

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Profile Updates and Path Forward

March 31, 2009

**Great Lakes Binational Toxics
Strategy**

**Substance/Sector working
group meeting**

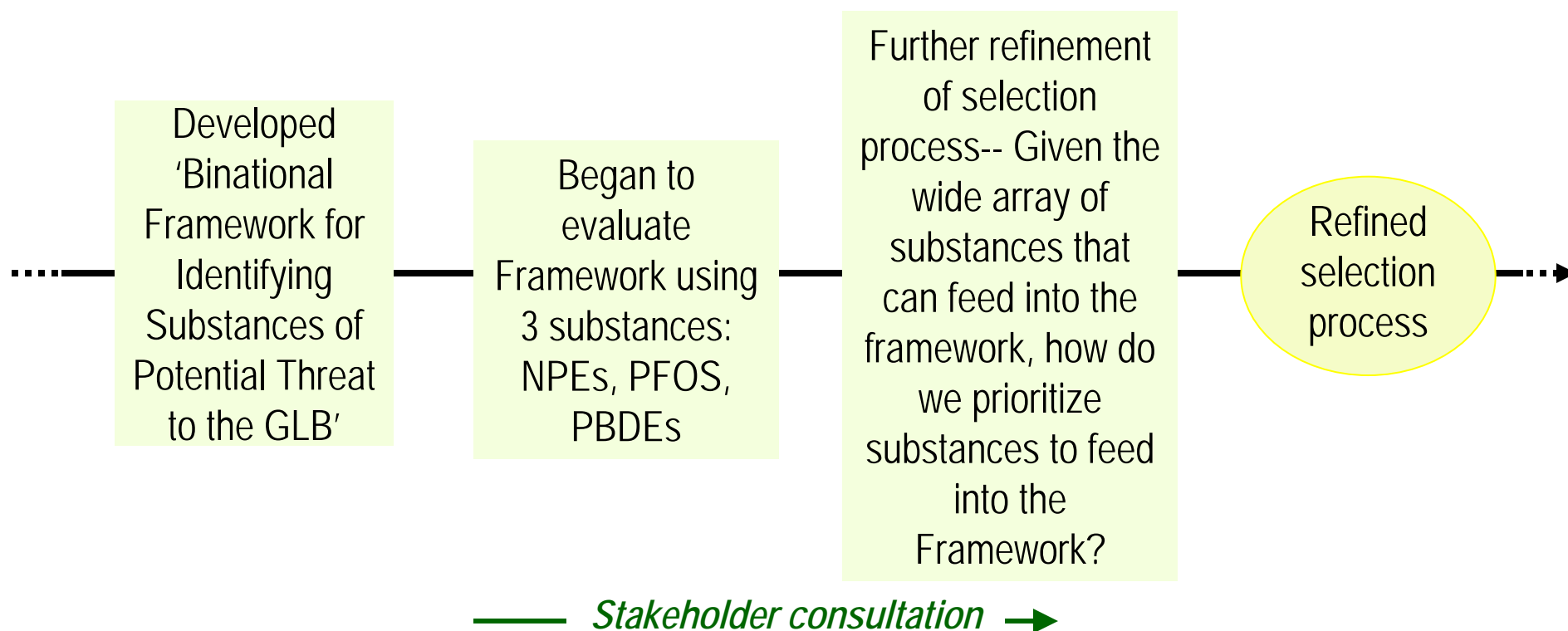
Overview

- Review: Progress to date and path forward
- Updates on 3 substances used to evaluate the Framework

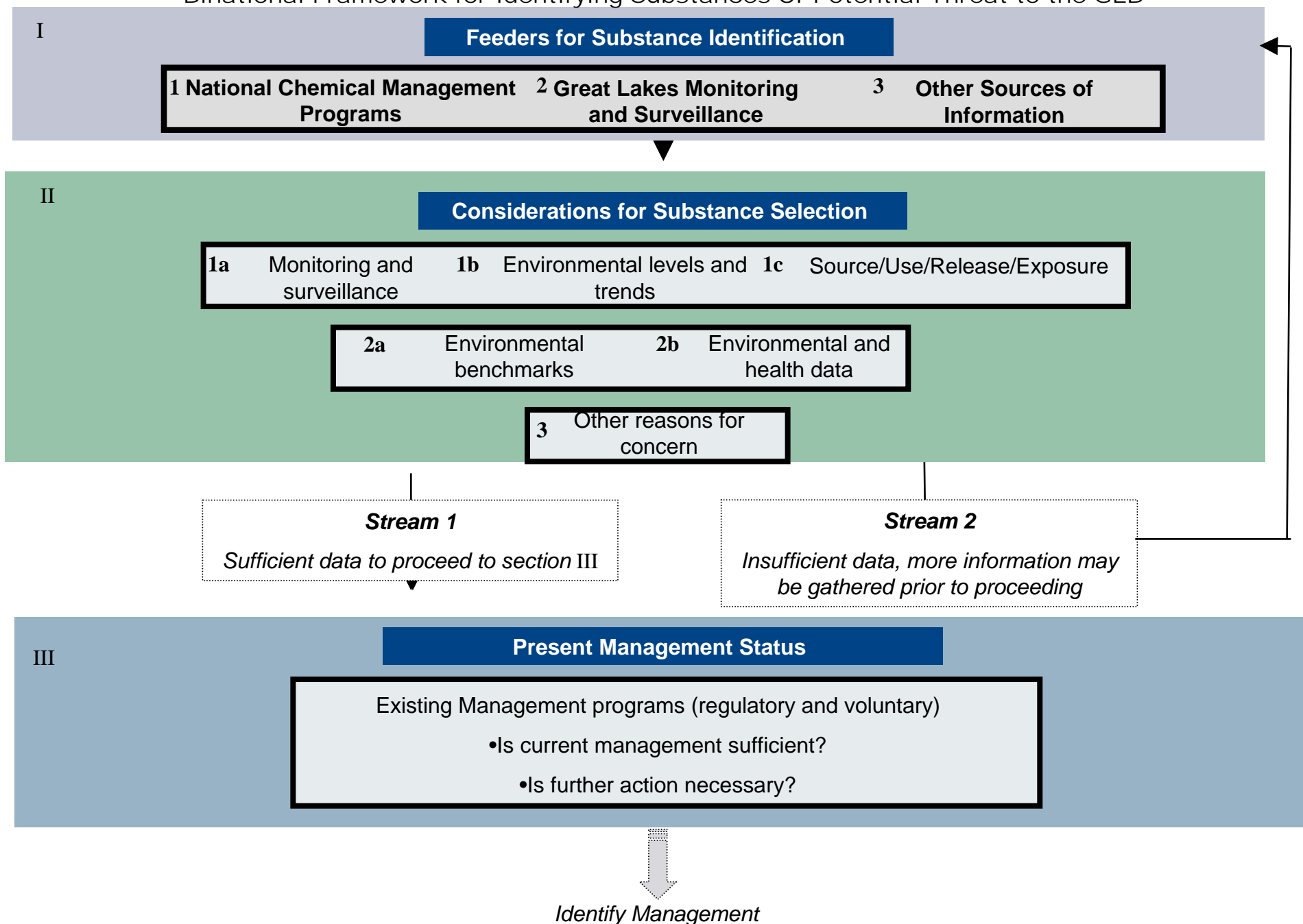
Progress to date

Progress to date has occurred with the following objective: The GLBTS is working towards identifying substances and sectors of concern to the Great Lakes Basin and addressing these substances/sectors through management opportunities.

Consideration of substances of emerging concern under the GLBTS



Binational Framework for Identifying Substances Of Potential Threat to the GLB



Update on 3 substances used to evaluate Framework

- Framework profiles presented at Dec.4-5 meeting
- Stakeholder comments received and addressed
- Key changes include:
 - PBDE profile, revised to include comments, modified to consider Deca-BDE separately
 - PFOS profile modified to include PFOA
 - NPEs revised to include comments
- The Framework was effective in considering these substances
 - Further modifications may be made to the Framework as appropriate

NPE Profile Update

- Comments received from Alkylphenol & Ethoxylates Research Council (January 30, 2009)
 - Clarified the “National Chemical Management Programs” feeder for purposes of the framework
 - Added a note explaining why NPEs were not included in the Great Lakes Screening Project (did not meet BCF threshold criteria of 1000)
 - Included additional monitoring and surveillance studies
 - Noted that some studies were conducted prior to implementation of risk management actions

PFOS/PFOA Profile Update

- Added PFOA to PFOS profile as part of larger class of Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs)
- EPA issued Provisional Health Advisories for PFOA (0.4 ppb) and PFOS (0.2 ppb) to assess potential risk from exposure to these chemicals through drinking water.
- PFOS & PFOA present in blood of the general U.S. population, but levels are declining due to government and industry efforts
- PFOA measurements in the Great Lakes (results from 4 published studies)
- In 2006, EPA initiated PFOA Stewardship program with the 8 major companies in the industry
- EPA proposed that PFOA is 'likely to be carcinogenic to humans' but made no definitive conclusions regarding potential risks, including cancer.
- EPA continues to develop a TSCA Risk Assessment for PFOA
- Environment Canada and Health Canada expect a Draft Assessment Report to be published in 2009

PBDE Profile Update

- Comments submitted by Chemtura (March 4, 2009)
 - DecaBDE should be addressed separately from other PBDEs
 - Response: the information on DecaBDE has been provided separately throughout the profile