

# Overview of Approaches to Regulating Lead in Paint

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*Ellie McCann*

*Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics*

*US Environmental Protection Agency*

**Global Alliance to  
Eliminate Lead Paint**



# Outline

- ▶ The need for effective laws on lead in paints
- ▶ Brief global history of lead paint laws
- ▶ Objectives for new laws on lead in paint
- ▶ Two main approaches to restricting lead in paint
- ▶ Status of laws in Central/Eastern Europe and Central Asia

# The Need for Effective Laws on Lead in Paints

- ▶ Effective lead paint laws are needed to:
  - ▶ Protect public health
  - ▶ Create incentives for paint producers in the national market to stop using lead compounds by reformulating their paints
  - ▶ Create incentives for paint ingredient suppliers to produce more and better non-lead ingredients

# Brief Global History of Lead Paint Laws

- ▶ **Early 1900s:** The hazard of lead paint was recognized by doctors a long time ago
- ▶ **1920s-30s:** Initial actions by countries to ban the use of lead carbonates and sulfates in paints through ILO Convention on White Lead. (Effective in 1923, ratified by 63 countries)
- ▶ **1970s-90s:** Countries began to look again at problem of lead in paint, and to introduce more comprehensive laws.

# Brief Global History of Lead Paint Laws

- ▶ **2000-2019:** Lead paint laws have become more restrictive as the health hazards of lead have become better understood.
  - ▶ United States reduced lead limit from 600 to 90 ppm in 2008
  - ▶ Brazil, Argentina and South Africa are now revising their laws to reduce lead limit from 600 to 90 ppm.
  - ▶ East African Community is finalizing regional paint standards with lead limit of 90 ppm.
  - ▶ New laws with 90 ppm lead limit have recently been adopted in countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

# Objectives for New Laws on Lead in Paint

- ▶ Major objectives for new lead paint laws should be to:
  - ▶ Prevent the manufacture, sale, use and import of lead paint
  - ▶ Develop effective means of compliance and enforcement
  - ▶ Integrate new lead paint law into a country's existing legal framework
  - ▶ Establish clear institutional responsibilities for management and enforcement of a lead paint law

# Two Main Approaches to Restricting Lead in Paint

## ▶ 1. Total Lead Limit:

- ▶ 34 countries have laws with a regulatory limit on total lead concentration
- ▶ Countries may have different limits for different paint applications (household vs industrial)

## ▶ 2. Chemical-Specific Lead Limits

- ▶ 31 countries have adopted the EU REACH regulation on lead compounds in paints
- ▶ Both approaches have been effective in limiting the lead content in paint

# Status of Laws in Central/Eastern Europe & Central Asia

## ▶ Total Lead Limit

- ▶ 90 ppm: Israel (final law); Ukraine (draft law)

## ▶ Chemical-Specific Lead Limits (EU REACH)

- ▶ Moldova (final law); Bosnia and Herzegovina (draft law)
- ▶ Georgia?

## ▶ Eurasian Economic Union (Regulation similar to EU REACH?)

- ▶ Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia

## ▶ Unknown Status:

- ▶ Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan



# More details will be provided in next presentations

- ▶ Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint
- ▶ European Union: EU REACH regulations
- ▶ Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) regulations