

November 28, 2012 Zero Mercury Working Group<sup>1</sup>

## A Global Webinar on Mercury Contamination of Seafood

On the 4th December 2012, the Zero Mercury Working Group, in cooperation with scientists from the Biodiversity Research Institute and prominent scientists, is organizing a global webinar to release new findings that demonstrate extensive mercury contamination of seafood and to summarize recent studies that show health effects from methylmercury occurring below the level that was considered "safe" just a few years ago.

Scientists will highlight new research and explain why current government "safety limits" should be strengthened worldwide. The report will be released accompanied by a press release on the 4th December 2012. . This comes ahead of the final round of United Nations negotiations, scheduled in January 2013, for a global mercury treaty.

### Participating scientists

Dr. Philippe Grandjean - Denmark, Professor and chair of environmental medicine, University of Southern Denmark, Adviser to the Danish National Board of Health, and Professor at Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Grandjean has followed 1000 Faroese children born in the late 1980s with increased methylmercury exposures.

Dr. David Evers - USA, Executive Director and Chief Scientist of Biodiversity Research Institute, a nonprofit ecological research group based in Maine. Dr. Evers is a member of the UNEP Fate and Transport Partnership group. BRI is a leader in research designed to understand the exposure and effects of mercury in wildlife and ecosystems.

Dr. Takashi Yorifuji - Japan, MD and epidemiologist, Associate Professor at Okayama University medical school, post-doctorate at Harvard University. Dr. Yorifuji has studied Minamata disease and published widely on the long-term consequences of methylmercury exposure in Japan.

Dr. Edward Groth III - USA. Groth has worked on environmental health issues at Consumers Union from 1979 to 2004 and currently serves as an advisor to the Gelfond Fund for Mercury Research and Outreach at Stonybrook University, NY. In recent years, Dr. Groth has advised WHO and FAO on such issues as methylmercury in fish and runs Groth Consulting Services.

The Webinar will be held on December 4th, 2012 at 16:30 PM Japan Time; (8:30 Am BXL Time). If you are interested in participating in the Webinar, please contact Takeshi Yasuma ([ac7t-ysm@asahi-net.or.jp](mailto:ac7t-ysm@asahi-net.or.jp)) or Rachel Kamande ([rachel.kamande@eeb.org](mailto:rachel.kamande@eeb.org))  
You will soon receive more details on how to access the Webinar

<sup>1</sup>Zero Mercury Working Group <http://www.zeromercury.org/> .