



CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Progress Report

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This 11th issue of the Chemicals Management Plan (CMP) Progress Report covers activities between June and December 2018. It also provides information about future events, dates of interest and future engagement opportunities.

The report is produced jointly by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and Health Canada (HC).

For information about the CMP, or to find previous issues of the CMP Progress Report, visit the [Chemical Substances page on the Canada.ca](#) website. You can have the latest news emailed to you by [subscribing](#) through the website. This feature will also let you know how to get involved in information sessions and consultations. Feedback and suggestions can be sent to eccc.substances.eccc@canada.ca.

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Substance Assessment Progress

Since the launch of the CMP in 2006, the Government of Canada has:

- addressed 3,621 of the 4,300 chemicals identified as priorities for attention by 2020–2021, including draft and final assessments;
- found 456 existing chemicals to be harmful to the environment and/or human health;
- implemented over 90 risk management actions for existing chemicals (additional tools are in development); and
- received approximately 6,160 notifications for new substances prior to their introduction into the Canadian market. These notifications have been assessed and over 298 risk management actions have been taken, when necessary, to manage potential risks to Canadians and their environment.

GENERAL NEWS

INFORMATION GATHERING INITIATIVES

Update on Information Gathering

Information gathering continues to be a critical component of CMP by supporting risk assessment and risk management activities. Between August and December 2018, the Government published three notices in the *Canada Gazette* under the information-gathering provisions of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* (CEPA 1999):

The [Notice to provide information for the risk management of 1,4-benzenediamine, N,N'-mixed phenyl and tolyl derivatives \(BENPAT\)](#) (published in August 2018) was gathering information on the current commercial status of this substance.

The [Notice to provide information for the risk management of certain coal tars and their distillates](#) (published in December 2018) is gathering information on activities related to the substance, including roofing and paving.

The [Notice with respect to certain quaternary ammonium compounds in Canadian commerce — Phase 1](#) (published in November 2018) is collecting basic information about the commercial status of approximately 800 quaternary ammonium compounds (QACs). The data will be used to create an inventory of QACs to support priority setting and inform risk assessment.

The Government continues to use targeted voluntary data gathering as a tool to address data needs for substances included in CMP3. Moving forward, stakeholder participation rates

on these voluntary data requests will continue to inform the selection of information gathering approaches in supporting risk assessment and risk management activities.

To inform future data collection activities, the Government solicited feedback on information gathering and supporting activities conducted in CMP3. The feedback indicated that guidance documents and webinars continue to be valuable tools for understanding information requests. Furthermore, challenges were noted with information sharing along the supply chain. The Government is considering voluntary approaches to gather information on how companies manage information on chemical substances along their supply chain. The Government is also continuing to explore how it can respond to supply chain challenges to help promote and enhance information sharing.

Visit the Information Gathering Initiatives [web page](#) for information about ongoing initiatives.

Approach to Promote Transparency in Chemicals Management

In October 2018, the Government of Canada published the [Approach to Disclose Confidential Business Information and Promote Transparency in Chemicals Management](#) (the Approach). The Approach aims to achieve an appropriate balance between transparency and industry's right to protect confidential information in both the new and existing substances programs.

The Approach supports the Government's commitment to transparent risk assessment and risk management decision-making. It outlines the process for claiming confidentiality and establishes the process the Government will follow if it wishes to release certain confidential information publicly.

To help increase awareness of substances in the Canadian market, confidentiality claims for substance identity will be reviewed after a 10-year period. Submitters will be provided the opportunity to update their claim. A pilot project will be initiated in 2019 to validate claims for 23 substances that are part of the third phase of the CMP.

Voluntary Public Engagement Initiative

In its June 2017 report, the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development (the Committee) recommended amendments to CEPA 1999 to legislate greater transparency and public participation in the notification and risk assessments of new substances and organisms. The Government advanced the intent of the Committee's recommendations by launching the [New Substances Voluntary Public Engagement Transparency Initiative](#). This initiative provides an opportunity for the public to provide scientific information to inform the risk assessment for new living organisms by publishing on the web a summary of notification. Two summaries of notification have been published for six new genetically modified (GM) fish notified under the *New Substances Notification Regulations (Organisms)* (NSNR(O)).

New Substances Assessment Summaries

In addition, the Government has begun publishing summaries of risk assessment reports conducted under the New Substances Program for both [chemicals and polymers](#), and [animate products of biotechnology](#). A total of 64 summaries for chemicals and polymers and 6 summaries for animate products of biotechnology have been published to date.

TERMINATION OF THE REVISED IN COMMERCE SUBSTANCES LIST NOMINATION PROCESS

The purpose of this [final notice](#) is to announce the formal end of acceptance of substance nominations to the Revised In Commerce List (R-ICL) on November 3, 2019.

This final notice indicates that the end of acceptance of substance nominations to the R ICL will occur on November 3, 2019, providing stakeholders with one year to conclude the nomination of any outstanding eligible substances to the R-ICL. From November 3, 2019, onward, manufacturers and importers that wish to market a new substance for use in FDA-regulated products in Canada that is not already listed on the R-ICL must submit a notification under the NSNR (Chemicals and Polymers) and NSNR (O).

PROHIBITION OF ASBESTOS AND PRODUCTS CONTAINING ASBESTOS REGULATIONS

The proposed regulations were published on January 6, 2018, in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I for a 75-day public comment period. Comments and information received during the comment period were considered in the development of the final regulations, and are summarized in the Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement.

The Government is taking action by implementing regulations to help protect Canadians from asbestos exposure. The [Prohibition of Asbestos and Products Containing Asbestos Regulations](#) were published on October 17, 2018, in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II: Vol.152, No. 21. These regulations prohibit the import, sale and use of asbestos, as well as the manufacture, import, sale and use of products containing asbestos, with a limited number of exclusions. These regulations are published under the authority of CEPA 1999, and came into force on December 30, 2018.

Because the *Prohibition of Asbestos and Products Containing Asbestos Regulations* are more stringent than existing regulatory controls, the *Asbestos Products Regulations*, under the *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act*, were repealed.

In addition, the [Export of Substances on the Export Control List Regulations](#) have been amended to prohibit the export of all forms of asbestos, whether or not it is contained in a product, with a limited number of exceptions. These amendments and an order adding all forms of asbestos to the Export Control List (Schedule 3 to CEPA 1999), were published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II: Vol. 152, No. 21 on October 17, 2018, and came into force on December 30, 2018. The amendments support the *Prohibition of Asbestos and Products Containing Asbestos Regulations* and also ensure that Canada continues to meet its export obligations under international conventions, including the Rotterdam Convention.

PROPOSED NOTICE REQUIRING THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLLUTION PREVENTION PLANS WITH RESPECT TO TRICLOSAN IN CERTAIN PRODUCTS

On November 24, 2018, the Government of Canada published a Proposed Notice Requiring the Preparation and Implementation of Pollution Prevention Plans (P2 Notice) with Respect to Triclosan in Certain Products in the [Canada Gazette, Part I](#). The proposed P2 Notice was open for a 60-day public comment period, which ended on January 23, 2019.

The P2 Notice would require the preparation and implementation of Pollution Prevention Plans for companies that manufacture or import products that are cosmetics, natural health products or drugs that contain triclosan (excluding those manufactured for export and goods in transit). The objective of the P2 Notice is to reduce the total amount of triclosan released from certain products that are imported into and manufactured in Canada. The final P2 Notice must be published in the *Canada Gazette, Part I*, no later than May 2020.

PROGRAM UPDATES

UPDATE ON THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT RELEASE INVENTORY

For 2017, 7,001 facilities across Canada reported pollutant releases, disposals and transfers to the National Pollutant Release Inventory (NPRI), covering 322 substances.

The reviewed 2017 NPRI data is publicly available in multiple formats on the [NPRI website](#), the [ECCC Data Catalogue](#) and the [Government of Canada's Open Data portal](#). The formats include an online data search (query tool), downloadable tabular datasets and map layers for use with Google Earth™.

As in previous years, the annual Data Highlights are currently available. An innovative new series called NPRI Sector Overview will be published in 2018–2019. This new series will consist of five industry-specific fact sheets, which will promote NPRI data and innovation in environment. The first fact sheet, targeting the [wastewater sector](#), is currently available.

Recent changes were made to the list of reportable substances to ensure it remains current, relevant and supports CMP activities. These changes, which will take effect for reporting of 2018 data, are detailed on the [Report to the National Pollutant Release Inventory program](#) web page.

Work is ongoing to develop proposals for changes to the 2020 requirements to better support the CMP and other ECCC activities. The NPRI Multi-Stakeholder Work Group is consulted on these changes. As the proposals become available, they will be added to the [public consultation](#) web page.

UPDATE ON THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development (ENVI) undertook a review of the provisions and operation of CEPA 1999 and in June 2017 submitted a report to the Government with 87 recommendations on how to improve the Act and its implementation. Over half of the recommendations related to chemicals management. ENVI recommended improvements in the areas of transparency, engagement, information gathering, risk assessment and management. At the end of June 2018, the Government of Canada published a follow-up report in response to ENVI's report that provided details on how the Government would address ENVI's recommendations through program and policy changes. The Government committed to further engagement with stakeholders, increasing transparency where possible, and improving risk assessment and risk management tools. The Government also committed to introducing a bill to amend CEPA 1999 as soon as possible in a future parliament. For more information on the government's commitments on ENVI recommendations, visit the [follow-up report](#) web page.

CMP POST-2020 STRATEGY

Planning for chemicals management in Canada after 2020 is well under way. Building on earlier opportunities, in May and November 2018, multi-stakeholder workshops provided the Government with the opportunity to present and receive feedback on a range of issues under consideration for chemicals management after 2020 with engaged stakeholders. The Government is continuing to seek stakeholder input on key areas. Visit the [Consulting on the future of chemicals management in Canada](#) web page for information on consultation activities and how to get involved, and for additional information.

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF CANADA – AUDIT ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES

On October 2, 2018, the *Fall Report of the Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development* (the Report) was tabled in Parliament. The Report focussed on efforts by ECCC and HC to measure performance of actions to reduce risks from toxic substances and to communicate these risks. The Report also examined ECCC's enforcement of regulations to control risks from toxic substances. The audit concluded that the two departments can better evaluate the effectiveness of risk management actions to control risks to the environment and health and can better communicate the risks of toxic substances.

ECCC and HC acknowledged the recommendations in this audit, and outlined steps to help strengthen the program by improving performance measurement, enforcement and communication to Canadians on the risks from toxic substances. Work is already underway to address these recommendations.

CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

CURRENT CONSULTATIONS

Defining Vulnerable Populations

The purpose of this public consultation was to seek broad input on a proposed definition of vulnerable populations within the context of chemicals management. The Government is engaging stakeholders on this topic because they have expressed an interest in enhancing the consideration of vulnerable populations, linked with the assessment and management of risks associated with certain chemicals.

A definition of vulnerable populations was published for a 60-day public consultation, from November 22, 2018, to January 21, 2019.

The Government recognizes the importance of vulnerable populations by using science as the basis for policy approaches. This definition is a first step towards the development of a policy framework focused on enhancing the protection of vulnerable populations within CMP post-2020 initiatives.

For further information on the consultation, please visit the [Defining vulnerable populations](#) web page.

Proposed Amendments to the *Prohibition of Certain Toxic Substances Regulations, 2012* for PFOS, PFOA, LC-PFCAs, HBCD, PBDEs, DP and DBDPE

The *Prohibition of Certain Toxic Substances Regulations, 2012* (PCTSR) prohibit the manufacture, use, sale, offer for sale or import of multiple toxic substances and products containing these substances with some exemptions.

A consultation document was published on December 20, 2018 to inform stakeholders and solicit their comments on a proposed regulatory approach to amend the PCTSR. The proposed regulatory approach is to remove or provide time limits for exemptions for PFOS, PFOA, LC-PFCAs, PBDEs and HBCD to phase out the use of these substances. It is also proposed to prohibit the manufacture, import, use, sale and offer for sale of DP and DBDPE, and products that contain them, should their final screening assessment reports confirm that they are toxic under section 64 of CEPA 1999.

This consultation was open to a 60-day public comment period, from December 20, 2018 to February 18, 2019. Comments received will be considered in the development of proposed regulatory amendments to the PCTSR.

For further information on the consultation, please visit the [Proposed amendments to the Prohibition of Certain Toxic Substances Regulations](#) web page.

UPCOMING CONSULTATIONS

Informed substitution within Canada's Chemicals Program

The purpose of this public consultation is to seek input on options for advancing informed substitution within the context of chemicals management in Canada. Informed substitution is considered the transition from a chemical of concern to safer chemicals or non-chemical alternatives, and is an internationally recognized strategy for reducing health and environmental risks posed by chemicals. This is a 60-day web-based public consultation, from January 16, 2019, to March 18, 2019. The consultation is expected to garner commentary from industry, health professionals, non-governmental organisations and academia. The request for input is accompanied by two reports defining and describing informed substitution, and describing the landscape of informed substitution nationally and internationally.

For further information on the consultation, please visit the [Informed substitution within Canada's chemicals program](#) web page.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

CMP Stakeholder Advisory Council

The CMP Stakeholder Advisory Council (the Council) is a stakeholder group that contributes to the implementation of the CMP. The Council meets twice per year. The November 2018 meeting included topics such as vulnerable populations, workplace exposures to chemicals, a new approach to prioritizing chemicals for assessment in CMP post-2020 and others. The [Council's web page](#) provides summary reports of its meetings and activities.

CMP Multi-Stakeholder Workshop

The CMP Multi-Stakeholder Workshop is a venue for an exchange of information and ideas between Government and stakeholders and among different stakeholder groups. The objective is to provide stakeholders with an opportunity to engage, follow and contribute to CMP activities. This workshop produced a record number of participants via webcast (70+) with another 100 people in the room, and drew an exceptional amount of thoughtful and important discussion to help grow and continue the success of the CMP.

The November 2018 workshop featured discussions on chemicals, workplace exposure, the renewal of the CMP and international opportunities for post-2020. There was also a focus on chemicals of potential concern in products, with discussions on supply chain transparency and the tools that are available, as well as on how the shift to safer product chemistries can be supported, and how consumers can be informed and engaged with regards to chemicals of potential concern.

The workshop is offered twice per year and focuses on consultations on current and future CMP topics. Planning is under way for the next workshop, which is scheduled for spring 2019.

Retailers Workshop on Informed Substitution

A workshop for retailers and large purchasers was held on November 29, 2018, in Ottawa to discuss informed substitution (i.e., the transition from a chemical of concern to safer chemicals or non-chemical alternatives). Select industry associations and NGOs were also in attendance. The focus of this workshop was to discuss how retailers currently take choices about safer chemicals, and what they would need in the future to help them take decisions. Discussions focused on existing online tools available to industry and retailers to increase access to information about chemicals in supplies to help inform decisions about the use of safer chemicals, the complexity of considerations relevant to making informed choices about “safer” chemicals, innovation in safer chemicals for products that replace hazardous chemicals, voluntary ingredient disclosure and labelling programs.

CMP Science Committee

The CMP Science Committee held its second meeting on July 18 and 19, 2018, where it discussed endocrine disruptor chemicals. The [summary report](#) of the meeting was published in February 2019.

The third committee meeting took on November 28 and 29, 2018, and focused on a public health approach to chemicals management in Canada. The summary report of the meeting will be published in summer 2019. Planning is under way for the next meeting, which is scheduled for June 2019.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ACCELERATING THE PACE OF CHEMICAL RISK ASSESSMENT (APCRA)

New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) for chemical hazard, exposure and risk assessment are emerging tools that have the potential to increase the throughput of chemicals testing and bring robustness and/or mechanistic knowledge to chemical assessment. Before these methodologies can be adopted for use in regulatory decision-making there is a need to ensure that they provide appropriate protection levels for human health and the environment. The APCRA is an important international effort co-led by the United States (U.S.) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and HC that is focused on identifying and overcoming barriers to regulatory acceptance of NAMs through collaborative case studies and coordination at the international level.

HC hosted the third annual meeting of the APCRA in October 2018. The main objectives of the meeting were to review progress on a number of case studies that were specifically developed during the previous two meetings to build confidence in NAM application, expand the portfolio of case studies to include ecotoxicological examples and discuss future directions of APCRA.

For the first time, this meeting included an open public session in which 120 attendees ranging from academia, international and state Governments, industry and non-Governmental

organisations participated via remote access. This session served as a key opportunity to share progress and findings to date with public stakeholders.

The next meeting is planned for October 2019, to be hosted by the U.S. EPA.

JOINT WORKSHOP ON CANADIAN EXPOSURE DATA AND LINKAGES TO THE INFORMATION PLATFORM FOR CHEMICAL MONITORING (IPCHEM)

IPCHEM is a monitoring platform, developed and hosted by the European Commission's Director General (DG) Joint Research Centre. This platform provides a single access point for locating and retrieving chemical monitoring data collection. A workshop was co-organized by HC and the European Commission's DG Joint Research Centre in September 2018 to explore opportunities to expand IPCHEM's platform to include Canadian exposure data and to discuss the logistics of data sharing. In order to explore opportunities, workshop participants focused discussions and presentations on the different types of chemical monitoring data compiled by various groups and ways to increase use and/or access to the data, including potential integration/links with IPCHEM where appropriate.

MINAMATA CONVENTION ON MERCURY

The Minamata Convention is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from human-generated emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds. As over 95% of the mercury pollution resulting from human activity that is deposited in Canada comes from foreign sources, Canada is a strong proponent of international action on mercury.

The Second Conference of the Parties of the Minamata Convention on Mercury Mercury ([the Conference of the Parties](#)) was held from November 19 to 23, 2018, in Geneva, Switzerland. Canada actively participated in this meeting to encourage early and effective implementation of the treaty.

The Conference of the Parties adopted guidance on environmentally sound storage of mercury and mercury compounds. Good progress was made on other technical issues relating to releases, contaminated sites, waste and an effectiveness evaluation of the treaty, including the establishment of expert groups to work on these topics during the intersessional period.

The Third Conference of the Parties will be held in Geneva in November 2019.

CANADA AND THE ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)

The 58th meeting of the OrganisationOECD Joint Meeting of the Chemicals Committee and the Working Party on Chemicals, Pesticides and Biotechnology (the OECD Joint Meeting) took place from November 6 to 8, 2018.

The OECD Joint Meeting activities support Canada's domestic work on chemicals management. This is demonstrated by the extent of our experts' involvement in international activities at the OECD and Canada's respected position and influence among other OECD member countries.

The meeting focused on recent developments in chemicals programs globally as well as post-2020 discussions.

Work within the OrganisationOECD Chemicals Programme helps government regulators involved in managing chemicals operate more efficiently and effectively.

Canada's engagement in this forum seeks cooperation in three major areas: scientific coordination and assessment of chemicals; information and data sharing; and the development of methodologies, technical approaches and guidance.

Participation within the OrganisationOECD helps Canada establish strong linkages between international results or activities and its own domestic programs under the CMP.

ASSESSMENT COLLABORATION FRAMEWORK BETWEEN THE U.S. EPA, ECCC, AND HC

The Assessment Collaboration Framework (ACF) facilitates and enhances collaboration between the U.S. EPA and Canada for the risk assessment of chemicals within their respective legislative and regulatory contexts. The ACF is implemented through a rolling work plan that includes timelines and expected outcomes for specific work items. Current work items under the [rolling work plan](#) include sharing lessons learned for priority-setting approaches, sharing the crosswalk of existing risk assessment guidance and tools/approaches, and work sharing on common chemical priorities (e.g., 1-bromopropane).

DELEGATION FROM CHINA'S MINISTRY OF ECOLOGY AND ECCC

On November 2, 2018, ECCC hosted four delegates from China's Ministry of Ecology and Environment for a half-day expert-level meeting on chemicals management. The meeting focused on sharing experiences in implementation and progress to date of respective chemicals programs. These exchanges are part of the ongoing work under the Canada-China Joint Committee on Environmental Cooperation (JCEC). The last meeting of the JCEC was held in Vancouver on March 13 to 14, 2018, during which ECCC and the Ministry of Ecology and Environment agreed to a work plan to guide bilateral cooperation over the coming years, including on chemicals management.

BRAZIL DELEGATION VISITS HC AND ECCC

HC hosted three members of the Brazilian Health Ministry in September 2018 who visited Ottawa to learn more about Canada's experience with chemicals management. With the cooperation of ECCC and the Pest Management Regulatory Agency, colleagues across the Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety Branch presented a four-day workshop for their Brazilian guests.

The workshops included an overview of the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999, CEPA 1999 and the Chemicals Management Plan (CMP), as well as in-depth presentations on prioritization, risk assessment, risk management, stakeholder engagement, biomonitoring, performance measurement and planning for post-2020.

Future engagement is likely as Brazil's own chemicals management regime is being reviewed/examined by the country's National Congress.

UPDATE ON THE INTERSESSIONAL PROCESS ON THE STRATEGIC APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT (SAICM) MEETINGS

In 2015, an intersessional process was set into motion by the Fourth Session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management to develop recommendations for the SAICM and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020.

Following two intersessional process meetings (Brasilia, Brazil in February 2017, and Stockholm, Sweden in March 2018), the Co-Chairs prepared a document outlining potential options and considerations for a global framework for chemicals and waste beyond 2020, including such elements as a vision, policy principles, objectives and targets, institutional mechanisms and implementation arrangements.

A draft of this document was released on December 10, 2018, and will be finalized for consideration at the third meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG3), scheduled for April 2 to 4, 2019, in Uruguay. A stakeholder webinar will be held in advance of this meeting to help inform the Canadian position. Following OEWG3, it is expected that there will be a third, and possibly fourth, meeting for the intersessional process to refine recommendations to be considered at the Fifth Session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management in October 2020 (Germany).

For more information and updates on the SAICM and the intersessional process, please visit the [Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 - The Intersessional Process](#) web page.

SECOND EDITION OF THE GLOBAL CHEMICALS OUTLOOK (GCO-II)

Canada has been actively involved on the Steering Committee for the development of the second edition of the GCO-II, a flagship publication developed by United Nations Environment (UNE) on the changing global landscape of chemicals.

The GCO-II builds on the first edition published in 2013 and highlights current trends and future projections related to the production, use, trade, release, fate and management of chemicals—including certain initiatives and successes related to CMP. The report also evaluates existing international policy frameworks, explores new opportunities for concerted action for the sound management of chemicals and waste leading up to and beyond 2020, and draws linkages to the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

The full GCO-II report, expected to be released in April 2019, will be accompanied by a Summary for Policy-makers, a key piece that will outline key trends and options for action to accelerate the pace for the sound management of chemicals for the world.

SECOND MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON POLLUTANT RELEASE AND TRANSFER REGISTERS

The OECD Working Group on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs) held its second meeting on November 5 to 6, 2018, in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting was aimed at updating the progress of ongoing projects as well as new work items on PRTRs.

THIRD GLOBAL ROUND TABLE ON POLLUTANT RELEASE AND TRANSFER REGISTERS (PRTRS)

The third Global Round Table on PRTRs was held on November 7 to 8, 2018, in Geneva, Switzerland. The event was organized under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the OECD, in cooperation with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). The round table fostered exchange between Governments and different stakeholders on PRTR-related issues. The presentations and discussions during the event centred on good practices, common challenges and new opportunities related to the further development of PRTRs.

SIXTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE PARTIES TO THE PROTOCOL ON POLLUTANT RELEASE AND TRANSFER REGISTERS

The sixth meeting of the UNECE Working Group of the Parties to the Protocol on PRTRs was held on November 9, 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland. The working group considered a number of subjects, including the development of the Protocol, progress in implementing the work programs and financial matters, compliance and reporting mechanisms, and promotion and capacity building.

REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA ON THE POLLUTANT RELEASE AND TRANSFER REGISTERS

The International Affairs Branch and the Science and Technology Branch hosted a Regional Workshop on PRTRs on December 6 in Lima, Peru. Seven countries from Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Peru) representing 85% of the population were in attendance. Also in attendance were members of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the Commission for Environmental Cooperation.

The objective of this meeting was to present ECCC's Single Window electronic reporting system and engage Latin American countries on the advantages of having a PRTR, stakeholder engagement and the various challenges they are facing during the development and implementation of their respective PRTRs.

THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPS)

The Stockholm Convention is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from POPs. POPs are defined as organic chemicals that are persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic to the environment and/or health. POPs are transported long distances, usually to the Arctic, where they accumulate. Given their long-range transport, no single Government can protect its citizens or its environment from these pollutants alone. In response to this global problem, the Stockholm Convention requires Parties to take measures to eliminate or severely restrict the release of these pollutants into the environment. The Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC) at its fourteenth meeting in September 2018, recommended to the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention that it consider listing pentadecafluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), its salts and PFOA-related compounds in Annex A to the Convention, with specific exemptions. The POPRC also adopted the Risk Profile for perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), its salts and PFHxS-related compounds and concluded that it meets the POPs criteria. In addition, the POPRC evaluated the continued need for exemptions currently listed for perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride (PFOSF). The POPRC recommended to the Conference of the Parties that it consider amending the current listing by adding time limitations or removing acceptable purposes and further defining the scope or conditions. The POPRC recommendations will be considered at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention, to be held from April 29 to May 3, 2019. All work carried out at the last POPRC meeting is publicly available online. For information on the Stockholm Convention, see the [Stockholm Convention web page](#).

PUBLICATIONS AND NOTICES

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

December 20, 2018: The [consultation Document on proposed amendments to the Prohibition of Certain Toxic Substances Regulations, 2012](#) for PFOS, PFOA, LC-PFCAs, HBCD, PBDEs, DP and DBDPE was published.

November 24, 2018: A [proposed notice requiring the preparation and implementation of pollution prevention plans with respect to triclosan in certain products](#) was published for public comment until January 23, 2019.

November 10, 2018: A [notice requiring the preparation and implementation of pollution prevention plans in respect of hydrazine related to the electricity sector](#) was published.

October 17, 2018: The [Prohibition of Asbestos and Products Containing Asbestos Regulations](#) were published and came into force on December 30, 2018. The [Asbestos Products Regulations](#) were repealed when these new regulations came into force. In addition, the [Export of Substances on the Export Control List Regulations](#) were amended and the [Order Amending Schedule 3 of CEPA 1999 \(the Export Control List\)](#) was published. Both also came into force on December 30, 2018.

October 13, 2018: A notice of intent to amend the *Prohibition of Certain Toxic Substances Regulations, 2012* was published.

July 14, 2018: A proposed notice requiring the preparation and implementation of pollution prevention plans in respect of reaction products of 2-propanone with diphenylamine (PREPOD), CAS RN 68412-48-6, in industrial effluents was published.

RECENT SIGNIFICANT NEW ACTIVITY PUBLICATIONS

November 24, 2018: Significant New Activity (SNAc) Notice No. 19655 for the substance benzaldehyde, reaction products with polyalkylenepolyamines, hydrogenated, Confidential Accession No. 18498-3, under the CEPA 1999, was published.

November 24, 2018: SNAc Notice No. 19673 for the substance 2-propenenitrile, reaction products with alkylenediamine, hydrogenated, N-benzyl derivs., Confidential Accession No. 19155-3, under CEPA 1999, was published.

November 24, 2018: SNAc Notice No. 19584 for the substance 1-tetradecene homopolymer, hydrogenated, Chemical Abstract Service Registry No. 1857296-89-9, under CEPA 1999 was published.

September 22, 2018: SNAc Notice No. 19443 for the substance siloxanes and silicones, di-Me, mono[3-[(2-methyl-1-oxo-2-propenyl)oxy]propyl] group-terminated, polymers with Bu methacrylate, 2-ethylhexyl acrylate and Me methacrylate, Chemical Abstracts Service Registry No. 756819-45-1, under CEPA 1999 was published.

July 28, 2018: A Notice of Intent to apply the Significant New Activity (SNAc) provisions of CEPA 1999 to phenacetin was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on September 26, 2018.

September 1, 2018: A Notice of Intent to apply the SNAc provisions of CEPA 1999 to monoglyme was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on October 30, 2018.

November 3, 2018: A Notice of Intent to apply the SNAc provisions of CEPA to diglyme and triglyme was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on January 2, 2019.

December 15, 2018: A Notice of Intent to apply the SNAc provisions of CEPA to calcium 2-ethylhexanoate was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on February 13, 2019.

December 15, 2018: A Notice of Intent to apply the SNAc provisions of CEPA to 14 substances from the rapid screening of substances with limited general population exposure was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on February 13, 2019.

DRAFT SCREENING ASSESSMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT SCOPES (WHEN NEEDED)

January 19, 2019: The Draft Screening Assessment for the Ketones Group and the Risk Management Scope for MEK, MIBK and 2,4-PD were published for a 60-day public comment period ending March 20, 2019.

January 5, 2019: [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Pigments and Dyes Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on March 6, 2019.

December 8, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Triarylmethanes Group and the Risk Management Scope for Basic Violet 3 and Basic Violet 4](#) were published for a 60-day public comment period ending February 6, 2019.

December 8, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment and Risk Management Scope for Talc](#) were published for a 60-day public comment period ending February 6, 2019.

November 24, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Epoxides and Glycidyl Ethers Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on January 23, 2019.

November 10, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Poly\(amines\) Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on January 9, 2019.

November 3, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Anthraquinones Group and the Risk Management Scope for Solvent Violet-13](#) were published for a 60-day public comment period ending January 2, 2019.

October 6, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment for Base Oils](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on December 5, 2018.

October 2, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment and Risk Management Scope for Benzophenone](#) were published on August 4, 2018 for a 60-day public comment period ending October 2, 2018.

September 15, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Nitro Musks Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on November 14, 2018.

September 15, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Antimony-containing Substances Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on November 14, 2018.

September 1, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Furan Compounds Group and and the Risk Management Scope for Furfuryl Alcohol and Tetrahydrofuran](#) were published for a 60-day public comment period ending October 30, 2018.

August 18, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Commercial Naphthenic Acids Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on October 17, 2018.

August 8, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment for the Fatty Acids and Derivatives Group](#) was published for a 60-day public comment period ending on October 17, 2018.

August 4, 2018: [The Draft Screening Assessment and Risk Management Scope for Benzophenone](#) were published for a 60-day public comment period ending October 2, 2018.

FINAL SCREENING ASSESSMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT APPROACHES

December 22, 2018: [The Final Screening Assessment for Eugenol and Ioeugenol Derivatives Group](#) was published.

December 15, 2018: [The Final Screening Assessment for the Rapid Screening of Substances with Limited General Population Exposure](#) was published.

December 15, 2018: [The Final Screening Assessment for Calcium 2-ethylhexanoate and 2-ethylhexyl-2-ethylhexanoate and the Risk Management Approach for 2-ethylhexyl-2-ethylhexanoate](#) were published for a 60-day public comment period ending on February 13, 2019.

November 23, 2018: [The Final Screening Assessment for the Poly\(bios\) Group](#) was published.

November 3, 2018: [The Final Screening Assessment for 72 Substances identified as being of low concern](#) was published.

October 19, 2018: [The Final Screening Assessment for the Thiols Group](#) was published.

September 28, 2018: [The Final Screening Assessment for the Acrylates and Methacrylates Group](#) was published.

September 1, 2018: [The Final Screening Assessment for the Ethylene Glycol Ethers Group](#) was published.

August 25, 2018: [The Final Screening Assessment for the Sector-specific Inorganic UVCBs Group](#) was published.

August 4, 2018: [The Final Screening Assessment for Bacillus cereus strain ATCC 14579 and Bacillus subtilis strain 11685-3 \(Bacillus cereus\)](#) was published.

COMING SIGNIFICANT NEW ACTIVITY PUBLICATIONS

A Notice of Intent to amend the Domestic Substances List to apply the significant new activity provisions of the CEPA 1999 to the substance hexanedioic acid, diisodecyl ester, also known as DIDA, Chemical Abstract Services (CAS) Registry No. 27178-16-1.

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