

JCIA's Activities on 3Rs

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The risk assessment and management of chemicals were addressed at UNCED in 1992. At WSSD (2002), countries adopted the goal that by 2020 chemicals are used and produced in ways that minimize significant adverse impacts on the environment and human health. Then, the strategic approach, SAICM, was adopted to meet the goal at ICCM-1 in 2006. To take examples from among many challenges, REACH was enforced in 2007 as the first legislation to force the industry to conduct risk assessment of commercially available all chemicals to achieve the goal. In Japan, revised Chemical Substances Control Law (CSCL), enforced in 2010, defined that the government assesses the risk of not only new chemicals but also existing ones in collaboration with industry. In addition, ICCA and JCIA launched a new voluntary program, GPS/JIPS, in 2010 to assess the risk of chemicals and publish the safety summaries. Consequently, it became a major issue for chemical industries to gather information, e.g. toxicity, of thousands of chemicals more efficiently.

On the other hand, regulatory authorities managing chemicals are seeking to develop 3Rs under the global trend of animal welfare. For example, REACH placed the vertebrate test as the last method to gather toxicity information. The revised CSCL's supplementary resolution of the House of Councilors also includes the promotion of 3Rs.

Under such circumstances, the international organization OECD has partly changed the structure of Task Forces (TFs) to promote the voluntary chemical evaluation program in 2009. One of the established TF focuses on developing new techniques, such as Adverse Outcome Pathway (AOP), and refining structure-activity relationships to estimate the hazard of a large number of chemicals efficiently. These techniques are highly expected to replace the existing toxicological studies using mammalian animals. JCIA, having been focused on such activities and attended the TF as the representative of industry as long as regulatory authorities, established a new working group to promote our activities last year. We will further strengthen the cooperation with governmental regulatory authorities and agencies to promote the development of alternative test methods and disseminate them among the industry.

JCIA has also been promoting Long Range Research Initiative (LRI) program supported by member companies over 10 years. This program has developed test methods for chemical management and the outcomes, such as *in vitro* screening methods, have been highly praised. Developing alternative test methods is one of the priority issues for JCIA among ICCA, and we will continue supporting the program to promote 3Rs.