NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

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| **1.** | **Notifying Member:** JAPAN  **If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):** |
| **2.** | **Agency responsible:**  Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare  Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry  Ministry of the Environment  **Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:** |
| **3.** | **Notified under Article 2.9.2 [****X],** **2.10.1 [****],** **5.6.2 [****],** **5.7.1 [****], 3.2 [****], 7.2 [****],** **other****:** |
| **4.** | **Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable):** The following chemical substances  Perfluoro (hexane-1-sulfonic acid) (PFHxS), its isomers or these salts  The following products in which PFHxS, its isomers or these salts are used  1. Water-repellent textiles and oil-repellent textiles  2. Etching agents used for metal processing  3. Etchants used in the manufacture of semiconductors  4. Surface treatment agents for plating or such preparation additives  5. Antireflection agents used in semiconductor manufacturing  6. Resists for semiconductor  7. Water repellent, oil repellent and fabric protection agents  8. Fire extinguishers, fire-extinguishing agents, and fire-extinguishing foam  9. Water-repellent clothes and oil-repellent clothes  10. Water-repellent floor coverings and oil-repellent floor coverings |
| **5.** | **Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document:** Revision of the Order for Enforcement of the Act on the Evaluation of Chemical Substances and Regulation of Their Manufacture, etc.; (2 page(s), in English) |
| **6.** | **Description of content:** Based on Article 17 and 22 of the Act on the Evaluation of Chemical Substances and Regulation of Their Manufacture, etc. (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), the following will be designated as Class I Specified Chemical Substances which need authorization to be manufactured or imported.  PFHxS, its isomers or these salts  Based on Article 24 of the Act, the following will be designated as products prohibited from being imported when PFHxS, its isomers or these salts are used in them.  1. Water-repellent textiles and oil-repellent textiles  2. Etching agents used for metal processing  3. Etchants used in the manufacture of semiconductors  4. Surface treatment agents for plating or such preparation additives  5. Antireflection agents used in semiconductor manufacturing  6. Resists for semiconductor  7. Water repellent, oil repellent and fabric protection agents  8. Fire extinguishers, fire-extinguishing agents, and fire-extinguishing foam  9. Water-repellent clothes and oil-repellent clothes  10. Water-repellent floor coverings and oil-repellent floor coverings |
| **7.** | **Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable:** To prevent environmental pollution by PFHxS, its isomers or these salts, which are potentially hazardous substances because of their non-biodegradability, high degree of bioaccumulation potential, and chronic toxicity, they will be designated as Class I Specified Chemical Substances under the Act. This amendment is based on the decisions at the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants in 2022. Also, to prevent environmental pollution, products in which PFHxS, its isomers or these salts are used, will be prohibited from being imported. |
| **8.** | **Relevant documents:**  - Act on the Regulation of Manufacture and Evaluation of Chemical Substances (Act No. 117 of October 16, 1973)  <https://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/en/laws/view/3350>  - Order for Enforcement of the Act on the Evaluation of Chemical Substances and Regulation of Their Manufacture, etc.  (Cabinet Order No. 202 of June 7, 1974)  <https://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/en/laws/view/158> |
| **9.** | **Proposed date of adoption:** November 2023  **Proposed date of entry into force:** January 2024 for chemical substances, May 2024 for products to be prohibited from being imported |
| **10.** | **Final date for comments:** 60 days from notification |
| **11.** | **Texts available from: National enquiry point [****]** **or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:**  International Trade Division  Economic Affairs Bureau  Ministry of Foreign Affairs  2-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku  Tokyo 100-8919, Japan  Tel.: + (81) 3 5501 8344  Fax: + (81) 3 5501 8343  E-mail: [enquiry@mofa.go.jp](mailto:enquiry@mofa.go.jp)  <https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2023/TBT/JPN/23_12128_00_e.pdf> |