Montevideo, 12 de octubre de 2011

United Nations Environment Programme, UNEP

Head, UNEP Chemicals Branch, DTIE

Mr. Timothy Kasten,

OEE.1585/011 Uruguay has undertaken a strong compromise in the mercury issues, not only at national but also at regional and global level, from the presidency of the current intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury.

Our country is wholly aware of the overall goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership, which is 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.

Moreover, we are committed to support the mercury process and we are ready to become an official partner of UNEP’s Global Mercury Partnership”, willing to enthusiastically participate in the Supply and Storage Partnership Area.

Uruguay is developing country and regional projects, dealing with different stages of the life cycle of mercury:

- Mercury Products
- Mercury Waste

- Mercury Industrial processes (mainly chlor-alkali industry)
- Mercury Storage

Being part of a voluntary partnership on “Supply and Storage” would be fruitful for our country and we could gather proper data to make informed decisions and also we can contribute with a developing country vision on mercury issues related to this specific partnership.

Looking forward to start working as a new member of the Supply and Storage Partnership Area.

Sincerely,

Arq. Graciela Muslera
Ministry of Land Planning, Housing and Environment
URUGUAY