

PIC (Prior Informed Consent; Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides)

1 General

1.1 Legal framework

Switzerland is a signatory State to the Rotterdam Convention of 10th September 1998 on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure (Rotterdam Convention PIC; [CC 0.916.21](#)).

This convention regulates the international trade in certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides. The Parties are committed to reaching a decision on whether the import of certain chemicals named in the Convention should be prohibited and on the conditions under which this should be allowed (Import decisions).

This procedure is called **Prior Informed Consent (PIC)**. Deliveries of chemicals contrary to the wishes of the importing country are not permitted.

In addition, the Convention obliges the Parties to notify the recipient country of exports of chemicals that are banned or strictly regulated in the exporting country.

The national implementing provisions are to be found in the Ordinance relating to the Import and Export of Dangerous Substances and Preparations (PIC Ordinance, ChemPICO; [CC 814.82](#)).

1.2 Reference in Tares

The reference to "PIC" in Tares indicates that the corresponding goods may be subject to the PIC legal provisions of the ChemPICO.

1.3 Information

For more information, please contact the following office:

Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)
Air Pollution Control and Chemicals Division
Industrial Chemicals Section
3003 Bern

Tel. +41 (0)58 462 83 44
 +41 (0)58 463 11 99
 +41 (0)58 463 16 00 (secretariat)

Email picdna@bafu.admin.ch

Internet www.bafu.admin.ch

1.4 Detailed information

FOCBS's website → Documentation → Regulations → [R-60 Non-customs legislative instruments: R-60-6.7 Commerce avec des produits chimiques et des pesticides \(PIC\) \(PDF\)](#)

2 Classification of chemicals

It is the responsibility of the importer or exporter to enquire about the provisions and the decisions on import taken by the contracting States and to abide by the corresponding legal requirements.

In [annex 1](#) and [2](#) of the Ordinance on the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Chemicals in International Trade ([CC 814.82](#)) specifies all types of chemicals subject to the PIC legislation.

2.1 Export of chemicals listed in annex 1 or 2 of the PIC Ordinance

Exporters of substances in accordance with [annex 1](#) or [2](#) must send export notification to the FOEN at the latest 30 days before the first intended export and for each calendar year and each recipient country. The FOEN will then register each export and assign it a reference identification number. This number shall be valid for the calendar year.

In addition, exporters of substances or preparations in accordance with [annex 2](#) must comply with the decisions from the importing country.

2.2 Import of chemicals listed in annex 2 of the PIC Ordinance

Importers of substances or preparations in accordance with [annex 2](#) must comply with the Swiss decisions.

3 Details to be provided in the customs declaration

3.1 Export of chemicals listed in annex 1 or 2

Any person exporting substances listed in [annex 1](#) or [annex 2](#) to the PIC Ordinance must enter the identification number in the customs declaration.

Upon export of substances listed in [annex 1](#) or [annex 2](#), the person subject to declaration obligation must enter the NZE mandatory code "1 NZE: yes" and the NZE type code 030 "PIC" in the e-dec or NCTS customs declaration. When declaring chemicals, the Permit mandatory code should **not** be used.

Furthermore, the person subject to the declaration obligation must provide the following in their export declaration:

Control procedure	What	Where	How
Chemicals listed in annex 1 of the PIC Ordinance	Identification number	Either " Special remarks " ("Besondere Vermerke") section in the position data or " Documentation " ("Unterlagen") section	Other (ZZZ), Number, PIC
Chemicals listed in annex 2 of the PIC Ordinance	Identification number	Either " Special remarks " ("Besondere Vermerke") section in the position data or " Documentation " ("Unterlagen") section	Other (ZZZ), Number, PIC

3.2 Import of chemicals listed in annex 2

Upon import of substances listed in [annex 2](#), the person subject to declaration obligation must enter the NZE mandatory code "1 NZE: yes" and the NZE type code 030 "PIC" in the e-dec or NCTS customs declaration.

Recommendation: The FOEN recommends that the expected use of the chemical be indicated under "**Special remarks**" section in the position data or under "**Documentation**" section.

Further information can be found on the following webpage: www.bazg.admin.ch → Customs declaration → Declaration companies → e-dec Export → [Handbuch e-dec Export für externe Kunden/Firmen](#)