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<b>Document title</b>	Request on information of emerging contaminants by MCWG
<b>Code</b>	14-4
<b>Category</b>	INF
<b>Agenda Item</b>	14
<b>Submission date</b>	18.3.2019
<b>Submitted by</b>	ICES – Marine chemistry working group
<b>Reference</b>	

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## Background

Contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) are substances that have been detected in the environment, but which are currently not included in routine monitoring programmes and whose fate, behaviour and (eco)toxicological effects are not well understood (Norman, <https://www.norman-network.net/?q=node/9>). In 2017, the two ICES working groups MCWG (Marine chemistry working group) and WGMS (Working group on marine sediments) produced a document aiming at selecting and deselecting hazardous substances of concern (OSPAR request on information for use in selecting and deselecting hazardous substances of concern, ICES Special Request Advice sr.2017.21, Published 5 December 2017; DOI: 10.17895/ices.pub.3693).

In 2019, different contributions presented in this simultaneous MCWG and WGMS have confirmed the occurrence of CECs (including rare elements). A review of the recent available data (from 2018 to today) in relation to the occurrence and distribution of CECs in marine environment is going to be made. The database will include information about seawater, sediment, biota and air. Members of both Working Groups will include new data available after publication of ICES document referred to above, with the aim to provide an overview of CECs. Additional information from publications and experts from other countries will be also considered. Specifically, the new information available about the occurrence of CECs is going to be included in a new database (Excel file), detailing the matrix (seawater, sediment, biota and air), time of the study, the specific contaminants found at concentrations higher than limits of quantification (and also not detected and not analysed) in each study and other relevant information about the projects. The aim is to get the most exhaustive overview of available new data on CEC occurrence in ICES area and to identify gaps. Information on what and how to fill out the sheet (with examples) is described in the first sheet of the **attached excel file (14.4 Att.1 Emerging\_issues\_2019\_MCWG)**.

## Action requested

The Meeting is invited to help filling in the table and to pass the request also to their national experts. Replies should be sent to Kine Bæk (email: [kine.baek@niva.no](mailto:kine.baek@niva.no)) not later than **1st of june 2019**.