

Mercury Storage-Supply Partnership



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UNEP Global Mercury Partnership on Waste
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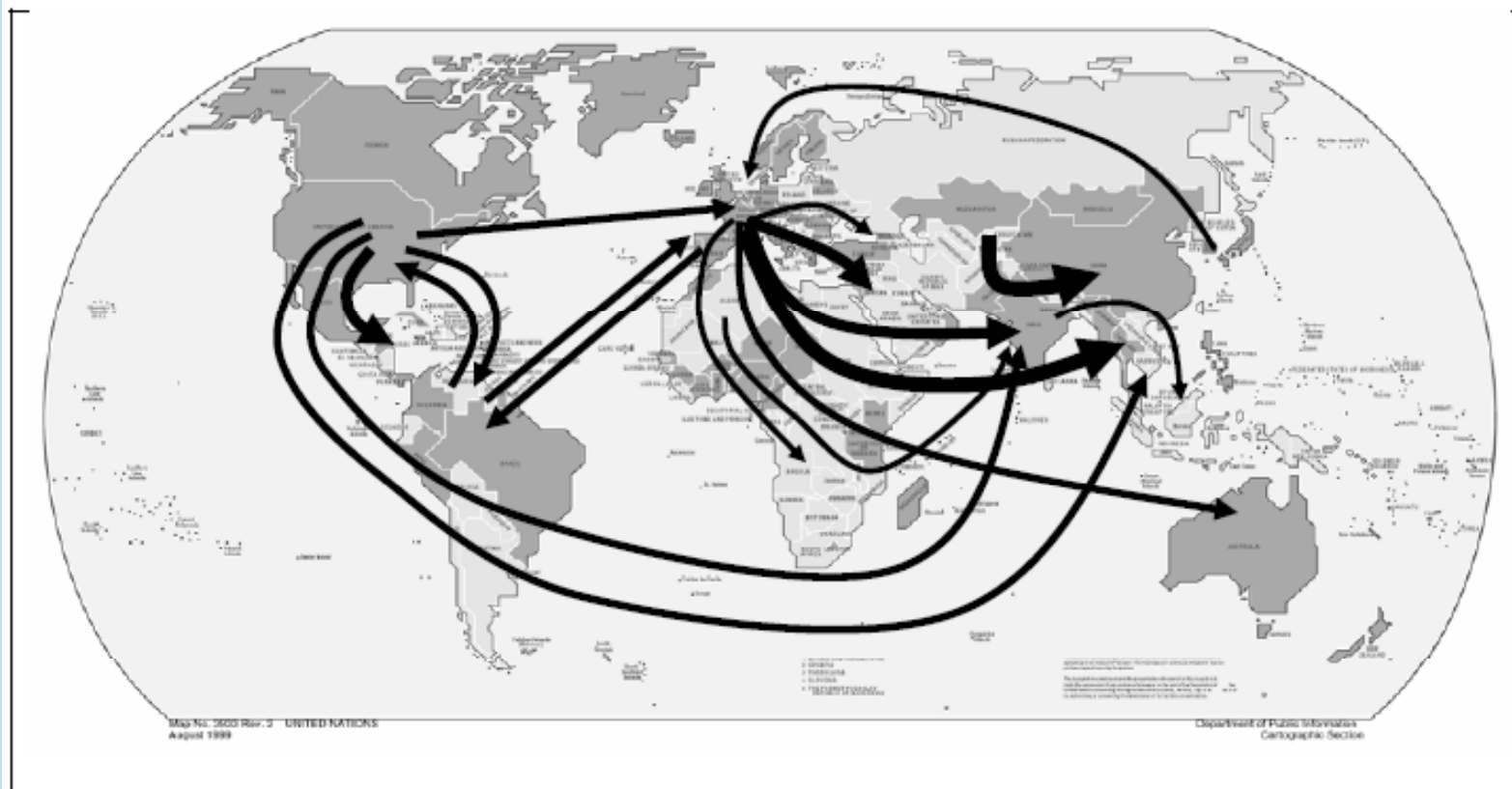


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Trade Flows set the Agenda Supply and Storage work



Figure 4 Commodity mercury shipments among world regions, 2004



From: UNEP Chemicals. Summary of Supply, Trade and Demand Information on Mercury. Nov 2006

Global Mercury Supply context (2007)



Main mercury sources	Metric tonnes/year
Primary mercury mining	1300-1600
By-product mercury recovery	400-600
Chlor-alkali facilities	700-900
Recycling of mercury catalysts, wastes and products	600-800
Commercially available mercury stocks	As needed (+)
TOTAL	3100-3900+



Key Measures to Reduce Mercury Supply

- Ban on new primary mercury mining, and phase out existing mercury mining
- Collect mercury from major sources (e.g. chlor-alkali and by-product mercury) and sequester it from the global marketplace (“long-term storage”)
- Mercury export bans

Kyrgyz Republic Primary Mercury Mine Closure Project



- Initiated in December 2007 through funding from Switzerland and the United States.
- In October 2009, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic announced willingness to consider closure of the mine if a number of outstanding issues could be addressed.
- UNEP and UNITAR working with the Kyrgyz Republic and the international community to design a framework for a mine closure project.



Creation of new partnership area on supply and storage



- Initiated during Partnership Advisory Group in April 2009:
 - Purpose is to enhance the on-going work in these areas, identified as a priority in GC Decision 25/5, paragraph 34.
 - Zero Mercury Working Group agreed to serve as interim chair with understanding that government lead or co-lead would be identified.
- Proposed business plan (updated version of earlier UNEP draft) drafted in consultation with stakeholders.
 - Anticipates limited life of partnership in deference to anticipated treaty obligations and governance structure.
 - Therefore, focus on near term priority activities.



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Draft business plan



Partnership goal:

- reduce mercury supply to 50% by 2013 (from 2005 baseline)
- need 600 ton mercury reduction beyond EU/USA export bans.



*An Open Mercury Cell
Chlor Alkali Plant*

Source: Center for Science and
the Environment, New Dehli,
"Down to Earth"

Reduction opportunities include:

- additional mercury export restrictions
- storage of chlor-alkali mercury, and
- less primary mercury mining.



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onal, country nitiatives

of countries/regions have adopted
or enacted regulatory measures to
mercury supply from being traded.

g export ban by 2011, phase out mining.

Hg export ban by 2013.

port bans in Scandinavian countries.

nd US are taking steps to store Hg.

untries need permanent Hg storage.

e is most important for those countries/
at have much excess mercury supply.

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