Inception Workshop: Mercury Storage and Disposal Project in Mexico and Panama

October 10-11, 2012, Holiday Inn Hotel, Clayton, Panama City

FINAL REPORT

Table of contents

ACRONYMS

AAUD	Autoridad de Aseo Urbano y Domiciliario. *Public Cleansing Authority.* Panama.
ACP	Autoridad del Canal de Panamá. *Panama Canal Authority*. Panama.
AMEXPILAS	Asociación Mexicana de Pilas. *Mexican Battery Association.*
AMUPA	Asociación de Municipios de Panamá. *Panama´s Municipalities Association.*
ANA	Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas. *National Customs Authority.* Panama
ANAM	Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente. *National Environment Authority.* Panama.
ANCON	Asociación Nacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza. *National Association for Nature Conservancy.* Panama.
ANIQ	Asociación Nacional de la Industria Química. *National Chemical Industry Association.* Mexico.
ASEP	Autoridad de los Servicos Públicos. *Public Services Authority.* Panama
ASGM	Artisanal and small-scale gold mining
CAMIMEX	Cámara Minera de México. *Mexican Mining Chamber*.
CANACEM	Cámara Nacional del Cemento. *National Cement Chamber*. Mexico.
CANACINTRA	Cámara Nacional de la Industria de Transformación. *National Transformation Industry Chamber.* Mexico.
CANAME	Cámara Nacional de Manufacturas Eléctricas. *National Electrical Manufacturing Chamber.* Mexico.
CANIFARMA	Cámara Nacional de la Industria Farmacéutica. *National Pharmaceutical Industry Chamber.* Mexico.
CENICA	Centro Nacional de Investigación y Capacitación Ambiental. *National Center for Environmental Research and Training.* Mexico.
CFE	Comisión Federal de Electricidad. *Federal Electricity Commission.* Mexico.
CIIMET	Centro de Investigación e Información de Medicamentos y Tóxicos. *Medicament and Toxics Research and Information Center*. Panama.
CSS	Caja de Seguro Social. *Social Security Savings.* Panama
CYDSA	Celulosa y Derivados, S.A. *Cellulose and Products.* Mexico.
DIPROCA	Dirección de Protección de la Calidad Ambiental. *Directorate for Environmental Quality Protection.* Panama.
IKIMP	Integrating Knowledge to Inform Mercury Policy.
INECC	Instituto nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático. *National Institute for Ecology and Climate Change.* Mexico.
INEGI	Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Geografía. *National Institute for Statistics and Geography.* Mexico.
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean.
MIDA	Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario. *Agricultural and Livestock Development Ministry.* Panama.

MICI	Ministerio de Comercio e Industria. *Ministry of Commerce and Industry.* Panama.
MINSA	Ministerio de Salud. *Ministry of Health*. Panama
MOH	Ministry of Health. Panama.
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization.
PEMEX	Petróleos Mexicanos. *Mexican Oil Company*.
ROLAC	(UNEP's) Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean.
SEMARNAT	Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y recursos Naturales. *Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.* Mexico.
SGM	Servicio Geológico Mexicano. *Mexican Geological Service.*
SAGARPA	Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, Desarrollo Rural, Pesca y Alimentación. *Ministry of Agriculture, Cattle, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food.* Mexico.
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme.
UTP	Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá. *Panama's Technological University*.
YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association.

INTRODUCTION

Workshop objectives

The purpose of the workshop, as it is shown in the agenda (Annex I) was to ensure a good understanding of the objectives and scope of the mercury storage and disposal project in Mexico and Panama, as well as the expected project's outputs and outcomes. The project aims to promote the environmentally sound storage and disposal of mercury. The main outcome of the project will be a National Action Plan on the storage and disposal of mercury in both countries. The workshop counted with the participation of an international consultant, who presented the framework for the inventory of storage facilities, legislative/regulatory infrastructure, the "Suggested Framework for Decision Making for the Safe Management of Surplus Mercury", guidelines in drafting a national action plan and other relevant information needed to implement the project.

Participants and organization.

25 representatives from both countries Mexico and Panama participated in this meeting, including representatives from Governments, NGOs, industry and other relevant institutions, such as the Stockholm Convention Regional Centres in Mexico and Panama; the full list of participants is attached to this document in Annex II.

Organization of the workshop was carried out by UNEP Chemicals and UNEP's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC), with the support of YMCA-Panama.

WORKSHOP DEVELOPMENT

1. Welcome and opening words

The workshop opened with the welcome words from Ms. Mara Angelica Murillo Correa, ROLAC's Regional Deputy Director; Mr. Milciades Bravo, Panama's Environmental Health Deputy Director; and Ms. Lourdes Álvarez, Director for YMCA Panama. Ms. María Inés Esquivel, representing the MOH and the University of Panama (CIIMET) was appointed as Chairperson for the workshop.

2. General overview and project´s international context

Dr. Desiree Montecillo Narvaez, UNEP Chemicals Division's programme official made an introductory presentation entitled "Mercury: world policy, immediate action", explaining the reasons why mercury is considered a global concern. The presentation described the international context in which the project is developed including the process of intergovernmental negotiations of the legally binding instrument on mercury worldwide, as well as the activities that are carried out within the framework of UNEP's Global Mercury Partnership.

3. Presentation of mercury initiatives and projects

Víctor Javier Gutiérrez Avedoy, representative of the Ministry of environment and natural resources of Mexico, presented "Actions on mercury [in Mexico]", describing the different activities and studies that have been conducted in Mexico. These include monitoring activities in different matrices such as sediments, landfills, fish, or atmosphere. He also presented a comprehensive comparative summary for total mercury measurements in ambient air at different sites in the Mexican Republic, as well as the "Global Mercury Observation System" project. He also informed on the Mercury Market in Mexico report (2008), which stated that during the period 2001-2007 Mexico was a net mercury importer. Then he introduced the mercury emissions inventory in Mexico (base year: 2004), showing that the main source for mercury releases was gold extraction and primary processing (mercury as a by-product). Finally, he presented an assessment study on primary and secondary mercury offer in Mexico, as well as the country's participation in the current negotiations on the international legally binding instrument on mercury.

Later on, Nayhely Pérez Báez (Directorate General of mining promotion, Secretariat of Economy of Mexico), briefly presented the current situation on mercury mining in Mexico, indicating that mercury mining is legal in Mexico. ASGM importance in Mexico is considered from low to medium when compared to large scale gold mining, but the rise in gold price could also increase demand, exploitation and commercialization of mercury. It was reported that there is primary mercury production conducted by small-scale miners, mainly in the State of Querétaro, although there are no official production data, which in any case is very limited. Aware of this problem, the Government carries out activities to achieve that this mining is carried out in a sound and responsible manner regarding health and the environment, and at the same time searching for economic alternatives. It is worth highlighting the promotion of alternate technologies for roasting ovens for mercury containing ore, in order to prevent mercury vapours from being inhaled by workers and released into the atmosphere.

Then María Inés Esquivel presented the "Preliminary status of mercury in Panama", reporting that a mercury releases inventory was completed in 2008 according to which the commercial and health sectors are the main sources for mercury containing waste in Panama. She also reported that Panama does not manufacture mercury containing products, so the life cycle approach is applied only to the use and final disposal stages. As for the collection and final disposal stages, waste management is very limited throughout the national territory. She also presented the current regulatory framework which includes more than 40 general legal instruments, relevant in addressing the import, use, emissions, provision and storage of mercury in Panama. Finally, she explained a proposed action plan whose purpose is to protect health and the environment from exposure to mercury risks. The goal of this Plan is to reduce mercury emissions at different sources over a period of 6 years. The Plan has not been implemented so far. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Augusto Mendoza, Panama consultant for the project, suggested the need for mechanisms to reach the public, as the country only deals with issues that most impact and appear in the media.

4. Highlights of the LAC mercury storage options study

After the presentations from the parties were completed, the international consultant Gustavo Solórzano presented the main results of the "Options Analysis and Feasibility Study for the Long Term Storage of Mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean". Its main objectives are the collection of information on the current status of issues related to mercury and to provide recommendations to LAC countries for the safe management and long-term mercury storage. One conclusion is that except for Mexico and Chile, LAC region is more an importer than an exporter, although this condition may change in the near future, with the increasing trade of mercury in the region. A point to be highlighted is the regulatory framework improvement in various LAC countries, and finally, that the landfills are not option for elemental mercury, being liquid and difficult to stabilize. At the end of the presentation, a series of recommendations was given, including the implementation of a mercury chain of custody or an integrated program involving all authorities, NGOs, the private sector, etc.

This presentation gave rise to a discussion among participants, where Ms. Narvaez stated that while stabilization technologies have been updated after the preparation of the study, one of its main contributions is the analysis of import-export flows in the region.

The delegate from Mexico/CENICA coincided with the findings of the study, although he stressed that there is no adequate infrastructure to meet the needs, and that a process of

strengthening technical capacities is necessary. He also alluded to the potential problems regarding the funding for the different options. The Chair added that some of the identified options would hardly apply in Panama, due to the conditions of the water table as well as the lack of technical capabilities. But she considered interesting the temporary storage options reported (e.g. in military bunkers), and the stabilization and/or possible export alternatives. The MIDA representative also welcomed the study and suggested the importance of having a good national diagnosis in order to design the best solution for the country.

The MICI representative suggested the creation of a Government Committee in Panama for the approval of a rule on mercury, while other participants pointed out that this had been proposed earlier but was unsuccessful because of several reasons. The representative of the National Assembly emphasized the importance of awareness raising among the politicians, as well as having a good national diagnosis. NGOs recalled that their organizations can help in creating such awareness.

5. Glossary of terms (terminology)

The international consultant continued with a presentation on the terminology to be considered in the development of the project. This methodology is based on a document originally written in English, which includes some of the existing definitions in the framework of the Basel Convention. In the region there is some debate regarding some Spanish terms, such as *waste* vs. *residues*; waste *management* vs. waste *handling* or *elimination* vs. *disposal*. It was recommended that the project will serve to further development of terminology in Spanish. Panama suggested organizing a small workshop to specifically discuss terminology matters.

6. A suggested framework for decision making for the safe management of mercury

At agenda item #6, the international consultant presented the "Suggested framework for decision making for the safe management of mercury", which consists of four stages: important initial actions; assess basic management options; choosing between technical concepts; and enable implementation. Representatives of both countries indicated that although this framework is difficult to apply fully, both due to the lack of time and resources, it can be a good tool as a reference framework, which should be adjusted according to the circumstances in each country.

7. Project mandate, background, objectives and expected outcomes

Ms. Desiree Narvaez presented the background, mandate, objectives, activities and expected outcomes of the mercury storage and disposal project in Mexico and Panama. Within the background it is worth to mention the storage options study in LAC, the projects carried out in 2011 in Argentina and Uruguay, or the workshop on mercury management which took place in Brasilia in May 2012. Main activities of the project include (i) study and analysis of the possible places for temporary storage in the country; (ii) revision of the regulatory framework and the mercury emissions inventory; (iii) establishment of support to decision making processes; (iv) assessment of basic management options; and (v) development of a national action plan on storage and disposal. It was mentioned that some of these activities can be conducted in parallel.

8. Project activities and expected outputs

a) Inventory of possible temporary storage locations for mercury storage

The international consultant initially presented a methodological framework for this activity, aimed at obtaining a list of locations for the possible temporary storage in each country, and an inventory of current mercury/hazardous waste treatment facilities, including waste management practices. After the experience in Uruguay and Argentina, tools to identify and classify the possible installations were presented, and some methodological concerns raised by the participants regarding the ranking criteria were addressed. It was recommended to include the geographical coordinates of the different facilities, and take into account any other factor that would prevent a place identified as technically ideal.

b) Regulatory framework

The consultant presented the methodology prepared to review the regulatory framework, whose objective is to obtain a diagnosis on legal and regulatory instruments at the local, national, regional and international levels that might affect the storage and disposal of mercury. For this purpose he showed as an example a matrix to identify the legal framework in the various related fields (emissions, import/export, marketing, treatment/recycling, disposal, etc.), and how it was applied in Argentina and Uruguay.

c) Process for decision-making / evaluation of basic management options

Starting from the reference framework presented the previous day, the consultant developed the process for decision-making, discussing the stages of basic management

options and including several examples on technical options for mercury waste treatment, stabilization and storage developed in Argentina, Korea, Mexico and Germany. In the discussion that followed the presentation, the CENICA representative asked if some safety factors are modifiable/compensated by engineering systems, e.g., distance to flood plains. The SGM representative of Mexico commented that this could effectively be done, but the financial implications of those options must also be considered, so it is better to try to locate facilities at the most suitable location from the physical point of view. Both Panama and Mexico shared a number of concerns such as the need to define each institution's responsibilities and take into account the social factor regarding the public rejection to these facilities, especially among nearby populations. In terms of commercial/investor interest in this type of facility, it was commented that it will depend largely on whether there is a legal framework requiring building this type of installation. Ms. Narvaez reminded the participants that any technology used for mercury treatment or storage must be validated by the authorities of each country.

d) Development of national plans of storage and disposal end of mercury

Finally, the consultant presented the guidelines for the elaboration of a National Action Plan for the environmentally sound storage and disposal of mercury and mercury waste. The guidelines include objective definition, situational analysis, consideration of the regulatory framework, stakeholders' participation, as well as the suggested items to be included in the Plan. UNEP emphasized the need to comply with the timeframe established to develop each country's Plans.

9. Working groups: work plans by country and joint calendar

A working group was formed for each country, in order to prepare a draft of a national work plan corresponding to the project development, taking into account the necessary activities and expected outputs. A representative was designated to present the work plan for each country. Mexico presented an eighth-month work plan defining a series of activities, dates, resources, and responsible bodies. The work plan is attached as Annex III to this report.

A similar presentation was carried out by the representative of Panama, who explained his country work plan (see Annex IV). This plan envisages holding several meetings in different working groups, including other actors who did not attend the workshop, and a great final validation workshop from which the draft national action plan would be prepared. Panama representatives discouraged the creation of a Committee, since this is not functional, and previous experiences show that working groups are best with formal

designation of its representatives. As regards the calendar, it was recommended to Panama to set flexible deadlines in order to have a more realistic work plan.

The following dates were established for both countries:

- interim report: March 2013
- draft final report: 15 June 2013 (in English and Spanish)
- workshop results: 3-4 July 2013
- final report: 30 August 2013

10. National reports and workshop closure

As a last item in the workshop, "National reports: format, structure" was presented by the international consultant, where he explained the format and structure of the national reports to be submitted by each country.

Finally, UNEP thanked the active participation of both countries' representatives.

ANNEXES

Annex 1. AGENDA

Inception Workshop
Mercury Storage and Disposal Project in Mexico and Panama
October 10-11, 2012, Holiday Inn Hotel, Clayton, Panama City

OBJECTIVES AND DRAFT AGENDA

A. Objectives of the Inception Workshop:

(a) The meeting was aimed at gaining a better understanding and role clarification on the mercury storage and disposal project objectives, design, outputs and outcome. The project aims to promote the environmentally sound storage and disposal of surplus mercury in Mexico and in Panama. The main outcome of the project is a national action plan on mercury storage and disposal in Mexico and Panama.

(b) The international consultant presented the framework for the storage facilities inventory, legislative/regulatory instruments, the "Suggested Framework for Decision Making for the Safe Management of Surplus Mercury", guidelines in drafting a national action plan and other relevant information needed to implement the project.

B. Operating Details:

(a) Participants: representatives from the governments, NGOs, industry, and other relevant stakeholders in Mexico and Panama.

(b) Secretariat: the consultant and UNEP Chemicals; UNEP ROLAC; representatives from the Stockholm Convention Regional Centres in Mexico and Panama, YMCA-Panama.

(c) Methodology: A chair will be nominated by the participants. The document "A suggested framework for decision making for the safe management of surplus mercury" will be used as a guide for the project. An open discussion will take place

after every agenda item to be presented. Action points after every item will be noted and will be further discussed and summarized in the afternoon of day 2.

C. Provisional agenda

Day 1 - October 10, 2012		
Time	**Item**	**Lecturer /Responsible**
8.30	Participant's register	
9.00	1. Opening and welcoming	Panama Government, UNEP ROLAC representatives
9.15	2. General overview and project's international context	UNEP
9.30	3. Initiatives and mercury projects presentations	
	3.a. Initiatives and mercury projects in Mexico	Mexico representative
	3.b. Initiatives and mercury projects in Panama	Panama representative
10.45	Coffee break	
11.15	4. Presentation of highlights of LAC mercury storage project options analysis study and its relevance to the project	UNEP's International consultant, all (discussion)
12.00	5. Presentation of the draft 7th version of the glossary of terms (terminology)	UNEP's International consultant
13.00	Lunch	
14.00	6. Presentation of a suggested framework for decision making for the safe management of redundant mercury (IKIMP Initiative)	UNEP's International consultant
15.00	7. Project mandate, background, objectives, relevance to INC process; expected outcome	UNEP, all (discussion)
15.30	Coffee break	
	8. Project Activities and expected output	
16.00	8.a. Survey and analysis of possible temporary storage locations in the country	UNEP's International consultant + Mexico & Panama comments
17.00	8.b. Review of regulatory framework	UNEP's International consultant + Mexico & Panama comments
18.00	Closure of Day 1	Chair
Day 2 - October 11, 2012		
9.00	Recap of day 1 discussion	UNEP
09.30	8.c. Establishing decision-making process; actors and inter-institutional committees	UNEP's international consultant, all
10.00	Coffee break	
10.30	8. d. Assessing basic management options	UNEP's international consultant, all
11.30	8. e. Developing national mercury storage and disposal action plan	UNEP's international consultant, all
12.30	Lunch	
14.00	Drafting of project work plan by country	Mexico & Panama national teams
15.30	Coffee break	
16.00	Presentation of project work plan by country	Mexico & Panama national teams

17.00	National final reports: format, structure	UNEP's International consultant
17.30	Closure of the meeting	Panama & UNEP representatives

Annex II PARTICIPANT'S LIST

Country	Name	Organization	Area	E-mail
Mexico	Víctor Gutiérrez Avedoy	Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático	CENICA/INECC	javedoy@ine.gob.mx
Mexico	Faviola Altuzar	Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático	CENICA/INECC	fvillato@ine.gob.mx
Mexico	Nayhely Pérez	Secretaría de Economía	Dirección General de Promoción Minera	Nayhely.perez@economia.gob.mx
Mexico	Guadalupe Ibarra Olivares	Servicio Geológico Mexicano	Hidrología y Geología Ambiental	giolivares@sgm.gon.mx
Panama	José Polanco	ANCON	Proyectos	jpolanco@ancon.org
Panama	Lidia González	Asamblea Nacional	Secretaría Técnica de Ambiente	lgonzalez@asamblea.gob.pa
Panama	Virilio Solís	Autoridad de Aseo Urbano y Domiciliario	Operaciones	vs@hc.com.pa
Panama	Patricia Pérez	Autoridad de Aseo Urbano y Domiciliario	Ambiente Legal	pperez@aaud.gob.pa
Panama	Marisol Bartnes	Autoridad Nacional de Aduanas	Cooperación Técnica Internacional	marisol.bartners@gmail.com
Panama	Olmedo Pérez	Autoridad Nacional del Ambiente	DIPROCA	operez@anam.gob.pa
Panama	Jorge Conte	Contaminación Cero		Jconte23@yahoo.com
Panama	Miguel Martínez	Ministerio de Comercio e Industria	Propiedad Industrial	mmartiez@mici.gob.pa

Country	Name	Organization	Area	E-mail
Panama	Anibal Ortega	Ministerio de Comercio e Industria	Laboratorio	anortega@mmici.gob.pa
Panama	Sintia Cerrud	Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario	Laboratorio	cerruds@yahoo.es
Panama	Ricardo Miranda	Ministerio de Salud	Dir. Infraestructura de Salud	rmiranda@minsa.gob.pa
Panama	Jaime Vélez	Ministerio de Salud	Sub. Dir. de Salud Ambiental	jvelez@minsa.gob.pa
Panama	Niurka González	Ministerio de Salud	Sub. Dir. de Salud Ambiental	
Panama	Milciades Bravo	Ministerio de Salud	Sub. Dir. de Salud Ambiental	milciadesbravo@yahoo.com
Panama	Elsa Flores	Universidad Tecnológica de Panama	Centro de Investigación Hidráulica	Elsa.flores@utp.ac.pa
Panama	Maria Inés Esquivel	Universidad de Panama / Ministerio de Salud / YMCA	CIIMET	miesquivelg@gmail.com
Panama	Francisco Beens	YMCA		frabeens@cableonda.net
Panama	Anabella Macia	YMCA		anabellamacia@gmail.com
Panama	Lourdes Álvarez	YMCA		direcciongeneral@ymcapanama.org
Panama	Augusto Mendoza	YMCA Consultor Nacional Panama		aumendoza@yahoo.com
	Mara Murillo	PNUMA	Oficina Regional para América Latina y el Caribe (ORPALC)	Mara.murillo@unep.org

Country	Name	Organization	Area	E-mail
	Desiree Narváez	PNUMA	DTIE División de Productos Químicos	Desiree.narvaez@unep.org
	Jordi Pon	PNUMA	ORPALC	rolac.chemicals@unep.org
	Andra Vasiu	PNUMA	ORPALC	rolac.chemicals2@unep.org
	Susana Sánchez	PNUMA	ORPALC	Susana.sanchez@unep.org
	Gustavo Solórzano	PNUMA – Consultor internacional	DTIE División de Productos Químicos	gsolorza@gmail.com

Annex III: WORK PLAN FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION – MEXICO

OCTOBER 2012 – JUNE 2013

Activities	Timeframe	Resources	Organism/responsible
Formalization of the Mercury Committee: different sectors involved.	October-December	DSA (national), transportation, coffee, facilities	Consultant (Mario Yarto)/ CENICA (Martha)
Gather existing information on: regulatory framework and other issues (demographic, social issues at each potential site)	October-December	Own and UNEP resources	Consultant/CENICA and involved institutions
Inventory validation	October-December	[UNEP resources]	[Consultant]
Technology assessment (basic management options assessment)	October-December	UNEP resources	Consultant
Gather information on potential sites for storage and its evaluation	October -March	UNEP resources	Consultant
Interim report	March	Own and UNEP resources	Consultant /CENICA
National action plan	May-June	Own and UNEP resources	Consultant /CENICA
Final report	May-June	Own and UNEP resources	Consultant /CENICA

Organization of the results workshop	June-August	US 9,000.00	CENICA

Parties involved in the Mercury Committee:

Government

Semarnat
Health Sector
Sagarpa
Secretariat of Economy (SGM and general mining coordination, foreign commerce, Dir. Gen. Of heavy industries and high technology -for cement-, Dir. Gen. Basic industries –chemicals-.
Customs
Secretariat of energy (CFE, PEMEX)
Foreign affairs
INEGI

Private sector:

CANAME National chamber of electrical manufacturers
CANIFARMA
CANACINTRA
ANIQ
CYDSA
CAMIMEX
CANACEM

AMEXPILAS

Annex IV: WORK PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MERCURY STORAGE AND DISPOSAL PROJECT – PANAMA

Activities	Tasks	Actors	Timeframe	Resources	Responsible
1- Updating the existing mercury inventory	1- Define actors who will collaborate on the updating of the inventory of mercury.	MINSA, ANAM, AAUD, ANA, UTP, MIDA, Ministry of energy, ACP, AMUPA, Dentists Association Panama, CSS, National Assembly, ASEP, Mining Chamber of Panama, Zero pollution Alliance, MICI (National Directorate of Commerce, mineral resources Division)	Inventory updated to December 15, 2012 (Actor's training date: October 23, 2012) (Estimated date for information validation meeting: November 20, 2012)	Stationery, ink for printing, coffee and lunches for meeting and training	Dra. María Inés Esquivel, Ing. Augusto Mendoza
	2- Train and sensitize the actors who will cooperate in updating the inventory				
	3- Define actors' responsibilities				
	4- Processing the information obtained by the actors				
	5- Processed information validation meeting				
	6- Send results to the international consultant				
Activities	**Tasks**	**Actors**	**Timeframe**	**Resources**	**Responsible**
2- Updating the	1- Define actors who will	MINSA, ANAM, Asamblea	Legal framework	Stationery,	Dra. María

Legal framework	collaborate on the updating of the Legal framework	Nacional	updated to December 15, 2012 (Estimated date for the information validation meeting: November 21 2012)	paper, ink for printing, coffee and lunches for meeting	Inés Esquivel, Ing. Augusto Mendoza
	2- Review final reports of the existing national mercury emissions inventory, the Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plan and the national chemicals profile (Legal part)				
	3- Collect information on new rules on mercury and hazardous wastes				
	4- Consolidate the information in the related matrix				
	5- Obtained information validation meeting				
	6- Send results to the international consultant				
Activities	**Tasks**	**Actors**	**Timeframe**	**Resources**	**Responsible**
3- Study and analysis of possible locations for the temporary storage in the	1- Define actors who will cooperate in obtaining information and evaluation of possible locations for the temporary storage in the country	MINSA, ANAM, UTP, National Institute Tommy Guardia, National Police, National Security Council, AAUD, Pollution zero alliance	Possible specific places for temporary storage defined on December 15, 2012	Stationery, paper, ink for printing, coffee and lunches for meetings	

country	2- Train and sensitize actors who will cooperate in obtaining information and evaluation of possible locations for the temporary storage in the country		(Actors' training date: October 25, 2012) (Estimated date for the information validation meeting: November 23, 2012) (Probable visit date: December 3, 2012)	and training. Expenses related to the visit of sites with a higher score (per diem)	
	3- Collect information on potential sites, with existing infrastructure, with features for the temporary storage of mercury waste, based on the related matrix				
	4- Consolidate the information in the related matrix				
	5- Obtained information validation meeting				
	6- Visit to sites with highest score				
	7- Send results to the international consultant				
Activities	**Tasks**	**Actors**	**Timeframe**	**Resources**	**Responsible**
4- Basic management options assessment	1- Define actors who will collaborate in the basic management options assessment	MINSA, ANAM, UTP, ACP, Pollution zero alliance	Basic management options set for December 15,	Stationery, paper, ink for printing, coffee and	Dra. María Inés Esquivel, Ing.

	2- Assess the basic management options proposed in the Final report of the national mercury emissions inventory		2012 (Estimated date for the information validation meeting: December 4, 2012)	lunches for meetings	Augusto Mendoza
	3- Assess the current situation of the country				
	4- Propose basic management options if necessary, according to assessments carried out				
	5- Consolidate the information provided by the actors in terms of basic management options				
	6- Proposed information validation meeting				
Activities	**Tasks**	**Actors**	**Timeframe**	**Resources**	**Responsible**
5- Establish decision-making processes	1- Define actors who will collaborate in establishing decision-making processes	MINSA, ANAM, AAUD, ANA, UTP, MIDA, Ministry of energy, ACP, AMUPA, Dentists Association Panama, CSS, National Assembly, ASEP, Mining Chamber of Panama, Alliance pollution zero, MICI (National Directorate of Commerce, mineral resources	Decision-making Processes set for January 15, 2013 (Estimated date of the meeting to present results of activities 1 to 4, all stakeholders, on December 11,	Stationery, paper, ink for printing, coffee and lunches for activities' results presentation meeting and work	Dra. María Inés Esquivel, Ing. Augusto Mendoza

		Directorate), ACP, Alliance pollution zero, National Institute Tommy Guardia, national police, National Security Council	2012) (Date of the working meeting to prepare decision-making processes: January 5, 2013)	meeting	
	2- Meeting to present activities 1 to 4 results				
	3- Work meeting to establish decision-making processes				
	4- Consolidate document with agreed decision-making processes				
Activities	**Tasks**	**Actors**	**Timeframe**	**Resources**	**Responsible**
6- Develop the National Action Plan on mercury storage and disposal	1- Prepare a draft of the National action Plan on mercury storage and disposal, based on information obtained in activities 1 through 5	MINSA, ANAM, AAUD, ANA, UTP, MIDA, Ministry of energy, ACP, AMUPA, Dentists Association Panama, CSS, National Assembly, ASEP, Mining Chamber of Panama, Alliance pollution zero, MICI (National Directorate of Commerce, mineral resources Directorate), ACP, National Institute Tommy Guardia, National Police, National	National action plan on mercury storage and disposal prepared for February 15, 2013 (Probable date for the working meeting to prepare the National Action	Stationery, paper, ink for printing, coffee and lunches for the 2-day working meeting in a local hotel	Dra. María Inés Esquivel, Ing. Augusto Mendoza

		Security Council	Plan on mercury storage and disposal: February 5 and 6, 2013)		
	2- Send all actors the draft of the National action Plan on mercury storage and disposal				
	3- Organize work meeting to discuss, strengthen and validate the National Action Plan on mercury storage and disposal				
Activities	**Tasks**	**Actors**	**Timeframe**	**Resources**	**Responsible**
7- Produce the interim report of the mercury storage and disposal project	1- Prepare a draft interim report	MINSA, ANAM, AAUD, ANA, UTP, MIDA, Ministry of energy, ACP, AMUPA, Dentists Association Panama, CSS, National Assembly, ASEP, Mining Chamber of Panama, Alliance pollution zero, MICI (National Directorate of Commerce, mineral resources Directorate), ACP, National Institute Tommy Guardia, National Police, National Security Council	Interim Report of the mercury storage and disposal project prepared for March 30, 2013 (Probable date of the meeting: March 19, 2013)	Stationery, paper, ink for printing, coffee and lunches for the meeting	Dra. María Inés Esquivel, Ing. Augusto Mendoza
	2- Send draft interim report to stakeholders				
	3- Hold meeting to agree on interim report				
	4- Submit interim report to stakeholders	UNEP and international consultant			

8- Developing the Final report on the mercury storage and disposal project	1- Develop draft of project's Final report		Final report on mercury storage and disposal project prepared for June 15, 2013 (Probable date for the meeting: June 4, 2013)		
	2- Send draft of final report to stakeholders				
	3- Hold meeting to agree on the final report				
	4- Send the final report to stakeholders	UNEP and international consultant			
	5- Submit the project's final report at the results meeting				

Annex V: PICTURES