

UNEP Global Mercury Partnership

WASTE MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP AREA CORE-MEMBER MEETING IN VIENNA



10 September 2018

Objectives of the Meeting

Overview of the UNEP GMP

- The UNEP Global Mercury Partnership (GMP) started in 2008, in response to the Resolution adopted at the 23rd UNEP Governing Council
- The overall goal of the Partnership;
 - To protect human health and the global environment from the release of mercury and its compounds by minimizing and, where feasible, ultimately eliminating global, anthropogenic mercury releases to air, water and land.
 - The Partnership works closely with stakeholders to assist timely ratification and effective implementation of the Minamata Convention.
- 182 partners in 8 Partnership areas (as of June 2018)

Reducing mercury in ASGM

Mercury control from coal combustion

Mercury reduction in chlor-alkali

Mercury reduction in products

Mercury air transport and fate research

Mercury waste management

Mercury supply and storage

Mercury releases from cement industry

Overall Achievements of UNEP-GMP

The GMP played a pivotal role to develop the Convention

- Catalyzing action towards ratification and implementation of the Minamata Convention
- Raising awareness on the risks of mercury pollution and ways to reduce it
- Developing sector-based technical guidance documents and tools
- Providing technical support on mercury reduction projects
- Contributing to key scientific and technical publications (e.g. the draft guidance on ASGM NAPs and the Process Optimization Guidance for coal-fired plants)
- Implementing various activities by individual Partners benefiting from the network of experts in the Partnership.

Discussion at PAG8 (1)

- It is timely to discuss how the GMP can contribute to the implementation of the Convention after entry into force.
- At the 8th meeting of Partnership Advisory Group (PAG), attended by the leads and core members of each partnership area, held in Geneva in September 2017, the participants discussed the way forward.

Topics of the discussion

1. How can the GMP best respond to the needs of the countries and stakeholders to the implementation of the Minamata Convention?
2. How can the GMP best facilitate and coordinate the activities of the Partners?
3. How can Partnership areas cooperate with each other?
4. What specific activities can the GMP develop to assist the implementation of the Convention?
5. How can the GMP interact with the financial mechanisms of the Convention?

Discussion at PAG8 (2)

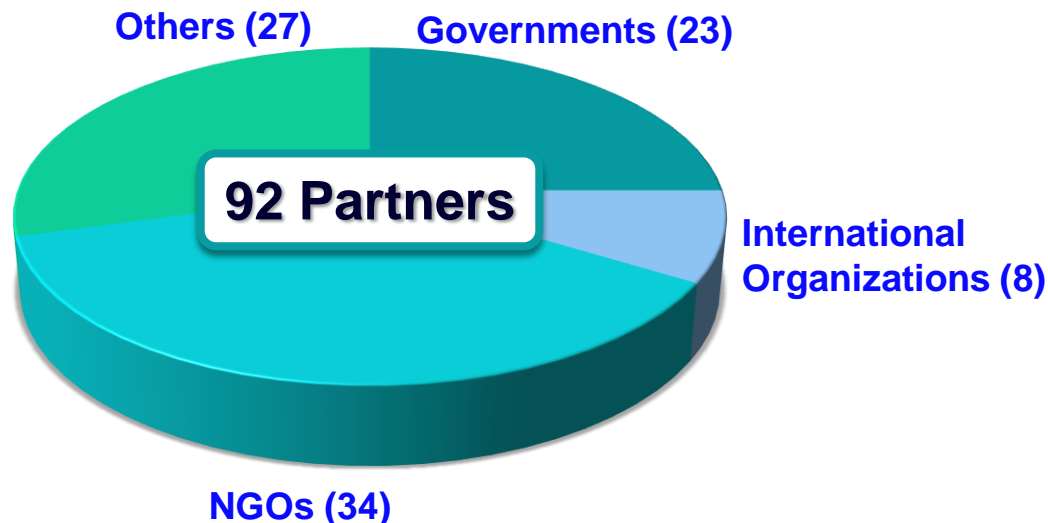
Topic	Suggestions
1. How to respond to the needs in the implementation of the Convention?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Use media/web, translate materials into non-English languages</u>• <u>Identify the specific needs of member countries of the Convention.</u>• Facilitate communication among partners and shift global efforts into activities at regional/ national levels.• Enhance the awareness and capacity building to whom that have limited knowledge
2. How to facilitate and coordinate the activities by Partners?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Develop a database of activities and technologies.</u>• Improve national communication strategies within a country, simplify the messages to countries that has difficulties to access.
3. How to cooperate with each areas?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Track and share the activities by each areas and compile them to improve internal communication among Partners.</u>• Provide data for monitoring assistance, statistical design of projects, and information of the activities conducted under each areas.

Discussion at PAG8 (3)

Topic	Suggestions
4. What activities can we develop to assist the implementation of the Convention?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Provide support on topics related to the legal framework examination regarding ratification/implementation of the Convention.</u>• Coordinate with implementation agencies for practical opportunities.• Develop a global mercury observation system and an interoperable system for knowledge.
5. How to interact with the financial mechanism of the Convention?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Develop a project where multiple Partnership areas could participate and work together.</u>• <u>Identify co-benefits and added-value with other major issues such as climate change.</u>• Develop projects that could be integrated under a global umbrella programme, identify co-financing opportunities and in-kind contributions by Partners.

Overview of Waste Management Area (WMA)

- **Started in 2008**
- **Lead:** Associate Professor Misuzu Asari (Kyoto University)
Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOEJ)
- **Number of Partners: 92** (as of July 2018)



The WMA has the biggest number of partners.

- **ASGM:** 70 partners
- **Coal Combustion:** 61 partners
- **Chlor-alkali:** 12 partners
- **Cement Industry:** 10 partners
- **Products:** 75 partners
- **Air Transport and Fate:** 43 partners
- **Supply and Storage:** 29 partners

(There are some overlapping)

Activities under the WMA

Activities implemented by the Waste Management Area (WMA)

- Face-to-face Meetings (*on-going*)
- Resource Persons List (*on-going*)
- Good Practice Document for Management of Mercury Release from Waste (*on-going*)
- Supporting UNEP-IETC to develop “Global Mercury Waste Assessment” (*implemented in 2017*)
- Compiling information of mercury wastes thresholds and requirements under Article 11 (*implemented in 2017*)
- Collaboration with Chlor-alkali Area (*on-going*)
- Submission of Business Plan Report (*on-going*)

Projects implemented by Partners of the WMA

17 projects are on-going and 9 projects are under-planned as of May 2017, including;

- Mercury containing products collection programs in Panama by NGO (*on-going*)
- Environmentally Sound Implementation of Healthcare Waste Management Plan in Nigeria by the Government of Nigeria (*on-going*)

Objectives of the Meeting

Session 1.

- To review and evaluate each activity implemented under the WMA and identify achievements and challenges.

Session 2.

- To discuss **way forward** of GMP and WMA and to develop a concrete **action plan**.