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**United Nations  
Environment  
Programme**

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**Global Mercury Partnership  
Partnership Advisory Group  
Second meeting  
Geneva, 21-22 September 2010**

**Reporting of the mercury emissions from coal partnership area  
(January 2009 – May 2010)**

**UNEP Global Mercury Partnership**

**Note by the Secretariat**

Individual partnership area evaluations have been prepared by the partnership areas in response to Annex I Section 3.f.iv of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Overarching Framework. The mercury releases from coal partnership area has drafted a partnership area evaluation. It is available in the annex to this document for information.

**Annex 1: Evaluation of the ‘Mercury releases from coal’ partnership area**  
**TIMEFRAME: January 2009 – May 2010**

<b>1. General Information</b>	
<b>1.1 Individual partnership area:</b>	Mercury releases from Coal Combustion
<b>1.2 Individual partnership area lead</b>	<b>Dr Lesley Sloss,</b> <b>Principal Environmental Consultant,</b> <b>International Energy Agency, Clean Coal Centre</b> <b>(IEA CCC)</b>
<b>1.3 Reporting year/period:</b>	January 2009 – May 2010
<b>1.4 How many meetings were held over the reporting period?</b>	Number of face to face meetings: 1 (Ljubjiana, Slovenia, in May 2009) Number of teleconferences: 0 Other: Small –subgroup meetings and POG meetings
<b>1.5 How many partners are part of this partnership area?</b>	The partnership currently has 24 official partners with much additional informal support.
<b>1.6 How much funding was raised through this partnership area? What about in-kind assistance?</b>	<p>UNEP provided funds (51,750 USD) to facilitate the drafting of the Process Optimisation Guidance document (POG). In-kind assistance from several experts from the MEC (Mercury Experts from Coal) group giving both time and expertise to work on POG document.</p> <p>The European Commission has funded (1 million Euro) the project “Reducing Mercury Emissions from Coal combustion in the energy sector” which started in 2009. Details are included in monitoring performance, section 2.2 below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-kind assistance has been provided by the US EPA with respect to the use and promotion of the mercury measurement tool-kit during mercury measurement campaigns in South Africa and Russia.</li> <li>• In-kind assistance has been provided by the USGS (Geological Survey) towards providing free analysis of coal and ash samples for the mercury monitoring project in South Africa.</li> </ul> <p>The MEC experts group meeting was held in conjunction with the Coal Combustion Partnership area, funded by IEA CCC.</p>
<b>1.7 What is the objective of the individual partnership area?</b>	
The objective of this partnership area is continued minimization and elimination of mercury releases from coal combustion where possible.	
<b>2. MONITORING PERFORMANCE</b> (tracking partnership activities and partner contributions)	
<b>2.1 Please provide a short overview of the key current partnership area efforts (brief description, expected outcomes, budget, timeframe).</b>	
A Process Optimisation Guidance (POG) document has been prepared for mercury control at coal-fired facilities. The POG outlines how changes in plant performance and efficiency can reduce emissions of all pollutants in an effective and economic manner. The promotion of technologies to reduce emissions of other pollutants such as particulates, SO <sub>2</sub> and NO <sub>x</sub> are also supported since many of these technologies provide co-benefit reduction of mercury. A draft report is developed and has been circulated to interested parties. Workshops have been held in South Africa, China and Russia to take on board comments that would improve the document and its applicability in these countries. A workshop is planned for later in	

2010 in India. The POG has been produced within budget and in a timely manner. Final publication cannot be achieved until all comments have been received from the target countries and relevant stakeholders. It is expected that the POG document will be fully completed by late 2010 at a final total cost of 210,000 USD. This includes translation of the POG into Chinese and Russian, and arranging workshops in Russia, China and South Africa. UNEP funded the initiation of this document and remaining funds for validation and translation are part of the European Commission project “Reducing mercury emissions from coal combustion in the energy sector”.

Furthermore as part of the project “Reducing mercury emissions from coal combustion in the energy sector”:

- The Ministry of Environmental Protection in China and Tsinghua University are currently completing one of the largest ever projects to evaluate the mercury contents of coals in China and to estimate current and future emissions from the coal utility sector. An update of this type of information is also being produced in South Africa and Russia.
- Two projects demonstrating mercury reduction at two coal-fired power plants are being implemented in Russia. These projects will be carried at a cost of 90,000 USD and should be completed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2011 (one of the demonstration projects is co-funded by the US EPA).

The US EPA and USGS have provided in-kind assistance carrying out mercury measurements at two plants in South Africa and are currently planning a similar campaign in Russia at the end of May 2010. The in-kind contributions amount to 60,000 USD. These will help improve the accuracy of the South African and Russian coal mercury emission inventories.

Overall, the inventory work in China, Russia and South Africa will be completed at a cost of 400,000 USD.

## **2.2 Please provide a short overview of any key upcoming, planned partnership area efforts (brief description, expected outcomes, budget, timeframe).**

The POG document should be completed and translated into the target languages by the end of 2010 at a total final cost of 210,000 USD.

The partnership hopes to develop an expanded interactive on-line version of the POG that estimates ranges of Hg emissions and Hg removals for existing and contemplated fuel properties, firing configurations, gas cleaning configurations, and all major Hg control schemes (proposed task could take place in 2011 with a cost of approximately 50,000 USD).

As part of the project “Reducing mercury emissions from coal combustion in the energy sector”: With funds from the European:

- A mercury reduction demonstration project in South Africa should be proposed by the end of 2010 with a cost of about 100,000 USD.
- It is planned that the partnership will now increase efforts to initiate project activities in India.

In addition, the partnership is actively seeking new members from Indonesia and Brazil with a view to helping with inventory work and demonstration projects in these countries.

## **2.3 Please provide a short overview of key partnership area efforts completed since the previous Governing Council (brief description, outcomes, costs, timeframe).**

A number of activities have been initiated in this reporting cycle and will be finalized in the next reporting cycle.

### **3. ASSESSING EFFECTIVENESS**

(measuring the impact of partnership activities on target beneficiaries)

#### **3.1 What are the partnership area indicators of progress? If no indicators, please specify why.**

Two specific indicators are currently identified in the business plan including:

- Availability of guidance tools to assist countries in achieving emission reductions.
- Emission reductions achieved.

Since estimates for mercury emissions from coal combustion are known to be somewhat inaccurate and difficult to quantify, it is perhaps not appropriate to use actual emission estimates and reductions therein as a target at this stage. Rather the initial proposed regional projects would be used to provide more accurate emissions for smaller target areas.

The current work to obtain more accurate emission inventories for mercury emissions from coal and projections for emissions in the future will go a long way to determining the areas of most concern and the most suitable areas to target. The mercury reduction projects planned in Russia and South Africa will provide an indication of what can be achieved in the target countries.

**3.2 Please report on progress in terms of each of the partnership area indicators outlined within the partnership area business plan.**

The number of partners registered is steadily growing (currently 24 partners).

Availability of Guidance Tools:

- The POG document is completed in draft, publically available and, subject to comments from South Africa and India, should be completed and distributed by the end of 2010.
- A project outline for a mercury reduction demonstration in South Africa should be completed by August 2010, applying information from the POG.

Data and Information

- Data for the Chinese, South African and Russian inventory for mercury emissions is being collected and the complete inventories will be finalised by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2010.

**3.3 Please summarize the key results achieved to date by the partnership area in terms of the following areas (as applicable):**

**i) Sharing and exchanging information:**

- Report “Economics of mercury control” produced and distributed (2008).
- Draft report “Process Optimisation Guidance Document for mercury control at coal-fired plants” has been produced and is currently undergoing editing in response to comment.
- POG consultation meetings were conducted in China, Russia and South Africa to take on board comments to improve the document as well as exchange information on other related areas.
- UNEP invited this work area to present the latest results at the technical briefing to the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (6 June 2010).

**ii) Strengthening capacity:**

- The number of partners is growing (currently 24 partners).
- Meetings of mercury partners are being aligned to coincide with other international meetings to allow

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