

**Global Partnership on Mercury Reduction in the Chlor-Alkali Sector  
Draft December 2005**

**Progress report**

- Initial Consultative Meeting held May 25, 2005, Portland, Maine.
- Meeting report and revised discussion paper posted at [www.chem.unep.ch/mercury/partnerships](http://www.chem.unep.ch/mercury/partnerships)

India	The Indian Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) is in discussions with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S.EPA) to develop technical capacity building activities in this sector.
Mexico	The Mexican environment ministry (SEMARNAT) and Mexican industry (ANIQ) are working through the partnership to develop a possible workshop and demonstration project. Global industry representatives, through the World Chlorine Council, are also engaged in planning this activity. A workshop for early 2006 is being planned.
Russia	Over the summer in 2005, U.S.EPA met with Ruschlor, the Russian chlor-alkali industry association, to develop a partnership project to achieve mercury reductions in this sector. Global industry representatives, through the World Chlorine Council, are also engaged in planning this activity. Ruschlor completed mercury audits in all three Russian mercury cell facilities and presented the results of these audits at a workshop on November 16 and 17. The workshop was hosted by a chlor-alkali facility in Volgograd (Volgograd Caustic) and organized by RusChlor and the Russian Cleaner Production Center. Partners to this project include Environment Canada, Norwegian Pollution Control Authority and the US EPA providing financial resources and working under the Arctic Council Action Plan (ACAP) Program. Facilities will receive cleaner production training in early 2006, aimed at identifying potential cost savings to the companies and potential to achieve mercury reductions. Proposals for cleaner production demonstration projects will be developed by Russian industry. A panel of government and industry experts will evaluate the proposals for potential funding. Russian facility managers will visit EU facilities for a technical exchange in late January, 2006. Demonstration projects are scheduled to begin in May 2006 and some will be completed by December 2006.

The partnership will report out to the 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Environment Program Governing Council in February 2007.

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