



# Session 3

## **Collaboration towards Sustainable International Resource Circulation**

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# Background

Establishing sustainable international resource circulation is becoming important along the following recent trends:

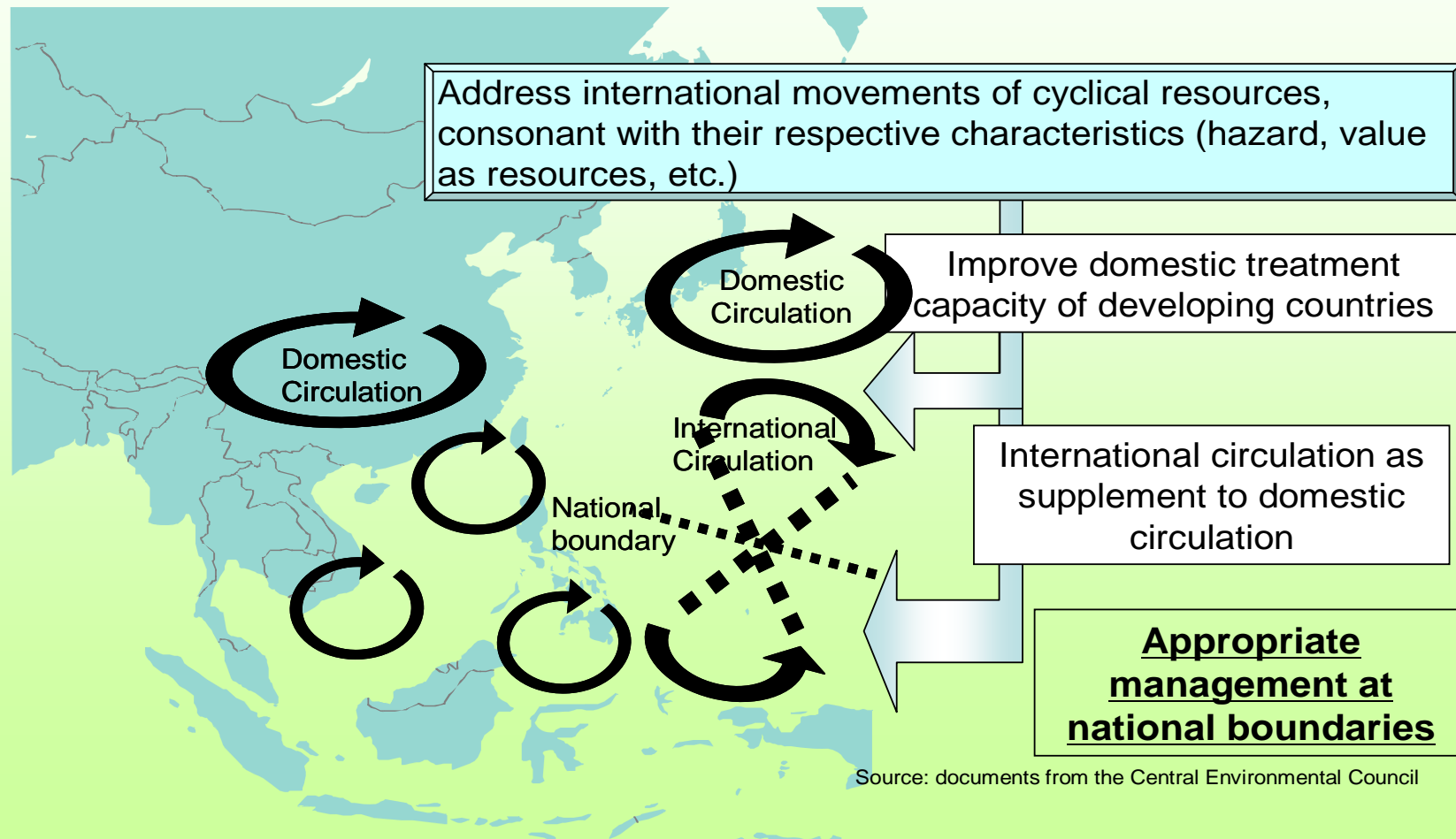
- Expansion of trade in materials and products including recyclable resources as well as concerns on increasing resource demands and possibility of resource scarcity
- To respond to such issues, various collaborative activities for capacity development between countries and international organizations including those of OECD, UNCRD, UNEP, the secretariat of the Basel Convention, have been initiated.
- To achieve sustainable and environmentally sound international resource circulation, the needs for the transfer of efficient technology has been gotten attention.

# Current situation and Issues

1. Approach to international resource circulation
2. Promoting international trade of 3R-related goods, materials, and products
3. Strengthening the collaborative efforts of countries and international organisations

# 1. Approach to international resource circulations

- (i) Build a sound material-cycle society in each country,
- (ii) Reinforce activities to prevent illegal trade of wastes, then
- (iii) Facilitate international resource circulation as supplement to domestic resource circulation



- It is necessary to understand both positive and negative aspects

## 2. Promoting international trade of 3R-related goods, materials, and products

- To enable potential contribution of businesses
- On-going discussions at WTO on environmental goods and services as well as remanufactured and refurbished products.

Company A  
(Thailand)

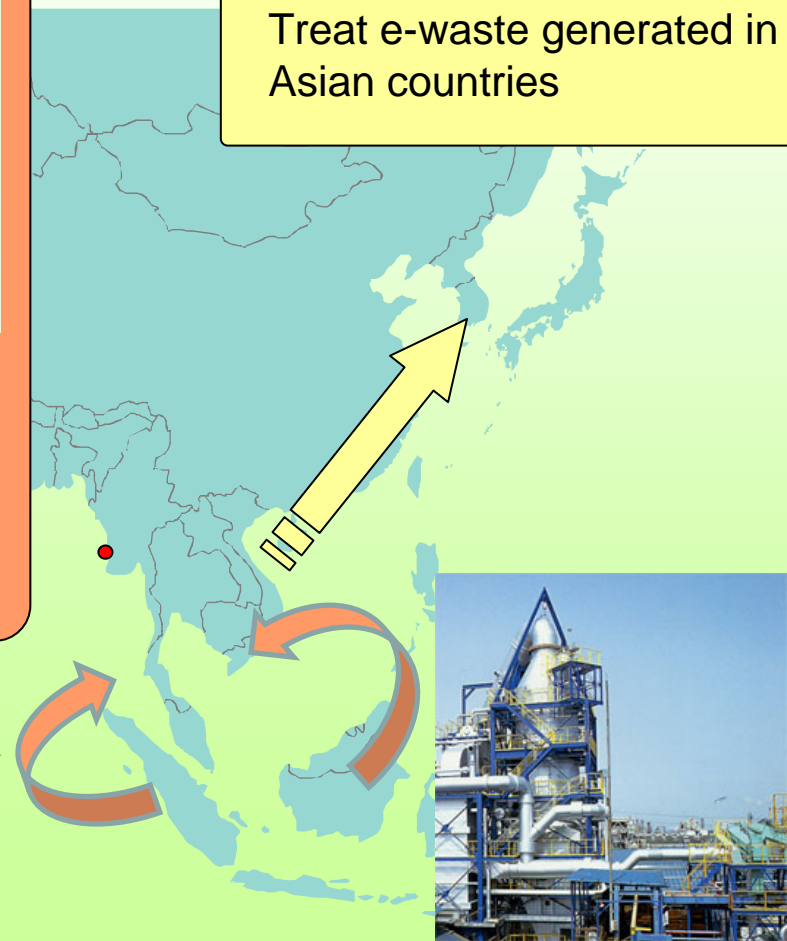


Take-back their copy machine from 9 A/P countries to Thailand, where all wastes are properly recycled



Company B  
(Japan)

Treat e-waste generated in Asian countries



### 3. Strengthening the collaborative efforts of countries and international organisations

- Raise the priority of environmental policies, including environmentally sound management of wastes
- Information sharing among various international cooperative projects
- Needs for effective technology transfer suitable to the conditions faced by each society

# Key Questions

- What kind of fundamental approach should be shared on efficient use of resources and raw materials, and sustainable resource circulation at the international level, which will contribute to minimizing the environmental impacts of production and consumption?
- How one can utilize progress in multilateral trade into the promotion of the 3Rs?
- What kinds of international activities should be carried out in response to the transboundary waste issues caused by international trade of goods?
- What kind of support is desirable for promoting effective multilateral cooperation and appropriate cooperation with international organizations?