

UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP

INFORMATION ON BECOMING A PARTNER

This information sheet is intended to provide an overview of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Global Mercury Partnership for prospective partners. Further information is available at the following web address: <http://www.chem.unep.ch/mercury/default.htm>

What is the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership?

The UNEP Global Mercury Partnership is a voluntary and collaborative relationship amongst various parties, governmental, non-governmental, public and private, in which all participants agree to work together in a systematic way to achieve the goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership.

The UNEP Global Mercury Partnership complements and supports the implementation of UNEP Governing Council Decision 24/3.

As of June 2008, the following partnership areas have been initiated:

- artisanal and small scale gold mining;
- mercury cell chlor alkali production;
- mercury air transport and fate research;
- mercury in products;
- mercury releases from coal combustion; and
- mercury waste management.

Other partnership areas are in the process of being considered and initiated.

What is the Overall Goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership?

The overall goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership is to protect human health and the global environment from the release of mercury and its

compounds by minimizing and, where feasible, ultimately eliminating global, anthropogenic mercury releases to air, water and land.

What does joining the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership mean for prospective partners?

- Supporting the overall goal of the Partnership.
- Contributing resources or expertise to the development and implementation of partnership activities.
- Networking with other organizations/agencies/individuals addressing mercury issues.

How does an organization join the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership?

To become a partner, interested entities or individuals should submit a letter to UNEP signifying their support for the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and their commitment to achieving its goal, and specifying how they will contribute to meeting the goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership.

Such letters should be submitted to:

**Head, UNEP Chemicals Branch, DTIE
11-13, chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine - Geneva, Switzerland
Fax: (+41 22) 797 3460
E-mail: mercury@chemicals.unep.ch**

In submitting this letter, UNEP asks partners to also complete the attached registration form. Participation to the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership will be confirmed by UNEP through a letter of confirmation. Your letter of support will be posted on the UNEP Chemicals web site.

UNEP GLOBAL MERCURY PARTNERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM *

Partnership Area	<p>Please check partnership areas that your organization intends to contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> artisanal and small scale gold mining <input type="checkbox"/> mercury cell chlor alkali production <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mercury air transport and fate research <input type="checkbox"/> mercury in products <input type="checkbox"/> mercury releases from coal combustion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mercury waste management <p>Please indicate in your support letter how your organization intends to contribute to each of the indicated partnership areas.</p>
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Organization Name	Artisanal Gold Council
Name, Functional Title of Representative	Kevin Telmer, Director
Address of Organization	2675 Seaview Rd., Victoria, BC, Canada, V8N 1K7
Tel. No	+1 (250) 298 8440
Email	ktelmer@artisanalgold.org
Fax No.	+1 (250) 298 8440
Website/URL	www.artisanalgold.org
Type of Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Regional economic integration organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-government Organization <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific community <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____

* UNEP Global Mercury Partnership Registration Forms are to be accompanied by a letter to UNEP signifying support for the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership and commitment to achieving the partnership goal. The support letter should specify how the organization intends to contribute to meeting the goal of the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership. Please submit the support letter and registration form to:

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 11-13, chemin des Anémones
 CH-1219 Châtelaine - Geneva, Switzerland
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Artisanal Gold Council

Feb 15, 2009

Head, UNEP Chemicals Branch, DTIE
11-13, chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine - Geneva, Switzerland
Fax: (+41 22) 797 3460
E-mail: mercury@chemicals.unep.ch

Artisanal Gold Council (AGC)
2675 Seaview Rd.
Victoria, BC, Canada, V8N-1K7
agc@artisanalgold.org
www.artisanalgold.org

Dear UNEP Chemicals,

The Artisanal Gold Council (AGC), a registered non-profit organisation based in Canada but operating internationally would like to become a partner in UNEP's Mercury Partnerships program.

The Artisanal Gold Council creates sustainable development in artisanal and small scale gold mining communities. It's three primary focuses contribute directly to UNEP's mercury reduction goals:

1. Reduction of Mercury Use. Expertise and experience in gold extraction methods and mercury science enables AGC to provide advice and technological solutions towards reduction of mercury emissions in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining communities (ASGM). AGC undertakes projects (e.g. the mercury watch project: www.mercurywatch.org) to provide technology, design, and education for ASGM miners and the world to emit less mercury.
2. Managing the relationship between large scale mining (LSM) and artisanal and small scale mining (ASM). LSM companies need help engaging with ASM miners to move towards a system of peaceful coexistence and cooperation that leads to sustainable socio-economic relationships and environmental stewardship including chemicals and waste management.
3. Marketing ASM Gold. For positive development in ASGM to be sustained, viable markets need to be created to bring incentives to ASGM miners to adopt better practices such as the elimination of mercury use; and funds need to be raised and made available for ASGM community improvement programs. AGC is striving to create, market, and sell a gold brand from ASM gold that will generate revenues that can be re-invested in creating sustainable solutions in ASGM communities.

Please let me know if the AGC can become a member of the partnership programme.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kevin Telmer, Ph.D.
Director, Artisanal Gold Council