pentaBDE (Annex A, Part V chemicals) (and HBB, where applicable (Annex A, Part I chemicals))
 - o Production, import and export, use, stockpiles, and wastes of PFOS, its salts and PFOSF (Annex B, Part III chemicals)
 - o Measures to reduce releases from unintentional production (Article 5)
 - o Identification and management of stockpiles, waste and articles in use, including release reduction and appropriate measures for handling and disposal (Article 6)
 - o Identification of contaminated sites (Annex A, B, and C Chemicals) and, where feasible, remediation in an environmentally sound manner

Data collection and POPs inventories

- Prepare templates for data collection, analysis & calculation and archiving to ensure development/update of future inventories;
- Conduct an assessment of use of perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride;
- Compile report on the updated inventory for uPOPs and include in the inventory PCB, PCN, PeCB emissions, to the extent possible;
- Compile updated inventory of PCBs on received questionnaires from the economic operators to track the fulfilment of obligations of to phase out the PCB containing transformers and capacitors by 2020; review the possibility to amend the PCB regulation no. 81/2009;
- Conduct inventory of HBCD, POP-PBDEs, SCCPs and PCNs in particular in articles in use and collect relevant data;
- Compile the information on POPs stockpiles, particularly industrial waste; contaminated sites and soil remediation initiatives, based on received responses from the questioned entities;
- Identify the necessity on exemptions requirements on future production, use, and releases of POPs, based on received information;
- Conduct capacity building activities for the responsible authorities on legal and technical, including POPs monitoring matters.

Improve the laboratory capacities by:

- o increasing the analytical and technical potential of laboratories in the National Laboratory Observation and Control Network, including by equipping with methods of investigation of many priority indices for determining chemicals and their impact, including for the identification and monitoring of POPs;
- o strengthening the analytical and technical possibilities of the waste laboratory within the Environmental Agency, which will serve as a reference laboratory, including by equipping the laboratory with high-performance equipment and training staff;

- provide laboratories with the necessary number of professional staff in the field, as well as training specialists, including abroad, in the field of chemicals management, including principles of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP), requirements of CLP and REACH regulations;
- harmonizing the national legislation with that of the European Union on laboratory diagnosis for the determination of residues of pesticides, polymers, contaminants in foodstuffs;
- development and approval of the monitoring and research program on the impact of chemicals on public health and the environment, as well as its implementation.

5.4 Future streamlining the NIP development and reporting processes in the country

Discussing more specifically the results of the National Gap Analysis that represents potential shortcomings in existed national POPs legislation and initiatives, as well considering results of the first overview of available data for the POPs inventory, the following priorities issues for future streamlining the NIP development and reporting process in the country were identified:

- Compile collected the data and information (national reports, trade statistics, national authorities, business, scientific institutions, NGOs);
- Testing and further implementing the integrated articles 7 and 15 electronic toolkit to build synergy through optimizing the data collection, analysis and use;
- Continue the enforcement of the mechanism for data collection by assigning clear roles and responsibilities to those relevant entities collecting what information;
- Building on the already established reporting process, make full use of the ongoing advances in information technology tools (existing automatic information systems), add new reporting table for PCB containing transformers and capacitors in the WMAIS;
- Reducing the need to provide textual and contextual information or using closed questions more often with pre-defined, prompted possible answers where appropriate;
- Using information publicly available at national level rather than requesting the information again;
- Improve cooperation in the sharing and use of data gathered in other areas for the benefit of the environment;
- Strengthen cooperation between relevant authorities to streamline reporting and information management;
- Provide capacity building activities for the environmental authorities on POPs data reporting, environmental inspection of economic entities that use/ produce POPs containing products, how to classify waste and hazards according to the POPs content, etc.

Next phase will be focused on testing the integrated articles 7 and 15 electronic toolkit and exploring the potential linkages with the data management systems available at the national level where some of the priorities listed above will be addressed. However, this work will continue to be carried out in the course of NIP updating project put into implementation upcoming period.

Annex nr.1 Legal measures undertaken as regards the Annexes A, part I and B, part I to the Stockholm Convention

		Chemical	Activity	Specific exemption	Annex 6 of the Law on waste 209/2016	text of exemption, where relevant	Link with draft PIC Regulation		Remarks about the use at national level
							Annex 3 (Annex III RC)	Annex 7 (export ban)	
1*	Old, P	Aldrin* CAS No: 309-00-2	Production Use	None Local ectoparasiticide Insecticide	prohibited with no exemptions		no consent to import	y	Aldrin has been prohibited since 1972. Not included in the official register of permitted substances for use in agriculture, including and individual farms, forestry and household. No import or sale permitted.
2*	New, P	Alphahexachlorocyclohexane* CAS No: 319-84-6	Production Use	None None	lack			y	
3*	New, P	Betahexachlorocyclohexane* CAS No: 319-85-7	Production Use	None None	lack			y	
4*	Old, P	Chlordane* CAS No: 57-74-9	Production Use	As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register Local ectoparasiticide Insecticide Termiticide Termiticide in buildings and dams Termiticide in roads Additive in plywood adhesives	prohibited with no exemptions		no consent to import,	y	Not included in the official register of permitted substances for use in agriculture, including and individual farms, forestry and household. No import or sale permitted.
5*	New, P	Chlordecone* CAS No: 143-50-0	Production Use	None None	prohibited with no exemptions			y	
6*	New, I	Decabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-209) present in commercial decabromodiphenyl ether (CAS No: 1163-19-5)	Production Use	As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register In accordance with Part IX of this Annex: • Parts for use in vehicles specified in paragraph 2 of Part IX of this Annex • Aircraft for which type approval has been applied for before December 2018 and has been received before December 2022 and spare parts for those aircraft • Textile products that require anti-flammable characteristics, excluding clothing and toys • Additives in plastic housings and parts used for heating home appliances, irons, fans, immersion heaters that contain or are in	lack, Annex to be updated with this substance, according to POPs regulation				

				direct contact with electrical parts or are required to comply with fire retardancy standards, at concentrations lower than 10 per cent by weight of the part					
				• Polyurethane foam for building insulation					
7*	Old, P	Dieldrin* CAS No: 60-57-1	Production	None	prohibited with no exemptions		no consent to import	y	DDT and preparations on its base has been prohibited since 1970. Not included in the official register of permitted substances for use in agriculture, including and individual farms, forestry and household. No import or sale permitted
			Use	In agricultural operations					
8*	Old, P	Endrin* CAS No: 72-20-8	Production	None	prohibited with no exemptions			y	
			Use	None					
9*	Old, P	Heptachlor* CAS No: 76-44-8	Production	None	prohibited with no exemptions		no consent to import	y	Heptachlor and its mixtures with TMTD and Hexachlorobenzene have been prohibited since 1986. Not included in the official register of permitted substances for use in agriculture, including and individual farms, forestry and household. No import or sale permitted.
			Use	Termiticide					
				Termiticide in structures of houses Termiticide (subterranean)					
				Wood treatment					
				In use in underground cable boxes					
10*	New, I	Hexabromobiphenyl* CAS No: 36355-01-8	Production	None	prohibited with no exemptions			y	
			Use	None					
11*	New, I	Hexabromocyclododecane	Production	As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register in accordance with the provisions of Part VII of this Annex	lack, Annex to be updated with this substance, according to POPs regulation	For the purposes of this entry, point (b) of Article 4(1) shall apply to concentrations of hexabromocyclododecane equal to or below 100 mg/kg (0,01 % by weight) where it is present in substances, mixtures, articles or as constituents of the flame-retarded articles, subject to review by the Commission by 22 March 2019. 2. Expanded polystyrene articles containing hexabromocyclododecane already	no response	y	
			Use	Expanded polystyrene and extruded polystyrene in buildings in accordance with the provisions of Part VII of this Annex					

						in use in buildings before 21 February 2018 in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/293 (5) and Commission Implementing Decision No 2016/C 12/06 (6), and extruded polystyrene articles containing hexabromocyclododecane already in use in buildings before 23 June 2016 may continue to be used. Article 4(2), third and fourth subparagraphs shall apply to such articles. 3. Without prejudice to the application of other Union provisions on the classification, packaging and labelling of substances and mixtures, expanded polystyrene placed on the market after 23 March 2016 in which hexabromocyclododecane was used shall be identifiable by labelling or other means throughout its life cycle.			
12*	New , I	Hexabromodiphenyl ether* and heptabromodiphenyl ether*	Production	None	prohibited with exemptions		no response,	y	
			Use	Articles in accordance with the provisions of Part IV of this Annex					
13*	Old, I, P	Hexachlorobenzene CAS No: 118-74-1	Production	As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register	prohibited with no exemptions		interim decision no consent to import	y	Hexachlorobenzene is not included in the official register of permitted substances for use in agriculture, including and individual farms, forestry and household. No import or sale permitted.
			Use	Intermediate Solvent in pesticide Closed system site limited intermediate					
14*	New , I, U	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene CAS No: 87-68-3	Production	None	prohibited with no exemptions			y	
			Use	None					
15*	New , P	Lindane* CAS No: 58-89-9	Production	None	prohibited with no exemptions		no consent to import,	y	Lindane (gamma-HCH) has been prohibited since 1991. Not included in the official register of permitted substances for use in agriculture,
			Use	Human health pharmaceutical for control of head lice and scabies as second line treatment					

										including and individual farms, forestry and household. No import or sale permitted.
16*	Old, P	Mirex* CAS No: 2385-85-5	Production	As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register	prohibited with no exemptions			y		
			Use	Termiticide						
17*	New, P, I, U	Pentachlorobenzene* CAS No: 608-93-5	Production	None	prohibited with no exemptions			y		
			Use	None						
18*	New, P	Pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters	Production	As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register in accordance with the provisions of Part VIII of this Annex	lack, Annex to be updated with this substance, according to POPs regulation		no consent to import	n		Pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters have not been included in the official register of permitted substances for use in agriculture, including and individual farms, forestry and household. No import or sale permitted.
			Use	Pentachlorophenol for utility poles and cross-arms in accordance with the provisions of Part VIII of this Annex						
19*	Old, I	Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB)*	Production	None	prohibited with exemptions	Without prejudice to the Regulation on Polychlorinated Biphenyls, it shall be permissible to use articles already in use at the time of the entry into force of this Law.	no consent to import,	y		The Government Decision on Approval of Regulation on Polychlorinated Biphenyls, No. 81 of 02 February 2009. This act has been published in the Official Monitor of the Republic of Moldova, No. 27-29 of 10 February 2009. The production and placing on the market of PCB whether on its own, in preparations or as constituents of articles, is prohibited. Placing on the market means supplying or making available to third persons against payment or free of charge. Imports into Moldova shall also be deemed to be placed on the market.
			Use	Articles in use in accordance with the provisions of Part II of this Annex						
20*	New, I, U	Polychlorinated naphthalenes, including dichlorinated naphthalenes,	Production	Intermediates in production of polyfluorinated naphthalenes, including octafluoronaphthalene	prohibited with no exemptions			y		
			Use	Production of polyfluorinated naphthalenes, including octafluoronaphthalene						

		CAS No. 108171-26-2.							
22*	New , P	Technical endosulfan* (CAS No: 115-29-7) and its related isomers* (CAS No: 959-98-8 and CAS No: 33213-65-9)	Production	As allowed for the Parties listed in the Register					
			Use	Crop-pest complexes as listed in accordance with the provisions of part VI of this Annex	prohibited with no exemptions			interim decision no consent to import	n
23*	New , I	Tetrabromodiphenyl ether* and pentabromodiphenyl ether*	Production	None					
			Use	Articles in accordance with the provisions of Part V of this Annex	prohibited with exemptions	By way of derogation from Article 53(1) – producing, making available on the market and using the following shall be allowed: a) without prejudice to b) – articles and preparations showing concentrations of tetrabromodiphenyl ether below 0.1% by weight, produced (partly or wholly) on the basis of recycled materials or waste materials prepared for reuse; b) electrical and electronic equipment, according to the requirements referred to in Article 53(3). 2. Articles containing tetrabromodiphenyl ether as a constituent of these articles already in use shall remain in use until 2025.		no response,	y
24*	Old, P	Toxaphene* CAS No: 8001-35-2	Production	None					
			Use	None	prohibited with no exemptions			no consent to import	y
									Toxaphene has been prohibited since 1991. Not included in the official register of permitted substances for use in agriculture, including and individual farms, forestry and household. No import or sale permitted.
		ANNEX B	RESTRICTION	Part I				no consent to import	n
25*			Production	Acceptable purpose:				no consent to import	n
									DDT and preparations on its base has been

	Old, P	DDT (1,1,1-trichloro-2,2-bis (4-chlorophenyl) ethane) CAS No: 50-29-3		Disease vector control use in accordance with Part II of this Annex Specific exemption: Intermediate in production of dicofol Intermediate	prohibited with no exemptions				prohibited since 1970. Not included in the official register of permitted substances for use in agriculture, including and individual farms, forestry and household. No import or sale permitted
			Use	Acceptable purpose: Disease vector control in accordance with Part II of this Annex Specific exemption: Production of dicofol Intermediate					
26*	New, I	Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (CAS No: 1763-23-1), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (CAS No: 307-35-7) a For example: potassium perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No: 2795-39-3); lithium perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No: 29457-72-5); ammonium perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No: 29081-56-9); diethanolammonium perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No: 70225-14-8); tetraethylammonium	Production	Acceptable purpose: In accordance with Part III of this Annex, production of other chemicals to be used solely for the uses below. Production for uses listed below. Specific exemption: As allowed for Parties listed in the Register.	prohibited with exemptions	For purposes of this entry: a) Article 53(2)(b) shall apply to concentrations of PFOS less than or equal to 10 mg / kg (0.001 percent by mass) present in substances or preparations; (b) Article 53(2)(b) applies to PFOS concentrations in semi-finished products or articles or components thereof, if the PFOS concentration is less than 0.1 weight percent, calculated in relation to the mass of structurally or microstructurally distinct components containing PFOS or textiles or other coating materials, where the PFOS is less than 1 µg/m ² of coating material. 2. Articles already in use containing PFOS as a constituent of these articles may continue to be used. When dealing with such articles, the operator shall notify without undue delay the central environmental authority of the presence of PFOS in the managed articles	no response	n	
		Use	Acceptable purpose: In accordance with Part III of this Annex for the following acceptable purposes, or as an intermediate in the production of chemicals with the following acceptable purposes: • Photo-imaging • Photo-resist and anti-reflective coatings for semi-conductors • Etching agent for compound semi-conductors and ceramic filters • Aviation hydraulic fluids • Metal plating (hard metal plating) only in closed-loop systems • Certain medical devices (such as ethylene tetrafluoroethylene copolymer (ETFE) layers and radio-opaque ETFE production, in-vitro diagnostic medical devices, and CCD colour filters) • Fire-fighting foam • Insect baits for control of leaf-cutting ants from <i>Atta</i> spp. and <i>Acromyrmex</i> spp. Specific exemption: For the following specific uses, or as an intermediate in the production of chemicals with the following specific uses: • Photo masks in the semiconductor and liquid crystal display (LCD) industries • Metal plating (hard metal plating) • Metal plating (decorative plating) • Electric and electronic parts for some colour						

	perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No: 56773-42-3); didecyldimethylammonium perfluorooctane sulfonate (CAS No: 251099-16-8)	printers and colour copy machines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insecticides for control of red imported fire ants and termites • Chemically driven oil production • Carpets • Leather and apparel • Textiles and upholstery • Paper and packaging • Coatings and coating additives • Rubber and plastics 					
--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--