

Recent Trends in Japan's Chemical Substances Control Law

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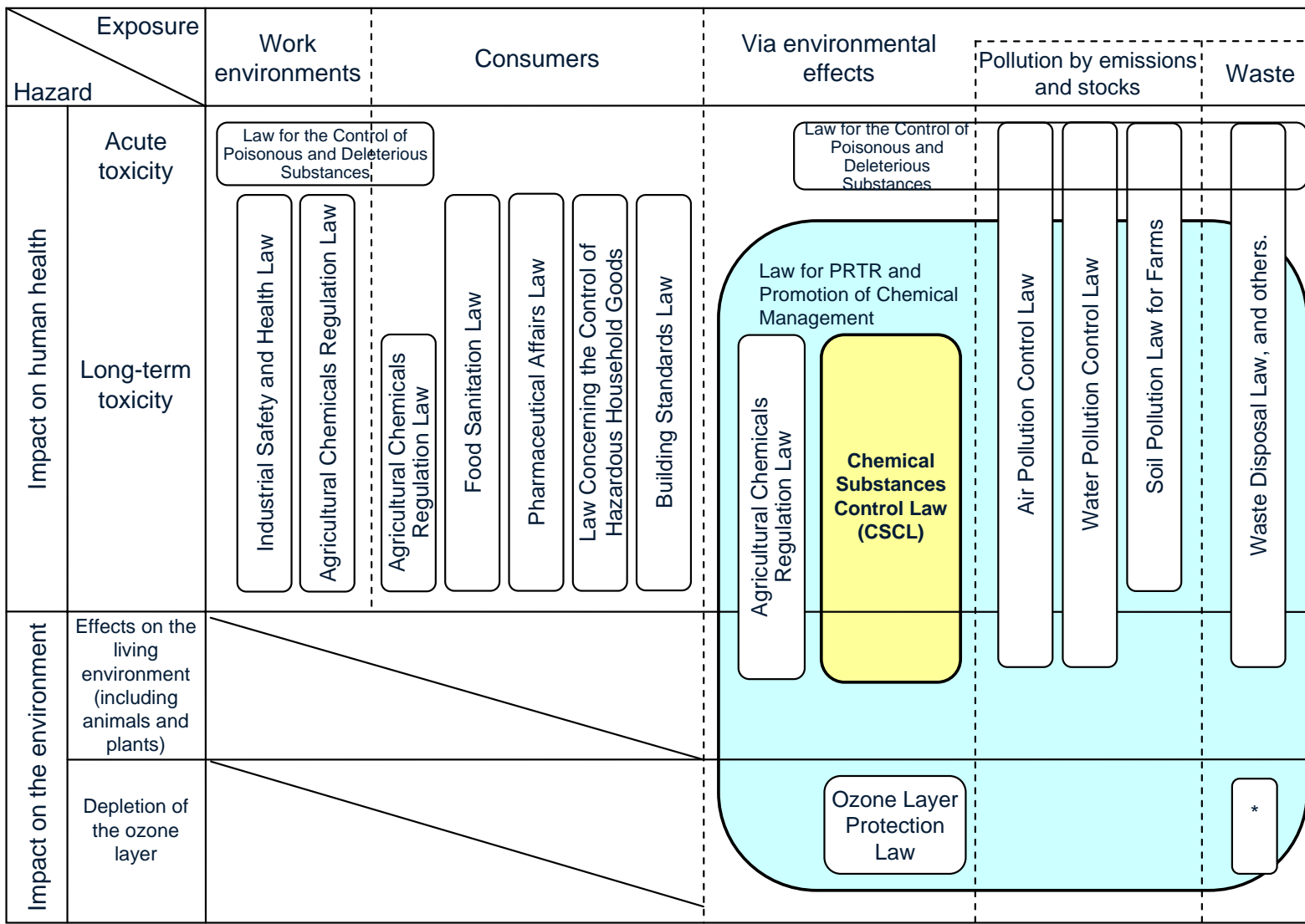
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Japan's Chemicals Regulation Overview



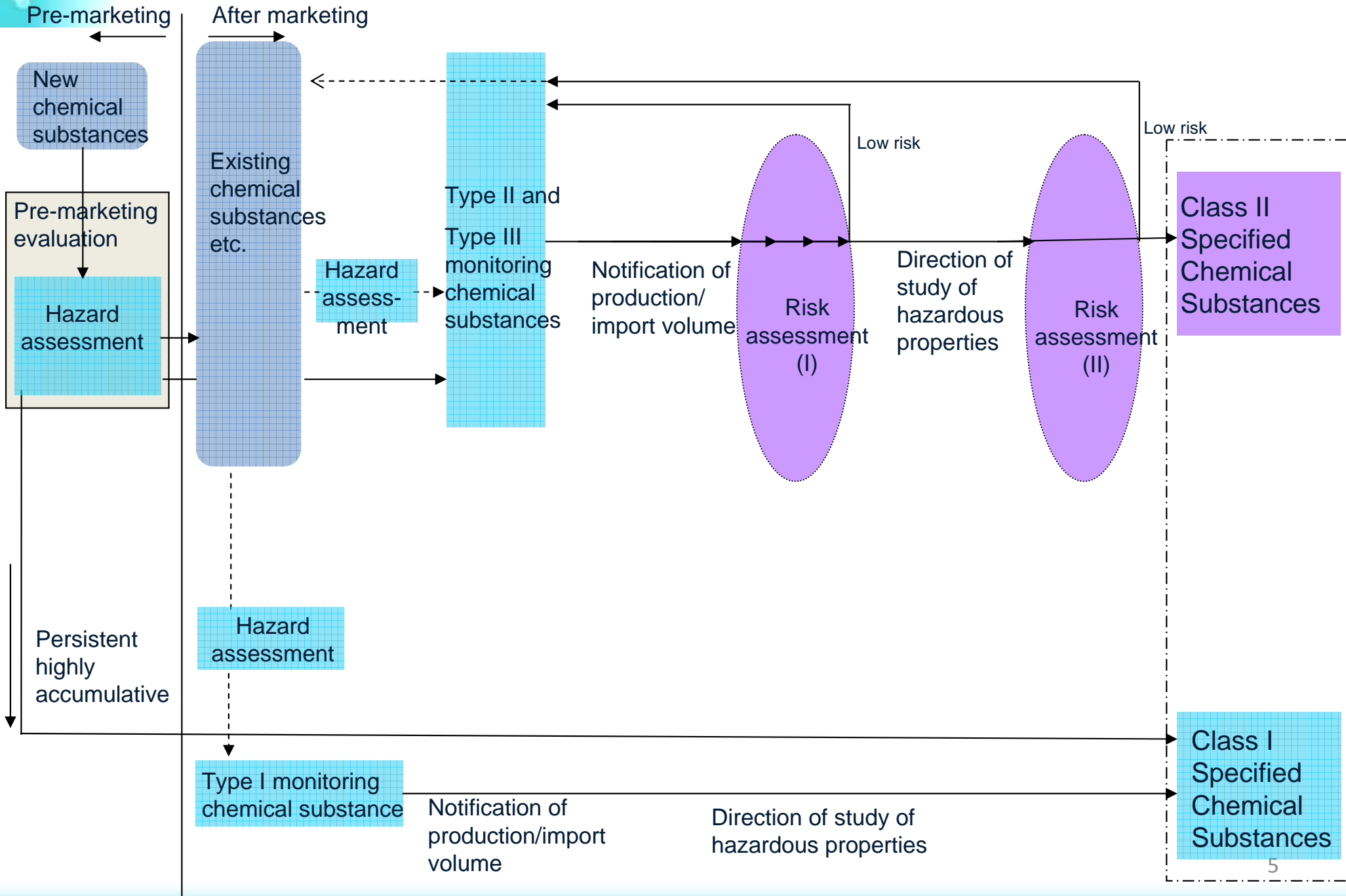
* Measures have been taken to collect CFCs contained in specific products in laws such as the Freon Collection & Destruction Law.



Chemical Substances Control Law (CSCL)

- Established in 1973, amended in 1986 and 2003
- Aiming to prevent pollution of environment and adverse effects on humans or the environment by PCBs and other hazardous chemicals
- Based on two pillars:
 - Prior evaluation of new chemicals
 - Regulation on manufacture/import and use
- Excluded: specific chemicals covered by other regulations e.g. agrochemicals, pharmaceuticals, food, fertilizers

Current CSCL



On-going review of CSCL

- CSCL is required to be reviewed every 5 years after the 2003 Amendment
 - Article 6, Supplementary Provisions

Schedule

2008	Jan 31	Established Joint committee for the Review of the CSCL
		Committee met three times WG under the committee met four times
	Oct 31-Dec 1	Open for public comments on a draft joint committee report
	Dec 22	Compiled and released the Committee report
2009	Feb	A bill to amend the CSCL was submitted to the Diet
2020	Spring-Summer ?	Diet Approval → Publish law
		Publish implementation regulations (Cabinet/Ministerial order)
		Step by step enforcement
		WSSD goal



Background of the amendment (1)

- Increase of public interest in safety & security of chemical substances
- Achievement of international goals
 - WSSD 2020 goal: minimize risk of all chemical substances
 - Enforcement of REACH in 2007
 - Current CSCL assesses all new chemical substances
 - On the other hand, the assessment of existing chemical substances are not completed



Background of the amendment (2)

- Harmonization with the international treaty
 - Exempted uses of the newly prohibited chemicals is expected to be accepted by Stockholm Convention
 - Current CSCL is more restrictive and may fail to ensure the essential use in Japan



Outline of the amendment (1)

- Comprehensive chemical management system
 - 1) Companies are required to **periodically notify quantity** and other info of all chemical substances (including existing chemicals) in excess of certain amount
 - 2) Government designates “**Priority Assessment Chemical Substances**” based on the notification and available knowledge



Outline of the amendment (2)

- Comprehensive chemical management system
 - 3) Manufacturers/importers may be required to submit hazard properties of the Priority Assessment Chemical Substances. Companies handling them may be required to report usage.
 - 4) Non-persistent chemical substances, which are not controlled by current CSCL, will be covered.

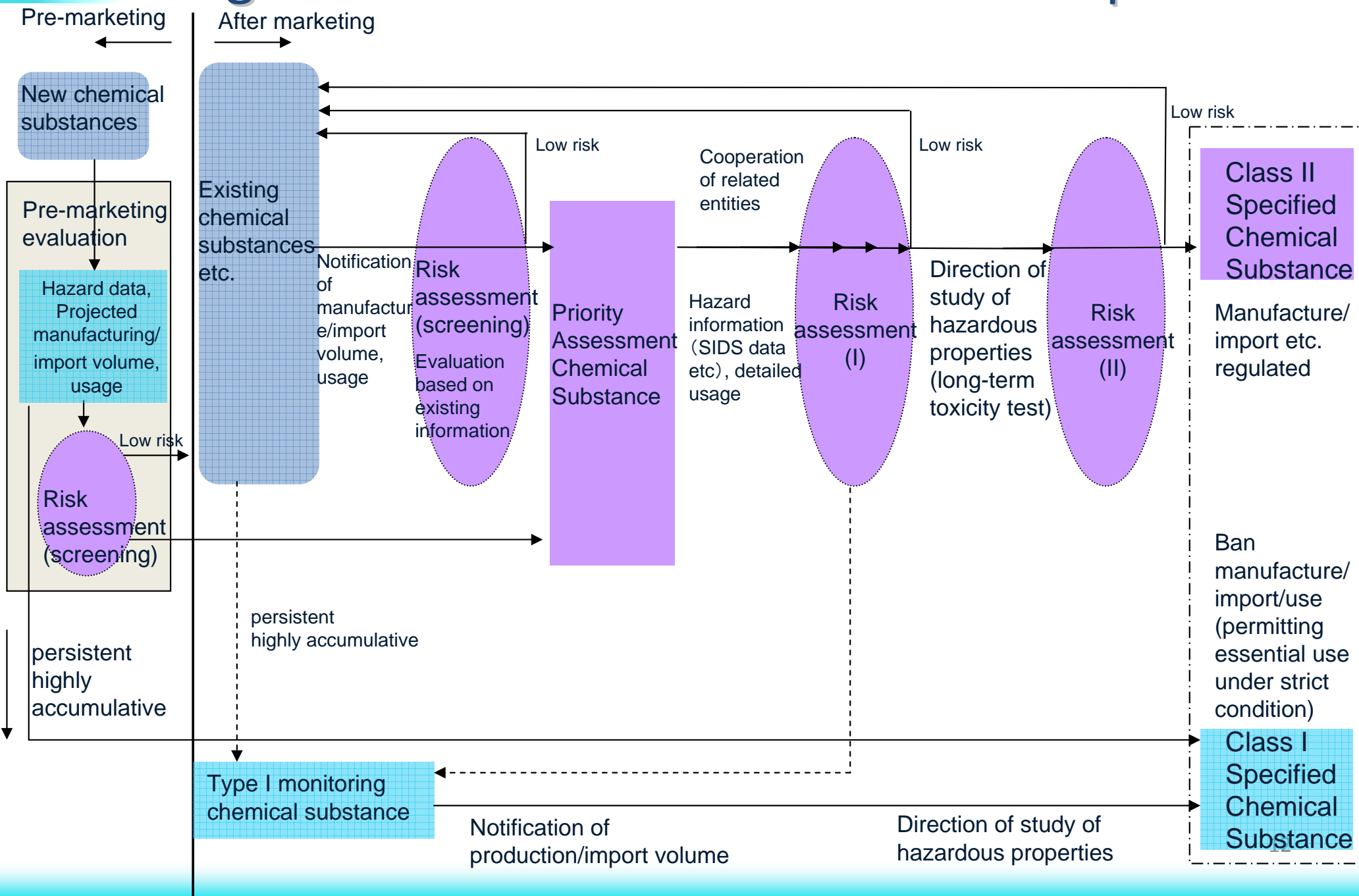


Outline of the amendment (3)

- Rationalize the system considering international trends
 - Permit **essential uses** of Class I specified chemical substances that will be accepted by Stockholm Convention
- Control specified chemicals in supply chain
 - Companies **handling** them may be required to adhere to handling standards and label them

New CSCL

-image flow based on the committee report





CSCCL Information Sources

- Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry, CSCCL web site at:
 - http://www.meti.go.jp/policy/chemical_management/english/cscl.html
 - Bill to amend CSCCL
 - Committee report
- National Institute of Technology & Evaluation web site at:
 - <http://www.safe.nite.go.jp/english/index.html>
 - Databases