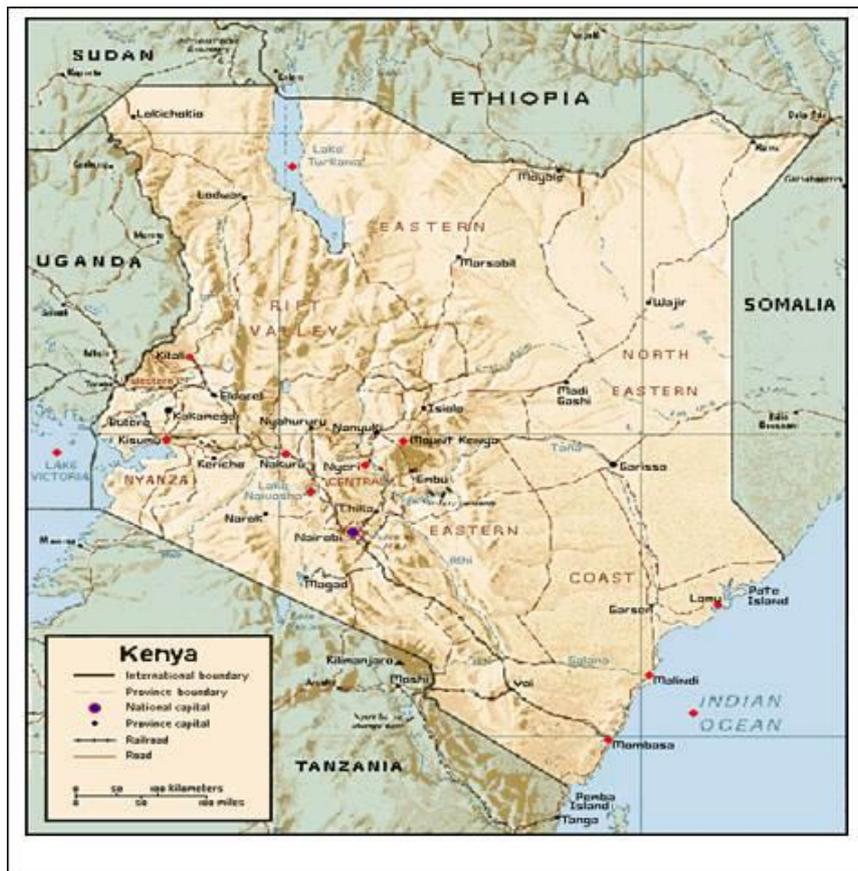


REPUBLIC OF KENYA



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND MINERAL RESOURCES

INVENTORY OF MERCURY RELEASES IN KENYA



July 2012

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Report issuing date	22 nd February, 2012

Acknowledgements

The Ministry of Environment and Mineral resources wishes to thank all those who first developed the inventory have contributed to this inventory. Special thanks go to member son the interministerial team that keep on improving the inventory. Special thanks go to Jacob Maag of UNEP who has continuously advised on the inventory on its quality and accuracy. The following contributed., Richard Mwendandu, Director Multi Mr Calorine Wamai senior Chemist , Government Chemist Department, Dr. S M. Irungu , Chief Dental Officer, Ministry of Medical Services, Millicent Kabaara Ministry Of Environment And Mineral Resources. The Kenya Government appreciates the financial support extended to it by Groundwork of South Africa

ACRONYM

GDP	Gross Domestic Product
Hg	Mercury
KRA	Kenya Revenue Authority
N	No
THg	Total Mercury
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
VCM	Vinyl Chloride Monomer
Y	Yes

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1.0 Executive summary

Mercury and its compounds are highly toxic to humans especially to the developing nervous system. They are also harmful to ecosystems and wildlife populations. Releases to the environment and products have raised global concern and that is why the 24th session of the UNEP Governing Council decided that further international action was required to reduce the risks posed by mercury to human health and the environment. This action is to address atmospheric emission; releases to land, water, soil find environmentally sound solutions for waste containing mercury, reducing its demand in products, supply, and storage, rehabilitation of contaminated sites and to increase pollution knowledge through inventories , research and monitoring nationally. Currently, the discussions on the internationally biding legal instrument are going on and countries need to carry out an inventory of mercury production, import, use and releases to be able to assess how future actions will affect them

This inventory is prepared by an interministerial team under the Ministry of Environment and Mineral Resources as part of the preparations for national actions to address the growing emissions of mercury, in November 2011 as part of the preparations for Kenya's participation in the negotiations for a legally bidding mechanism for mercury emission. Action is required to focus of reasons of emission, identify the key sources of the emissions and take the appropriate control measures.

This mercury release inventory was made with the use of the "Toolkit for identification and quantification of mercury releases" made available by the United Nations Environment Programme's Chemicals division (UNEP Chemicals)¹..

It was developed on the Toolkits Inventory Level 1 which is based on mass balances for each mercury release source type. Inventory Level 1 works with pre-determined factors used in the calculation of mercury inputs to society and releases, the so-called default input factors and default output distribution factors. These factors were derived from data on mercury inputs and releases from such mercury source types from available literature and other relevant data sources such as research and policy documents. The Toolkit is still being refined to remove gaps. For the following mercury source sub-categories, input and releases estimates were made:

- Coal combustion in large power plants
- Combustion of petroleum
- Fuel production
- Metals and raw materials
- Domestic Production and processing with intentional mercury uses
- Waste handling and recycling
- General consumption of mercury in products as metal mercury and mercury containing substance, and

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