Mercury Storage-Supply Partnership and Related Initiatives

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Global Hg supply reductions & storage

• More cost effective to curtail production, sequester mercury before it is haphazardly dispersed to millions of users and subsequently released to the environment.

• INC to develop provisions to reduce the supply of mercury and enhance the capacity for its environmentally sound storage in its overall approach to mercury (paragraph 27.b of Decision 25/5).

• INC deliberations expected to include:
  – Addressing trade related issues.
  – Developing effective universal global coordination, action, and enforcement mechanisms.
  – Assisting in developing storage capacity in certain regions.
Creation of new partnership area on supply and storage

• Initiated during Partnership Advisory Group in April 2009:
  – Purpose is to enhance the on-going work in these areas, identified as a priority in GC Decision 25/5, paragraph 34.
  – Zero Mercury Working Group agreed to serve as interim chair with understanding that government lead or co-lead would be identified.

• Proposed business plan (updated version of earlier UNEP draft) drafted in consultation with stakeholders.
  – Anticipates limited life of partnership in deference to anticipated treaty obligations and governance structure.
  – Therefore, focus on near term priority activities.
Draft business plan

Partnership goal:
• reduce mercury supply to 50% by 2013 (from 2005 baseline)
• need 600 ton mercury reduction beyond EU/USA export bans.

Reduction opportunities include:
• additional mercury export restrictions
• storage of chlor-alkali mercury, and
• less primary mercury mining.

Copies of the business plan are available in the corridor
Next steps on supply and storage

• Encourage further progress on the two regional storage projects and Kyrgyzstan primary mining project already underway.

• Collaborate on funding opportunities as they arise.

• Revise draft business plan based on input received.

• Invite potential partners to join the new partnership area and identify a government lead or co-lead.