

Mercury-Containing Products Partnership Area



UNEP Mercury Waste Management Partnership Area
Meeting

Tokyo, Japan

March 9-10, 2010

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Purpose

- Describe the overall objectives and emerging issues for the Mercury-Containing Products Partnership Area
- Discuss core project areas and potential opportunities for collaboration with the Waste Management Partnership Area



Mercury-Containing Products Partnership Area

- Overall Objectives
 - To phase out and eventually eliminate mercury in products and to eliminate releases during manufacturing and other industrial processes via environmentally sound production, transportation, storage, and disposal procedures
 - To identify and implement successful approaches for reducing or eliminating mercury in products where there are effective substitutes



Mercury-Containing Products Partnership Area (cont'd)

- Product Categories
 - Batteries
 - Measuring and control devices
 - Electrical and electronic equipment
 - Lighting
 - Dental amalgam
 - Other uses (paints, laboratory, pharmaceutical, cultural/traditional)



Mercury-Containing Products Partnership Area (cont'd)

- Emerging Issues
 - Expanding work to develop projects to address lamps, dental amalgam, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals
 - Developing projects and relationships in nations and regions that have been underrepresented to date
 - Improving data baselines, as well as monitoring and measurement tools
 - Increasing membership among all interested parties, including product manufacturers and Governments where manufacturers are headquartered
 - Coordinating with other partnerships (e.g., Mercury Waste Management Partnership and Mercury Supply and Storage Partnership) to enhance product lifecycle solutions and synthesize objectives



Opportunities for Collaboration with Waste Management Partnership

- Health Care Facilities
 - Develop and implement mercury management plans and product inventories
 - Provide assistance, where possible, in achieving product substitution
 - Current projects in Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Nepal, and Tanzania
 - Potential for collaboration:
 - Could waste management plans be modified per input from the Waste Management Partnership?
 - Could instrument retirement solutions be better coordinated with waste management efforts?
 - Could both Partnerships work with Partners to identify and design joint projects (i.e., products, alternatives, wastes)?
 - Could all activities provide opportunity to communicate and gather information for both Partnerships?



Opportunities for Collaboration (cont'd)

- Schools
 - Provide outreach and training for safe mercury and chemical management
 - Conduct “train the trainer” workshops for governments, education officials, and students
 - No current projects, but past efforts in Cambodia, the Philippines, and Thailand
 - Potential for collaboration:
 - Could outreach and training modules incorporate information on short-term and long-term waste management practices?
 - Could activities provide opportunity to communicate and gather information for both Partnerships?



Opportunities for Collaboration (cont'd)

- Inventories and Risk Management
 - Develop local, national, and regional mercury emissions and products inventories
 - Provide outreach and planning for risk management strategies
 - Current projects in the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, and South Africa
 - Potential for collaboration:
 - Could inventories assess waste management practices and capabilities?
 - Could risk management plans incorporate assessment of waste management scenarios?
 - Could activities provide opportunity to communicate and gather information for both Partnerships?



Opportunities for Collaboration (cont'd)

- Retirement, Collection, and Management
 - Seek to engage in “lifecycle” management of mercury
 - Provide outreach to develop and incorporate plans for environmentally safe management for retired mercury-containing products
 - Current projects in Argentina, Costa Rica, Uruguay, and Russia
 - Potential for collaboration:
 - Could waste management plans be developed per input from the Waste Management Partnership?
 - Could both Partnerships work with Partners to identify and design joint projects (i.e., products, alternatives, wastes)?
 - Could activities provide opportunity to communicate and gather information for both Partnerships?



Contact Information

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