

ASIA MERCURY STORAGE PROJECT INCEPTION WORKSHOP AGENDA

4-5 March 2009

Bangkok, Thailand

Day 1

08.00 Registration

08.30 Introductions and Welcome

- UNEP presents GC 24/3 IV and GC 25 mandates, UNEP Mercury Programme

9.00 Situation Analysis: Mercury Flows in Asia

- Consultant presents information on current and future global mercury flows, including demand and supply situation and findings on timing and quantity of excess mercury anticipated in Asia from 2010-2050
- Participants clarify and discuss consultant presentation and report

10.15 Coffee Break

10.30 Options for Mercury Storage - Part 1 USA Approach

- Zero Mercury Working Group / invited resource persons from the US to present data on mercury supply and trade from the USA, political process and legislation for addressing issue of sequestration of excess mercury supply, existing and planned mercury storage facilities in USA
- Secretariat of the Basel Convention to present relevant Convention provisions
- Open forum and discussion

12.00 Lunch Break

13.30 Options for Mercury Storage – Part 2 EU Approach

- UNEP/ invited resource persons from the EU/Germany to present data on mercury supply and trade from Europe, political process and legislation for addressing issue of sequestration of excess mercury supply, existing and planned mercury storage facilities in Europe/Germany
- Country (Malaysia) to present country experience on storage of mercury
- Open forum and discussion

15:00 Coffee Break

15:30 UNEP Mercury Programme Project and Scope of Issues/Criteria to be considered

- UNEP presents project to reduce mercury supply and address mercury storage in Asia
- UNEP and ZMWG present the scope of issues to be considered in the selection of options for safe long term management/storage (i.e. technical/physical infrastructure, public health and safety, environmental, financial, social and political, human resources requirements, legal and regulatory) – Is UNEP paper a sufficient basis for planning next steps? Are there issues that can be added or eliminated?
- Participants clarify and discuss the scope of options and issues to be considered

16.30 Workshop and Recommendations for Possible Storage Options for Asia

- Participants¹ by subgroups will discuss the storage options, criteria and the issues to be scoped; draft recommendations and action plans on the next steps.

18.00 Close of day 1

¹ Participants will be grouped according to subregional groupings (Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia)

Day 2

08.30 Continuation of day 1 workshop

- Participants² by subgroups will discuss the storage options, criteria and the issues to be scoped; draft recommendations and action plans on the next steps.

10.00 Coffee break

10.30 Presentation of workshop output

- Recommendations on criteria, possible options, action plans will be presented by subgroups.
- Reach agreement on scope for next phase of work.

12.00 Lunch Break

13.30 Creation of a Regional Support Structure

- Participants discuss and agree on the possible formation of a Regional Support Structure to facilitate UNEP mercury storage activities in Asia and plan for managing excess mercury in Asia. Decision is made regarding establishment of the support structure such as an Advisory Committee to be represented by an Executive Committee.
- Nominations for the Executive Committee will be put forward.

15.00 Coffee break

² Participants will be grouped according to subregional groupings (Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia)

15.30 Discussion of Next Steps

- Participants discuss future work related to planning for storage capacity
 - Further regional consultation and coordination through the Asia Executive Committee
 - Request for proposals/feasibility studies with performance specifications for option selected to be issued end of March 2009; Draft study completed by September 2009
 - Meetings of Asia Executive Committee
 - Committee to review draft, and select preferred option(s) to pursue in November 2009

17.30 Agreed Recommendations and Action Plans/ Conclusions/ Synthesis of workshop

18.00 Closure of the Workshop