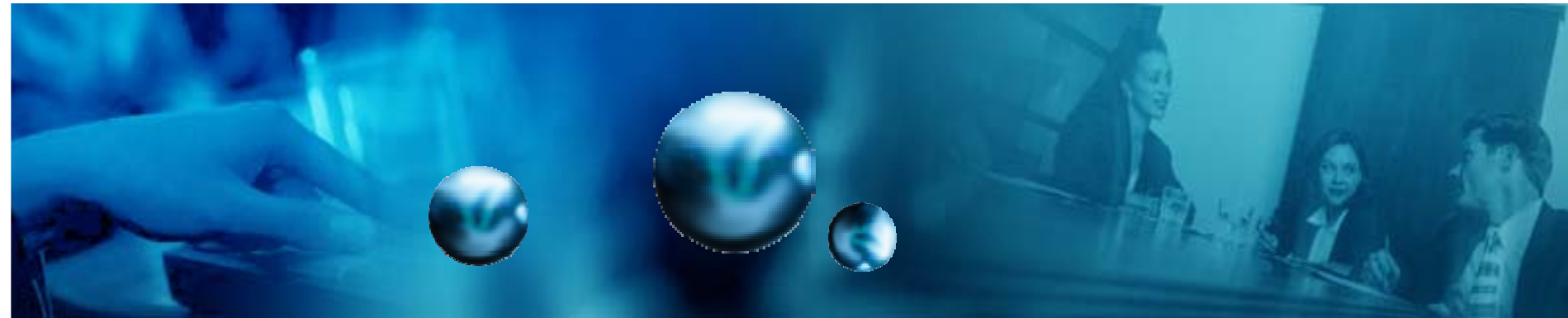


# Global Partnership for Mercury Reductions



IFCS Side-Event on Heavy Metals  
Budapest, Hungary  
23 September, 2006

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# Overview

- Mercury is a toxic pollutant that has significant global adverse impacts
- 2005 United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) Governing Council decision 23/9 IV relating to the mercury programme
  - *Urges* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to develop and implement partnerships, in a clear, transparent and accountable manner, as one approach to reducing the risks to human health and the environment from the release of mercury and its compounds to the environment (23/9 IV 27)
  - To promote the development of inventories of mercury uses and releases (23/9 IV 32(b))



# Overview

*The partnership approach aims for immediate reductions in mercury releases and exposure*

- The partnerships are leveraging
  - resources
  - technical expertise
  - technology transfer
  - information exchanges
- The partnerships are intended to provide
  - effective actions
  - tangible reductions of mercury use and emissions



# Overview

- The Global Partnerships for Mercury Reduction Currently in the implementation stage
  - Mercury Reduction in Products
  - Mercury Reduction in the Chlor-Alkali Sector
  - Mercury Management in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining
  - Mercury Control from Coal Combustion
  - Mercury Air Transport and Fate Research
- Emission and Use Inventories



# Mercury Reduction in Products

*Identifies and implements successful approaches for reducing or eliminating mercury in products where there are effective substitutes.*

- International consultation in Portland, Maine USA
- North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) Americas capacity building workshop in Merida, Yucaton Mexico
- Health Care Projects
  - Active projects in China, Argentina
  - Planned projects in Mexico
  - Potential projects in Central and South America
- Burkina Faso
  - Initial life-cycle assessment for products
- Philippines
  - Mercury in schools case study



# Mercury Reduction in the Chlor-Alkali Sector

*Promotes the reduction or elimination of global mercury releases through the adoption of best management practices or through conversion to non-mercury cell technology.*

- Russian pilot demonstration project
  - Workshop in Volgograd Russia
  - Cleaner production training
    - Expected to result in 20-25% reduction in mercury use and release
- Mercury Stewardship Workshop
  - Veracruz, Mexico
  - Information sharing and technology transfer
  - Potential demonstration projects



# Mercury Management in Artisanal & Small-Scale Gold Mining

*Reduces human health and environmental impacts associated with the use of mercury in artisanal gold mining by working with mining communities and small-scale gold producers*

- Pilot projects in Senegal and Brazil in conjunction with UNIDO
  - Expect measurable improvements in mercury consumption and releases by mid-2007
- Mongolia
  - Information sharing
  - Public awareness programs



# Mercury Control from Coal Combustion

*Aims to improve the understanding of mercury as a pollutant of concern from the coal fired power sector and provides information on control strategies and options.*

- Partnership efforts with China
  - Workshop on the impacts, measurement and control of mercury from coal fired power plants
  - China, Canada, Japan, USA
  - Follow-on workshop - Multipollutant control of coal-fired power plants
- Partnership efforts with India
  - Training and technology transfer
- Asia Pacific Partnership
  - Capacity development and introduction of improved technologies



# Mercury Air Transport and Fate Research

*Accelerate the development of atmospheric mercury research and enhance communication and information sharing between scientists and policymakers.*

- Italy (lead), Canada, Japan, USA
- Establishment and recognition of regional air transport and fate collaborative research projects and programs
- Coordination and conduct of research on national, regional, and global scales
- Development of related data sets and tools
- Coordination and training among organizations and countries to achieve methods and modeling harmonization.



# Inventories

*Provide technical assistance to assess and understand individual country markets for products containing mercury; the quantities used, and the releases associated with the manufacturing, use, and disposal of these mercury-containing products*

- Governing Council decision 23/9 IV 32(b)
  - To promote the development of inventories of mercury uses and releases
- Each partnership is promoting mercury inventories
- North American Commission for Economic Cooperation (CEC) Americas capacity building workshop
  - Many countries stated that they have insufficient information on which products contain mercury
- United Nations Institute for Training and Research
  - Pollutant Release and Transfer Register work, including product registers