Facility Inventory: Mercury Storage and Disposal

Norway ODA Mercury Storage and Disposal Project in the Caribbean Jamaica, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago

12-13 August 2015 Port of Spain

Background

- Identifying environmentally sound storage solutions for mercury is recognized by the international community as a priority.
- LAC Mercury Storage Project confirmed the likely excess or surplus mercury close to 8,300 tons between 2015 and 2050 for the region
- Interim storage projects should be undertaken in the short-term while long-term plans and policies are being developed.
- Project EXECOM expressed the need for temporary or interim facilities to store elemental mercury, as well as for mercury containing waste

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Objective

General

The project aims to promote the environmentally sound management of storage and disposal of surplus mercury in the Caribbean, and resulting national action plans on the environmentally sound management of surplus mercury in each country

Objective

Particular

- List of possible temporary storage locations in the country, and an
- Inventory of current mercury and/or hazardous waste treatment facilities including waste management practices. (possible interim storage facility for excess/surplus mercury)

Methodology

- 1. Based on inventory results, compare the costs of in country storage and disposal compared with costs of export of mercury wastes.
- 2. Determine if existing facilities can store mercury wastes in an environmentally sound fashion.
- 3. Determine if new (or updated) storage or treatment facilities are needed.
- 4. Review current data on siting requirements as it relates to the unique characteristics of island nations (climate, topography, economy, culture)
- 5. Selection of facility-type that could possibly be used for mercury storage/disposal
- 6. Implement a regulatory program to implement in country storage/disposal or export.