

FOEN - PIC Export (Prior Informed Consent)

1. General

1.1 The issue at hand

Chemicals can be problematic for countries that lack the appropriate knowledge, in terms of both the environment and the health of the population. The Rotterdam Convention regulates the international trade in certain hazardous chemicals, known as PIC substances. Under the Convention, the parties are obliged to decide whether or under what conditions exports of PIC substances should be permitted or prohibited (export decisions). This procedure is called prior informed consent (PIC).

Anyone intending to export such substances must therefore notify the [FOEN](#) in advance and apply for a corresponding export identification number.

1.2 Basis and information

- Ordinance on the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) Procedure for Certain Chemicals in International Trade (PIC Ordinance, ChemPICO; [SR 814.82](#))
- [Annex 1](#) to the PIC Ordinance; Substances and preparations that are banned or subject to severe restrictions in Switzerland
- [Annex 2](#) to the PIC Ordinance; Substances and severely hazardous pesticide formulations subject to the prior informed consent procedure

1.3 Reference in Tares

Tariff items that are relevant under chemicals law contain the note «Permit obligation: FOEN-PIC-E».

1.4 Terminology

Chemicals listed in Annex 1 to the PIC Ordinance	Annex 1 to the PIC Ordinance lists substances that are banned or subject to severe restrictions in Switzerland, as well as those for which authorisation has been terminated or whose authorisation is severely restricted
Chemicals listed in Annex 2 to the PIC Ordinance	Annex 2 to the PIC Ordinance lists the substances subject to the PIC procedure, including severely hazardous pesticide formulations and preparations containing these substances

2. Information in the customs/goods declaration

Anyone exporting chemicals listed in Annex 1 or 2 to the PIC Ordinance must provide an indication in the goods declaration regarding the restriction obligation and enter the FOEN permit (identification number).

Identification Regulation	Passar: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Regulation 1 (yes)- Regulation code 410 «FOEN - PIC Export»
	e-dec: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Permit obligation «yes»- Authorising authority «FOEN-PIC-E»
Additional information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Authorisation number- Authorisation holder- Authorisation item number- Goods specification – CAS number PIC substance

Goods that would generally require an authorisation, but that can nevertheless be brought into the country without an authorisation due to an exemption from the requirement, must be declared accordingly:

Identification Regulation	Passar: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Regulation 1 (yes)- Regulation code 410 «FOEN – PIC Export»
Permit exemptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Research purposes (max. 10kg)