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Progress and Latest Developments in Japan's Chemical Management Policy

Gen'ichiro TSUKADA

Director

Chemical Safety Division

Ministry of the Environment, Japan

Today’s Topics

1. The Establishment of the Intergovernmental Science-policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP) and Japan’s Contributions

2. Japan's National Implementation Plan for the Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC)

3. Progress and Updates of the Chemical Substances Control Law (CSCL)

4. Recent Trends in PFAS Measures in Japan

1. The Establishment of the Intergovernmental Science-policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP) and Japan's Contributions

What is Science-policy Panel?

- The Science-Policy Panel (SPP) is an organization aimed at providing the scientific foundation mainly for the policy-making. It is understood to offer assessments of the latest scientific knowledge in specific fields through the preparation and dissemination of scientific and technical reports.
- SPPs vary in their characteristics, including whether they are “intergovernmental panel” with decision-making authority vested in governments or “non-intergovernmental panel” without such authority.

Independent intergovernmental panel

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

To assess scientific, technical, and socio-economic information in order to understand the risks of human-induced climate change, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation.

Intergovernmental Science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service (IPBES)

To strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development

Non-intergovernmental panel

International Resource Panel (IRP)

To provide independent scientific assessments of the environmental impacts of the use of natural resources and to enhance understanding of ways to decouple environmental impacts from economic growth

UNEA Resolution 5/8 – For the SPP on chemicals, waste and pollution prevention

- In 2022, the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA) adopted Resolution 5/8, which decided to convene an Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) to prepare **proposals for the establishment of a science-policy panel on chemicals, waste and pollution prevention (Panel)**.
- The UNEA also requested the Executive Director of UNEP to convene **an intergovernmental meeting to consider the establishment of the Panel** upon the completion of proposals.

Overview of the UNEA Resolution 5/8

1 Establishment of the OEWG

- Proposals for the Panel to be completed by the end of 2024.
- The Panel should be intergovernmental body.
- Functions of the Panel should include 1) horizon-scanning, 2) assessment of current issues, 3) providing up-to-date information and 4) information-sharing

2 Consideration by the OEWG

- Scope and objectives, functions, institutional arrangement, name of the Panel and relevant procedures (rules of procedures, process to determine work programme, clearance procedures, conflict of interest policy)

3 Intergovernmental meeting

- Consider the formal establishment of the Panel

Source: IISD

Intergovernmental meeting to consider the establishment of the Panel

- After the third session of the OEWG, an intergovernmental meeting was convened in June 2025 by the Executive Director of UNEP to consider the establishment of the Panel.
- Co-chaired by Mr. Matuzawa (Vice Minister for the Global Environmental Affairs in Japan) and Ms. Dupuy (Uruguay), ***"the Intergovernmental Science-policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution (ISP-CWP)"*** **was formally adopted**.

Decisions at the intergovernmental meeting

★Established the ISP-CWP

- Decided to establish the ISP-CWP as an independent intergovernmental body with a programme of work approved by its Plenary to deliver policy-relevant scientific evidence without being policy prescriptive.

★Forwarded relevant procedures to future Plenary

- Transmitted to the Plenary relevant procedures (rules of procedures, process for determining the work programme, preparation and clearance of panel deliverables, Conflict-of-interest policy) for further consideration at its first session.

★Interim arrangement

- Requested the UNEP-ED to provide the interim secretariat.
- Requested the UNEP-ED to convene the first Plenary at the earliest practicable date.

Source: IISD

Structure of the ISP-CWP

Section		Overview
I.	Scope, objectives and functions	To strengthen the science-policy interface to contribute to the sound management of chemicals and waste and pollution prevention Function：1) Horizon-scanning, 2) Assessment of current issues, 3) Providing up-to-date information, etc. 4) information-sharing with developing countries, 5) Capacity-building
II.	Operating principles and approaches	Principles and approaches that guide the operationalization of the ISP-CWP
III.	Institutional arrangement	Institutional structure of the ISP-CWP
	A. Plenary	Functions and membership of Plenary as a governing and decision-making body
	B. Bureau	Functions and membership of Bureau
	C. Subsidiary bodies	Interdisciplinary Expert Committee and other subsidiary bodies
	D. Secretariat	Functions of the secretariat
	E. Financial arrangement	Establishment of a trust fund for the ISP-CWP
	F. Partnerships	Proposals for partnership
IV.	Evaluation of the effectiveness	Independent review and evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the ISP-CWP
Other documents		Rules of procedures, process for determining the work programme, preparation and clearance of panel deliverables, Conflict-of-interest policy

Section I: [Scope, objective and functions]

The objective of the ISP-CWP is *"to strengthen the science-policy interface to contribute to the sound management of chemicals and waste and pollution prevention [for the protection of human health and the environment], [without being policy prescriptive]"* with five functions

Function of the ISP-CWP	
 **Horizon-scanning**	Horizon-scanning to identify issues of relevance to policy-makers and proposing evidence-based options
 **Assessment of current issues**	Conducting assessment of current issues and identifying potential evidence-based options
 **Up-to-date information**	Providing up-to-date information, identifying key scientific gaps, encouraging and supporting communication, explaining and disseminating findings and raising public awareness
 **Information sharing**	Facilitating information-sharing with countries seeking relevant scientific information
 **Capacity-building**	Integrating capacity-building into all functions and the work of the ISP-CWP

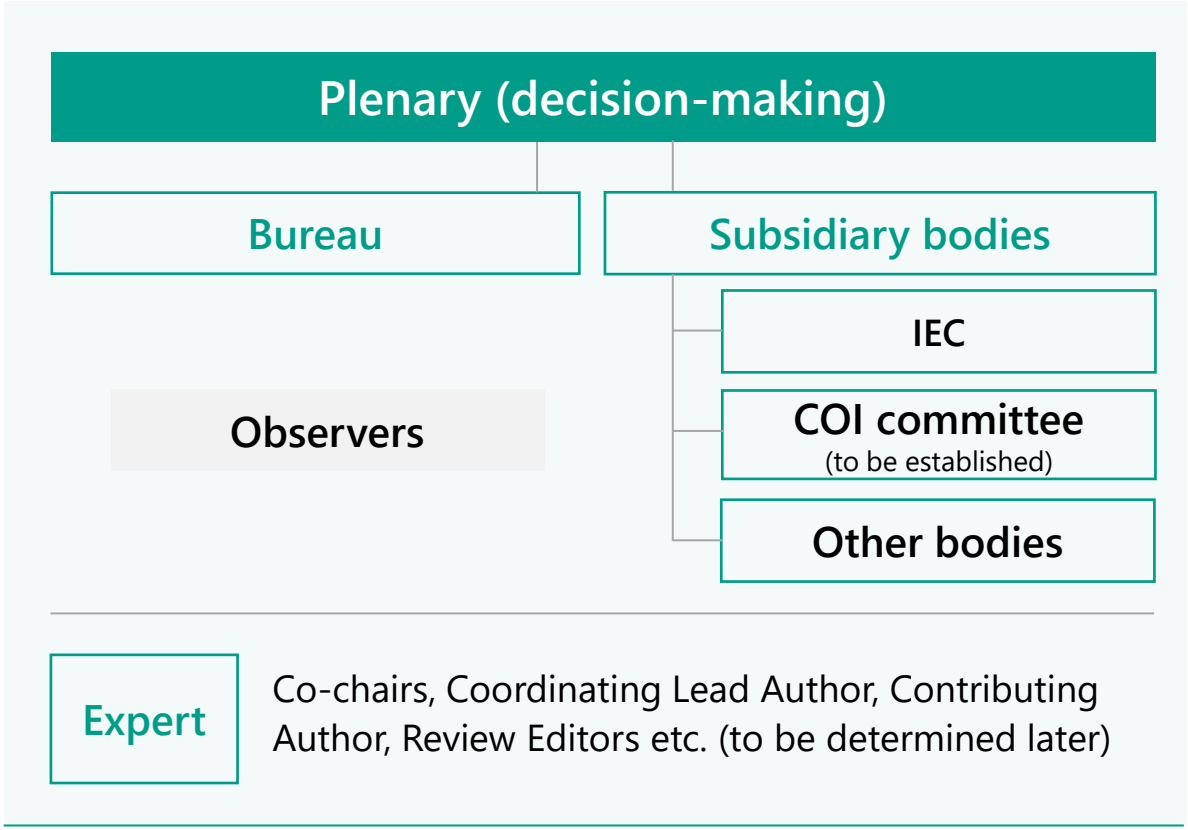
Section II: Operating principles and approaches

Fundamental principles and approaches for the operation of the ISP-CWP include ensuring scientific independence and producing deliverables that are policy relevant without being policy prescriptive.

Operating principles and approaches	
(a)	Being scientifically independent, and ensuring credibility and legitimacy
(b)	Upholding consensus in its decision-making processes.
(c)	Respecting independence of science, while ensuring differing scientific views are adequately reflected
(d)	Ensuring impartiality and transparency
(e)	Taking an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approach that incorporates a broad range of relevant disciplines and sources
(f)	Recognizing the technical knowledge and experience of workers
(g)	Having geographical, regional, [and gender balance] [as well as balance between men and women] and promoting inclusivity of participation, and considering linguistic diversity
(h)	Integrating [gender equality and equity][equality between men and women]
(i)	Producing deliverables that are policy relevant without being policy prescriptive, and, scientifically robust, unbiased and accessible
(j)	Avoiding overlap and duplication of work, and promoting coordination and cooperation, with relevant multilateral environmental agreements
(k)	Having the flexibility to respond to members' needs,
(l)	Integrating capacity-building into all relevant aspects of its work.

Section III: Institutional arrangement

- The Panel consists of Plenary (governing and decision-making body), Bureau, subsidiary bodies including the Interdisciplinary Expert Committee and Secretariat.
- Assessments will be developed by experts nominated by each regions (to be determined later).
- At its first session, the Plenary will request the Secretariat to develop a proposal on establishing partnerships.



Relevant entities?

Partnership

Secretariat will propose the detail of partnership in the future

Japan's action: National Steering Committee on the ISP-CWP

- The Ministry of the Environment, Japan established **the National Steering Committee on the ISP-CWP**, bringing together representatives from 12 academic societies in the fields of chemicals, waste and pollution prevention to encourage the active participation of scientists in the work of the ISP-CWP and to strengthen the science-policy interface at the national level.

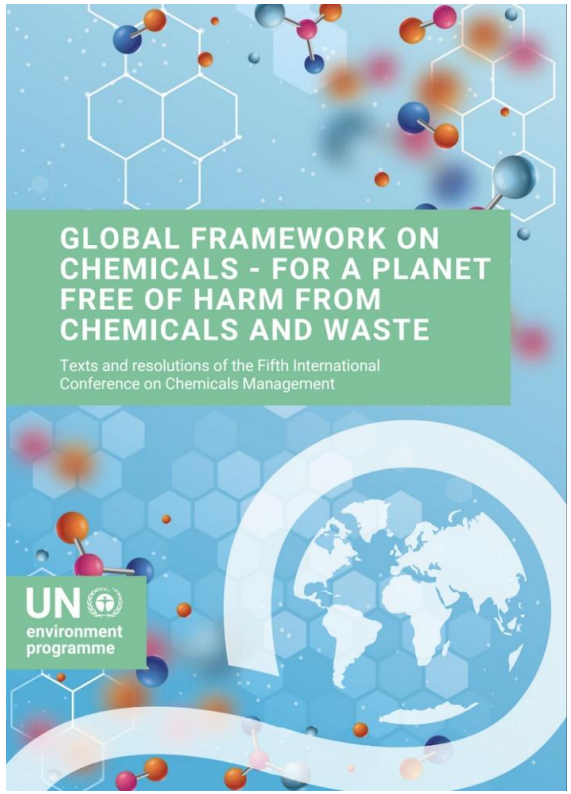
Objective	• Encourage the active participation of scientists in Japan in the work of the ISP-CWP • Promote collaboration across various scientific communities to support functions of the ISP-CWP • Consider the modality for communication and outreach activities for general public about the work of the ISP-CWP • Strengthen the science-policy interface in the fields of chemicals, wastes and pollution
Composition (As of July 2025)	• Representatives from following academic societies - The Japanese Society for Hygiene - The Japanese Society of Environmental Toxicology - The Pharmaceutical Society of Japan - Japan Society on Water Environment - Japan Society of Endocrine Disruptors Research - Japan Society for Environmental Chemistry - Japan Society of Material Cycles and Waste Management - Japan Association for Environmental Law and Policy - Japan Society for Atmospheric Environment - Science Council of Japan - The Japanese Society of Fisheries Science - Chemicals Evaluation and Research Institute • Ministry of the Environment, Japan • Secretariat (EX Research Institute, Ltd.)

2. Japan's National Implementation Plan for the Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC)

Global Framework on Chemicals

- **Adopted at ICCM5 in Bonn, Germany, in September 2023.**
- **Addresses a wide range of issues as a voluntary initiative by multi-sectors and stakeholders.**

- **throughout life cycle** (from production, through use in products, etc., to disposal) by **multi-stakeholders** (governments, intergovernmental organisations, civil society, industry, academia, etc.) in **multi-sectors** (environmental, economic, social, health, agriculture, labour, etc.).
- **Five strategic objectives** ((1) Capacity and legislation, (2) Knowledge, information and data, (3) Issues of concern, (4) Safer alternatives, (5) Integration into decision-making processes) and **28 individual targets**
- Mechanisms for implementation, Identification of **issues of concern** and Capacity-building methods.
- Integrated approach to securing funding (mainstreaming chemicals management, private sector involvement, use of funds).
- Measurability structure for progress reporting and disclosure and monitoring of progress monitoring



Developing process of GFC National Implementation Plan in Japan

1 The Sixth Basic Environmental Plan

- **The Basic Environmental Plan** is the foundation for environmental policy in Japan that outlines long-term comprehensive environmental conservation strategies. The Plan is updated about every six years.
- The chemicals management policy in **the Sixth Basic Environmental Plan** (**approved by the Cabinet in May 2024) is structured in line with the agreed strategic objectives of the GFC.**

Strategic objectives of GFC	Section	Example of activities
A	Legal frameworks, institutional mechanisms and capacities	• Screening of chemicals and risk assessment for prioritized chemicals. • Review and implementation of PRTR systems and Safety Date Sheets. • Policies for information exchange and monitoring of hazardous chemicals associated with accidents.
B	Comprehensive and sufficient knowledge, data and information	• Multi-stakeholder partnership and capacity-building and environmental education for stakeholders • Implementation of GHS in cooperation with other ministries. • Development and operationalization of risk assessments that take into account the life cycle of chemicals.
C	Issues of concern	• Information collection on the health effects of PFAS through Japan Environment and Children's Study (cohort study) • Assessment of endocrine disrupting effects • Information collection on nanomaterials
D	Safer alternatives and innovative and sustainable solutions in product value chains	• Promotion of alternatives to environmentally-friendly design/chemicals • Development of a framework of assessment indicators
E	Enhanced implementation occurs through increased and effective resource mobilization, partnerships, cooperation, capacity-building	• Partnership through e.g., Policy Dialogue on the Environment and Chemicals • Information exchange on chemicals management in Japan • Promotion of the SMCW, harmonization of policies/methodologies and establishment of cooperation mechanisms in Asia • International cooperation on the impacts of chemicals to the children

Developing process of GFC National Implementation Plan in Japan

2 Inter-Ministerial Coordination Meeting

- **The Inter-Ministerial Coordination Meeting for the GFC was established in April 2024** to discuss the National Implementation Plan for the GFC and its effective implementation, review the progress and update the plan as necessary and to facilitate inter-ministerial coordination.
- The members of this meeting are government officials **from nine different ministries**.

Members of the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Meeting

- Cabinet Office
- Ministry of the Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology
- Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
- Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
- Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
- Ministry of the Environment (Chair)

meeting	date	agenda
The 1st meeting	Apr 2024	• Approval of the establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Meeting • Overview of the Global Framework on Chemicals • Concept note for developing the National Implementation Plan (NIP) for the GFC
The 2nd meeting	Sep 2024	• **Results of interview with relevant ministries** and agencies for the development of the NIP (period: July-Aug 2024) → 63 Items in total
The 3rd meeting	Dec 2024	• **Drafting NIP for the GFC** • Schedule for the finalization (including publishing for public comment)
The 4th meeting	Mar 2025	• **Results of public comment** • Finalizing the document and drafting English version

Developing process of GFC National Implementation Plan in Japan

3 Multi-stakeholder Policy Dialogue on the Environment and Chemicals

- Ministry of the Environment has been organizing **the multi-stakeholder "Policy Dialogue on the Environment and Chemicals"** since 2012 **to exchange views and find common ground on the chemicals management**.
- The members are the representatives from academia, civil society, labour organization, industry, finance and government officials.
- **Each stakeholder's contribution to the GFC were described in the plan.**

Member of the policy dialogue (FY2024)

- 4 academic experts
- 7 civil societies
  - (Consumer organizations, NGO network, Journalist, citizen's network on hazardous chemicals)
- 2 labour oganizations
- 6 industries
  - (Automobile, Chemical, Soap, Article)
- 1 finance sector
- 6 government officials
  - (Local prefecture, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Ministry of the Environment)

Overview of Japan's National Plan of Action for the Implementation of GFC

- **Japan's National Plan of Action** was developed based on specific measures and the future direction in relevant areas and outlines the management of chemicals for their entire life cycles.
- The plan includes Japan's future measures for the sound management of chemicals and waste **in line with GFC's Vision, Strategic Objectives and Targets.**

Vision: "a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste for a safe, healthy and sustainable future."

Strategic objectives A
Legal framework, and institutional capacities

- Legal frameworks
- Illegal trade/traffic
- Regulating of prohibited chemicals
- Poison centers
- Phase out highly hazardous pesticides

Strategic objectives B
Knowledge, data and information and access

- Generate and use data/info
- Info on chemicals available
- Emissions/production data
- Guidelines / tools
- Awareness
- GHS
- Monitoring

Strategic objectives C
Issues of concern

- Processes and work plan for identified issues of concern.

Strategic objectives D
Safer alternatives and sustainable solutions

- Policies for alternatives
- Prioritize alternatives
- Agricultural practices
- Chemicals and waste management
- Occupational health

Strategic objectives E
Resource mobilization, partnerships, etc.

- Mainstream the SMCW
- Partnerships
- Mobilize funds
- Funding gaps
- Internalize costs
- Synergies with other key policies

Local gov.
Citizens
NPO・NGO
Academia
Workers
Businesses

Japan's system and plans/strategies (Chapter 2) and specific measures (Chapter 3 (2))

Review and revision of the National Plan of Action for the Implementation (Chapter 4)

https://www.env.go.jp/content/000311368.pdf

Specific measures (1) (Strategic Objective A)

Strategic Objective A	Legal frameworks, institutional mechanisms and capacities are in place to support and achieve the safe and sustainable management of chemicals throughout their life cycle.

Summary of targets		Specific measures to be taken
A1	Legal frameworks	• Implement initiatives based on relevant laws (Air Pollution Control Act, Water Pollution Prevention Act, Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Act, Act on Preventing Mercury Pollution of the Environment, Industrial Safety and Health Act, Building Standards Act, Ozone Layer Protection Law, Act on Waste Management and Public Cleaning, Act on Control of Household Products, Food Sanitation Act, etc.)
A4	Prevent illegal trade and traffic	• Implement the Basel Convention through the Basel Act and other awareness raising activities • Fulfill obligations of the PIC convention
A5	Regulating or prohibiting the export of prohibited chemicals	• Implement the Basel Convention and the PIC convention (reiterated) • Implement relevant laws and the PIC convention based on the National Implementation Plan • Implement relevant laws based on the Minamata Convention and the Act on Preventing Mercury Pollution of the Environment
A6	Poison centers for risk prevention and training	• The Japan Poison Information Center provides emergency response and awareness-raising • Make the database containing information on poisoning, poisoning cases and related literature available
A7	Phase out highly hazardous pesticides in agriculture	Under the Agricultural Chemicals Regulation Act, only agricultural chemicals that have been confirmed as safe for human health and the environment are registered, and their manufacture, sale and use are permitted.

Specific measures (2) (Strategic Objective B)

Strategic Objective B	Comprehensive and sufficient knowledge, data and information are generated, available and accessible to all to enable informed decisions and actions.

Summary of targets		Specific measures to be taken
B1	Generate and use data/info	• Provide databases on the properties of chemicals • Support sharing chemical info across the value chain by providing info on laws
B2	Make info on chemicals available	• Promote info transfer and consider an infrastructure for handling chemical info • Add info on chemicals to sustainability disclosure • Info transferring on wastes under the Act on Waste Management and Public Cleaning
B3	Publish data on emissions and productions	• Publishes the aggregate results of the reports under the PRTR system • Info sharing of risk assessments results and preparing for accidents using the PRTR data
B4	Apply guidelines, BAT and tools for hazard and risk assessment	• Verify conformity of test facilities seeking with GLP criteria • Review test methods aligned with OECD Guidelines for the Testing of Chemicals • Conduct initial environmental risk assessment • Study new assessment methods such as QSAR • Gather knowledge on risk assessments and conduct trial assessments for combined effects
B5	Education, Awareness, etc.	MOE: Chemicals Advisors / MHLW: Training of Chemicals Managers METI: Support young researchers, etc. / NITE: Conducts online courses, etc.
B6	GHS	Revise JIS in line with GHS updates, use GHS classification, etc.
B7	Monitoring and provision of data	• Monitor chemical concentrations and exposure sources in biota & environmental media. • Research on chemicals in environmental status, monitor biological samples, etc. • Promote research, systematically organize accumulated survey data, etc.

Specific measures (3) (Strategic Objective C)

Strategic Objective C	Issues of concern are identified, prioritized and addressed.

Summary of targets		Specific measures to be taken
C1	Processes and work plan for identified issues of concern.	**＜General issues＞** • Continue to address EPIs and other IOCs that have been addressed in SAICM • Gather and analyze chemicals of concern for relevant stakeholders through the "Policy Dialogue on Chemicals and the Environment" and promote measures that contribute to addressing these issues **<Specific issues>** • PFAS: Improve environmental monitoring and enhance scientific knowledge, etc. • Endocrine-disrupting effects of chemicals: Develop testing methods, contribute to the establishment of testing methods within the OECD, identify substances of concern, evaluation methods, etc. • Nanomaterials: Accumulate knowledge on their environmental risks and relevant issues of concern (advanced materials, microplastics and related chemicals, etc.) • PPCPs: Enhance knowledge of ecological toxicity and environmental occurrence and advance environmental risk assessments including the perspective of combined effects • AMR: collect basic information on the anti-microbial agents in the environment, research focusing on their impacts on human health and organisms in the environment, etc.

Specific measures (4) (Strategic Objective D)

Strategic Objective D	Safer alternatives & innovative & sustainable solutions in product value chains for benefit maximization to health & the environment and risk prevention or minimization

Summary of targets		Specific Measures to be taken
D2	Policies for safer alternatives and sustainable approaches	• Continue ongoing efforts to minimize environmental risks in the entire lifecycle • Develop mechanisms such as setting evaluation indicators for ESG investments • Promote environmentally friendly design and substitution of chemicals • Established a fundamental policy for procurement of eco-friendly goods and services.
D4	Prioritize Sustainable solutions and alternatives	Research programme on • Advance technologies for proper management and treatment of hazardous waste • Advance chemicals management technologies • develop appropriate risk assessment schemes
D5	Safer and more sustainable agricultural practices	• Sets 14 KPIs by 2050, including lowering the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticide • Support producers working on reducing environmental burden • Require the implementation of minimum efforts to reduce environmental burden • Promote the "visualization" of these initiatives
D6	Sustainable chemicals and waste management strategies	• Implement chemicals management based on the 6th Basic Environment Plan • Identified and developed strategies for addressing issues among the key policies. • Reduce the risks of harmful substances being mixed with recycled raw materials • Ensure availability of reliable info about the chemicals in materials and products
D7	Occupational health, safety practices and environmental protection	• Business operators conduct risk assessments and select and implement appropriate exposure prevention measures by themselves • Develop the related systems and standards in workplaces

Specific measures (5) (Strategic Objective E)

Strategic Objective E	Implementation through increased & effective resource mobilization, partnerships, cooperation, capacity-building, & integration into relevant decision-making processes.

Summary of targets		Specific measures to be taken
E1	Mainstream chemicals & waste management	Mainstream the sound management of chemicals and waste based on the GFC in various national plans and other activities related to chemicals management (brochures, seminars in alignment with Target B5)
E2	Partnerships and networks among sectors and stakeholders	• Strengthen partnerships and networks in various national plans and initiatives • Provide opportunities for participation among stakeholders and build networks • Promote capacity-building & education and enhance understanding of chemicals • Build public-private networks while facilitating the information sharing
E3	Identify & mobilize funds	• Domestic: Grants for waste treatment facilities & correcting improper management • Multilateral: Cooperation among the BRS Convention and & monitoring networks • Bilateral: JICA's projects related to chemicals and MOE/METI's bilateral cooperation
E4	Identify funding gaps	Identify and address challenges and funding gaps through various partnerships and support activities for the sound management of chemicals and waste
E5	Internalize management costs	Incorporate the concept of "responsibility of waste generators" & "extended producer responsibility" into policies to internalize policies.
E6	Synergies with other key environmental, health and labour policies	• Explore efforts that leverage synergies between other key environmental, public health and labor policies. • Launched the "Chemicals Management Month " in April 2024 to raise awareness and establish chemicals management activities. The first event was held in February 2025, with subsequent events taking place every February.

Japan's focused actions for the GFC implementation

OEWG on Measurability Structure

- Participate in the Workstreams
- Provide input in collaboration with NIES and stakeholders

Global PFAS Group (C1)

- Participate in and provide resources to these activities
- Link to national actions, e.g., developing analytical methods, verifying remediation technologies

Capacity building activities on lead (C1, E3)

- Provide financial resources to UNEP.
- Pilot project in two AP countries to develop strategies and measures to address priority sources of lead.

Sustainability reporting standard (D2, D3)

- Participate in the Workstream
- Support Japanese companies developing sustainability report.

Multi-stakeholder policy dialogue (E2)

- Discuss issues of concern in Japan
- Co-create policy recommendations to address the issues.

Mainstream chemicals management (E1)

- Policy development to strengthen cross-sectoral synergies, including with biodiversity and finance sectors.
- Design and publish a GFC leaflet

3. Progress and Updates of the Chemical Substances Control Law (CSCL)

The Chemical Substances Control Law (CSCL)

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Number of substances as of May 2025

Evaluation before Market Release

New Chemicals

Exception system

-Low production without high concentration (10 tons or less yearly)
-Small Volumes (1 ton or less yearly)
- Intermediates, low-quantity intermediates
- Polymer of Low Concern

Existing Chemicals

Assessment Immediately after Evaluation

Publicly announced F years afte Evaluation

Class 1 Specified Chemicals
(39 substances)
Persistent, highly accumulative, long-term toxicity to humans or higher-order predators

Monitored chemicals
(38 substances)
Unknown if persistent, highly accumulative, or toxic

Class 2 Specified Chemicals
(24 substances)
Risk to human health and ecosystems

Priority Assessment Chemicals
(221 substances)

Specified General Chemicals

General Chemicals
(approx. 30,000 substances)
Existing chemicals approx. 20,000
New chemicals approx. 10,000

Risk Assessment

Prevent Release into Environment
- Manufacture and import Permission (Ban expect for essential use)
- Ban on ordinance-specified products
- Administrative orders for recall from market

Detailed Understanding of uses
- Obligatory notifications on actual manufacture /import quantity, detail on intended use, etc.
- Instructions to investigate harmfulness
- Obligated to make efforts to share information

Control release
- Notifications on quantity manufactured or imported, use.
- Orders to change planned quantities
- Technical guidelines on handling
- Indication that product is designated

Ascertain details of harmfulness, use
- Notifications on quantity manufactured or imported, detailed information by use
- Instructions to investigate harmfulness
- Obligated to make efforts to share information

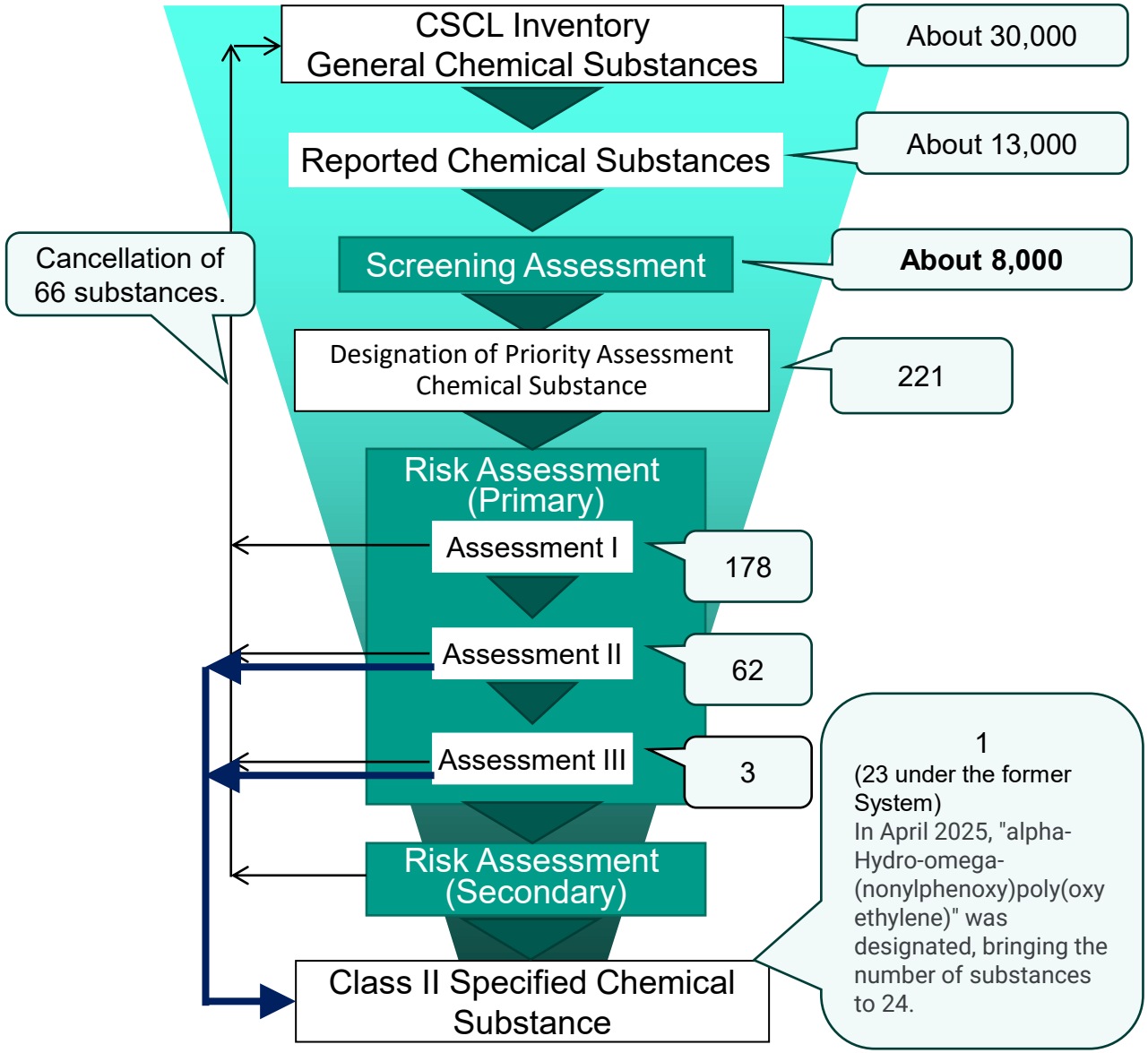
General understanding of Use
- Notifications on quantity manufactured or imported, use, etc.

Update of regulation (Class 1 Specified Chemicals)

- Class 1 Specified Chemicals : Substances that are persistent, highly accumulated, with long-term toxicity to humans or predators of higher trophic.
- incorporating substances under the Stockholm Convention into Japanese Chemical Substances Control Law (CSCL).

Substance	Stockholm Convention	CSCL
Methoxychlor, UV-328, Dechlorane Plus	Annex A (Elimination) of COP11	- Specified “Class 1 Specified Chemicals” in December 2024 (Implemented: Partially in February 2025, fully in June 2025)
PFHxS-related substances	Annex A (Elimination) of COP10	Under revision
Long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds, Medium-chain chlorinated paraffins (MCCPs) , Chlorpyrifos	Annex A (Elimination) of COP12	Under revision

Risk Assessment Flow



Existing chemical substances: about 20,000
New chemical substances examined: about 10,000

With more than 1 t/year per company, notification of manufacture/import volume and simple use

Screen Assessment: Target is national manufacture/import total volume (above 10 tons/year). The priority is judged from CSCL notification information, existing inspection information carried out by the government, literature information collected by the government and reports from operators.

Assessment I: The hazard assessment is conducted using the same information as the screening assessment. The exposure assessment is conducted using only notification information including manufacturing and import quantities. This will allow prioritization for Assessment II.

Assessment II: **Detailed evaluation using PRTR information and monitoring** in addition to manufacturing/import volume and detailed use information

Assessment III: Determine exposure information by requesting handling information, additional monitoring, etc.

Assessment (Secondary) : Examining of hazard information and decision on designation as a Class II Specified Chemical Substance.

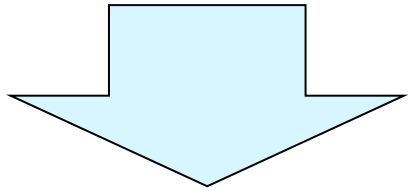
Number of substances as of May 2025

Expert Review on Implementation of CSCL

Chemical Substances Control Law (CSCL)

○Enacted in 1973

○Purpose: (1) To establish a system for evaluating the properties of new chemical substances before their manufacture or import and (2) to implement necessary regulations with respect to the manufacture, import, use, etc. of chemical substances, depending on their properties, etc., in order to prevent environmental pollution caused by chemical substances that pose a risk of harming human health or interfering with the inhabitation and/or growth of flora and fauna.



A council composed of experts reviewed the implementation status of the Chemical Substances Control Law and discussed how measures for future chemical substance management should be taken, including the organization of issues to be considered and measures to be taken for them.

Issues to be considered for measures for future chemical substance management

1. Matters related to the streamlining and advancement of the current system

1-1 Risk assessment
Utilization of New Approach Methodologies (NAMs), rationalization of the risk assessment system, etc.

1-2 System for exception on an evaluation, etc.
Thorough post-evaluation monitoring

1-3 Response to the circular economy with the entire life cycle in mind
Appropriate chemical substance management and information dissemination to promote the use of recycled plastic materials

2. Other matters related to chemical substance management

2-1 Addressing various issues
PFAS response, response to international treaties

2-2 Sustainable chemical substance management
Consideration of incentives for chemical substance management by companies

2-3 Partnerships and capacity development
Contribution to international frameworks, dialogue with stakeholders

4. Recent Trends in PFAS Measures in Japan

Basic direction of PFAS measures

- **Continue to collect scientific knowledge on health effects and technologies for PFAS treatments** both in Japan and overseas while taking scientifically-backed actions and sharing easy-to-understand information.
- Specifically, promote initiatives based on four pillars of **“preventing new releases into the environment,” “preventing the spread of pollution,” “preventing health effects,”** and **“communicating risks”** in close cooperation with the related ministries.

(1) Prevent new releases into the environment
“Do not create or release”

- **Chemicals subject to elimination under the Stockholm Convention** based on a precautionary approach (PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS) are already **prohibited from manufacture and importation under the CSCL.**
- Respond promptly when new chemicals become subject to elimination in the future
- **For Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) containing PFOS, conduct inventory surveys and promote proper management and replacements.**

(2) Prevent the spread of pollution
“Do not spread”

- Strengthen **environmental monitoring**, and if the provisional target value is exceeded, **prevent drinking water and preform additional surveys according to the response guidelines**
- Promote **examination of technological solutions to reduce concentrations** in the environment
- **Consider handling of provisional targets in the water environment** based on surveys of actual levels in food and crops and development status of technology to reduce concentrations

(3) Prevent the health effects
“Do not ingest”*

- **Oral ingestion** has been identified as the **primary** means of human exposure. Measures for drinking water and food are important.
- **Define the direction, including upgrading to drinking water standards.**
- Promote **research utilizing the Environment Research and Technology Development Fund, etc.** on **the relationship between PFAS blood concentrations and health effects.**

*PFOS, etc. in amounts exceeding the tolerable daily intake, target values, etc.

(4) Communicating risks
“Correctly understand”

- **Dissemination of appropriate information while ensuring its transparency and addressing the concerns of local people** as high concentrations of PFAS have been detected in water environment such as rivers and groundwater
- Create and disseminate **a Q&A collection for the public**
- Create **a PFAS handbook** and disseminate it to local governments and other relevant organizations

Recent major initiatives

1. Upgrading to drinking water standards to ensure safe drinking water

- PFOS and PFOA in tap water have been designated as items for setting water quality management targets, and provisional target values have been set for the water quality management. However, it has been **decided to elevate these substances to drinking water quality standards, which water suppliers and related entities are obliged to comply with and inspect, effective from April 2026**.
- **The standard value is 50 ng/L for the combined concentration of PFOS and PFOA.**
- Note that other eight PFAS substances have been designated as items requiring consideration, and information and knowledge about them will be collected.

2. Promotion of the development of technologies to reduce PFAS concentrations

- Various PFAS concentration reduction technologies have begun to be proposed both in Japan and overseas. The Ministry of the Environment is **conducting demonstration projects for PFAS management technologies**, and is working to accumulate knowledge on effective technologies that contribute to concentration reduction.

3. Strengthening the management of Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) containing PFOS

- Manufacture and importation are already prohibited. **As for AFFF containing PFOS remaining in the market, we are working to thoroughly implement its management based on technical standards and other management measures including emergency measures in the event of an accident and reporting to prefectural governors and other relevant authorities**.
- Additionally, we are collaborating with relevant ministries, agencies and organizations to promote the use of alternatives. According to a survey conducted by the Ministry of the Environment, **the use of AFFF containing PFOS has decreased by approximately 45% over the past four years**.
- Furthermore, **we are considering survey methods to grasp the actual status of residual AFFF containing PFOS in private parking lots of office buildings, apartments and other facilities**, with the aim of strengthening the management and promoting the use of alternatives.

4. Enhancing scientific knowledge on health effects and strengthening risk communication

- Promote research utilizing the Environment Research and Technology Development Fund, etc. to enhance scientific knowledge on health effects.。
- Implement accurate and easy-to-understand information dissemination. For example, **a “PFAS Handbook” was created and published in March 2025**.

多谢 / 감사합니다 / Thank You

Contact:
Gen’ichiro TSUKADA / 塚田 源一郎
GENICHIRO_TSUKADA@env.go.jp