



September 3, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my interest in Cornell University becoming a partner of the United Nations Environment Programme Global Mercury Partnership, with me (Jacqueline Gerson) as the representative. Through this letter, I express my support for the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and my commitment to achieving its goal.

My research examines the fate, transport, and transformation of mercury within atmospheric, terrestrial, and aquatic ecosystems. A large part of my research program is examining mercury released from artisanal and small-scale gold mining. I have worked in Ghana, Peru, and Senegal, and have published several papers and research briefs from this work. I have also worked with local communities, organizations, and governmental officials to increase knowledge about the risks of mercury and to develop solutions that reduce mercury emissions.

My goal in this research is to 1) better constrain our scientific understanding of where mercury from artisanal and small-scale gold mining goes in the environment; 2) determine where and when on the landscape poses the greatest risk for this mercury causing environmental and human harm; and 3) develop solutions that reduce the risk of this mercury. I believe that these research goals align well with the Partnership, and I look forward to continuing this work in the future and as a partner of the UNEP **Global** Mercury Partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacqueline Gerson".

Jacqueline Gerson, Ph.D
Cornell University
<http://gersonlab.weebly.com>



UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP

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

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

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
- Intergovernmental Organization
- Non-governmental Organization
- Industry / private sector
- Academia / scientific institution
- 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