

# Global Mercury Partnership and the Minamata Convention on Mercury

Expert Group Meeting (EGM) of the Mercury  
Supply and Storage partnership area

25-26 October 2016

Madrid, Spain

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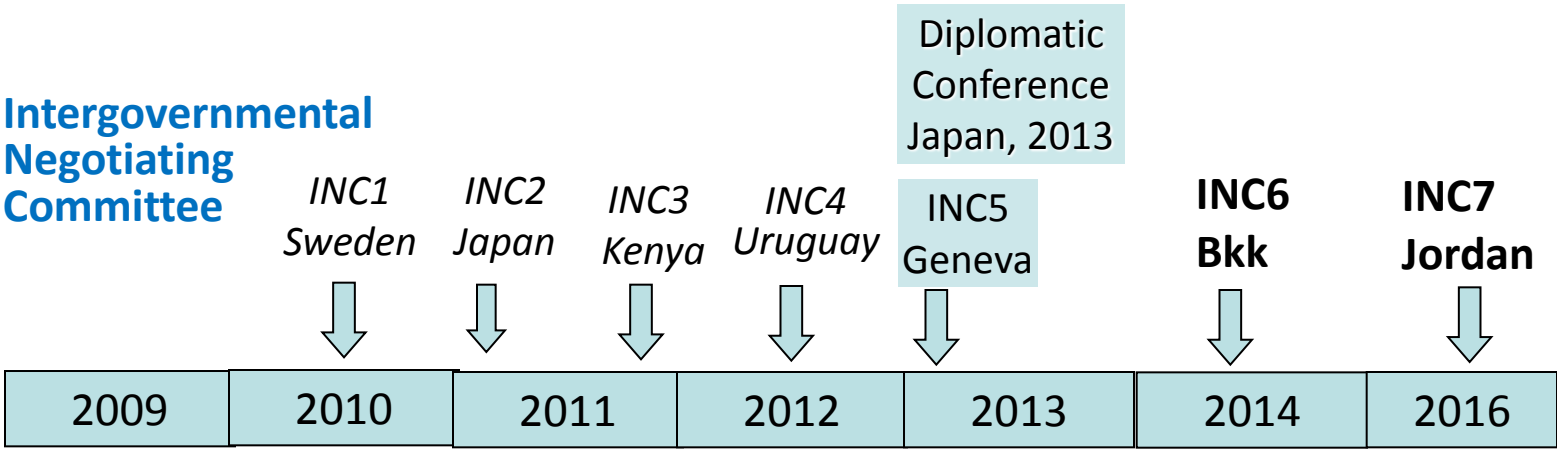


# UNEP Global Mercury Programme:

*A twin track approach*



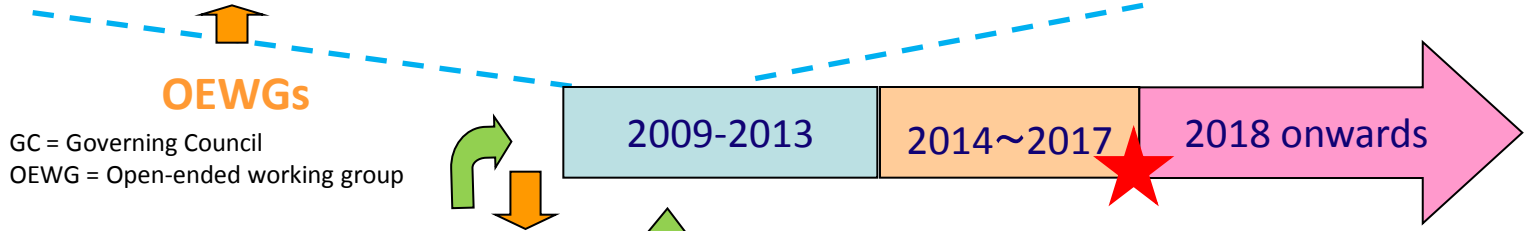
**Intergovernmental  
Negotiating  
Committee**



Diplomatic  
Conference  
Japan, 2013

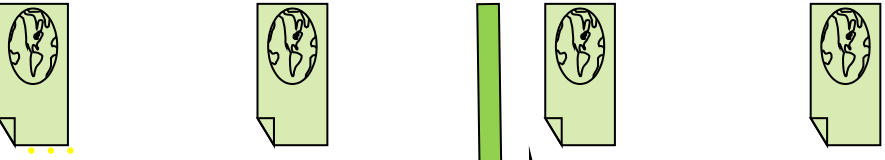
**OEWGs**

GC = Governing Council  
OEWG = Open-ended working group



**2001-2008**  
**UNEP GC  
decisions**

*Minamata Convention Entry into force?*



**Global Hg assessments**



# UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

**Mandate:** to deliver immediate action

**Objective:** to protect human health and the global environment from the release of mercury

**Means:** minimizing and, where feasible, ultimately eliminating anthropogenic releases

## Activities

Generation of baseline data and information

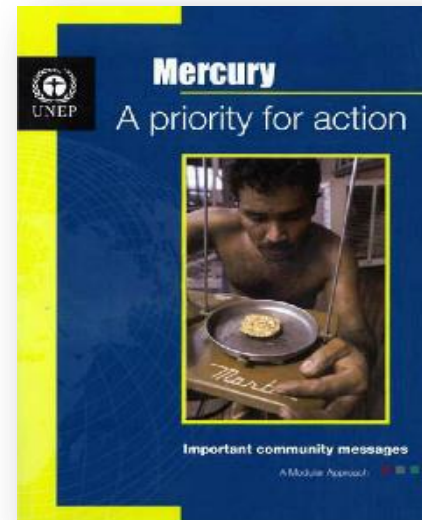
Development of guidance materials/toolkits

Information gathering + exchange ,advocacy, awareness raising

Strengthening national capacities to identify problems and take strategic actions; national + regional planning

Demonstration projects

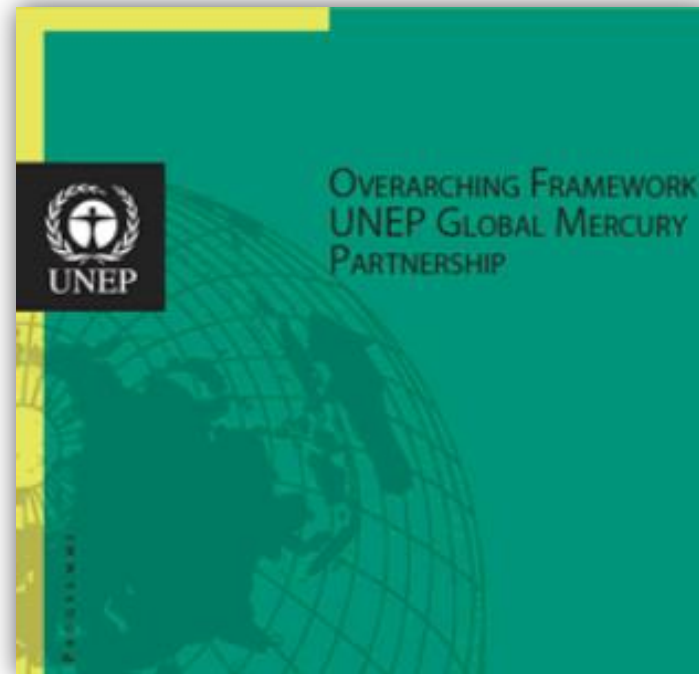
**Support for early ratification and implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury**



# UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

## 8 Partnership areas and business plans

- ASGM
- Coal combustion
- Chlor-alkali
- Products
- Transport and fate
- Waste management
- Supply and storage
- Cement



152 partners— 28 governments, 5 UN agencies, 129 companies/ institutions/individual experts



# Global Mercury Partnership and the Minamata Convention



## How the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership contributes to the implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

### UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Areas

Articles in the Minamata Convention on Mercury	UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Areas					Mercury air transport and fate research	Global Mercury Assessment and national inventories
	Mercury supply and storage	Mercury reduction in chlor-alkali	Mercury reduction in products	Mercury Control from Coal Combustion	Mercury release from the cement industry		
3. Mercury supply sources and trade	✓	✓					
4 and Annex A. Mercury-added products			✓				
5 and Annex B. Manufacturing processes in which mercury or mercury compounds are used		✓					
6. Exemptions available to a Party upon request			✓				
7. Artisanal and small-scale gold mining Annex C. National action plans				✓			✓
8. Emissions and Annex D. List of point sources of emissions of mercury and mercury compounds to the atmosphere				✓	✓	✓	✓
9. Releases		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
10. Environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury	✓						
11. Mercury wastes		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
12. Contaminated sites						✓	✓
16. Health aspects			✓	✓			
20. Implementation plan				✓			✓
21. Reporting				✓			✓
Business evaluation							✓
Building, technical knowledge transfer	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Information exchange	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public information, awareness and education	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Research, development and monitoring	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



# Partnership activities can in general support Governments implement the Minamata Convention by providing:

- Information necessary for prioritizing actions in sectors
- Technical guidance, capacity building and awareness raising relevant to the Articles of the Minamata Convention on Mercury
- Expertise in providing guidance as requested by the INC and COP



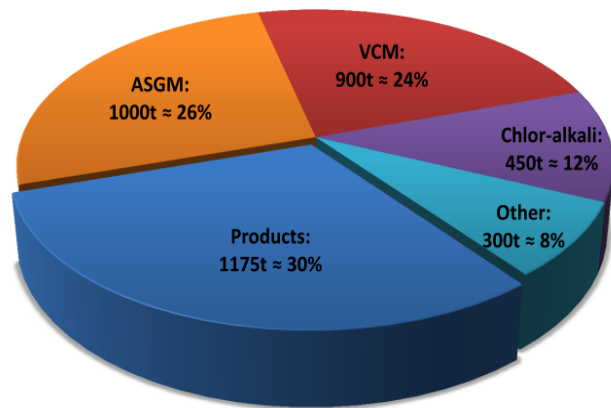
# Sources of Mercury Supply 2007

Sources of mercury supply (2007)	Mercury supply (metric tonnes)
Primary mercury mining	1 100-1 400
By-product mercury	600-800
Mercury from chlor-alkali cells (decommissioning)	700-800
Recycled mercury catalyst, waste, products	700-900
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 100-3 900</b>
Source: Maxson, Peter	



# Mercury Demand/Consumption 2007 (Source: Maxson)

Mercury Demand/Consumption (2007)

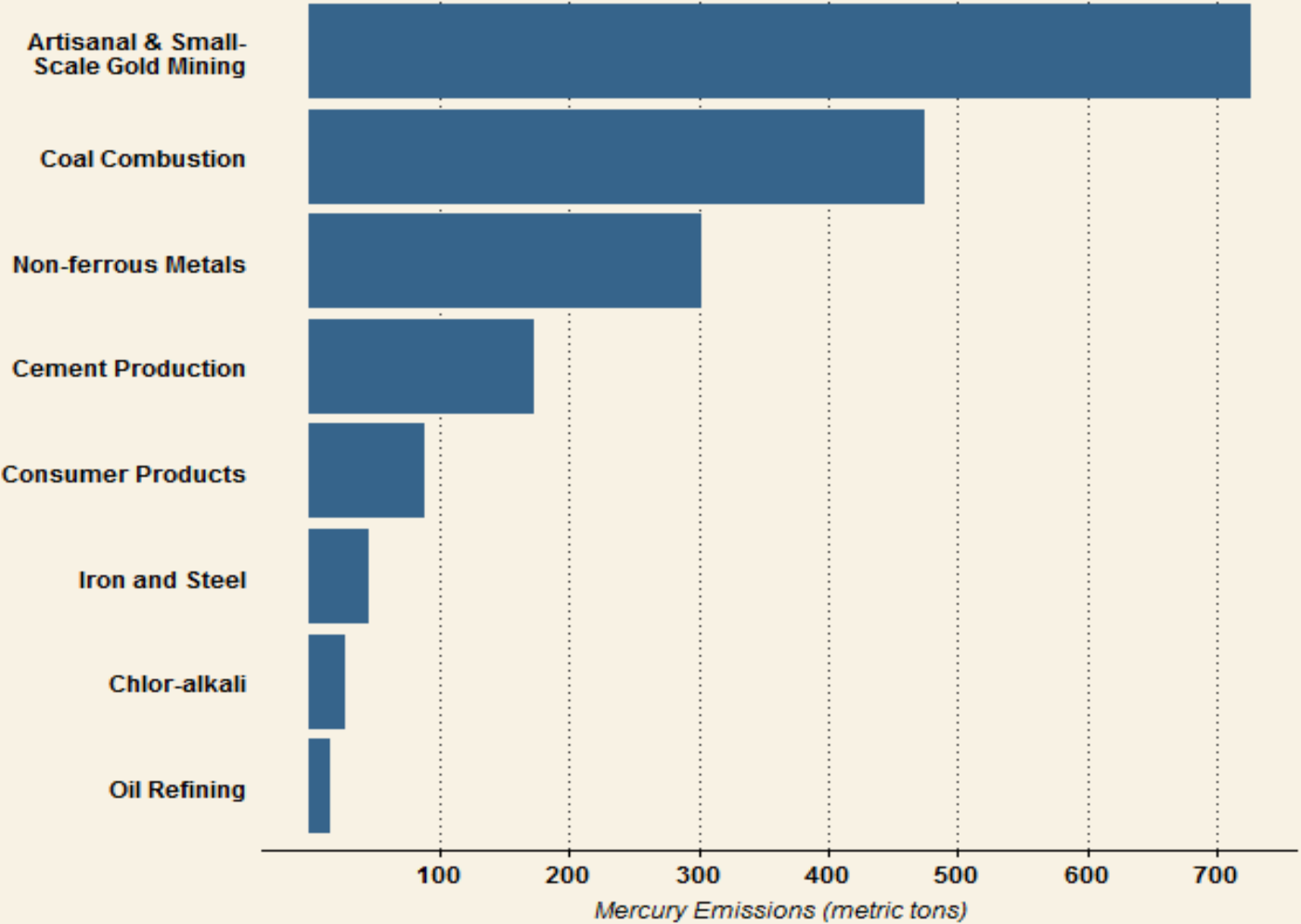


Application	Metric Tonnes
Small-scale/artisanal gold mining	650-1,350
Vinyl chloride monomer (VCM) production	800-1,000
Chlor-alkali production	400-500
Batteries	200-400
Dental use	250-350
Measuring devices	250-350
Lighting	110-140
Switches and relays	100-200
Other (PU elastomers, paints, testing and laboratory, pharmaceutical, cultural uses)	200-400
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,000-4,700</b>

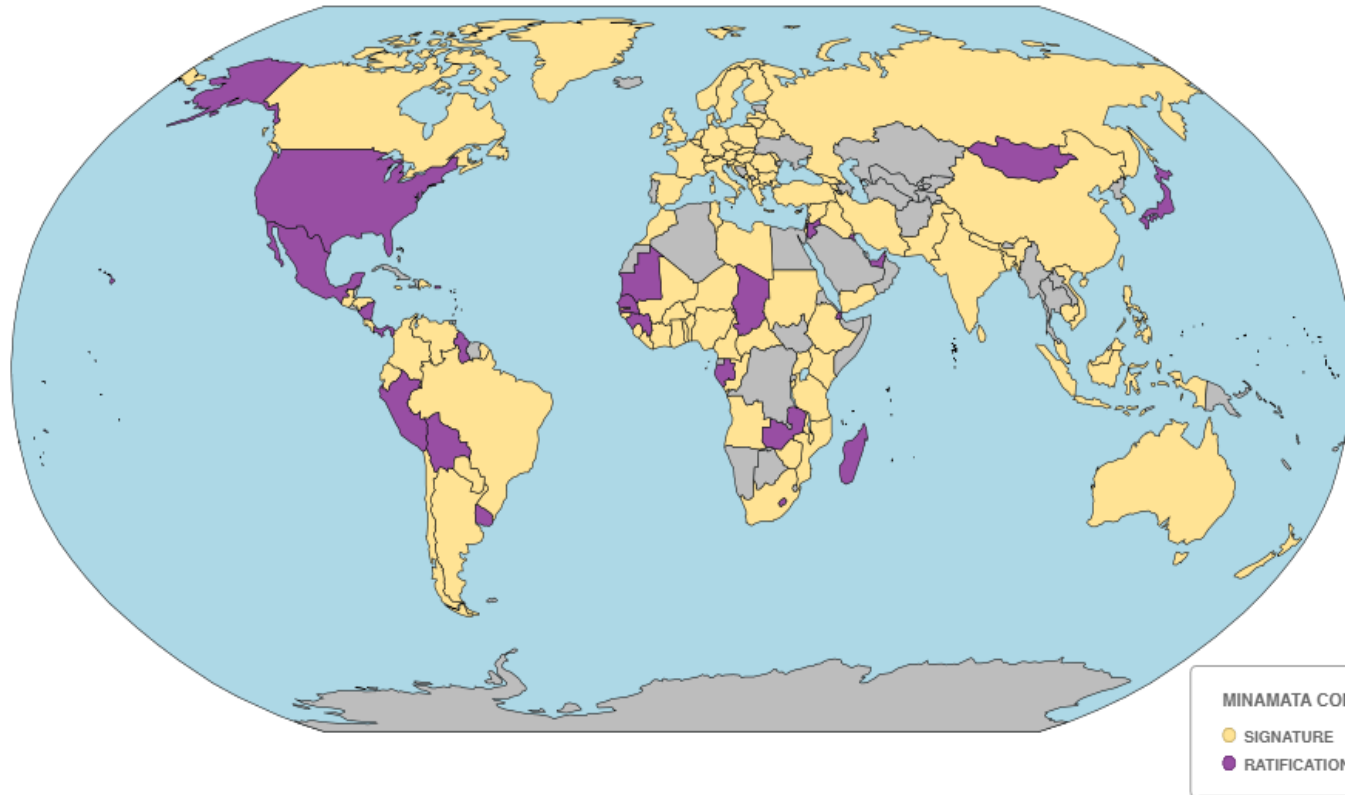




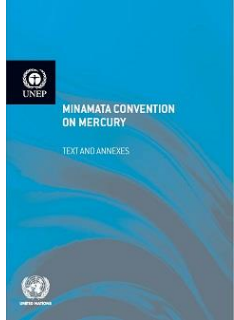
# Global Anthropogenic Atmospheric Emissions (UNEP, Global Mercury Assessment, 2013)



# Minamata Convention on Mercury: As of October 2016, 128 Signatures and 32 Parties



**Parties:** Antigua and Barbuda, Bolivia, Botswana, Chad, China, Djibouti, Ecuador, Gabon, Guinea, Guyana, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Seychelles, Swaziland, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uruguay, Zambia.



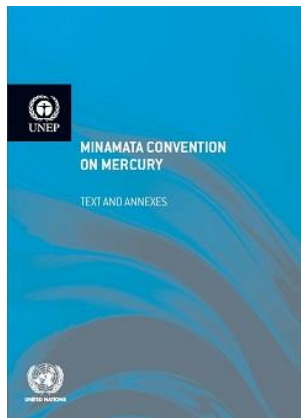
# Article 3

## Mercury supply sources and trade



- Specific definitions of mercury and mercury compounds for trade purposes
- Specific exemptions for laboratory scale quantities, trace quantities in ores, mineral products and coal, and for mercury-added products
- Prohibits new primary mining, limits use of mercury from existing primary mines
- Requires identification of mercury stocks (>10 tonnes) and requires disposal of mercury from decommissioned chloralkali plants
- **Restricts** export of mercury - requires prior written consent; only for allowable use or environmentally sound interim storage (Article 10)
- **Restricts** import of mercury from non-Parties - requires information that it does not come from prohibited sources





# Article 3

## Mercury supply sources and trade



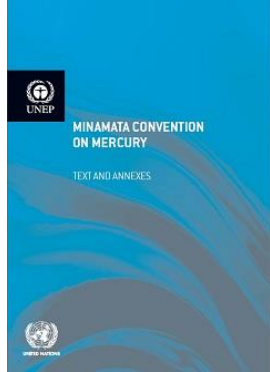
Forms A- D. Adopted on provisional basis at INC 7

Form A: Written consent by a Party to the import of mercury

Form B: Written consent by a non-Party to the import of mercury

Form C: Non-Party certification of the source of mercury to be exported to a Party to be used in conjunction with form A or form D, when required

Form D: Form for general notification of consent to import mercury



# Article 3

## Mercury supply sources and trade



Guiding questions to aid in the identification of stocks of mercury or mercury compounds or sources of mercury supply

- Is **primary mining** occurring within the country's territory?
- Are there identified sites where mercury is **stored** prior to use within the territory?
- Are **recycling or recovery** activities that may produce mercury undertaken within the territory? If so, what quantity of mercury is produced by those activities?
- Is there any proposed **decommissioning of chlor-alkali plants**, vinyl chloride monomer plants or other facilities with **manufacturing processes** in which mercury or mercury compounds are used?
- Are there facilities that may result in the production of **by-product mercury** within the territory? If so, what quantity of mercury is generated by those facilities?



MINAMATA CONVENTION  
ON MERCURY

TEXT AND ANNEXES

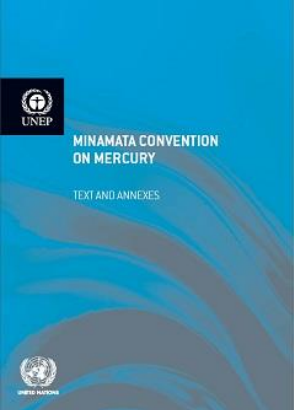


# Article 10

## Environmentally sound interim storage of mercury, other than waste mercury

- Only applies to interim storage of non-waste mercury
- Only for use allowed under the Convention
- Party shall ensure environmentally sound interim storage taking into account any guidelines and requirements developed
- COP shall adopt guidelines on storage, taking into account Basel guidelines. Additional requirements may be included in an additional annex to the Convention
- Parties shall cooperate to enhance capacity building.



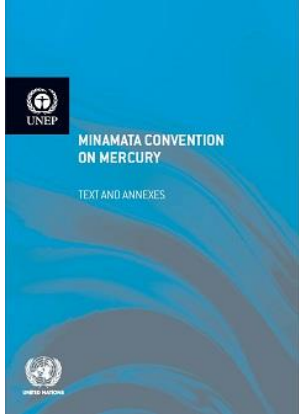


# Article 11 - Mercury wastes



- Highlights Basel Convention definitions, includes some specific definitions
- Parties shall take measures to ensure that mercury waste is:
  - Managed in an environmentally sound manner, taking into account the Basel guidelines and any requirements the COP may adopt
  - Only recovered, recycled, reclaimed or re-used for a use allowed to a Party under the Convention or for environmentally sound disposal
  - For Parties to Basel, only transported across international boundaries for environmentally sound disposal in line with this Article and with the Basel Convention.
- COP shall cooperate closely with the Basel Convention
- Parties are encouraged to cooperate.

# Article 21 - reporting



- Each Party shall report to the COP on measures to implement the provisions, effectiveness and challenges
- Reporting on Articles 3, 5, 7, 8 and 9
- COP will decide, at its first meeting, the timing and format of reporting required



# Thank you for your attention

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