MERCURY

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MERCURY ACTING NOW!

- 4 The UNEP Global Mercury Partnership
- How the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership contributes to the implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- 6 Mercury Supply and Storage
- 8 Mercury Reduction in Chlor-alkali
- **10** Mercury Reduction in Products
- **12** Reducing Mercury in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining
- 14 Mercury Control from Coal Combustion
- **16** Mercury Releases from the Cement Industry
- **18** Mercury Waste Management
- **20** Mercury Air Transport and Fate Research
- 22 Global Mercury Assessment and National Inventories

The UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

THE UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP was initiated in 2005 to take immediate action to protect human health and the environment from the release of mercury and its compounds to the environment. It is a voluntary multi-stakeholder partnership that operates based on an Overarching Framework (right top document). The eight work areas of the Partnership have business plans setting out objectives, targets and priorities for action.

The overall goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership is to protect human health and the global environment from the release of mercury and its compounds by minimizing and, where feasible, ultimately eliminating global, anthropogenic mercury releases to air, water and land.

The Partnership has more than 100 partners. For details, please visit the <u>UNEP Global</u> <u>Mercury Partnership</u> website.

To become a partner, interested entities or individuals should submit a letter to UNEP signifying their support for the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and their commitment to achieving its goal, and specifying how they will contribute to meeting the goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership.

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Overarching Framework UNEP Global Mercury Partnership, third edition, UNEP 2012



Study on Mercury Sources and Emissions, and Analysis of Cost and Effectiveness of Control Measures (Paragraph 29 Study), UNEP 2010



Guidance for Identifying Populations at Risk from Mercury Exposure, UNEP 2008



Mercury: Time to Act, UNEP 2013

How the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership contributes to the implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Mercury Reducing mercury in reduction in Artisanal and Small- chlor-alkali Scale Gold Mining				cury in Small- ining	Mercury release from the cement industry		Mercury air transport and fate research		
Articles in the Minamata Convention on Mercury	Mercury supply and storage		Mercury reduction in products		Mercury Co from Co Combust	ontrol al ion	Mercur waste managem	y ient n	Global Mercury Assessment and ational inventorie
3. Mercury supply _ sources and trade	\checkmark	\checkmark							
4 and Annex A Mercury-added products	-		\checkmark						
5 and Annex B. Manufacturing processes in	-	\checkmark							
6. Exemptions available to a Party upon request	-		\checkmark						
7. Artisanal and small-scale gold mining Annex C. National action plans	-			\checkmark					\checkmark
8. Emissions and Annex D. List of point sources of emissions of mercury and mercury compounds to the atmosphere					\checkmark	\checkmark	✓		\checkmark
9. Releases –	-	\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	✓		\checkmark
10. Environmentally sound interim storage _ of mercury, other than waste mercury _	\checkmark								
11. Mercury wastes –		\checkmark			\checkmark	\checkmark	✓	\checkmark	
12. Contaminated sites –	-						\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
16. Health aspects	-		\checkmark	\checkmark					
20. Implementation plan –	-			\checkmark					\checkmark
21. Reporting –	-			\checkmark					\checkmark
22. Effectiveness evaluation –	-							\checkmark	\checkmark
14. Capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
17. Information exchange —		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	 ✓ 	\checkmark	\checkmark
18. Public information, awareness and education	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	 ✓ 	\checkmark	\checkmark
19. Research, development and monitoring	- 🗸	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	 ✓ 	\checkmark	\checkmark

Mercury Supply and Storage

Articles 3, 10, 14, 17, 18 and 19





Leads: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment, Spain, and Ministry of Housing, Land Planning and Environment, Uruguay

Objective: Reduce mercury supply considering an hierarchy of sources, and support the retirement of mercury from the market to environmentally sound storage.

Key messages

- Mercury is an element that cannot be created nor destroyed
- Excess mercury supply should be stored in an environmentally sound manner and should be prevented from going back to the marketplace





Mercury Reduction in Chlor-alkali

Articles 3, 5, 9, 11, 14, 17, 18, 19 and Annex B



Lead: United States Environmental Protection Agency

Objective: Reduce global mercury releases to air, water, and land that may occur from chlor-alkali production facilities.



The report 'Conversion from Mercury to Alternative Technology in the Chlor-Alkali Industry' illustrated that facilities using membrane technology have:

- Greater energy efficiency
- Lower operating costs
 Lower environmental impact
- High quality product



Capacity of mercury electrolysis units in USA / Canada / Mexico, EU, Russia, India and Brazil / Agentina / Uruguay

Capacity of plants (1000 t/y)	A SHALL BE SHALL BE SHALL BE
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The World Chlorine Council has made available good practice guidance to non members of the Council. This includes advice on: • Conversion to mercury-free

technologies • Environmentally sound management of excess mercury from closed or converted facilities

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