

*Practical Approach in Chemicals Legislation
the experience of Japan*

3rd and 4th Dec. 2009

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1. Approach from hazardous based control
2. Shift to risk-based management
3. Overview of Sound Management of Chemicals from the Perspective of Asia and Pacific
4. International harmonization and cooperation
5. Lessons Learned

1. Approach from hazardous based control

The rapid economic growth in 1950s

- methyl mercury poisoning
- respiratory diseases
- food contamination by PCBs in the late 1960s

Monitoring by local governments and the Environment Agency (established in 1971) also identified widespread environmental contamination by PCBs.



Responding to the widespread health and environmental crisis including the PCB contamination, Japan enacted many laws aiming at environmental protection. One of these laws was the Chemical Substances Control Law (CSCL) was enacted in 1973.

CSCL prohibited production, import and use of persistent, bioaccumulation and toxic (PBT) chemicals

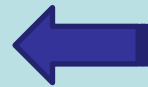
2. *Shift to Risk-Based Management*

- 1973 **Chemical Substances Control Law (CSCL) enacted (ban on production and use of PCBs, pre-marketing evaluation of new chemicals)**
- 1986 **CSCL amended (regulation on chlorinated organic compounds etc)**
- 1994 First Basic Environment Plan introduced the notion of environmental risk
- 1999 PRTR and MSDS Law enacted
- 2003 **CSCL amended (introduced regulation based on ecological risk)**
- 2005 Japan HPV Challenge Programme
- 2006 SAICM adopted
- 2006 Third Basic Environment Plan presented approached to achieve the 2020 goal
- 2007 PRTR Law amended
- 2009 **CSCL amended (introduced a comprehensive risk assessment and management framework covering all new and existing industrial chemicals)**

➤ **Chemicals Management in Japan shifted to risk-based management from hazardous based management through several amendments of CSCL.**

3. *Best Mix of Regulations and Volunteer Approach*

◆ Pollutant Release and Transfer Registered (PRTR)



Pilot programme in local governments and voluntary industry initiative under Responsible Care

◆ Japan HPV Challenge Programme



Voluntary participation from Industry

➤ **Importance of Industrial Cooperation through Volunteer Approach**

4. *International harmonization and cooperation*

◆ CACL amended (regulation on chlorinated organic compounds etc)



OECD and WHO focus on PBT

◆ PRTR and MSDS Law enacted
◆ CACL amended (introduced regulation based on ecological risk)



OECD guide line

◆ Japan HPV Challenge Programme



OECD HPV Programme
HPV Challenge Programme

◆ CACL amended (introduced a comprehensive risk assessment and management framework covering all new and existing industrial chemicals)



SAICM and REACH

➤ **Importance of International Harmonization to follow the trends of Chemicals Management**

5. *Lessons Learned*

- To start from hazardous-based regulation to more comprehensive chemical management
- To encourage to participate all stakeholders, especially industry
- To utilize international harmonization and cooperation for policy development

Thank you for your attention!!