

Association of Lighting and Mercury Recyclers A non-profit organization representing members of the recycling industry www.almr.org

August 25, 2011

Head, UNEP Chemicals Branch, DTIE 11-13, chemin des Anémones CH-1219 Châtelaine Geneva, Switzerland

Via E-mail: <u>mercury@chemicals.unep.ch</u>

Dear UNEP,

The Association of Lighting and Mercury Recyclers would like to become a UNEP Global Mercury Partner. We share the goals of the Partnership to protect human health and the environment from the release of mercury to air, water and land. We meet our commitment to this goal by recycling a wide assortment of hazardous wastes that contain mercury and recovering as much mercury as possible to eliminate it from the waste stream. To date members of our organization have recycled 1-2 billion pounds of mercury-containing wastes.

Our industry began operating in 1990 and The Association of Lighting and Mercury Recyclers (ALMR) was formed in 1999 as a non-profit professional organization of companies involved with the collection, recycling and recovery of mercury-containing lighting products, related co-products, Universal Wastes or potentially hazardous materials such as; E-Scrap, batteries, thermostats, ballasts, mercury-containing devices, products and debris. ALMR members offer services throughout the U.S., and several operate in Europe and provide recycling technology and equipment throughout the world. We reclaim mercury and we do not support its misuse or any activities that would lead to human or environmental exposure. The ALMR received a grant from the USEPA to develop and manage the Lamp Recycling Outreach Project for the United States from 2003-2007.

The ALMR serves as an educational and informational resource to government, business and the public regarding proper mercury reclamation and disposal. An important part of our mission is to promote programs, policies, and practices that divert mercury-bearing wastes from the solid waste stream and the environment. The ALMR works with the USEPA, state and local government agencies and other national organizations to establish and implement programs which encourage and promote the recycling of all mercury containing products and waste materials, produce educational materials and conduct outreach. We have provided assistance to the Ontario Canada agency for mercury policy development, and in Mexico, Central and South America we have provided consulting on how to set up mercury recycling programs to industry groups and government agencies. We have also served as a technical resource to governments in the Pacific Rim and in the Head, UNEP Chemicals Branch, DTIE Re: UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Association of Lighting and Mercury Recyclers Page 2 of 2

Middle East. Our members are expanding around the globe and wish to provide more education and technology applications anywhere they are needed. We also can assist with the development of policy and infrastructure.

Our request is that you approve our Partnership in time for us to participate in the next Partnership Advisory Group meeting in Nairobi in Nov. 2011. We realize there is not much time so we ask that you act quickly on our request if that is possible.

We thank you in advance for your consideration and we are available at any time if there are questions.

Sincerely,

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Paul Abernathy Executive Director

UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM *	
Partnership Area	Please check partnership areas that your organization intends to contribute to:
	 artisanal and small scale gold mining mercury cell chlor alkali production mercury air transport and fate research mercury in products mercury releases from coal combustion mercury waste management
	Please indicate in your support letter how your organization intends to contribute to each of the indicated partnership areas.
Organization Name	Association of Lighting and Mercury Recyclers
Name, Functional Title of Representative	Paul Abernathy, Executive Director
Address of Organization	4139 Rhine Court, Napa, California 94558, USA
Tel. No	707-927-3844
Email	mail@almr.org
Fax No.	707-927-3936
Website/URL	www.almr.org
Type of Organization	 Government Regional economic integration organization Non-government Organization Industry Scientific community Other, please specify:

* UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Registration Forms are to be accompanied by a letter to UNEP signifying support for the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and commitment to achieving the partnership goal. The support letter should specify how the organization intends to contribute to meeting the goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership. Please submit the support letter and registration form to:

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