



Association for Responsible Mining

Medellín, Colombia, February 26, 2008

UNEP Chemicals
International Environment House
11-13, chemin des Anémones
Chatelaine 1219
Geneva, Switzerland
mercury@chemicals.unep.ch

Dear Sirs, Madams,

I am writing on behalf of the Association for Responsible Mining, ARM, as a member of the ASGM partnership. As you all know ARM is a global NGO operating from South America (Colombia) towards the transformation of ASM into a socially and environmentally responsible activity, to facilitate an economically just supply chain and educate the consumers as to their power to directly improve the quality of life of artisanal miners by purchasing fair trade jewelry and minerals.

At present we are in the process of testing Standard Zero for Fair trade Gold and associated silver and platinum with 10 producer organizations in Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, in a regional network that also involves 5 support organizations (these may be NGOs, academia, or government programs). We expect to begin pilot testing in Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda sometime in the third quarter of 2008, once we have funding in place.

ARM welcomes the work of this partnership and looks forward to collaborating with the ASGM partnership on the ground and around regulatory framework issues, in finding innovative and effective ways to reduce and mitigate mercury pollution.

Kind regards,

Cristina Echavarria
Secretary General and Standards Coordinator



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/

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 2005¹, 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.

¹ 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



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:

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