

Mercury Storage and Disposal LAC Two Countries Project

Presentation of the project mandate, objectives,
relevance to INC process, expected outcomes

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Presentation Outline

- Project Background and Mandate
- Objective and Organization
- Activities and Expected Outcome
- Conclusion

Project Background and Mandate

Project Background and Mandate

- Identifying environmentally sound storage solutions for mercury is recognized by the international community as a priority.
- Discussions during INC-1 and INC-2 meetings
 - At INC-2, GRULAC region expressed concern on the insufficient information on the capacity of most developing countries for the effective and economically viable long term storage of mercury.
 - Interim storage projects should be undertaken in the short-term while long-term plans and policies are being developed.

Project Background and Mandate

- UNEP Mercury Storage Project in the LAC region
 - 2015-2050: excess or surplus mercury \approx 8,300 tonnes
 - “Excess Mercury Supply in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC), 2010-2050”



demand

supply

Project Background and Mandate

- LAC Mercury Storage Project Execom, 21-22 October 2010, Santiago, Chile
 - options for above ground, underground and export to a foreign facility for the long term storage of mercury
 - “Options Analysis and Feasibility Study for the Long-Term Storage of Mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean”



Project Background and Mandate

- Work on mercury storage and disposal in other countries
 - The European Union; the US; Sweden; Denmark
 - « A Suggested Framework for Decision Making for the Safe Management of Surplus Mercury »

Project Objective and Organization

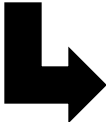
Objective and Organization

- To promote the environmentally sound management of storage and disposal of surplus mercury in Uruguay and in Argentina
- Implementing organization
 - Implemented under the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership on Supply and Storage
 - Project in collaboration with
 - Secretariat of the Basel Convention
 - Basel Regional Cooperating Centers in Uruguay and Argentina

Project Activities and Expected Outcome

Activities and Expected Outcome

1. Survey and analysis of possible temporary storage locations in the country
2. Review of regulatory framework
3. Establishing decision-making process
4. Assessing basic management options
5. Developing national storage and waste management action plan

 National action plan on mercury storage and disposal in Uruguay and Argentina

Thank you

UNEP Chemicals

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