

ZMWG on finance-technical assistance – 8 June 2010

Thank you chair,

Technical and financial assistance provisions are very important, for the primary purpose of ensuring that developing countries are able to undertake the various obligations under the treaty that are critical for global mercury control. Thus, the primary consideration for designing and implementing assistance delivery systems should be their effectiveness in achieving the objectives of the Convention.

We believe that a dedicated fund for the mercury treaty would be preferable because it allows:

- Commitments by donor countries to provide sufficient new and additional resources consistently over time.
- An ongoing and flexible ability to direct the disbursement of funds according to the substantive priorities of the program at the time, and strong representation from the developing world on those mechanisms developed under the treaty to guide the disbursement of funds, and
- An ongoing ability to link the availability of funds to a Party's compliance with the terms of the treaty.

To that end we believe that the dedicated fund and the Convention's compliance mechanism and procedures should be adopted together as part of a complementary package.

We regard adequate financial support and accountability as the twin pillars of promoting an effective Convention on mercury and urge extensive consideration of options to achieve these goals when developing this area of the treaty.

Thank you chair