# Global picture of mercury

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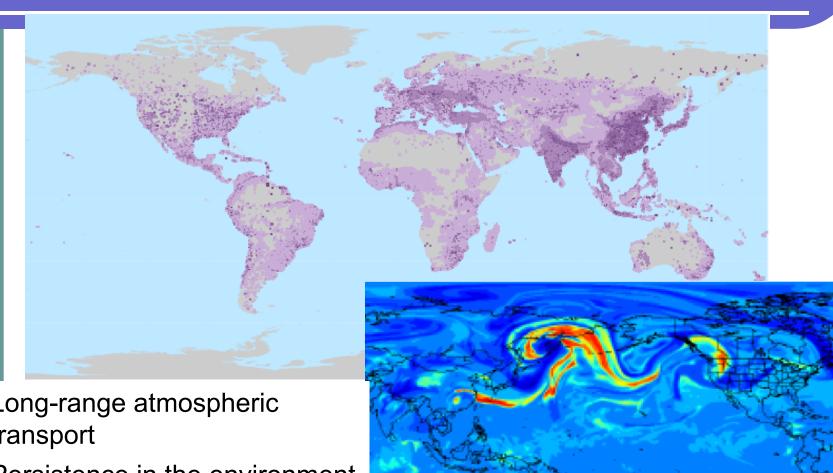
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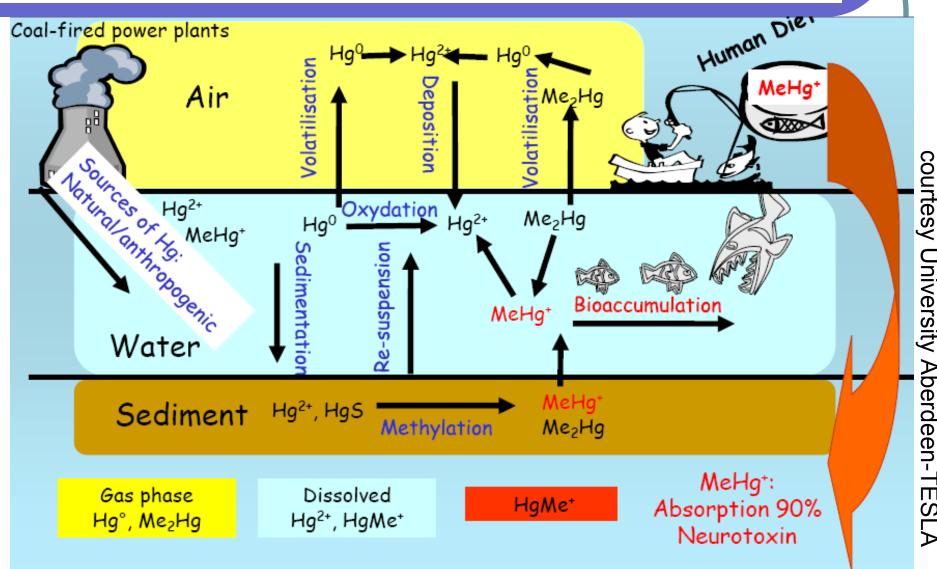
#### A chemical of global concern



- Long-range atmospheric transport
- Persistence in the environment
- Bio-accumulation
- Significant negative effects on human health and environment

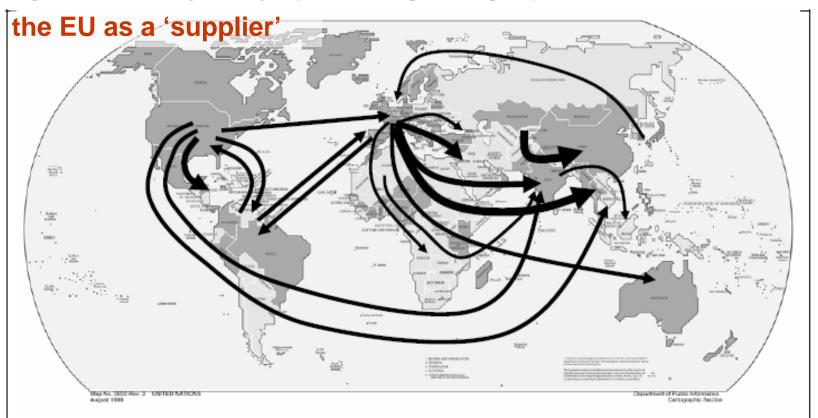
# courtesy University Aberdeen-TESLA

# Mercury aquatic cycle



# Mercury trade flows

Figure 4 Commodity mercury shipments among world regions, 2004



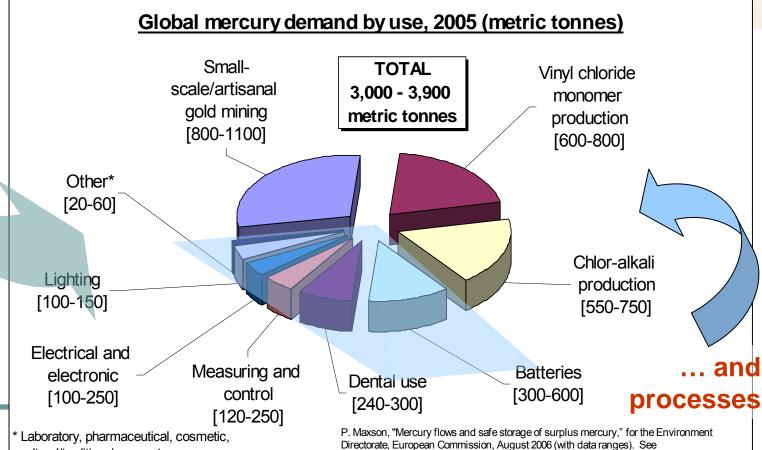
- Redundant mercury from mercury cell processes
- Internal reuse and export to ???
- Export ban

#### Intentional uses/demands

cultural/traditional uses, etc.

**Driving moves towards mercury-free alternatives for products ...** 





http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/mercury/pdf/ng flows safe storage.pdf

### Two complementary activities

#### Reducing Risk from Mercury

Mercury is recognized as a chemical of global concern due to its long-range transport in the atmosphere, its persistence in the environment, its ability to bioaccumulate in ecosystems and its significant negative effect on human health and the environment.

Mercury can produce a range of adverse human health effects, including permanent damage to the nervous system, in particular the developing nervous system. Due to these effects, and also because mercury can be transferred from a mother to her unborn child, infants, children and women of child bearing age are considered vulnerable populations.

UNEP has been working to address mercury issues since 2003. Currently, the UNEP mercury programme has two main facets.



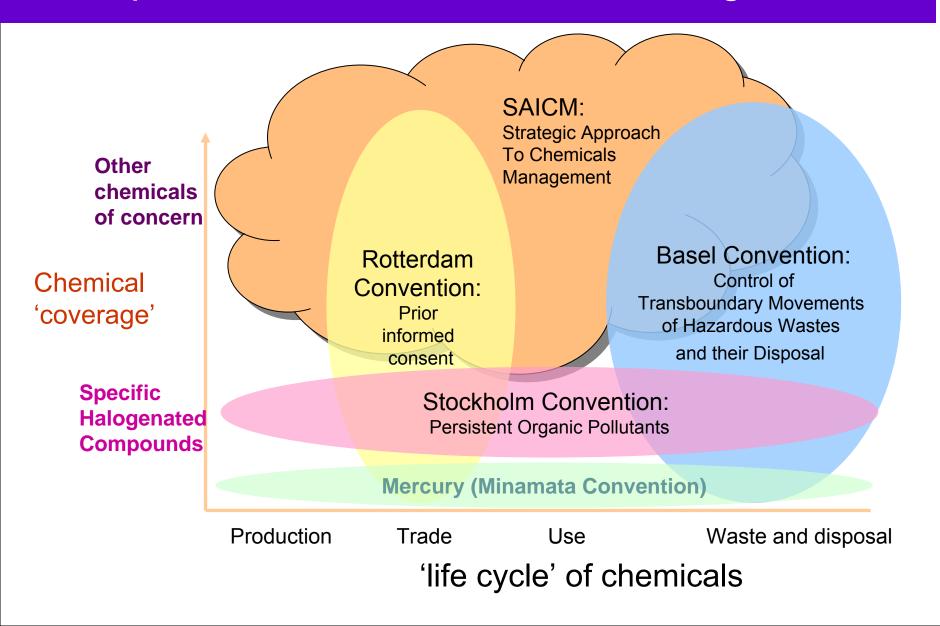
Negotiations



**UNEP Global Mercury Partnership** 

President: Fernando Lugris

#### Scope of the chemical MEAs and agreements



#### negotiation process

5 x Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee meetings:

Diplomatic Conference, Japan, 2013

INC1 Stockholm

INC2 Japan

INC3 Africa

INC4 Uruguay

INC5

2010

2011

2012

2013

2009-2013

2014-2017?

2018 onwards





Entry into force?

assessments for GC

