

# **CHEMICAL WATCH'S REGULATORY SUMMIT LATIN AMERICA 2021**

**Regulatory Cooperation across the Americas**

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# DRIVERS FOR OUR INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Domestic efforts alone are not sufficient to effectively protect the population from risks that originate from abroad.

By working with other jurisdictions, and organizations, Governments are able to advance science, fill data needs, access best available science and develop internationally recognized approaches to make better informed decisions.

The ultimate goal is to strengthen protections while also advancing sound management of chemicals and waste around the globe





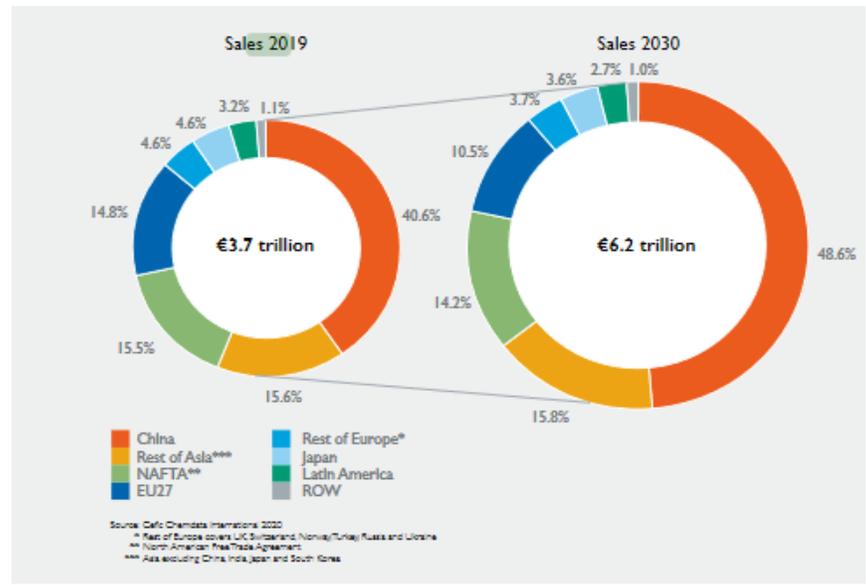
# CHEMICALS

Rapid growth in chemical production and use is coupled with a shift to non-OECD countries often lacking adequate chemicals management regimes

### World chemicals sales by region, 2009 vs 2019



### Growth in world chemicals sales, 2019-2030





# PRODUCTS

Global supply chains are increasingly complex

Harmful chemicals in imported items can undermine domestic efforts

Recycling of source materials can often be challenging due to chemical contamination

Where countries import from the most\*

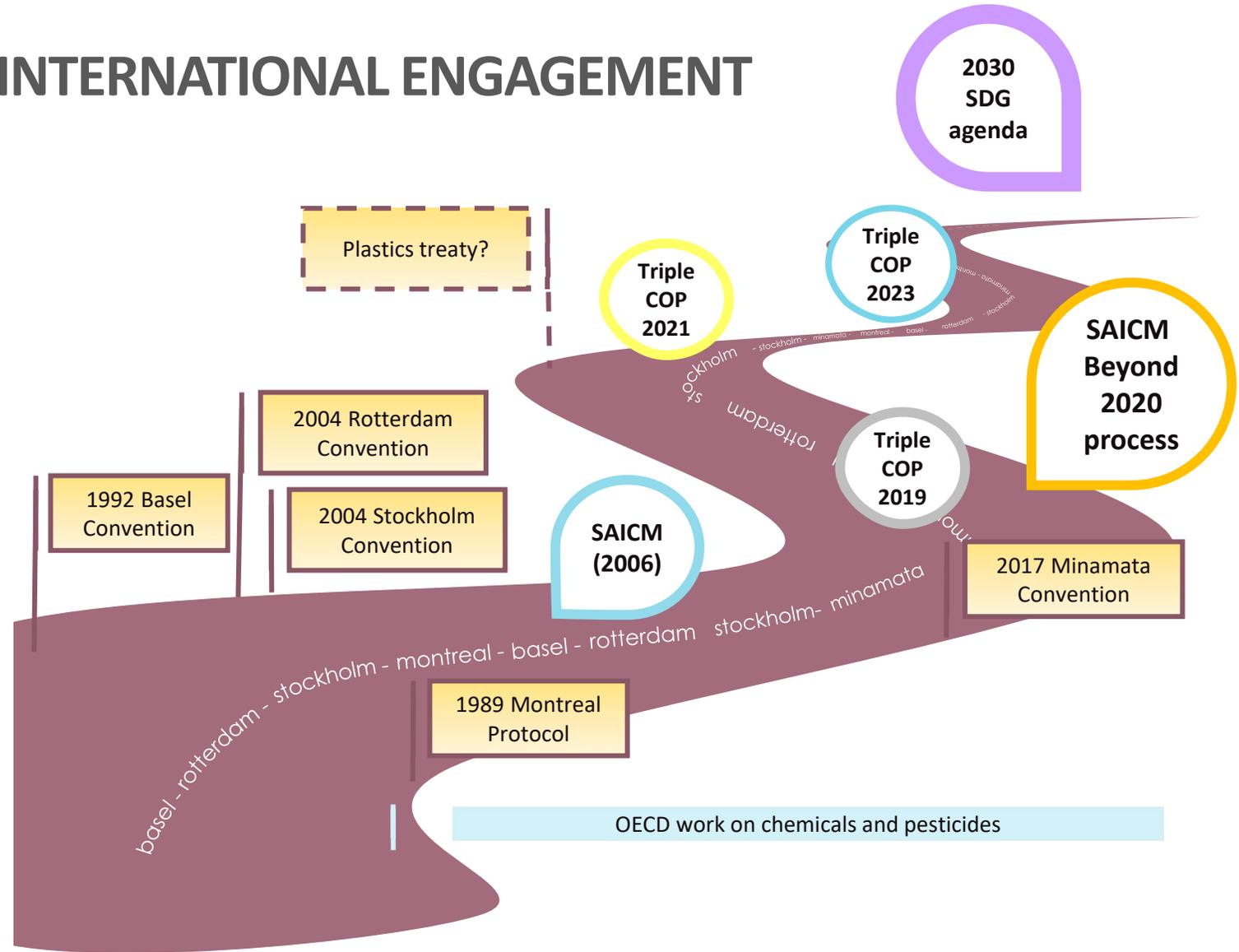


*\* not specific to chemical imports*

Global supply chain of a typical laptop computer



# ACTIVE, ONGOING INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT



# THE OPPORTUNITY TO EFFECT CHANGE AT HOME AND ABROAD



- Global dynamics for chemicals and waste are evolving, and international activities and mechanisms must continuously adapt in response
- By engaging internationally, Canada, positions itself to contribute to technical advancement, create opportunities, respond to challenges and influence global actions that will better protect Canadians and their environment, including strengthening of chemicals management in other countries.



# EXISTING VENUES



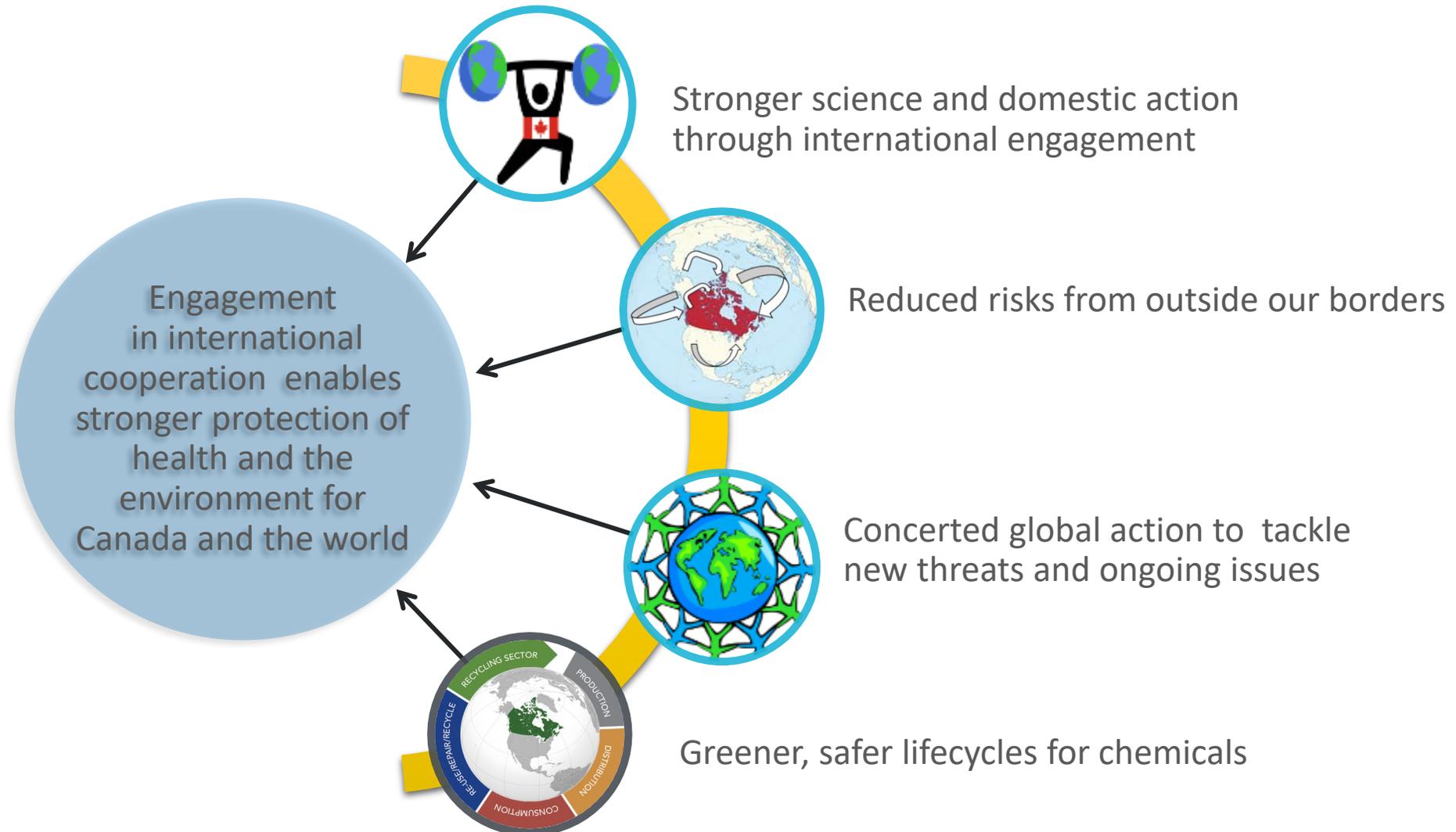
- The global chemicals and waste conventions on POPs, mercury, hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade, waste, and ozone depleting substances, with legally-binding commitments represent ongoing actions and engagement (see Annex A)
- The Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), a voluntary, multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral policy framework to advance chemicals management globally (see Annex B), with broad engagement opportunities and activities
- Cooperation through international organizations, initiatives and scientific/technical bodies (e.g., OECD, WHO, UNEP) (see Annex C), including dynamic workplans, evolving work
- Actions through multilateral and regional fora to address marine litter and plastic waste (e.g., UNEA, UNEP, G7, G20, OECD)
- Bilateral and regional cooperation, including providing expertise, technical support, capacity building (e.g., bilaterally – EU, US, China, Brazil; regionally – Pan American Health Organization) (see Annex D)

# GLOBAL ACTION ON CHEMICALS AND WASTE BEYOND 2020



- Concurrent to CMP Post-2020 planning, global discussions are taking place on what “sound management of chemicals and waste”
- The SAICM Intersessional Process will offer recommendations of the SAICM Open-ended working group
- Continued evolution of chemicals and waste conventions (including new listings of POPs to the Stockholm Convention), and implementation of obligations
- New/evolving initiatives with linkages to the chemicals and waste agenda (e.g. plastics agenda, WHO Chemicals Road Map, High Ambition Alliance, circular economy, Global Pact for Environment)
- Bilateral and multilateral scientific and technical collaboration will continue to support domestic and international efforts.
- Recent capacity building work, MERCOSUR, Columbia, Costa Rica, Peru and Brazil

# Desired outcomes of international engagement





# STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS BEING EXPLORED, BUILDING ON EXISTING REGULATORY AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION



| Strengthen Canada's implementation   | Advance chemicals management abroad  | Enable concerted global action   | Encourage greener, safer lifecycles for chemicals  |
|--|--|--|--|
| Leverage international activities to increase our effectiveness, efficiency and accelerate our actions on chemicals  | Share Canada's expertise in chemicals management with others   | Strengthen and influence the identification of global priorities for attention                     | Encourage innovation towards safer, greener design, chemistries and products   |
| Seek opportunities to promote global sharing of science and best practices (e.g., sharing of risk assessments within the OECD, new approach methodologies) | Support international efforts on capacity building for chemicals management                                    | Promote effective governance structures for management of issues/challenges                        | Promote lifecycle approaches that increase transparency and traceability of chemicals and avoid recycling of harmful chemicals into new products |
| Learn from other leading countries and adapt for the Canadian context  | Partner with other jurisdictions to tackle shared issues (e.g. imported articles containing harmful chemicals) | Elevate chemicals and waste on the international agenda to promote action to reduce risks globally | Promote progressive trade that reinforces chemicals management objectives  |



## ANNEX A: LEGALLY-BINDING AGREEMENTS

- *Vienna Convention* for the protection of the ozone layer and its Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the ozone layer (Jan 1989)
- *Basel Convention* on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste and their Disposal (May 1992)
- *Rotterdam Convention* on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (Feb 2004)
- *Stockholm Convention* on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) (May 2004)
- *Minamata Convention* on Mercury (August 2017)
- *UNECE Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution* (LRTAP), Protocols on POPs (Oct 2003) and Heavy Metals (Dec 2003)



## ANNEX B: STRATEGIC APPROACH FOR INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT (SAICM)

- Voluntary, multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder policy framework established to support the goal of the sound management of chemicals and waste
- Overseen by the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM)
- Broad in scope – includes all chemicals at all stages of their lifecycle, including in products<sup>1</sup>, and covers the environmental, economic, social, health and labour aspects of chemical safety
- Five Strategic Objectives: Risk reduction; Knowledge and information; Governance; Capacity building and technical cooperation; and preventing illegal international traffic
- Also works on selected “emerging policy issues” and “other issues of concern”, and is sometimes described as a means for filling the gaps between other international efforts related to chemicals management

<sup>1</sup> Except where already regulated by a food or pharmaceutical authority



## ANNEX C: INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, INITIATIVES AND SCIENTIFIC/TECHNICAL BODIES

- **OECD:** Canada engages with the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development Environmental Health and Safety Programme on Chemical and Biosafety. This group brings together technical experts that collaborate to make chemical control policies more transparent and efficient while saving resources for government and industry.
- **UNEP:** Canada is actively involved in the many facets of the UN Environment's work on chemicals and waste towards the sound management of chemicals and waste, including through activities and resolutions of the UN Environment Assembly, the Global Chemicals Outlook report, and other UNEP-led activities.
- **WHO:** Canada actively engages with the World Health Organisation's Chemical Safety Programme through a Collaborative Arrangement and participates in the WHO Chemical Risk Assessment Network and the WHO Global Chemicals and Health Network.

# ANNEX D: BILATERAL COOPERATION



- European Union
  - MoU with the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) to enhance technical cooperation on chemicals;
  - CAN-EU High Level Dialogue
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
  - Multiple formal and informal venues for bilateral cooperation
- Australia
  - Cooperative arrangement with the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) to enhance technical cooperation and sharing of information on industrial chemicals
- China
  - MOU on Environmental cooperation, includes cooperation on chemicals in products; greener supply chains; RM actions on transboundary pollutants; emerging issues
- Brazil
  - MOU on Health cooperation in place, includes cooperation on chemicals

# ANNEX E: ACRONYMS



|       |   |
|-------|---|
| Cefic | European Chemical Industry Council (formerly Conseil Européen des Fédérations de l'Industrie Chimique)                  |
| ICCM  | International Conference on Chemicals Management (SAICM overseeing body)  |
| G7    | Group of Seven of the world's advanced economies: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the US |
| G20   | International forum for the governments and central bank governors of the world's 20 major economies                    |
| MEA   | Multilateral environmental agreement  |
| OECD  | Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development  |
| OEWG  | Open ended working group  |
| POPs  | Persistent organic pollutants   |
| SAICM | Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management  |
| UNEA  | United Nations Environment Assembly   |
| UNEP  | United Nations Environment (Programme)  |
| WHO   | World Health Organisation   |
| WSSD  | World Summit on Sustainable Development   |

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