# Consultation Meeting on Mercury Waste and Storage



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## **Presentation Outline**

### LAC Regional Mercury Storage Project

- Executive committee
- LA & C Regional Report
- Report results

Brazil – waste with mercury: preliminary situation

- Source of Mercury
- Mercury waste some sectors



### **Executive Committee**

- Governments
  - Barbados
  - Brazil
  - Chile
  - Dominican Republic
  - Mexico
  - Panama
  - Peru
- Non-governmental organizations:
  - Asociación Argentina de Medicos Por el Medio Ambiente
  - ACPO-Zero Mercury
  - Working Group World Chlorine Council



# LA&C Regional Report

Report developed by LATU - "Options analysis and feasibility study for the long-term storage of mercury in Latin America and the Caribbean"

Three storage options were taken into account in this report:

- (a) Above-ground specially engineered warehouses
- (b) Below-ground storage in geological formation
- (c) Export to a foreign country/facility

# Report Results

1. MAIN USES AND SOURCES OF MERCURY SURPLUS IN LA&C REGION

#### Continental countries of the Atlantic coast

- Chlor-alkali plants
- Use for gold amalgamation in gold mining

#### **Pacific Coast**

- Non ferrous mineral mining as by-product
- Gold amalgamation in gold mines

#### Caribbean countries

- Mercury containing products
- Chlor-alkali plant (Cuba)
- Gold mines as by product (RD)



### **All countries**

Mercury used for dental care

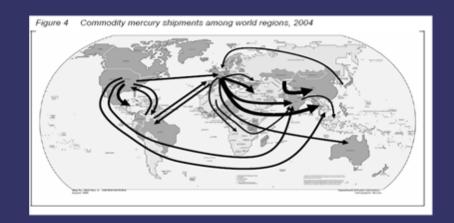
 Mercury produced from wastes, contaminated soil or products on their end of life



#### 2. MOVEMENTS OF MERCURY

 LAC region is characterized more as importer of mercury than as exporter, mostly to Europe and North America, especially due to the chlor alkali plants and artisanal and small scale gold mining.

- Actual main objective of exports: recovery of mercury for re-marketing
- The exportation has connotations of products trade, rather than exports for waste final disposal





tries with small mercury surplus.

led with interim storage in above-ground dear harbours or airports

ral cooperation agreements (approval of duction of the costs entailed by the final

