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**Subject:** Support letter for UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and commitment to contribute for the partnership goal.

November 15, 2023

Dear Sir,

We started to create awareness on the impacts of mercury on ASGM since 2018 in Central African Republic, but unfortunately we were forced to stop our activity because of the COVID-19 period. In 2024, we plan to start a new project in Chad titled “**ASGM footprint without mercury**” in which we are in advanced stage for its implementation.

The project targets the following gold mining areas as you can see in our website:

Prefecture	Sub-prefectures
1. Mayo Kebbi-Ouest	Lac Léré, Mayo-Dallah, Mayo-Binder, El-Ouaya, Gagal
2. Guerra	Barh Signaka, Guéra, Abtouyour, Mangalmé, Garada
3. Batha	Batha Est, Batha Ouest, Fitri, Ouadi Rimé, Assinet, Djombo Djedid
4. Ouaddai	Djourouf Al Ahmar, Assoungaha, Ouara, Abougoudam
5. Ennedi Ouest	Fada, Mourtcha, Lac Ounianga
6. Sila	Abdi, Kimiti, Tissi, Adé, Koukou-Andarana
7. Tibesti	Bardaï, Aouzou, Zouar, Wour

In fact, 211 people including 173 men and 38 women will be involved in this program in order to reach 23,000 direct beneficiaries, and around 52,000 indirect beneficiaries during the first three years. This staff will be made up of approximately 90% volunteer and temporary workers. The impact study of mercury on the environment carried out by the Biodiversity Research Institute (BRI) in 2019 having revealed a total contribution of Chad mercury around 5,600 kg/year, the expected results will focus on capacity building of artisanal miners on the emission control measures (fume hoods and retorts), on how to re-activate or clean used mercury for re-use, the elimination of whole ore amalgamation, and formalization of artisanal miners on other polluting and dangerous practices such as cyanide use.

The reduction impacts sought by our “ASGM footprint without mercury” program in Chad relate to direct emissions into the atmosphere and losses in residues, rivers, lakes and soils.

Our “**ASGM footprint without mercury**” is aligned with the goals of the Chad National Action Plan jointly developed by UNEP and GEF, particularly on the aspects:

1. Strategies to promote the reduction of emissions and discharges of mercury and exposure to this substance
2. Strategies to manage trade and prevent mercury diversion
3. Strategies to involve stakeholders in the implementation and continuous improvement of the National Action Plan;
4. The public health strategy on exposure of artisanal and small-scale gold mining miners and their communities to mercury;
5. Strategies to prevent exposure of vulnerable populations, including children and women of childbearing age, particularly pregnant women, to mercury used in ASGM
6. Strategies for informing minors working in ASGM

Although the partnership sought does not only target Chad but an international partnership, this program will be carried out using the UNEP standards for mercury management as well as the existing global experience that can be drawn upon to help the country devise best practices to comply with its obligations under the Minamata Convention.

Sincerely yours

The Chairman

Jean Paul BITOUMOU

*Member of “the Oxford Research and Innovation Group”*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jean Paul Bitoumou". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "JB" at the top.



# UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP

Yellowfin Tuna, Courtesy NOAA Fisheries, © Photo by Jeff Muir

## INFORMATION ON BECOMING A PARTNER

This information sheet provides an overview of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Global Mercury Partnership for prospective partners. Further information is available at:

[www.unep.org/globalmercurypartnership/](http://www.unep.org/globalmercurypartnership/)

### GOAL OF THE PARTNERSHIP

The overall goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership is to protect human health and the global environment from the releases of mercury and its compounds by minimizing and, where feasible, ultimately eliminating global, anthropogenic mercury releases to air, water and land.

### PARTNERSHIP AREAS

The UNEP Global Mercury Partnership is a voluntary and collaborative relationship between various parties, governmental, non-governmental, public and private, in which all participants agree to work together in a systematic way to achieve its goal.

Initiated in 2005<sup>1</sup>, the Partnership today focuses its work on supporting timely and effective implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury; on providing state of the art knowledge and science on mercury; and on delivering outreach and awareness raising towards global action on mercury.

<sup>1</sup> UNEP Governing Council Decision 23/9

The Partnership is structured around eight areas:

- Artisanal and small-scale gold mining
- Mercury cell chlor-alkali production
- Mercury air transport and fate research
- Mercury in products
- Mercury releases from coal combustion
- Mercury waste management
- Mercury supply and storage
- Mercury releases from the cement industry

### OUR PARTNERS

Over 240 partners from governments, IGOs, NGOs, private sector and academic institutions:

- Support the overall goal of the Partnership.
- Contribute resources or expertise to the development and implementation of Partnership activities.
- Network with other organizations, agencies, entities and individuals addressing mercury issues.

### BECOMING A PARTNER

To become a partner, interested entities or individuals should submit a letter to UNEP signifying their support for the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and their commitment to achieving its goal. The letter should also specify how they will contribute to meeting the goal of the Partnership.

Together with this letter, UNEP requests interested entities or individuals to also complete and submit the registration form (see reverse). Participation in the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership will be confirmed by UNEP. Partners' letters of support will be made public through the UNEP's website.

### SUPPORT LETTER AND REGISTRATION FORM SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO:

**Head, Chemicals and Health Branch  
Industry and Economy Division  
United Nations Environment Programme**  
Palais des Nations  
8-14 avenue de la Paix  
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland  
E-mail: [metals@un.org](mailto:metals@un.org)



# UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP

## PARTNERSHIP AREAS

Please check the partnership area(s) to which your organization intends to contribute to:

- Artisanal and small-scale gold mining
- Mercury releases from coal combustion
- Mercury cell chlor-alkali production
- Mercury waste management
- Mercury air transport and fate research
- Mercury supply and storage
- Mercury in products
- Mercury releases from the cement industry

> Please specify in your support letter how your organization intends to contribute to each of the selected partnership area(s).

## ORGANIZATION APPLYING TO BECOME A PARTNER

Name of Organization:

Type of Organization:

- Government
- Industry / private sector
- Intergovernmental Organization
- Academia / scientific institution
- Non-governmental Organization
- Other, please specify

Mailing Address:

Postcode: City: Country:

E-mail:

Telephone: Website:

## ORGANIZATION'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP

Mr. Ms.

First Name: Last Name:

Functional Title:

Section / Department:

E-mail:

\* UNEP Global Mercury Partnership registration forms are to be accompanied by a letter to UNEP signifying support for the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and commitment to achieving its goal. The support letter should specify how the organization intends to contribute to meeting the goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership. Please submit the support letter and registration form to:

**Head, Chemicals and Health Branch  
Industry and Economy Division  
United Nations Environment Programme**  
Palais des Nations  
8-14 avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland  
E-mail: metals@un.org