



Export and import of hazardous chemicals

ECHA Safer Chemicals Conference

6 October 2021

#SAFERCHEMICALS

PIC Regulation and Rotterdam Convention

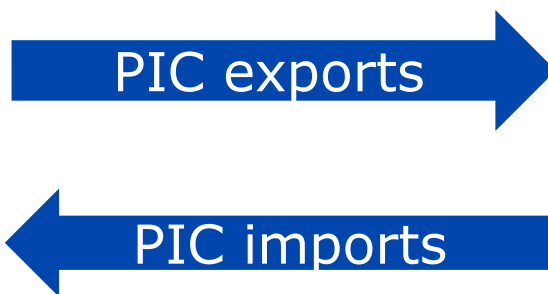
- The Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure establishes rules for the international trade of certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides
- In the EU, it is implemented by the PIC Regulation – (EU) No 649/2012



The aim of PIC

Hazardous chemicals travel from the EU all around the world every day

The aim of the PIC Regulation is to **inform importing countries** and **enable them to decide** whether they want to receive these chemicals or not





Objectives of PIC

- **Implement the provisions of the Rotterdam Convention** on the prior informed consent procedure within the EU
- **Promote shared responsibility and cooperation** in the international trade of hazardous chemicals
- **Protect human health and the environment** by providing importing countries with information on how to safely store, transport, use and dispose of hazardous chemicals
- **Contribute to the environmentally sound use** of hazardous chemicals



PIC Regulation goes beyond Rotterdam Convention

Article 12(1) of the Rotterdam Convention states that *“Where a chemical that is banned or severely restricted by a Party is exported from its territory, that Party shall provide an export notification to the importing Party.”*



- PIC export notification procedure and explicit consent requirement apply to **all non-EU countries**, and not only to the Parties to the Convention
- **More chemicals** are listed under the PIC Regulation than under the Rotterdam Convention
- Export notifications are required **irrespective of the intended use**

What is covered under PIC?



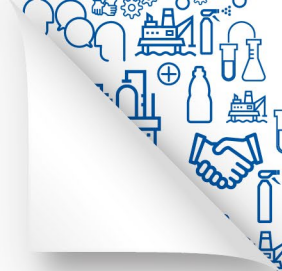
- Chemicals **banned or severely restricted within the EU** (listed in Annex I to PIC)
 - Active substances in pesticides (PPP) or biocidal products including disinfectants, insecticides and parasiticides,
 - Industrial chemicals (REACH)
- Chemicals that are **banned for export from the EU** (listed in Annex V to PIC):
 - Persistent organic pollutants (POPs/Stockholm Convention)
 - Mercury compounds (Minamata Convention)
- PIC annexes are usually updated **once a year**



Covered by other EU legislation

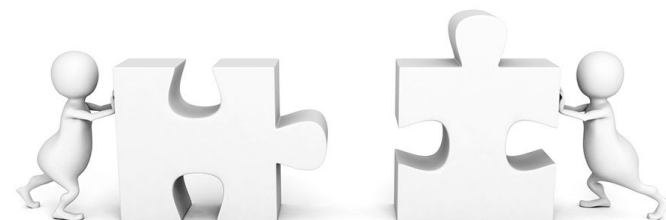
- Drugs
- Radioactive substances
- Waste
- Chemical weapons
- Pharmaceuticals
- Food and food additives
- Feed
- Genetically modified organisms





Two main procedures under PIC

- **Export notification**
 - Exporters have to notify their intention to export chemicals listed in PIC Annex I
- **Explicit consent**
 - Importing country has to agree on the import of chemicals listed in PIC Annex I Part 2 & 3, otherwise the export cannot take place



PIC chemicals under Annex I or Annex V



Export notification

Annex I

Part 1

Chemicals banned or severely restricted within the EU in at least one of these subcategories:

- **Industrial chemicals** (for **professional** and/or **public use**) and
- **Pesticides** (**plant protection products** and/or **biocides**)

Part 2

Chemicals banned or severely restricted within the EU in one of the two use categories defined by the Rotterdam Convention (**Industrial chemicals** and **pesticides**)

Part 3

Chemicals listed in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention and subject to PIC procedure

and
Explicit
consent

Export ban

Annex V

Part 1

Persistent organic pollutants
(POPs)
Stockholm Convention

Part 2

Reflects the Regulation on
Mercury
(Regulation No. 2017/852)

PIC network in the EU

- DG Environment of the European Commission is the EU designated national authority (EU DNA)
- EU Member States' designated national authorities (EU DNAs)
- European Chemicals Agency

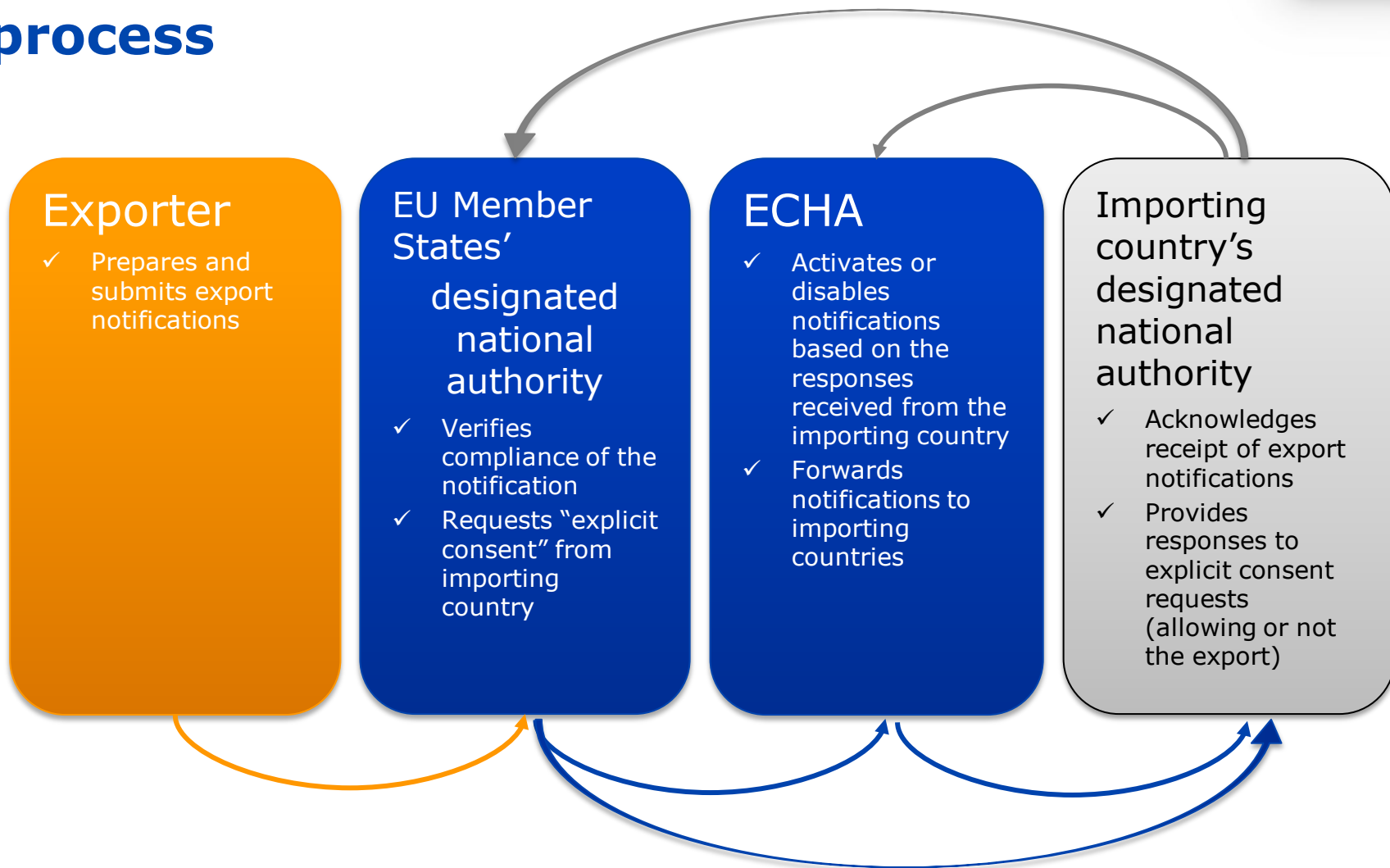


EU exporters' obligations under PIC

- **Notify** exports
 - Once per year for every PIC chemical and to every importing country
- **Report** on exports and imports from previous year
 - To designated national authorities on the actual quantities of PIC chemicals traded with non-EU countries during the previous calendar year (Article 10 of PIC)
- **Package and label** all exported chemicals
 - Following the Classification, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulation (Article 17 of PIC)



PIC notification process



What info is in the export notification?

Information on the chemical

SECTION 1		IDENTITY OF THE CHEMICAL SUBJECT TO THE EXPORT NOTIFICATION
1.1	Common name	<input type="text"/>
1.2	Chemical name according to an internationally recognized nomenclature (e.g. IUPAC)	<input type="text"/>



SECTION 4	INFORMATION ON HAZARDS AND / OR RISKS OF THE CHEMICAL AND PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES
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SECTION 5	INFORMATION ON PHYSICO-CHEMICAL, TOXICOLOGICAL AND ECOTOXICOLOGICAL PROPERTIES OF THE CHEMICAL
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Information on the export



SECTION 3		INFORMATION CONCERNING THE EXPORT	
3.1	Expected date of first export (dd.mm.yyyy)		
3.2	Expected amount of the substance or mixture (kg/l per year)		
3.3	Foreseen category (industrial chemical or pesticide) and foreseen use in importing country		

3.4	Name, address, telephone, fax and email of the importer		
3.5	Name, address, telephone, fax and email of the exporter		

Information on uses



How it is **regulated and used** in the EU



How it will be **used** in the importing country

SECTION 6 SUMMARY INFORMATION ON FINAL REGULATORY ACTION TAKEN BY THE EXPORTING COUNTRY

6.1 Summary of and reasons for the final regulatory action and data of entry into force

6.2 The final regulatory action has been taken for the category

Pesticide Industrial chemical

Please indicate:

- use or uses prohibited
- use or uses that remain allowed
- where available, estimated quantity of the chemical produced, imported, exported and used

SECTION 3 INFORMATION CONCERNING THE EXPORT

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Conclusions



Why prior consent?



- Provides importing country with information about the substance being imported
- Importing country can make an **informed decision**, whether they accept and handle such substances
- Protects human health and environment in the importing country and globally
- Promotes good practice in handling of chemical substances in developing countries



Useful links

More information on the PIC Regulation

[ECHA](#) > [Legislation](#) > [PIC](#) > [Understanding PIC](#)

Databases of chemicals, export and import notifications, explicit consent responses and designated national authorities

[ECHA](#) > [Information on Chemicals](#) > [Chemicals subject to PIC](#)

Reports on imports and exports

[ECHA](#) > [Legislation](#) > [PIC](#) > [Annual reporting on PIC exports and imports](#)

Rotterdam Convention website

<http://www.pic.int/>



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